

# The BULGE BUGLE

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION • VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

VOLUME X NUMBER 4

THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

NOVEMBER 1991

## VBOB FOUNDER CLYDE BODEN DEAD AT 70

Testimonial  
Page 3

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Preserving Our Victory



Darrell Kuhn

The sign is *Preserving Victory*.  
The counter sign is *Forever*.

These are our guideposts for our future. We must protect the precious gift we have given our nation: a wondrous, smashing victory against a hellish foe.

We have to do whatever else we can to protect the peace the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, both the survivors and those who gave their lives, to really finish up the job in style. It is unfitting for VBOB to simply win the key victory and then walk away, unconcerned about the future we have so dearly bought.

As an organization we have accomplished a good deal, so well and proudly done under such leaders as founding President Clyde Boden, who died recently. We owe it to ourselves, our heroic dead, and the country we sacrificed for, to continue to march as we have been, continuing to make our mark on history bigger and more lasting in many ways.

We have to do some thinking, followed up by vigorous action, about what we are going to do in the immediate future.

Do we expand the organization to include sons and daughters, and other auxiliary members, so that someone will carry on for us?

Do we want to get additional recognition for ourselves through Certificates of Participation for all VBOBers and newly-signed members?

Can we muster enough heavy weaponry to push through to victory on our museums and monuments and other signposts memorializing our contribution to winning World War II and contributing centrally to the peace that followed?

(continued on page 2)



VBOB Monument - Arlington Cemetery

Photo by  
Sam Silverman

Mark your calendar...

**Sunday, December 15, 1991**

**VBOB DINNER**

Sheraton Hotel

Arlington, Virginia

**Monday, December 16, 1991**

**VBOB's Annual Ceremony**

Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington, Virginia

(See Pages 4&5)



## VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

P.O. Box 11129  
Arlington, Virginia 22210-2129  
(703) 979-5270

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

### BULGE BUGLE STAFF

**Publisher** - George Chekan  
9th Infantry Division

**Editor** - Roy Gordon  
9th Infantry Division

**Editor** - Washington Bureau  
Elturino L. Loiacono - 10th Armored Division

### VBOB OFFICERS - ELECTED

**PRESIDENT** - Darrell T. Kuhn  
75th Infantry Division

**EXEC. VICE PRES.** - John J. Dunleavy  
737 Tank Battalion

**VICE PRES. FOR MEMBERSHIP**  
Neil Thompson  
740th Tank Battalion

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR MILITARY  
AFFAIRS** - Earle R. Hart  
87th Infantry Division

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR REGIONAL  
COORDINATION** - Robert J. Van Houten  
16 FA OBN Battalion

**TREASURER** - William R. Hemphill  
3rd Armored Division

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Frances W. Doherty - Widow of Jack  
825th TD Battalion

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Beverly Van Houten

### APPOINTED

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR, PUBLIC  
RELATIONS**  
Benjamin T. Layton  
3496 Quartermaster Truck Co.

**HISTORIAN** - Helen Berry, Widow  
of Walter E., 4th Infantry Division

**CHAPLAIN** - Msgr. William F. O'Donnell  
87th Infantry Division

**LIAISON OFFICER FOR INT. AFFAIRS**  
Robert F. Phillips  
28th Infantry Division

**PHOTOGRAPHER** - Sam Silverman  
10th Armored Division

### HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

**PRESIDENT** - Dorothy S. Davis  
57th Field Hospital

### PAST VBOB PRESIDENTS

Clyde Boden, 1981-1984  
Robert J. Van Houten, 1984-1986  
George Chekan, 1986-1988  
William T. Greenville, 1988-1990

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

**SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL**

Addressing the House of Commons following  
the Battle of the Bulge

### Preserving Our Victory (cont'd from page 1)

Do we want to take any position on current events, as a follow-on to what we fought for; do we have to battle once again for keeping other groups in line to gain the full benefits of the peace we paid so dearly for?

