

The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

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THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

JULY 1988

MESSAGE ON VBOB MONUMENT AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, ARLINGTON, VA. (Story on page 3)



DEDICATED TO THE GALLANT AND VICTORIOUS
MEN AND WOMEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE
BATTLE OF THE BULGE, WORLD WAR II, 16
DECEMBER 1944 THRU 25 JANUARY 1945 IN
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG. THE GREATEST
BATTLE EVER FOUGHT BY THE UNITED STATES
ARMY. PRESENTED BY THE VETERANS OF THE
BATTLE OF BULGE ON 16 DECEMBER 1986.

*The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
The brave and fallen few.
On Fame's eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn ground,
The bivouac of the dead.*

-Theodore O'Hara, *The Bivouac of the Dead*

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. Lolacano
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 PRES. FOR MILITARY AFFAIRS — Eugene G. Drouillard
75th Infantry Division
VICE PRESIDENT FOR REGIONAL COORDINATION — Robert J. Van Houten
16 FA OBN
TREASURER — Wm. R. Hemphill
3rd Armored Division, 36th AIR
RECORDING SECRETARY — Dorothy S. Davis, Army Nurse, 57th Field Hospital
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Beverly Van Houten

APPOINTED

NATIONAL DIRECTOR, PUBLIC RELATIONS — Eva M. Popovich
HISTORIAN — Helen Berry, Widow of Walter E., 4th Inf. Div. 8th Inf.
CHAPLAIN — Msgr. Wm. F. O'Donnell
87th Inf. Div.
CHAPLAIN EMERITUS — The Rev. George W. Hall, Jr., 94th Inf. Div.
ASST. CHAPLAIN — Joseph Kropff
16 FA OBS BN
LIAISON OFFICER FOR INT. AFFAIRS
Robert F. Phillips
28th Inf. Div. 110 Inf. F
VBOB SURGEON — Dr. Morris Ackerman
91 Med. Gas. Trmt.
PHOTOGRAPHER — Sam Silverman
10 ARMDD 11TK BN C

CHAPTERS

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3042 QM
CENTRAL NY — Wm. G. Mitchell, Jr.
President, 28th Inf. Div.
MD — D.C. Clarence Lyall, President
101st ABND
FRESNO — Kenneth Hohmann, President
75th Inf. Div.
NORTHWEST — Casimer Pomianek, President
80th Inf. Div.

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AUDIT — James Lipman
8 FA OBS BN
BATTLE OF THE BULGE GALLERY
Dorothy S. Davis, 57th Field Hospital



From The President—

Gallery Progress

Plans for the Battle of the Bulge Gallery are proceeding very well. My personal thanks to the many of you who are making donations to the Foundation. However, as mentioned in the "Gallery Update" the time and talents of volunteers in the Washington, D.C. area are much needed, too. For you not in the area, your volunteer contributions are needed in contacting your Unit Organization and local Veterans Groups for their financial support. To build our Legacy, everyone's contributions are important.

All is on go

The director of our VBOB Tour '88, Charles B. MacDonald, recently returned from a visit to Belgium and Luxembourg to make final arrangements for the tour. All is on go, to include a memorial ceremony at Bastogne at le Mardasson, the memorial to the American fighting man in the Ardennes, which will include a band, Belgian and U.S. color guards, and laying of wreaths by at least six groups, including VBOB.

There will be 137 on the tour, plus a guide for each of three tour buses. There is a possibility that cancellations might permit a few late applicants to make the tour; call Charles at (703) 578-4251. The Seventh General Membership Meeting will be held in the Hotel Pullman in Luxembourg City the last day of the tour, September 29.

Chapter Formation

V.P. for Regional Coordination, Robert J. Van Houten, made a trip last fall to N.C., where he met with Tom Harris concerning chapter formation. Meanwhile, Bruce Tate in Columbia, S.C. was active in setting up meetings with VBOBers in that state for a chapter.

Then this May, Bob made a west coast trip, to Arizona, California, and the state of Washington visiting members in seven cities. The results are listed in his report on page 8.

He also was able to get first hand reports from VBOBers on their thoughts and ideas to obtain closer camaraderie between all our members.

Discount Card Rental Offered

Inserted in this newsletter is a special car rental discount card obtained by VBOB through National Car Rental. Fellow comrades, **IT'S FREE.**

You can save up to 20 per cent on rentals, and 10 per cent on low cost "specials."

How do you do it? Simply call 1-800-CAR-RENT and give the agency your VBOB recap number --- 5130298 --- and you get your discount.

Yours in Comradeship,

George

George Chekan

MEMORIAL DAY 1988

Thanks to the efforts of Eugene Drouillard, a great representation of VBOB members, spouses and friends met at the Old Chapel, Fort Myer, where seating passes and permits for cars to enter Arlington National Cemetery were issued. An overcast day turned out to be a bright, breezy and hot day.

The Marine Band played while the crowds in the Amphitheater waited for the activities to begin. We could hear the commands being given at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where the President's wreath was placed on the Tomb during the moment of silence followed by Taps.

Foreign dignitaries and members of Congress were ushered into the Amphitheater. There was a Call to Order, the Presentation of Colors, and the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Nellie I. McMillan, Past Department Commander of the DAV; the Marine Band played the National Anthem and Col. David J. Donahue, Staff Chaplain, Military District of Washington, gave the Invocation. Major General Donald C. Hilbert, Commanding General, MDW, bid us all welcome. The Memorial Day address was by the Honorable Thomas K. Turnage, Administrator of Veterans Affairs and personal representative of the President (who was in Moscow).

MGYUSGT Michael F. Ryan, baritone, Marine Band, sang "America the Beautiful" and received a standing ovation. He also gave a stellar rendition of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic;" GYSGT Raymond H. Dryburgh of the Marine Band played Taps.

After the Benediction and Retiring of the Colors, all went around to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the wreath-laying ceremonies. Forty-three organizations took part in this activity.

George Chekan and Gene Drouillard placed the VBOB (National) wreath, while Clancy Lyall (President, MD-DC Chapter), Art Gordon (representing Maryland) and Blackie Culp (representing DC) placed the wreath for the MD-DC Chapter.

Many of us came away from the Cemetery with sunburned noses and arms, and a glow that did not come from the sun. ...Eva M. Popovich, VBOB Public Relations

FACTS ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY ARLINGTON, VA

Arlington National Cemetery was established by order of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton on June 15, 1864. It comprises 612 acres of land with 16 miles of paved roadways and three miles of paved sidewalks. The Memorial Amphitheater was dedicated May 15, 1920, the Unknown Soldier of World War I was buried November 11 the following year. The Unknown Soldiers of World War II and Korea were interred May 30, 1958. A plaque honoring those who served honorably in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era was dedicated on Veterans Day 1978, and the Unknown Soldier of the Vietnam era was interred May 28, 1984.

The records show that, in 1987, approximately 4,000,000 visitors viewed the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. During that year, there were 2,114 wreath laying ceremonies conducted at the Tomb by various veteran organizations, patriotic and civic groups, schools and heads of State of various countries.

Arlington National Cemetery contains 199,962 burials in 173,497 graves of servicemen and women and their dependents from all wars and conflicts. The 2,842 burials during 1987 included veterans and other eligible persons, from every State and possession and several foreign countries. Citizens of the North and South hallow this sacred ground and sleep in peace.

The Columbarium Section was opened for cremated remains in April of 1980, and contains 7,321 urns. 1,184 were urned in 1987. The Section is available for all honorably discharged veterans.

Our VBOB monument is located directly across from the front of the Memorial Amphitheater.



The MD/DC Chapter President Clarence Lyall (101st ABND) and member Arthur Gordon (99th Inf. Div.) represented VBOB in placing an impressive wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier May 30, 1988. VBOB was among 44 veteran associations attending the impressive ceremony.



BATTLE OF THE BULGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION GALLERY UPDATE

On April 9, 1988, the Gallery Committee was officially incorporated and the new name for the committee became "Battle of the Bulge Historical Foundation. Only the name has changed; the members remain the same. Becoming a foundation strengthens our ability to raise funds to accomplish the ultimate goal of building the Battle of the Bulge Gallery.

By now most of you have received the "Fund Drive" letter. Special thanks go to the many volunteers who made it possible--Earle Hart and Bud Leinbaugh for composing the letter, Sandie Fauriol for the editing, George Chekan for designing the layout and printing and the group who labeled, stamped, stuffed and sealed 3700 letters --Clyde Boden, Sandie Davis, Frances

Doherty, Bonnie and Gene Drouillard, Sandie Fauriol, Mudge and Bill Greenville, Dee Paris and Eva Popovich!! And now the "Success Story"--within 10 days after the mailing of the letters, \$7512 was already received from 223 donors and more contributions continue to arrive every day. Many thanks to all of you! The names and units of all donors will be inscribed in a "Memorial Morning Report."

The "Founders' 500" fund has been extended to September 1, 1988--all persons donating \$500 will have their name and unit placed on a plaque to be displayed in the lobby of the Gallery. The plaque is being designed and will be unveiled at a "Dinner Gala" to be held at the Fort Meade Officers' Club on December 14, 1988. Everyone is invited; more information and a reservation form for the event will be published in the early fall edition of the Bulge Bugle.

D & P Inc, the firm that has been retained to design the Battle of the Bulge Gallery, has begun the conceptual plans. This firm is also creating exhibits for the West Point museum and produced exhibits for The Living Seas and the Kodak Imagination Pavilions at EPCOT Center.

Since contracts can not be signed until the money is in hand--our job, now, is Fund Raising, Fund Raising, Fund Raising!! With the assistance of our Director of Fund Raising, Sandie Fauriol, industrial companies, firms and other foundations will be contacted for larger donations.. All of you may help in this effort by talking with your unit associations and other veterans groups about our project; perhaps they too would like to give their support.

So as to be as prudent as possible with the financial resources, much of the "office tasks" will be accomplished by volunteers this summer. These tasks include addressing thank-you letters, typing correspondence, filing, and recording donations. Volunteers are needed; especially crucial is the need for someone (living in the Washington, D.C. Metro Area) who is skilled in the use of a computer and could develop programs and input information. If you are interested in joining this "Summer Volunteer Adventure," please call: Dorothy Davis, (301) 881-0356.

SUPPORT THE GALLERY... IT'S OUR LEGACY

A BULGE FLASHBACK



Bill Tayman is pictured, left, in the village of Biddulph in the Midlands of England some time in 1944. The photo at the right was taken on 23 October 1986 in the home of Theophile (Theo) Habran of Moiricy, Belgium by Earle Hart. Those in the picture are, from left, Andre Herbert, Casimer (Chuck) Pomianek; Bill; Theo and Theo's wife. Theo remembers Bill as the soldier who stuck his rifle in his back

while searching the house -- there was a German hiding in the basement. Then 15 years old, Theo kept a diary of the battle in his village from 17 December 1944 to 7 January 1945. As the result of fighting from Theo's house, Bill received the Silver Star. He was wounded at Bonnerue, Belgium on 8 January 1945. Bill, Earle and Chuck are VBOB members.

WORLD WAR II CHRONICLE TO FEATURE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

World War II Publications publisher and director, Wayne L. Sanford, a member of VBOB, announced that he is planning to devote the November/December 1988 issue of the World War II Chronicle to the Battle of the Bulge.

VBOB members are encouraged to prepare a double-spaced typewritten or neatly written account of their experiences in the Bulge and mail to Editor, THE BULGE BUGLE, 1247 Sycamore Drive, Jenison, MI 49428 for review and possible use in THE BULGE BUGLE and part of VBOB historical records and forwarding to Wayne Black & white photos that are clear and sharp, on a loan basis, should also be sent if available.

The World War II Chronicle is published six times a year. Subscription rates and other information can be obtained from Wayne, P.O. Box 68079, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Wayne, an Army veteran of the Viet-

nam era, is the director of the American Heritage Foundation, Inc., and has conducted several hundred interviews with World War I and II veterans and has authored articles on both world wars, the Philippine Insurrection and the Civil War. He is a financial analyst and insurance broker and is a historical researcher and public speaker. He is a member of the American Legion, American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor, Pearl Harbor Survivors Assn., the Eighth Air Force Historical Association, and others.

...C. Boden

VBOB regrets the passing of ANTHONY N. TOSCANO of Syracuse, NY.

He was a member of VBOB and other veterans' organizations. He served his fellow veterans by being a service officer for AXPOW, even though he had not been a prisoner of war.

Especially for all of you who plan to join our battle-field tour of Belgium and Luxembourg this September, just a REMINDER to check your passport expiration date to be sure your present passport is and will continue to be valid until you return home.

EDITOR'S SQUARE

Also, please note the following health alert. Avoid at almost all costs shots, transfusions and injections in foreign hospitals when you travel. Blood may not be tested; syringes may not be disposable; AIDS, hepatitis and other diseases could result. Check with the nearest U.S. military facility for care.

The V.A. announces that the maximum home loan interest rate went up on 3 Apr 88 from 9.5 to 10%.

The V.A. also tells us that veterans who received Certificates for Eligibility for a V.A. home loan guaranty, perhaps several years ago but who did not use them, may still do so since loan guaranty entitlement is not subject to an expiration date.

And MORE ABOUT YOUR PASSPORT! We understand that a valid American passport is selling for \$10,000 on the black market! (So, hang it around your neck or thereabouts).

And more V.A. NEWS --If a veteran makes arrangements with a funeral home to prepay all costs for burial, his or her estate may be reimbursed by the VA at time of death. (No reimbursement, however, can be made for a prepaid headstone). SORRY to bring you this news, but time is getting shorter, isn't it, gals & guys?

AND STILL MORE FROM V.A. --Questions about VA government life insurance policies may be answered by calling 1-800-422-8079 during normal business hours. More than three million vets are sharing in this year's dividend distribution.

Any members who may know Lt. Samuel Bud Fein, Hq, 14th F.A. Bn, APO 252, who may have lived on 6th St in Brooklyn, NY are asked to contact the Editor.



You must certify that you intend to live in a home you are buying or building with a VA loan.

VA provides headstones and grave markers without charge for vets interred in private, state veterans and national cemeteries. In VA-operated cemeteries, they also mark graves of veterans' eligible dependents. Last year, VA furnished 254,000 headstones and grave markers.

Obituary Reprinted from TIME, July 11, 1988

DIED. Mildred ("Axis Sally") Gillars, 87, a languorous-voiced radio propagandist for Nazi Germany who tried to sap American soldiers' fighting spirit in Columbus. When World War II broke out, Gillars, then teaching English in Berlin, went to work for the Nazis. Her *Home, Sweet Home* program, an insinuating blend of big-band hits, nostalgia and anti-Semitism, was beamed to U.S. troops in Europe and North Africa. Arrested by the American military in Berlin after the war and convicted of treason in 1949, she served twelve years in prison.

WORLD WAR II CHRONICLE to Feature Articles on The Bulge

Wayne L. Sanford, Publisher and Director of World War II Publications and member of VBOB, plans to devote the November/December issue of the World War II Chronicle to the Battle of the Bulge.

VBOB members are urged to write of experiences and to send either a double-spaced typed account or a legibly written account to Bob Lemmon, Editor of THE BULGE BUGLE, for review and possible use in the Bugle and for forwarding to Mr. Sanford.

Also, sharp black and white photographs from the Bulge should be sent to Bob Lemmon. Be sure to the best of your memory to identify the place and date as well as the unit and name(s) of those in the photographs. Put your name and address on the back if you want the pictures to be returned to you.

Such accounts and pictures are vital to our preserving accurately and completely the heritage of the greatest battle ever fought by the United States Army and can only come from those who fought in the Bulge.

...Clyde D. Boden

One of the strangest missions I ever flew in was during the Bulge. We had 12 planes heading out, each with 500 lb. bombs with 45-second delayed fuses. The mission was to dislodge some enemy tanks that were dug in and shelling our tanks and ground troops.

Headed toward our target area was a flight of FW 190's approaching from 9 o'clock at some 2,000 feet below us. Their props were turning very slowly and they were flying in a nose-high attitude. That meant they had flown their mission and in doing so had used up their ammo and most of their fuel.

I called out the bandits to our squadron leader who responded, "Roger. Jampip Squadron stay in formation." We did so and the bandits flew right under us. Had we dropped our bombs and attacked, it would have been a turkey shoot. Fortunately, the squadron leader had his priorities in order and we proceeded with our mission; it was successful and resulted in a "Thank You" from General Patton in writing.

That was a lucky day for those Jerry pilots. The weather was so bad that we were just about the only allied fighters in the area, so Jerry had a free ride home.