The officers of the veterans of the Battle of the Bulge hold office to do your bidding for the good of the order. I would like to hear from you, on what you think about the topics I have just mentioned as well as any you would like to see VBOB become concerned about.

Of course, we will continue to push on as we have: bringing our accomplishments to the attention of as great an audience as we can. We will keep you posted, though the BUGLE, on key "maintenance" tasks. The BUGLE will continue to highlight the history of the Bulge in various ways, some of them new.

We will vigorously continue to build new chapters. We will vigorously seek to have the entertainment

media salute the Battlers of the Bulge through more motion pictures and television series.

We will continue to ask Battlers to seek more speaking engagements in local schools and civic groups. VBOB should be represented on all local activities involving veterans. If the community is celebrating Pearl Harbor, for instance, a Battler should be on the program to tell, not about a disaster, but about a shining victory.

It is time we all did some brainstorming for ourselves, you and me. Tell us what you think.

Tell us what we should do, according to your lights. Tell us what you will do. We need as much help as we can get. Tell us now. Do not wait for someone to say about the Battlers: "They stood around, actionless. In the end they couldn't even tell it to the Marines."

### PRESERVING VICTORY FOREVER.

Darrell Kuhn, President



When the band played the Stars and Stripes Forever,  
As the veterans marched so proudly down the street,  
The crowd cheered them on, with that patriotic song,  
Clapping hands with its tempo and beat.

With the stars and stripes, our symbol called Old Glory,  
Her bright colors with its red and white and blue,  
Waving proudly in the breeze, so everyone could see,  
When all the marchers came into full view.

We honor all of those so well-remembered,  
Who gave their best, whatever be the cause,  
On this special day, the eleventh of November,  
To all of those who served in our great wars.

Oscar N. Hemstad - 3rd Armored Division

### In This Issue

What is VBOB going to do for an encore? See  
President's Message, PRESERVING OUR VICTORY.  
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4th Armored Division Wins Presidential Unit  
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B BAG, a new short items column.

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### FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS

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where to apply. Covers everything  
from mortgage guarantees to disa-  
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## IN MEMORY OF



### OUR FOUNDER CLYDE DANIEL BODEN, JR. 1921-1991

As many of you know, our founder Clyde "Dan" Boden passed away on August 24, 1991. Even though Clyde would not have wanted it, we have decided to devote this page to him anyway. *The Bugle* printed several obituaries in the past and, at Clyde's direction, it was decided not to go any further with these. In Clyde's own words, "None of us are getting any younger and we don't want *The Bugle* to wind up containing just somber items."

Clyde was born in Shamokin, Pennsylvania to Clyde D. Boden, Sr., and Eva Scott Boden. His sister, Jeanne Troutman, and many nieces and nephews still remain in the Shamokin area.

He attended college at Franklin and Marshall, University of Pennsylvania, and Columbus Law School.

Clyde enlisted in the army in 1939. His military service included combat command as an anti-aircraft platoon commander with the 84th Infantry Division during World War II in four campaigns in Europe and during the Korean War in the Army of the United States. His last reserve assignment was as commander of the Mobilization Designation Detachment of the Deputy Chief of Staff for personnel. He was a graduate of the Army's Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

He married Phyllis McCray, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, in 1953. This marriage was blessed with two children--a son, Scott, and a daughter, Barbara. Clyde was a devoted father

and a boastful and proud grandfather to his granddaughter, Lyndsi Boden. Much of his weekend time was devoted to their special little outings. He delighted in gatherings with his family and relatives in the Northern Virginia area.

Not one to be idle, Clyde engaged in many activities for his church, Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, after his retirement. He served on many national and local church committees and boards. He was very active in civic matters--having once launched a campaign for the office of Arlington County Clerk of Courts. Here, too, he excelled--he gathered more votes than any other independent candidate for any office in the history of Arlington County politics. He also kept himself busy with part-time employment. He seemed to glow with each new challenge and accepted each new endeavor with fresh enthusiasm.