[illegible]

The VBOB Nominating Committee submits the following nominees to be our leaders in 1989:

William T. Greenville

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Demetri Paris

VICE PRES. FOR MEMBERSHIP

Neil B. Thompson

VICE PRES. FOR MILITARY AFFAIRS

Eugene G. Drouillard

VICE PRES. FOR REGIONAL COORDINATION

Robert J. Van Houten

TREASURER

William R. Hemphill

RECORDING SECRETARY

Darrell Kuhn

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Beverley Van Houten

No nominations were received from the chapters nor from any members.

In accordance with Article VI of the VBOB By-laws, nominations from the floor will not be accepted at the General Membership Meeting in Luxembourg in September when elections will be held.

CHAPTER NEWS

VBOB is proud to announce, as a result of a month-long trip to the west coast, namely Arizona, California and Washington, by your Vice President for Regional Coordination, the formation of four new chapters and two more in the formative stage and one in the southeast.

The four are Fresno, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle. The formative chapters are in Arizona and S. Carolina. A charter was presented to the chapter in Fresno and a request for a charter for Seattle has been approved. They will be known as the Fresno Chapter and The Northwest Chapter.

In order for chapters to be accepted they must submit a list of at least ten members and a Chapter Constitution and elected officers.

Starting with this issue of THE BULGE BUGLE we are listing all qualified chapters, showing the president's name and address. This will be expanded as new chapters register. This procedure should be invaluable to our members desiring to join or form a chapter.

The trip to the west coast encompassed seven meetings with members, my wife Beverly and me. I was helped tremendously setting up the meetings by Hank Clouse in Tuscon, Arizona, as well as Zed Cupples and John Groeling in San Diego, Joe Kropff in Costa Mesa, CA, Bob Pockling in Glendale, CA, Ken Hohmann in Fresno as president of the chapter, Tom Gillis and Jack Deasy in San Francisco, and Chuck Pomianek and Kip DeAngelis in Seattle.

The collective meetings were attended by some 176 members and their wives, many of whom are also members.

Refreshments or dinners accompanied good conversation about where each man was forty-four years ago. All of the above hosts put on a fine gathering. In areas where many members are living, luncheon or dinner was attended by over 45 people.

Discussion centered around how to set up a chapter, where to hold its meetings and what a chapter can do locally as well as on a National level.

The history of World War II can be furthered by members letting schools know we are living members of that part of history and that VBOB stands available to help history teachers with this part of our country's history.

Wives expressed the thought that members of the Battle might consider writing their experiences in the Battle not only for a museum and a teaching tool, but for their own families' histories so that years down the line grandchildren would know the action played by Grandpa in this historical event.

There was interest in regional meetings, so that a coordinated effort can be made to have more input in the affairs of the National organization. This thought is more welcomed by the National officers.

Plaques and certificates have been placed in our National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. There is interest that this be done in other areas of the country.

Your Vice President for Regional Coordination stands available to present all chapter views to the National Executive Council which meets the third Saturday of every month. In order to do this, I would like to have reports of all meetings, regardless of the frequency, since some would be monthly or quarterly.

Again, it was a pleasure to meet our members in another part of our country and my wife and I look forward to another one in still a different area perhaps this fall.

My wish is to visit the entire country in the next couple of years. Any member wanting to form a chapter is asked to contact me.

...Robert J. VanHouten, VP for Regional Coordination.

WISCONSIN CHAPTER

The first meeting of 1988 was in March and many attended. The newly elected officers took over the meeting and all went well. We had the sad occasion of attending the funeral of member Casimer S. Boron. Twenty of us joined the VFW Firing Squad and Bugler for taps.



Bill Tayman, a life member of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and a resident of Reston, VA was a Platoon Sergeant in C Company of the 345th Infantry Regiment, 87th Infantry Division during World War II. When wounded by machine-gun fire during the Battle of the Bulge, Bill did not instinctively call out "Medic!" because he realized the Germans nearby would hear him and kill him. Instead, he crawled laboriously about 50 yards to the edge of a woods where an anti-tank gun had been hit. Its crew and other men were climbing aboard the gun truck for an ordered withdrawal. Two men climbed out of the truck to let Bill and one of his men on.

At the VBOB Executive Council Meeting at Fort Myer, VA on 20 February, Bill was asked by President George Chekan to give the closing prayer. Bill walked to the front of the room and held up what looked like a well-used pocket-size book. He said it was a book of daily devotions given to him by a family friend while in the service. He read from this book each day.

Bill said that his men would frequently ask him to read a devotion to them when they were in combat. Whenever he needed extra courage while in combat, Bill would pray the "Lord's Prayer" unceasingly. It has been said that there are no atheists in foxholes. We were fortunate during World War II to have had brave and dedicated Chaplains in the battalions and leaders like Bill. The power of prayer cannot be underestimated -- many of us in combat were buoyed by public prayer. We also frequently prayed privately to our God who, we are certain, was with us then just as He most surely is with us today.

Here is the devotion that included the prayer by Bill:

Read--Phil. 4:8-14, February 28: CONTENTMENT I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. --Phil. 4:11. Contentment is a quality of the soul, a regal adornment of noble minds. It is not the exclusive possession of the wealthy, nor is it reserved for the learned and the great. Like the brightness of sunshine or the freshness of the day in spring, it is available for all. The humblest toiler may claim it, and, if he has found its secret, though he be bound like a slave to his menial tasks, he will walk the earth like a king. The man on the street may possess it, and though his world be cruel and inhospitable, his life will be a song. Contentment arises from proper adjustment to one's environment. It will not dwell with him who has jealousy, envy, or hatred in his heart. Worry and fear will destroy it; selfishness and uncontrolled ambition will bring it to naught. Life is all too short to grumble over every misfortune. If we cannot change the circumstances which surround our lives, at least we may be master of them. Contentment is not a gift; it is an achievement. It is not a legacy to be conferred, but a prize to be won.

+++++ PRAYER +++++

Heavenly Father, grant that we may live this day in peace and calm serenity. Help us to meet whatever life has to offer with an unfaltering trust in Thee, and may we find assurance and contentment in Thy eternal love. Amen.

.....Alfred Grant Walton, Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church,
Brooklyn, NY

WHEN I COME HOME AGAIN

I want to travel the narrow roads-
See fresh fields where grain is sowed-
Smell the aroma of sassafras twigs-
Watch the farmers repair their rigs-
Feel the splendor of Christmas lights-
Somehow forget war's dreadful nights
When I come home again.

I want to hear distant dinner bells-
Drink cold water from country wells-
Walk around our pasture fence-
Return to school with confidence-
Meet old friends at the cotton gin-
Somehow forget where I have been
When I come home again.

"Tracks" Arthur L. Barfoot, WWII,
8th Field Arty. Observation Bn.

VBOB SALUTES THE 5th BELGIAN

Brief History of the War-Time 5th Belgian Fusiliers

The Belgian fighting unit of 800-men, the 5th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers, was activated at Charleroi on October 9, 1944. It was the first unit of the Belgian Army created on national territory after liberation by the Allies.

Outfitted in British uniforms, the 5th was attached to the First United States Army on December 13, 1944. All members were volunteers; many had fought in the Belgian Resistance.

Most were from Hainaut Province in South Belgium.

After two months of training, the 5th was sent to the Ardennes in the vicinity of Spa, Malmedy, Stavelot, and Verviers under the command of the 23rd Tank Destroyer Group (codename CIGARBOX).

The 5th Battalion fought from December 13, 1944 in the Battle of the Bulge to the end of the war.

The unit entered Germany on March 12, 1945, taking part in the final Allied Offensive, crossed the Rhine River later that month, and when the war was over was spread along the Fulda River facing Russian troops on the opposite bank. The 5th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers was inactivated on November 30, 1945.



MEMBERS OF THE 1ST PLATOON, 3RD COMPANY, 5TH BATTALION OF BELGIAN FUSILIERS.

The photograph was taken on December 18, 1944, in Spa when the platoon returned from Stavelot where fire had been

set to three gasoline dumps when SS Peiper Kampfgruppe captured Stavelot.

Sgt. Docq (end of second row on left) was awarded the American Bronze Star in this action.