In the summer of 1981, Clyde called together five persons with a possible interest in the formation of an organization honoring those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge. Several organizational meetings followed and an official meeting was held at the Arlington County Courthouse, in Arlington, Virginia, on December 16, 1981, with 25 interested people in attendance. At that meeting, Clyde was elected president and served in that capacity for three years. From that small group, VBOB has enrolled nearly 9,000 members.

Following a ritual conducted by the Masons, members of VBOB conducted an observance at the funeral home. During this ceremony, his comrades paid tribute to Clyde. They remembered his enthusiasm and hard work in accomplishing his dream "of bringing together the men of the greatest battle of the war" and the fact that "Clyde has given some 9,000 men the opportunity to again become comrades through this association." Another member recalled how Clyde worked "to form and guide VBOB along the proper course." Stressing that he "guided but did not dictate" and there "was always a feeling that we thought of the solution to the problem." One member recalled that Clyde was "a comrade of rare qualities."

At services held in the "Old Chapel," Clyde's minister of 16 years, the Reverend Roy Smith, recalled a God fearing man, a devoted husband and father, and a man of high moral values. With full military honors, family, friends, and members of VBOB marched behind the riderless horse to Clyde's burial site in Arlington Cemetery. He was buried within a "stone's throw" of the VBOB Memorial. (He certainly would have liked that.)

Those who have known Clyde for many years recalled that he was: a loving family man; a good neighbor and friend; a pillar of the community; and a man deeply committed to making VBOB a success.

He will be deeply missed by those of us who were in constant touch with him. He was always there to provide counsel, contribute a well thought out viewpoint, listen to your point of view, or be a friend.

Farewell, dear friend and comrade. We thank you for all that you have given us.

# VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

## 47th Anniversary Observance

### AGENDA

- Sunday, December 15, 1991 •  
• Sheraton National Hotel • Arlington, Virginia •

5:30 p.m. Social Hour (Cash Bar)  
6:45 p.m. Seated for Dinner  
Posting of Colors  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Invocation

DINNER MENU  
Fresh Fruit in Pineapple Boat  
Garden Salad  
Prime Rib of Beef  
Twice Baked Potatoes and Green Beans Almandine  
Crusty Rolls/Butter  
Ice Cream Snowball with Hot Fudge Sauce  
Coffee/Tea  
For Toasts--White Zinfandel, Oak Ridge Vineyards

8:30 p.m. Introduction of Speaker  
Closing Remarks, VBOB President Darrell Kuhn

### • Monday, December 16, 1991 •

11:00 a.m. Special ceremonies for the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge  
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier • Arlington National Cemetery  
Wreath-laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
Wreath-laying at the Battle of the Bulge Memorial  
(Parking at "The Battleship Maine Memorial." Inform Gate Guards you are attending BOB ceremonies.)

12:30 Noon Reception at Sheraton National Hotel  
Traditional Finger Foods will be served

We hope that many will be able to attend the planned activities and renew old friendships and make new ones. The camaraderie of we who served in the BoB takes on a closer bonding as the years rush by!

### HOTEL FACTS SHEET

Parking: In hotel's enclosed garage, complimentary for all VBOB activities.

Shuttle Service: Vans leave hotel every half hour to National Airport when requested. Use courtesy phones at National Airport for pick-up 6:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m.



# RESERVATION FORM

## RETURN FORM BY DECEMBER 7, 1991, TO:

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

c/o William P. Tayman

2402 Black Cap Lane

Reston, VA 22091-3002

Telephone: 703-620-9080

or 301-881-0356

### • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1991 • 47TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER •

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

WW II Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Total cost @ \$40.00 per person \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: VBOB 47th Annv. Dinner

### • MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991 •

11:00 a.m. CEREMONIES AT TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND VBOB MEMORIAL

Number of Persons Attending \_\_\_\_\_

12:30 Noon RECEPTION AT SHERATON NATIONAL HOTEL

Number of Persons Attending \_\_\_\_\_

If you are staying at Sheraton Hotel, will you need transportation to Cemetery? \_\_\_\_\_

- - - - (Please clip the coupon below and send to the Sheraton Hotel) - - - -

Mail to: Sheraton National Hotel  
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Single \$55.00 Double \$55.00 Rates good 12/13 thru 12/19

•Please state you are with VBOB to receive special rate•

Names of Persons Sharing Accommodations \_\_\_\_\_

Rollaway: \$15 extra per night/9.5% tax

Reservations must be received at the hotel by December 2, 1991. Reservations received after this date will be accepted on a space and rate available basis only.

### FIRST NIGHT DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD FOR ANY ARRIVAL AFTER 4:00 P.M.

A guaranteed payment assures you that a room will be held for your day of arrival. The room will become available for resale if you have not registered by 6:00 a.m. THE FOLLOWING MORNING. You will be billed for the first night's room and tax revenue if the reservation is not cancelled before 6:00 p.m. (EST) on the day of arrival. Please ask the clerk for a cancellation number (703) 521-1900, or call toll-free at 1-800-468-9090 or in Virginia 1-800-541-5500.

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Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Check out time is 1:00 p.m.; rooms will not be ready for your arrival until 3:00 p.m.

## ACTIONS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING CHARLESTON, SC - SEPT. 6, 1991

The meeting was called to order by G. A. "Brick" Worth, President of the South Carolina Chapter. The colors were posted by the 63rd AFJROTC Squadron of Berkeley High School, Monck's Corner, South Carolina. The National Anthem was played by trumpeter O'Neal Clamp. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gene Drouillard. The invocation was given by Monsignor William F. O'Connell.

North Charleston Mayor Bobby Connor welcomed VBOB members to his city and wished them an enjoyable stay.

VBOB President Darrell Kuhn then proceeded with the following orders of business:

**Reports** - Reports from VBOB Officers had previously been distributed to all those attending. These reports cover the activities of the officers during the preceding year.

**Goals** - The following goals were outlined as ideal objectives to be accomplished in the coming year:

1. To affirm and forward the four original purposes of VBOB.
2. To establish a more efficient system of communication within VBOB.
3. To enroll 15,000 members by September 1, 1992.
4. To establish one or more chapters in each state.
5. To adopt a complete, flexible, and educational budget.
6. To streamline our administration through the Bylaws.

**Annual Dues** - The members voted to accept the recommendation that annual dues for VBOB be increased to \$15.00 per year, effective December 1, 1991.

**Bylaws** - The Bylaws were presented to the membership for acceptance along with four housekeeping amendments. One of the amendments was not accepted.

**Election of Officers** - Chairman of the Nominating Committee Chairman Bill Greenville presented the slate for 1992 officers, as follows:

President: Darrell Kuhn

Executive Vice President: John J. Dunleavy

Vice President for Membership: Neil B. Thompson

Vice President for Military Affairs: Peter G. Dounis

Vice President for Regional Coordination: Robert J. VanHouten

Treasurer: William R. Hemphill

Recording Secretary: Frances W. Doherty

Corresponding Secretary: Beverley VanHouten

The officer slate was approved unanimously.

Monsignor O'Donnell gave the closing prayer, giving thanks for the many favors and blessings received; remembering the nation's unified effort forty years ago and the sacrifices made; asking for wisdom and strength to handle difficult situations; and remembering those who have gone on before.

President Kuhn declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

## THE 10TH ANNUAL REUNION OF VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE WAS...

●TERRIFIC!!!

●Held at the Sheraton Inn, Charleston, South Carolina (September 5-7) and was hosted by the South Carolina Chapter of VBOB.

●Co-chaired by John J. Dunleavy, VBOB Executive Vice President, and Brick Worth, South Carolina Chapter President.