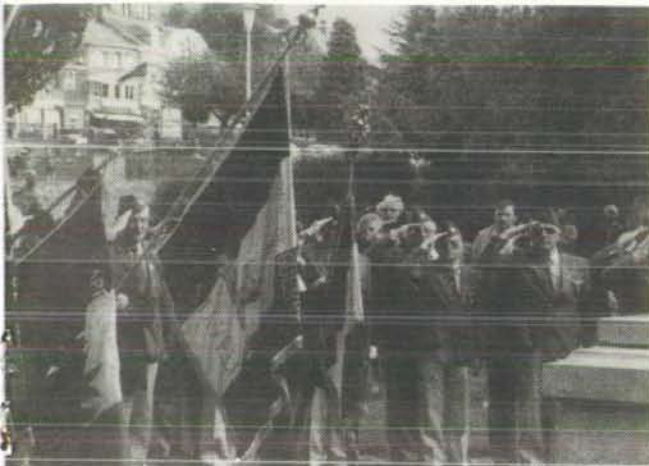


← Pictured here is a vehicle of the 1st Platoon, Company A, 825th Tank Destroyer Battalion that defended Stavelot on December 18, 1944. The platoon was commanded by the late 1st Lt. Jack Doherty, husband of founding VBOB member Frances Doherty.

The gallant action of the 825th in Stavelot prevented the capture and destruction of the Belgian platoon by the German SS.

***Merci beaucoup
nos amis!***

FUSILIERS



Edouard Corfers (front second from right) and Robert Tille (front far right) are two of the men of the Belgium Fusiliers who set fire to a gasoline dump at Stavelot, Belgium, during the Battle of the Ardennes in December, 1944. The ceremony took place during the Belgium 5th Battalion's commemoration in June 1985 at Stavelot. Through their heroic efforts the Germans were denied needed fuel to continue their armoured onslaught.

Old Comrade Association Formed in 1946

The aim of the 5th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers War Veterans Association, formed in 1946, has been to maintain among members the same feelings of war-time comradeship.

For many years members of the Association have participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies at the United States Military Cemetery at Henri-Chapelle where many American soldiers are buried.

They also go annually to La Gleize, a small village near Malmedy and Stavelot, the site of heavy fighting, where flowers are placed at the War Memorial and where the War Museum is visited.

Members of the Association will participate on June 5, 1988, in Memorial Day ceremonies at Malmedy where the name of the 5th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers will be added to the list of American units that defended Malmedy in December 1944.

Today the Association consists of about 300 members, all war-time volunteers of the 5th Belgian Fusiliers.

Book Review

MY WARTIME MEMORIES IN THE RESISTANCE AND THE 5TH BATTALION OF BELGIAN FUSILIERS

By Roger Hardy

A Review by Bob Phillips and Clyde Boden

This account of the personal experiences of a patriotic and brave Belgian young man during his high school days -- a July 1943 graduate -- and post-high school days is the story of the Belgian Underground and of a Belgian Army unit that fought with the United States Army in World War II. Written 30 years after the events occurred, Roger Hardy has captured and reported situations and individuals in considerable detail.

The entire Tournai high school class of which the now retired Lt. Col. Roger Hardy, the Secretary of the 5th's Association, was a part, joined the Resistance Movement. They fought with the Underground until the liberation of Belgium on September 3, 1944. Some were part of the Underground while still in high school. There are only two survivors of that group -- Roger Hardy and a friend who joined the 15th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers.

In the first part, Roger Hardy tells of his many adventurous and dangerous activities as a teen-ager with the Belgian Resistance. The second part is something combat veterans can relate to: lonely sentry duty, patrols, facing the enemy in life-threatening situations, seeing others killed and wounded, forming life-long friendships, and especially, during the Battle of the Bulge, enduring bitter cold weather coupled with fog, snow, ice, rain, and mud.

In April 1942, while still in high school, Roger Hardy, the son of a gendarme, and about a dozen friends took an oath not to tell anyone about their activities when they joined the Underground -- sometimes called the Belgian Legion and the Secret Army and the White Army -- while German troops were occupying Belgium.

Exploits of the group, all armed with 7.65 mm. pistols, included keeping their chief informed of collaborators, threatening and damaging the property of the collaborators, finding hiding places to avoid work-requisition practices of the Nazis (many young men sent to Germany never returned), delivering food to those who needed it, transporting rifle ammunition and dynamite, escorting people fleeing to France, distributing clandestine newspapers and publications, and during the last days of the occupation, taking a crossroad and capturing German soldiers.

He fled from his home with his father and younger brother as retreating German troops passed through their village on September 2, 1944. Shortly afterward, British reconnaissance armored vehicles arrived, signalling the end of the Underground fight.

After years of living under German occupation and risking his life while associated with the Underground, Roger Hardy's life changed with the liberation of Belgium.

He noted that it would be nearly impossible to describe the sensation of comfort, relief and freedom which he felt on September 3, 1944, the day of liberation by the Allied troops. "I could now walk on the street without constantly being on the look-out, no more expecting a German patrol or Gestapo men at the next corner. I could talk to people in the village in the middle of the day, no more waiting for the night before leaving furtively the hiding-place. Above all, my comrades and I knew with great relief that we were no more endangering the brave farming people where we had found a shelter".

Roger Hardy enlisted in the 5th Battalion of the Belgian Fusiliers on September 28, 1944, and was outfitted with a British uniform. The colors of the Belgian flag were painted in a small square on the flat helmet.

After a parade in Charleroi, the 5th left on December 13, 1944, for Spa as a unit of the United States Army, its mission, guard duty in the vicinity of Stavelot.

After his morning watch in the woods on December 16, 1944, the author records "we decided to go to town in the afternoon, as we had heard that films were given to the troops. The movie had just started when it suddenly stopped. The cinema room was full of light and an American voice ordered all military people to rejoin their units as a German counter-attack was developing. Indeed, when we went out of the cinema we heard the cannonade at a shorter distance. We ran until we reached the Sauveniere, crossing a lot of refugees and American soldiers... people on foot pushing hand-carts... reminded me of the exodus on the French roads four years ago when the Germans had invaded Belgium".

Belgian troops fired their pistols into the jerricans but there was no heavy burning. Then, some gas containers were opened and the poured-out contents were ignited by matches causing much fire.

After the Battle of the Bulge, the 5th Belgian Fusiliers entered Germany early in March 1945, served in the Army of Occupation after the war's end, and returned to Belgium on June 30, 1945.

Five men of the 5th were killed in action and 20 or more were wounded.

The 5th Battalion of Belgian Fusiliers was inactivated on December 1, 1945.

Roger Hardy concludes with a once-a-soldier-always-a-soldier type statement:

"The war was over, consequently it was a return to the civilian life. However, some of them preferred to stay in the armed forces and became the cadre of new units in the Belgian Army. Among those who had chosen the service release, some rejoined the Army after a few years of civilian life. This was my case, however I did not find again the high spirit of my war volunteer Battalion".

Speaker lauds WWII nurses

By Larry Heslin

In the middle of the coldest winter in Europe in 40 years, American soldiers braced against Germany's last major offensive of the Second World War. In the greatest land battle the U.S. Army ever fought, the soldiers threw back the enemy.

But the Americans paid dearly in the Battle of the Bulge. Some 19,000 soldiers were killed.

Over 81,000 soldiers were wounded, but for them hope and treatment was there in Army field hospitals, staffed by doctors and by a special kind of Army nurse — all volunteer — who served in the hospitals right on the edges of the front lines.

"One Battle of the Bulge field hospital had 1,000 patients through in a 24-hour period," according to Dorothy S. Davis, who served as an Army nurse in a field hospital which treated soldiers from the battle.

Davis spoke here last week as part of the Federal Women's Program Committee observance of Women's History Month. She recounted some of her experiences as an Army nurse and talked about the proposed Battle of the Bulge gallery at the Fort Meade Museum. Davis is chairperson of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge (VBOB) committee for the gallery.

Davis was a student at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941. Physicians and nurses studied at the school in preparation for service with Army medical units.

"Doctors and nurses who had been in white on Sunday were in uniform on Monday. It all looked very glamorous; I decided I wanted to be an Army nurse," Davis said, noting that during World War II the American Red Cross did most of the recruiting for Army nurses.



Dorothy S. Davis addresses the Federal Women's Program Committee on her experiences as an Army nurse in World War II. (Photo by Larry Heslin)

Commissioned as a second lieutenant in February 1944, Davis joined the 57th Field Hospital at a camp in Missouri.

"We stayed together throughout the war. We became like family," she said. A field hospital during World War II consisted of 18 nurses, 14 doctors, three dentists and other support soldiers. The unit was further broken down into detachments which consisted of five nurses, a doctor and a dentist, and support soldiers. The doctor was the commanding officer.

"It made us very mobile," Davis said.

Caring for the wounded from D-Day was the hospital's first duty when the unit arrived in Scotland in September 1944. Within six weeks, the hospital had treated 6,000 soldiers, preparing them for air evacuation to the

United States, Davis said.

The 57th Field Hospital was transferred to France. Davis remembers crossing the English Channel very clearly.

"We had the worst storms in many years; a trip that normally took eight hours took us three days," she said.

In France, on the front lines, the unit took care of soldiers who could not be transported to the rear. The duty was risky, and mobility of the hospital paid off.

"We were almost captured twice, and had to move the patients," she recalled. Under normal circumstances, the hospital moved as the troops moved, every four or five days.

"It was rather primitive," Davis said about the facilities. Referring to photographs which she had brought to the talk, which showed a field hospital

tent with a wooden floor, Davis said the floor was a luxury.

"I've looked at M.A.S.H. (the television program), and thought 'How could they be so lucky'," she said, referring to the showering facilities. "We bathed out of our helmets for two week periods."

Davis paid tribute to the 57,000 Army nurses of World War II. Some 200 of them died during the conflict, over 16 of them from direct enemy action. She also noted that 67 nurses were taken prisoner when the Japanese captured Corregidor in the Philippines and were held captive for three years in Manila.

The former nurse is now serving with the VBOB committee organizing the Battle of the Bulge gallery at the Fort Meade Museum. Fund raising is in progress, she said.

The VBOB held its first meeting in 1982, and ultimately decided on Fort Meade as the appropriate location for the gallery.

"Many soldiers who participated in the Battle of the Bulge had their basic training at Fort Meade, and many were from the First U.S. Army," Davis said.

"When you meet (with the veterans of the battle), you realize that the fight was not won in one great battle, but by individual actions, a few soldiers holding an intersection, for instance," Davis said.

Once the gallery is built with funds from private donations, the facility will be turned over to the Army.

Those interested in making a donation to the Battle of the Bulge gallery should send their contribution to:

Battle of The Bulge Gallery
P.O. Box 2516
Kensington, MD 20895-0818

MOTTO/SLOGAN CONTEST

Does VBOB need a motto/slogan? Yes ☐ No ☐. If your answer is "yes" please pick one or contribute your suggestion in Number 5.

- ☐ 1. Our Plight Was to Fight.
- ☐ 2. That Salient Was Not Silent.
- ☐ 3. La Bataille Des Ardennes.
- ☐ 4. U. S. Army's Greatest Battle.
- ☐ 5. Make your own original choice.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit Co. _____ Bn. _____ Regt. _____ Div. _____

Other _____

Please send to: Veterans of The Battle of The Bulge P.O. Box 11129 Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129 Att: Pete Dounis

Members Speak Out

Warnie (Clem) R. Sims, Co. G, 504th Inf. Regt, 82d Div, writes that he has spent 39 years working for S.C.M. making typewriters and has been retired now for three years.

Victor J. Dubaldo, Hq. Btry, 776th FA, asks for any information concerning "the cities, towns and countries" in which he served. If anyone can help Victor, write him at 41 Homestead St, Manchester, CT 06040.

Frank Remc, Trp. B, 102d Cav. Recon, V Corps, 1st US Army, from Normandy to Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, retired from the Wyoming Highway Dept. Engineers after 25 years and wishes to hear from Army buddies (especially Bob Eland, Detroit, and Pat Mastrowardi, Brooklyn, NY.) Contact Frank at 28 Broadway, Rock Springs, WY 82901.

Delbert D. Stone, Co. B, 10th Armd. Inf. Bn, 4th Armd. Div, for the past 43 years has been an auto-body man. When his health failed, he opened a music store and is now retired. He looks forward to VBOB's tour of the Ardennes in September.

Melvin H. Rappaport, CCB, 6th AD, wishes to hear from former unit members whom he may contact concerning the 6th AD Assn. Contact him at 46-62 Hanford St, Douglaston, Queens, NY 11362.

Ruth Puryear, 107th Evac. Hosp, a new VBOB member, writes that her unit has a reunion every year in Boston. Her husband, who expired 21 years ago, was in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific. Retired now, Ruth does volunteer work with the VA Hospital in Richmond, VA. She is interested in VBOB's tour to the Ardennes in September.

Thomas L. Harris, 9th Inf. Div, Hq. 60th Infantry was mentioned on page 15 of our Jan. 88 edition as a "Par Excellent VBOB Recruiter." Thomas feels he can recruit yet more members if his address is known. So here it is: P.O. Box 69, Elm City, NC 27822. Great going-good luck, Thomas.

Carthel E. (Tex) Noe, Co. M, 423d Inf was able to hit and run with a few other 106th Division men until captured on Xmas Eve 1944. He marched for five or six days without food and water and then into a railway boxcar for five more days with no food and water, with standing-room only and with dead bodies stacked next to him. He ended up in Stalag 9B. Tex would like to hear from old buddies. Write him at 565 Harvard Ave, Gladstone, OR 97027.

L. Terry McDaniel, Anti-Tank Co, 291st Regt, 76th Inf. Div, writes that it is always enjoyable to receive his copy of THE BULGE BUGLE. Here he is shown on the right with his buddy, Leonard "Bo" Stand-
after, last July during their first visit since July 1945. Most memorable was that of standing guard "back to back" in December 1944 when they were expecting German paratroopers to fall from the sky and "get us."



John M. Bauserman, VBOB Associate Member, is researching the Malmedy Massacre. He has located all burial sites of men KIA and 48 of the 57 survivors. He is interested in finding the following men:

Btry. B, 285th FAOB: Thomas J. Bacon, George E. Greaff, Charles E. Smith, R.L. Smith, Louis A. Vario.
575 Amb. Co, 26th Inf. Regt, 1st Inf. Div. attached to 47th Fld Hosp: Roy B. Anderson and Stephen J. Donitrovich.
Recon. Co, 32d Armd. Regt, 3d Armd. Div: J. I. Cummings and Marvin J. Lewis.

None of the above are VBOB members, so if anyone out there can help, please write John at 604 N. Fillmore Ave, Sterling, VA 22170.



Members Speak Out

Joseph Smoliga, Co. L, 310th Inf, 78th Div, says he doesn't see anything in THE BULGE BUGLE about 78th members. Since discharge, Joe has served in the Edison, NJ police department.

Wilbur Huffman, Hq, Btry, 370th FA Bn, 99th Inf. Div, wants to read about other 99'ers in THE BULGE BUGLE. Come on, 99'ers!

Alfred J. Krent, Co. B, 275th Combat Engineers, 75th Inf. Div, says he'll never forget the "Bulge" - in the St. Vith area. He's worked 42 years for a major steel corporation.

Owen McDermott, 2d Inf, 644th TD Bn, Co. C, writes of a military cemetery and a VA hospital nearby. As a member of the local honor guard, he's participated in 135 funerals last year.

Wm. A. Simpkins, 9th TAC, 405th FGP, 510th FSQDN, experienced a strange mission during the Ardennes Campaign. His mission with 12 planes, each with 500 lb. bombs and 45 second delayed fuses, was to dislodge enemy tanks dug in and shelling our tanks and troops. A flight of FW 190's approached at nine o'clock at 2000' below - props turning slowly. They had used up their ammo and most of their fuel. These bandits flew right under Bill's 12 planes. His squadron was able to proceed with its mission, was successful and received a "Thank You" in writing from General George S. Patton, Jr.

Donald L. Mason, Co. A, 743d Tank Bn, landed in first wave on Omaha Beach at 0645 hrs. At age 71, he's still farming in central Nebraska.

George J. Pelletier, Co. M, 345th Inf. 87th Inf. Div, served 27 years with the Fitchburg, MA Police Dept. since his service as a machine-gunner.

Milo J. Miller, Tank Co, 557th Ord. Hy. Maint, asks that former unit members who are interested in the unit's reunions, write him at 11223 Danbury St, Arcadia, CA 91006.

Chester A. McKenzie, Co. M, 291st Inf, 75th Div, is looking for buddies of his unit. Write him at Rt. 2, Box 295, Calhoun, KY 42327.

Charles E. Fuhs, Co. B, 23d Armd. Inf. Bn, Seventh Armd. Div. spent a week in St. Vith before being captured and held prisoner and then was hospitalized for seven months. He retired, disabled in 1981.

Carl S. Clark, Btry. B, 796th AAA Btry, 10th Armd. Div, writes to report he retired from the plumbing business three years ago after 38 years in the business and now spends his winters in Florida.

Pat Moser, Hq. Co, Demo Plt, 509th Prcht Inf. Bn, feels it is regrettable that small units seldom receive the credit they deserve. His unit just happened to be in the place where Hitler tried his last break-through to the Liege/Antwerp area in a little place named Sadzot. (Write a book or story about your unit, Pat. Ed.)