●Attracted the largest attendance of any VBOB Reunion convened--there were over 300 veterans and family members present from 31 states and 75 different World War II military units.

●An exciting 3-day event to "find old friends and make new ones."

The Reunion was officially opened with a mixer Thursday evening, September 5; however, the hotel lobby remained the "Site of Action" throughout the reunion as the guests registered, signed the Unit Books, searched the membership rolls for old friends' names, and found familiar faces.

On Friday, September 6, the day started with the General Membership Meeting. After lunch the attendees traveled by bus to the historical Citadel for a memorial service in the beautiful Summerall Chapel. The veterans had time to visit the Citadel Museum before being seated at the parade grounds to enjoy a most stirring and memorable parade by the nearly 2,000 Citadel Cadets. Following the parade the attendees returned to the Sheraton Hotel for a tasty buffet and an evening of musical entertainment.

Saturday, September 7, was a bright, sunny day that enhanced the enjoyment of the tours available: walking through the unique and beautiful old city of Charleston, or a tour of historical Fort Sumpter, or a visit to the interesting Patriots' Point (Harbor).

The gala banquet that evening was an impressive conclusion to the reunion. The banquet program included the presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to Past President William Greenville. Many were most surprised and pleased to find the speaker for the occasion to be a dear friend, Battle of the Bulge historian, and tour guide, Will Cavanagh, of Belgium. He had made the trip from that country especially to spend the evening with the veterans. Mr. Cavanagh told of the article about Charles MacDonald in the recent issue of the magazine *After the Battle*, as well as of the effort by the Belgian citizens to continue the search for the remains of World War II soldiers missing in action. Ruth Puryear (nurse, 107th Evacuation Hospital) probably spoke for many of the veterans when she said, "He was so interesting I could have listened to him for another hour."

Since many had driven their own vehicles, Sunday morning, September 8, proved to be a beehive of activity, farewell embraces, and cars/vans departing in all directions.

As you continue to reminisce about the memories of this past gathering, don't forget to check *The Bulge Bugle* for the location and exciting plans being developed for the upcoming 11th VBOB REUNION--1992!

ARE YOUR DUES DUE?





*Ruth Puryear, Bob Martin and Dorothy Davis share light-hearted repartee at VBOB's 10th Annual Reunion, Charleston, SC.*

**46 years later . . .**

## **WOUNDED REMEMBER THEIR NURSES**

On February 1, 1945, in snow and extreme cold, a small detachment of the 57th Field Hospital moved, on icy roads, in ambulances and trucks from Saverne, France to Ribeaupville, France to set up a hospital in a partially bombed out building with the 75th Inf. Div. Clearing Station.

The 5 nurses, doctors and enlisted men worked through the night setting up wards, operating rooms and other facilities to care for the constant flow of wounded.

The next day, February 2, 1945, Robert Martin, Co. B, 289th Infantry, 75th Division was severely wounded in Horburg, France and became one of the constant flow of wounded admitted to the 57th Field Hospital.

After extensive surgery, Bob remained a patient there for 9 days and was then transferred to a General Hospital to begin a long 2 years of recovery in Military Hospitals.

It wasn't, however, until 46 years later, at the VBOB Reunion in Charleston, SC (Sept. 1991) that Bob met one of the 57th Field Hospital nurses, Dorothy Steinbis Davis, and was at last able (as he said) "to plant a 'Thank-You' kiss on the cheek of one of his nurses".

Sharing in the excitement of meeting a "War Wounded" patient, was Ruth Puryear, 107th Evacuation Hospital, which had been stationed outside of Bastogne, Belgium. David DeLaney, 90th Inf. Div., had been wounded on January 26 and remembered very vividly his stay in the 107th Evacuation Hospital—he remembered his nurse, Ruth Puryear, and recalled his conversations with her.