Up Front

with Willie & Joe

by Bill Maudin. Reprinted in The Stars and Stripes Courtesy of Bill Maudin



"Another dang mouth to feed."



Members Speak Out

Carl F. Lemier, 82nd Abn. Div, 325th GIF, has a story that is great to hear, with a lot of joy emerging after many years. His unit was making a push upon a small Belgian town. He saw his 1st Sgt hit and yelled for a medic who acknowledged his call. Since they were good friends, he felt very low, but kept going through heavy fire. After about 500 yards' advance, he was hit by fragments from a shelled tree. He went to an aid station and on to a hospital in Paris. When he was released he was unhappily assigned to another company and was unable to find out if his 1st Sgt, Will Simmons, had survived. After the war was over, he moved in 1954 to San Jose, CA. Then in 1987 fate moved in when the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall came to the town of Fremont, where the 82nd Airborne Chapter is located. While helping to keep things in order and facing the "wall," he heard his GI nickname, "Frenchy," called out and really thought something mysterious was happening from the "Wall" and that his mind and emotions had reached a pinnacle. He turned around and there was his old 1st Sgt, Will Simmons. He thought he was seeing a ghost. They hugged and cried like kids as the people around them watched with curiosity and amazement. Will lives only 36 miles from him. They see each other often and go many places and have fun. Carl was lucky to have survived the war since he was hit three times since N. Africa, 1942.

John R. Nordblom, 83d Inf. Div, 330th Inf, 1st Bn. Hq, writes: Hello, Buddy, 774th Tk. Bn, Co. C: On 10 Jan 1945 in Bihain, Belgium, you were attached to 1st Bn, 330th Inf, 83d Inf. Div. As the smallest man, I was sent on one of your tanks to the front lines to take a 300 radio to our Co. A with whom we had lost contact. I left the tank and headed out on an open field hunting Co. A through that deep snow and cold. The Germans spotted me with the antenna sticking up from the radio on my back, opened fire and eventually hit me in the side and hip. One of your tanks came out and picked me up, laid me across the back of the tank and returned, firing back at the Germans. You saved my life and I'll never forget you. I'd love to hear from you, whoever you are. Back in the

(Cont'd. from Col. 1) field hospital in Axwaille (?), the doctor, Capt. Krasnoff who cared for me, was the brother of one of my schoolmates living only two miles from my home. He wrote my parents, assuring them he would be alright.

Woodrow A. Hodges, Hq. Btry, 259th FA Bn remembers the disabled German tank in the woods in front of Geilinkirchen. The Germans would steal up to it almost every day at 0500 with ammo and plaster our OP and the little village of Prummirn (?). They killed and wounded many of our Infantry. In the town of Montenau (?), Belgium, he was told to take a crew and lay a telephone line from his Hq. up to a dugout for an OP. When he had it hooked up and received his code word "Claymore," he knew that the base was receiving. They turned to go back to their 3/4-ton truck and suddenly the heavy fog lifted and the sun broke through. They could see very clearly the roads, the woods and the buildings below. Then they heard an awful noise - the ignition of a Nebelwerfer. They also had been seen. Five or six of the Screaming Meemies came through the air at them. There was no cover so they all fell to the snow and ice-covered ground. They were OK, but one round hit the OP and ruined the BC scope. Luckily, they still had communications. Just as quickly as the fog lifted, it closed in again and they were able to safely return to the CP. Woodrow calls that Divine Providence.

Anton N. Quint, Hq. Btry. Med. Det,
390th FA, 94th Inf. Div, wishes to hear
from unit buddies. Write Anton at 5502
W. 133d St, Hawthorne, CA 90250.

Glenn H. Lottner, Co. H, 385th Inf, 76th Inf. Div, asks why he never sees anything in THE BULGE BUGLE about his division. 76th Div. men may write Glenn at P.O. Box 3801, Bay Pines, FL 33504.

Kenneth W. Coffey, 30th Inf. Div., 113 FA Bn, C Btry, would like to hear from former buddies of the Old Hickory Division. He especially wishes to hear from Ralph J. Wheatly of the Bronx. Contact Kenneth at Rt. 5, Box 80, Winston Salem, NC 27107.

[illegible]

Members Speak Out

Edward J. Sitar (alias The Chaplain), 119th Regt, 30th Div, 3d Bn, Anti-Tank Sq, wishes to hear from men of his unit. Edward was one of three men who escaped in LaGleiz and ran to Liege; the others surrendered or were killed. Contact him at 2432 S. First Ave, N. Riverside, IL 60546.

Clifford F. Duffy, CCA, 358th Inf, 90th Inf. Div, asks the name of the hospital in which he had an operation in Luxembourg, how to acquire a map of the 90th's trek across Europe, where to obtain a 1903 30.6 Springfield Army-issue rifle, bolt action and how to contact the 10th and 11th Armored Division organizations. If anyone out there can help Clifford, write him at 518 4th Ave, NE, Independence, IA 50644. (That's a big order, Cliff! (Ed.)

Effie Morrissey, widow of Cecil H. Morrissey (unit unknown) asks that anyone who knew Cecil (Mike) contact her at 14 Young St, Bangor, ME 04401.

Victor J. Dubaldo, 776th FA Bn, Hq. Btry, wishes to hear from any unit member especially Weden, Ladenburg, Knight, Hoge or Cornet concerning complaints of his back and shoulder problems. Write Victor at 41 Homestead St, Manchester, CT 06040.

Bennie Zuskin, C Co, 26th Inf, 1st Div, writes to say he served with his unit 4/44 to 11/45, has located 159 men from C Co and is looking for more. He has pictures of all four platoons in England in May 44 and a C Co roster of over 800 names of men who served in the company during WWII. If you wish to contact Bennie, write him at 141 Saunders Rd, Hampton, VA 23666.

Harry M. Kemp, 109th Inf. Regt, is completing a history of his regiment from 2/41 to 10/45. He will welcome memoirs, fotos and remarks from vets of the 28th Inf. Div. Contact him at 1318 Skyline Terrace, N.W, Olympia, WA 98502.

James B. Carr, Co. B, 55th Armd. Inf. Bn, 11th Armd. Div, obtained BS and MS degrees in Engineering in the early 50's and worked for General Motors from 1951 to 1987 and is (finally) retired.

John H. O'Neal, Co. I, 317th Inf, 8th Div, does volunteer work for his local county's food stamp program (at age 78!). He says he's not been able to sign up a new member for VBOB, but is still looking.

Robert C. Lawrence, Co. B, 333d Regt, 84th Inf. Div, recalls joining his division in Dec. 44 and ending up on the Elbe River in Germany to meet the Russian forces. He vividly recalls living outdoors in the snow and cold in the Ardennes. Bob's been in the insurance business the past 36 years.

Wm. A. Beisner, Co. K, 317th Inf. Div, served as Platoon Leader and Co. Commander. He was wounded 26 Dec 44 at Kehman, Lux. He has been in the shoe manufacturing/tanning industries.

Harold M. Snedden, Hq & Svc Co, 110th Inf, 28th Inf. Div, was captured at Clervaux, Lux. on 18 Dec 44 and held in Stalag 9B at Bad Orb, Germany. He was liberated by a Third Army tank unit on Easter, 2 April 45. Harold would like to hear from other Stalag 9B members. Write him at 930 Clarendon Ave, Sheridan, WY 82801.

L. H. Ketelsen, Hq. Co, 2d Bn, 32d Armd. Regt, 3d Armd. Div, just retired from the Postal Service (and enjoying every minute of it!)

Allan H. Stein, 508th Paratroop Inf, 82d Abn. Div, took advantage of the GI Bill after WWII, has a BS and MS degree, was a teacher, educational specialist, taught psychology, writing and stamp collecting.

Oscar R. Blevins, 90th Div, Co. E, 3d Bn, 358th Inf. received a mortar wound near Neiderwampach, Lux., then played two seasons of minor league baseball, had a shoe store for 20 years and has been a Vets Service Officer for nearly 18 years.

Rose Dewing Young, R.N, 130th Gen. Hosp, has retired now and lives in Massachusetts.

Charles T. Carpenter, Jr, 1st Inf. Div, 16th Inf, Cannon Co, wishes to hear from former members from Feb 43 to Sep 45. Write him at 312 W. Gold St, Kings Mt, NC 28086.

SEND IN YOUR CHAPTER NEWS!

Archbishop is star of the show as friends gather for life story

It would be another of those charity galas with open bar, filet of beef and towering dessert that can trigger bubbles in the belly of the most stalwart diner.

The star of the Archdiocesan Charity Ball would be Julius LaRosa. Oops! Wrong. LaRosa was an entertainer. The star was Philip M. Hannan.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Betsy, he became the 11th archbishop of a 115-year-old diocese. For nearly 23 years he has been a kindly, energetic leader, who drives his own car, currently a Chevy.

A thousand well-wishers (he retires next month on his 75th birthday) packed a Fairmont ballroom to watch Jerry Romig unfold "This is Your Life Archbishop Philip Matthew Hannan," a candid look at one of Patrick Francis and Lillian Louise Keefe Hannan's "spirited brood" of eight children.

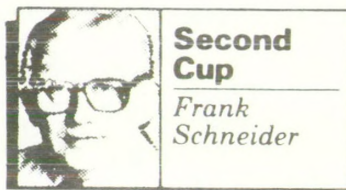
"Phil," came a voice from offstage, "I'll never forget the day brother Bill taught you how to drive a car on a country road. He showed you how to shift, and we were on our way. You had a heavy foot on the accelerator, I'll say. We were doing 40 and I was bouncing up and down on the back seat."

"Bill said, 'Turn in at Mr. Hill's farm and go back.'"

"With all the calm imaginable, and still going 40, you asked, 'How do I stop it?'"

"I knew then that you had a tremendous faith in God ... more than I had."

From offstage came another voice. "Phil, remember the day you were ordained auxiliary



bishop in Washington, D.C.? After the ceremonies we stood outside St. Matthew's Cathedral, Mom and Dad and all of us."

His brother Denis came out. "Dad took one look at Phil's crozier and said, 'Son, that is some fine piece of pipe.' He was a master plumber and knew good metal when he saw it."

Among the visitors was Monsignor Henry Cosgrove from Queens Village, N.Y., one of Hannan's classmates when they pursued seminary studies in Rome.

"Remember when five of us seminarians went for a drive in the hills to Assisi? The driver drove a bit fast."

Suddenly, the steering wheel spun wildly, and the car swerved off the road. It rolled downhill, its passengers tumbling inside.

As the dust settled, the occupants crawled out, rolled the car back onto its wheels, pushed it up the hill and onto the road, and proceeded to Assisi.

Hannan's longtime friend, now pastor of St. Ann's Church in D.C., Monsignor William Awalt, appeared on videotape.

"There came a time when the good son, good student and good priest would indicate how good an American he was. He volunteered as a World War II chaplain. Not just your run-of-the-

Army chaplain, mind you, but airborne." The men gave him, their jump master, another title: "Jumpin' Padre."

Also greeting the archbishop, from Moreauville, La., was Voorhies Dewailly, a member of the 82nd Airborne, and U.S. Army Brig. Gen. James H. Johnson Jr.

Other Hannans filing on stage were a nephew, Philip Matthew Hannan II, who arrived with great-nephew, Philip Matthew Hannan III in his arms.

Quickly, the stage was heavy with Hannans — Margaret, Denis' wife; Rose, brother Frank's widow; Pat, brother Tom's daughter; nephews John, Stephen, Mike and his wife, K.D.; Timothy and his wife, Mary; and Debbie, Philip's wife.

They stood four deep as others came to thank the archbishop for his caring, for the charitable programs he instituted here.

To a standing ovation, Hannan quipped, "This farewell party is lasting longer than a Polish wedding."

Elaborating on one visitor's remarks, he recalled "when a German lady" brought him a set of newborn, abandoned triplets; she had selected the paratrooper chaplain as the logical one to adopt them. "Have you ever had triplets?" he asked the audience. "It happened during the Bulge."

He peered into the three tiny faces, and quickly sent out word to 505 men: "Find the mother." They did.

The audience laughed, sang happy birthday, toasted him and applauded him. They'll miss the wit and wisdom of God's man in New Orleans.

"Have you ever had triplets?" he asked the audience. "It happened during the Bulge."

BOOK ON AIR OBSERVERS IN THE WORKS

THE BULGE BUGLE received a request to seek out Air Observation Post pilots so that they may contribute their experiences to the authors of the book entitled "The Fighting Grasshoppers." The writers want to hear from Observers and Ground Crew members. They are putting this book together because they feel that the "Grasshopper Cubs" have been almost totally ignored by Army historians and that their stories deserve to be told. What they are looking for are personal experiences, photographs or negatives (which will be promptly returned), information on aircraft markings and names and addresses of other AOP pilots.

If you can lend a helping hand, contact Wesley Kyle, 919 Black St, Uvalde, TX 78801, ATTN: Liaison/APO Data Project.

... E. Loiacono, Ed., Washington Bureau

VBOB Membership Committee

As part of the effort to increase our membership, a special Membership Committee has been formed. One of the actions of the committee has been to send a News Release to one member in each state with the request that the member send it to his local newspaper. Responses that can be identified as being the result of the News Release are coming in. The majority to date have been from the Bangor Daily News, Bangor, Maine. We have received over 20 inquiries so far.

Please clip or copy the News Release appearing in this issue of THE BULGE BUGLE and send it to your local paper. Please don't depend on your buddy to do it. Your local paper cannot print it if you don't send it.



**Veterans
Administration**

All veterans with a service-connected illness or disability are provided no-cost care regardless of income. Certain other veterans also are exempt from the Congressionally-instituted Means Test, including former prisoners of war, veterans exposed to radiation or herbicides, and veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Mexican Border period and World War I.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM PROPOSED

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Democrat of Ohio, has introduced in the House a bill to locate a national memorial honoring the veterans of WWII in Washington, D.C. The Congresswoman introduced H.R. 3742 among several other of her Congressional priorities. In introducing the bill she mentioned that a veteran from her district mentioned the lack of a World War II memorial in Washington. She also was quoted as stating that "over 16 million Americans served in the Nation's armed forces during that conflict and over 400,000 made the ultimate sacrifice. Yet, nowhere is there one single monument to honor veterans, both deceased and living, who carried this Nation to victory...nowhere is there a place to which World War veterans can bring their children and grandchildren and say, "Here is the World War II Veterans' Memorial."

Congresswoman Kaptur went on to say, "Only a national memorial and museum, located in the Nation's Capitol, can pay tribute to those valiant men and women." Sixty-five members of Congress have already joined Congresswoman Kaptur in co-sponsoring HR 3742. Many more are needed. It is suggested that each of us write to our Congress-persons and ask that they co-sponsor HR 3742. Address your letter to him or her by name and state, The House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. Let's make this memorial a reality. It is anticipated that the memorial will be funded by the United States Government.

... E. Loiacono, Ed., Washington Bureau

The VA operates both inpatient and outpatient alcohol and drug dependence program clinics at most VA medical centers for honorably discharged veterans.

There is no minimum age for a veteran to begin to receive a VA pension. Entitlement to pension is based on qualifying service, income within the statutory limits and permanent and total disability as established by law. Veterans over the age of 65 are presumed to meet the disability requirements and therefore do not need medical evidence of disability.

Reunion ~ ~ ~

78th Div. Assn, 7-11 Sep 1988, Holiday Inn, Central, Omaha, NE. For details, contact Joe Phillips, 3232 S. 39th St, Omaha, NE 68105.

131st Ord. Maint. Bn, 9th Armd. Div, 1-4 Sep 1988, Holiday Inn, Overland Park, KS. For info, contact Al Irwin, Mound City, KS 66056.

773d Tank Destroyer Bn. Assn, 26-28 Sep 1988, Holiday Inn/Casino, Reno, NV. For details contact Edward H. McClelland, 4384 W. 182d St, Cleveland, OH 44135. Members of VBOB are welcome to join the 773d reunion.

328th Inf. CT, 14-16 Oct 88, Plymouth, MA. Contact Bob V. Clapp, 208 Aspinwall Ave, Brookline, MA 02146.

87th Inf. Div, WW-I & II, 9/28-10/2/88, Baltimore, MD. Contact Gladwin Pascuzzo, 2374 N. Dundee Ct, Highland, MI 48031.

687th FA Bn, 16-18 Sep 88, Omaha, NE. Contact Nels Block, Jr, 2306 - 9th St, Harlan, IA 51537.

70th Tank Bn. Assn, 41st Reunion, 15-18 Sep 88, Sheraton Inn, York, PA. Contact Charlie Myers, 3208 Lake Ave, Baltimore, MD 21213.

238th Engr. Combat Bn, 42d Reunion, 14-17 July 88, Royce Motel, Charlotte, NC. Contact Jack Rollins, 21407 Country Club Drive, Davidson, NC 28036.