David DeLaney now lives in Charlotte, NC; Ruth Puryear resides in Richmond, VA and participates in VBOB activities; Bob Martin, despite severe injuries, lives an active life in Fort Wayne, IN and Dorothy Davis continues her nursing career with the American Red Cross.

My God, we simply have to figure a way out of this situation. There's no point in talking about "winning" a nuclear war.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

## **IN RETROSPECT**

by

G. A. "Brick" Worth, President  
South Carolina Chapter, VBOB

The 10th VBOB Annual Reunion is now history. The 180 veterans of Ardennes, and 130 registered guests who graced Charleston with their presence have scattered to 31 states. The VBOBers were from 113 different military units to which they were assigned during the period December 18, 1944-January 23, 1945. Ironically, 113 deceased veterans were memorialized as an important element of the reunion.

South Carolina Chapter VII was honored to host the reunion. Over 500 hours were devoted to planning the numerous aspects of the entire reunion. The plans were executed in 72 hours. First, I thank the members of the South Carolina Chapter who composed the REUNION TASK FORCE and others who pitched in to help in so many ways.

My deep gratitude to the entire staff of the Sheraton Airport Inn for their untiring actions in making everyone comfortable and welcome "Southern Style." Special meals, decorations, notes, and setting up arrangements for all scheduled events required devotion to duty not usually received.

To the National Officers, my sincere appreciation for the support given to carry on affairs of the reunion. The "glitches" that happened were rapidly handled and the VBOBers continued with their reunion. The fact not a name has been mentioned in this article should speak volumes.

From the date last December when we learned our bid to host the reunion was accepted, one concept was followed. That concept was to provide attendees with comfortable surroundings, delicious food, entertainment, interesting tours, and ample opportunity to rest and talk. The SC Chapter Logo contains the words TNT-CHAT. The reunion brought the opportunity to Then we remember the past, Now we act and live, and Then we plan for the future. We CHAT a lot of three eras of life.

Yes, the reunion was an experience. South Carolina Chapter members invite you all to visit us again sometime.

## **SPECIAL THANKS... ...FROM VBOB'S PRESIDENT**

President Darrell Kuhn has extended a special "thank you" to all those who were instrumental in making our recent Reunion a success and particularly to the members of the South Carolina Chapter; Brick Worth, President of the South Carolina Chapter; John Dunleavy, VBOB's Executive Vice President, whose bailiwick includes responsibility for reunions; and Will Cavanagh for coming all the way from Belgium to speak at our banquet.

You know the man, the myth, and the legend.  
*But did you know...*

# P★A★T★T★O★N

- ★ started elementary school 5 years late.
- ★ was one of a family of 5 in childhood and in marriage.
- ★ spent 5 years at West Point, instead of the usual 4.
- ★ only chambered 5 rounds in his famous Colt 45's.
- ★ competed in the 5th Olympics – and finished 5th.

Now the life of America's most flamboyant and controversial warrior is explored in a new book as fascinating as the man himself –

## *George Patton and the Fifth Connection*

What is the "Fifth Connection?" Startling but compelling evidence from documented history reveals Patton's life in "fives." He lived in fives, thought in fives, fought in fives and died in fives; but never received his fifth star.

### PATTON:

- ★ predicted Pearl Harbor 5 years prior to the attack.
- ★ recommended a tank crew consist of 5 men.
- ★ won the battle for Sicily in 5 weeks.
- ★ warned of a German breakthrough 5 days before "The Battle of the Bulge."
- ★ died of complications from an injury to his 5th cervical vertebrae.



Rediscover the amazing life story of George Patton. Examples of "fifth connections" include many unique, little-known facts about the General and the war that "changed the world."

The author, Dr. William H. Miller, is a veteran of "The Battle of the Bulge." As a former infantryman and student of history, he lends a personal, candid perspective to Patton's professional, political and private life.

*George Patton and the Fifth Connection* makes a handsome addition to any library. It is bound in hardcover and contains over 500 pages of fascinating facts, photographs and commemorative poems.