707th Tank Bn, 15-17 Sep 88, Louisville, KY. Contact John E. Bickers, PO Box 481, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561.

4th Inf. Div, 24-31 Jul 88, Las Vegas, NV. Contact Richard A. Sover, 5042 N. Olympia, Chicago, IL 60656.

U.S. Horse Cavalry Assn, 14-16 Oct 88, Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington, VA. Contact the association at P.O. Box 6253, Ft. Bliss, TX 79906.

83d Thunderbolt Inf. Div, 8-10 Sep 88, Hershey, PA. Contact John A. Aller, 1008 Coggins Dr, Sun City, AZ 85351.

134th Inf, WWII, 35th Div, 14-18 Sep 88, Topeka, KS. Contact James Graff, RR 1, Box 54, Middletown, IL 62666.

109th Inf. Regt, 28th Inf. Div, 7-9 Oct 88, Tumwater, WA. Contact Harry M. Kemp, 1318 Skyline Terrace, NW, Olympia, WA 99502.

801st Tank Destroyer Bn. Assn, 7-8 Oct 88, Utica, NY. Contact Arthur J. Langdon, 9 Lyon Pl, Utica, NY 13502.

107th Evac. Hosp, 7-8 Oct 88, location unknown. Contact Giles A. Laughrea, 169 Church St, Watertown, MA 02172

626th Tank Destroyer Bn. Assn, 23 Sep 88 Hanscom AFB, Bedford, MA. Contact Fred O. White, 18 Spring Park Ave, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

704th Tank Destroyer Bn. Assn, 29 Sep - 1 Oct 88, Sturbridge, MA. Contact Walter Swaitlowski, 22 North St, Three Rivers, MA 01080.

84th Inf. Div. Railsplitter Society, 13-17 Aug 88, Milwaukee, WI. Contact A.J. Conte, PO Box 1524, Englewood, FL 34295.

The Society of the Fifth Division, 2-5 Sep 88, Colo. Springs, CO. Contact John H. Pflaum, 170 Evergreen, Elmhurst, IL 60126.

AND YET MORE "CHAPTER NEWS!!!"

MD/DC Chapter - On 24 April 1988 the MD-DC Chapter met at the Mayo Beach American Legion Post 226. Darrell Kuhn outlined plans for the ongoing wreath-laying at the five Maryland Veterans' Cemeteries on Memorial Day. George Chekan, National VBOB President, spoke on the various functions of the organization, both on chapter and National level. We observed a moment of silent prayer for two of our deceased members, Joseph A. Cavanaugh and Calvin I. Stilley. The group took part in the Massing of the Colors at Ft. Meade, MD March 20th. The meeting was followed by a dinner.

"The Veterans of The Battle of The Bulge deserve the respect normally reserved for kings."

Gabrielle Howe --- Former Belgian citizen and wife of William Howe, 82nd Airborne

Kilroy says...

**"SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER...
DO IT TODAY!"**

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Zip _____

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HERE



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Arlington, VA 22210-2129

Your attention, PLEASE . . .



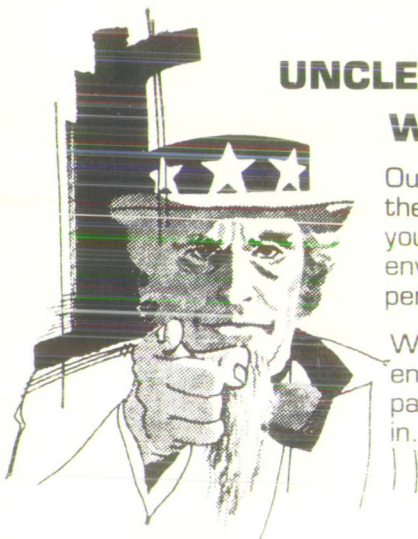
Use this convenient envelope
to pay NOW and help maintain
our VBOB Association

Your dues are \$10.00

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

Thank You

**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.



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Signature _____

A beautiful VBOB plaque made by Robert Van Houten, to be presented to the 5th BN Belgian Fusiliers in September, was exhibited.

Dee Paris will research and report on possible sites for the 1989 and 1990 General Membership Meetings. At this point California is being considered for 1989.

Ardennes Tour--Charles MacDonald reported that plans for the trip are going very well, 138 persons are signed up with 3 on the waiting list. The complete agenda for the trip will be sent to the participants within the next few weeks. Among the many events planned will be the presentation of a VBOB flag to the Mayor of Bastogne.

NEW BUSINESS:

Membership Promotion was discussed by Clyde Boden and Eva Popovich. An add encouraging membership in VBOB will be placed in the Washington Post and the L.A. Times. A camera ready copy of VBOB information, for use in division newsletters, was sent to 31 division organizations containing members who had participated in the Battle of the Bulge. It is expected that these efforts will bring about an increase in membership--the goal for 10,000 members by the end of 1988 is very optimistic--but believed to be possible.

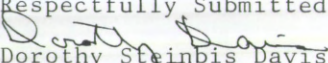
An attractive new membership brochure was displayed. The publication has just been completed, and the fact that it is light weight will make it less costly to send.

Gallery Update--Clyde Boden, Dorothy Davis and George Karambelas reported on the progress of the fund drive for the Gallery. There have been over 350 donations totaling \$14,000 since the letter was sent out in June. Seventy persons have made donations of \$500 each. Sandie Fauriol and Dorothy Davis met with Belgian Ambassador Herman Dehennin July 14. The Ambassador was most enthused about the Gallery and offered to write letters of introduction to various persons in Belgium, who might be helpful in procuring both funds and artifacts for the Gallery. Ambassador Dehennin asked to be kept updated on the Gallery progress and suggested meetings to plan co-sponsored events. Clyde Boden reported on the change of command at Fort Meade. First Army Commander, Lt. Gen. James E. Thompson will also assume command of Fort Meade. Colonel Joseph F. Sarakaitis is the installation commander.

In view of the extreme heat (100°) the President adjourned the meeting by 1115 hours.

NEXT MEETING, AUGUST 20, 1988!!

REMEMBER TO SEND IN
RESERVATIONS FOR THE
JULY 29th DINNER BY
JULY 25th!!

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Steinbis Davis
Recording Secretary

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

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

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
Saturday, July 16, 1988
0900 hours to 1130 hours
Fort Myer, VA Education Center

Attending:

Clyde Boden
George Chekan
Dorothy Davis
Frances W. Doherty
Eugene Drouillard
William Hemphill
George Karambelas
Darrell Kuhn

Benjamin Layton
E. L. "Lucky" Loiacono
Charles MacDonald
Demetri Paris
Eva Popovich
Sam Silverman
Beverley Van Houten
Robert Van Houten

George Chekan, President, called the meeting to order. Eugene Drouillard led the group in the pledge of allegiance and Benjamin Layton gave the invocation.

A motion was made by Dorothy Davis, seconded by Clyde Boden and approved, that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as written.

On the sick list:

Joseph Langbart is recovering from surgery--
716 S. Overlook Drive
Alexandria, VA 22305

George Hall, also recovering from surgery--
36 Linda Terrace
Portsmouth, RI 02871

We send our good wishes for a fast recuperation to both of them!!

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report was given by William Hemphill. The assets of VBOB total \$69,393, including liquid assets worth \$40,000. A discussion was held concerning the preparation of next year's budget. The sales of merchandise totaled \$347 for the month of June. William Hemphill made a motion, seconded by George Karambelas and approved that the treasurer's report be accepted.

Chapter Coordination--Robert Van Houten requested that Columbia, South Carolina be approved for a VBOB chapter. He presented a list of 10 persons who had met and would be forming the chapter. After a short discussion approval was granted by the Executive Committee for the formation of a chapter in Columbia, SC. (Motion by Robert Van Houten, seconded by William Hemphill). Mr. Van Houten also proposed that consideration be given to holding regional meetings and developing area mini-museums.

VETERANS of the BATTLE of the BULGE



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JULY 1988

ADVERTISE VBOB

We know there are hundreds of thousands of veterans eligible to join VBOB, but they haven't. And the only reason we can think of is that they don't even know we exist.

That's why we're asking for your help.

You can be the best advertising vehicle we have by promoting VBOB whenever you have the chance. Talk to eligible veterans and encourage them to join. And spread the word among other veterans' organizations by placing notices on their bulletin boards. With your help our roster will continue to grow.

If you need more application forms, please write the national headquarters, or xerox the one below.

*Help maintain the special bond that exists between
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Captured _____

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