**Order now**  
*and we will include:*

*-Supplies are limited-*

- ★ a cassette featuring 5 original songs about Patton and the war.
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- ★ 5 pages reserved for veterans to record their personal military history.

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# BULGE INCIDENTS

UNEDITED AND  
HERETOFORE UNPUBLISHED

LIVING LEGENDS

Accounts of events and experiences in the Battle of the Bulge as recalled and expressed by veterans of the greatest battle ever fought by the U.S. Army in the greatest war ever fought are of much historical significance. These are priceless first-person recol-

lections by living legends in what General Dwight D. Eisenhower foresaw as our greatest victory and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, in speaking before the House of Commons, characterized as an ever-famous American victory.

\*\*\*\*\*

December 16, 1944

**Leon J. Setter**  
**Headquarters Company**  
**2d Battalion**  
**42nd Infantry Regiment**  
**106th Infantry Division**  
**Wichita, Kansas**

I was an ammo bearer and on December 16, 1944, I was quartered in a wood shack atop the Schnee Eifel in the first belt of pillboxes of the Siegfried Line which had been taken the previous fall. The 106th Division line extended north to include the 1st Battalion and the 14th Cavalry, attached to the 106th; and to the south by the 3rd Battalion and the 423rd Regiment with the 2nd Battalion in reserve. Continuing to the south was the 424th Regiment. Initial attacks by the enemy against our division occurred in the 14th Cavalry area and against the 423rd and 424th Regiments.

My shack was among several built around pillboxes. It was close to a pillbox that served as 2nd Battalion headquarters. In turn, this pillbox was located about two miles east of the town of Schlausenbach which was headquarters for the 422nd Infantry Regiment. The shacks had been vacated on December 12 by men of the 2nd Division as they were being relieved by the 106th. Their new assignment was to move north and prepare for an attack by filtering through the 99th Division. This attack was in progress when the Bulge began.

The shack was big enough to house two persons, myself and a truck driver. We were awakened early by the artillery fire on the morning of December 16. We had just finished preparing to go outside our hut when our platoon sergeant knocked on the door to inform us that the division had been placed on a Class 1 alert because of enemy activity in the area.

After chow the truck driver and I were given orders to go to an ammo dump somewhere in the Schonberg-St. Vith area to pick up a truckload of ammo. At the ammo dump we loaded the truck and were resting when a truck from the 423rd Regiment pulled up. The driver explained that his truck guard had just been killed when they came into contact with the enemy near a road junction between Schonberg and Bleialf. He then told us where the incident took place and suggested we be careful on the way back. This was the first

time we had heard of an actual attempt to penetrate our lines even though we had picked up several rumors that an attack would occur soon.

We took off immediately with our loaded truck. We decided that it would be best for us to go back the same way we had come into the dump rather than trying to determine a different way back. I was in the back of the truck while he was driving. After driving for about an hour we arrived at 2nd Battalion Headquarters. During the trip back the driver kept a close lookout to the front as best he could while I kept scanning the area to the rear as we drove. The return trip was successful without coming in contact with the enemy even though we had to pass nearby the location where the initial incident occurred.

As we pulled up in front of 2nd Battalion Headquarters we learned that all available men from Headquarters Company had been sent to assist with responding to the activity at Auw. By this time the flank of the 422nd Regiment was exposed and the enemy was beginning to penetrate our rear. I spent the afternoon as a guard just outside the 2nd Battalion Headquarters pillbox. My orders were to keep scanning the area for the enemy and not to allow anyone outside to enter the pillbox without first getting the permission of one of the officers inside the pillbox. Late in the afternoon when I was on relief from guard duty, General Jones and some of his staff pulled up in a jeep. After talking to some officers in the HQ pillbox, he and his staff members proceeded on foot presumably to visit one of the rifle company areas. Soon thereafter, General Jones, who was the 106th Division Commander, returned and continued his tour.

During the evening of the 16th our platoon sergeant told us that the company had been ordered to be ready to pull out just after midnight. We were not to take our duffel bags because we would return in a few days. Shortly after midnight we assembled on the logging road in front of the CP in columns of four. It was pitch dark and difficult to determine how many men in addition to my company were in front of us or behind us. After about 20 minutes the column began walking down the road we had used four days previously to enter the area originally. We walked for what seemed like one or two hours, stopping from time to time to rest and to allow the column to remain together or for other companies to join us.



Suddenly I realized that I had lost contact with my squad. I noticed that a soldier just in front of me had a Browning automatic rifle. Also, I knew he was not in my company because no one in my company carried such a rifle. Evidently he was a member of the 2nd Battalion who was in the process of moving into a wooded area. This soldier shot some rounds into a clump of trees to our front which reduced the small arms fire in my immediate area. One soldier got up and ran about 100 yards into the cover area without getting hit in spite of the tracer bullets flying in all directions. The second soldier ran the 100 yards into the trees. Next, it was my turn. The fourth man to run the 100 yards, I recognized as a member of my squad. Afterwards he showed me his mess kit on the back of his pack. There was a bullet hole through it. He had felt something hit as he was running and considered himself lucky because he was running with his head and shoulders down in a squatted position.

After walking into the woods about fifty yards, I saw Colonel Deschenaux, the 422nd Regimental Commander. Then I went into a shack used by the field artillery. This must have been the 589th Field Artillery Battalion as they were the support artillery unit for the 422 Infantry Regiment. There I saw a member of my platoon who had just had a bullet hit him in the front which had just penetrated his overcoat as he was standing parallel with the bullet as it traveled across his chest.

Next I saw my squad leader. He called my squad together and told us our situation looked bad. He reminded us that we were completely surrounded. He concluded by telling us to dig foxholes to protect ourselves from the shelling and that we would assemble after dark in an attempt to find our way to make contact with American lines again. I spent the next hour digging a foxhole and dodging the shelling. A small fragment hit me in the hand. It was about the size of a toothpick and about a half inch long. It stuck in my hand so I pulled it out.

As I finished digging my foxhole, my squad leader came to me and told me that the entire 422nd Infantry Regiment had been ordered to surrender to the enemy by Colonel Deschenaux and that we were ordered to destroy our weapons. Also, we were to form in a group within thirty minutes to talk down the hill in accordance with instructions given by the enemy. Needless to say I was confused. This had been my first day in actual combat. At first I felt relieved because of the combat pressure. Soon it began to sink in and another kind of fear set in, that of fear of the unknown. What was going to happen next?

I proceeded to dismantle my carbine after about ten minutes had passed, throwing the parts in all directions. As I walked toward the assembly area I saw an American soldier that had been wounded and apparently was in shock. A few of the men were trying to make him as comfortable as possible.

By this time I saw a couple of the enemy soldiers who were lining us up in a column of fours to march us down the hill.

When we got down the hill and onto a blacktop road we spotted an enemy vehicle coming up the road. It was an enemy staff car in which the enemy General Von Manteuffel, commander of the Fifth Panzer Army, was riding. I had a different thought about General Von Manteuffel. After I had seen how short he was, I began to wonder how an enemy soldier with such a low rank as private could talk some officers in a command car into taking him on a tour. I almost laughed at him since I was mistakenly associating height with rank.

It took about 30 to 40 minutes for the column to get into Schonberg where we were placed inside a catholic church. As soon as the church was filled, the rest of the prisoners had to sleep outside on the ground.

On the morning of December 20th we were lined in a column of four and walked into Germany. I was a prisoner of war until liberation on April 14, 1945. My weight when captured was 160 pounds which fell down to 100 pounds when liberated 119 days later.

This is my story. When I left the Bulge area it was growing by the hour. Its containment and eventual elimination is the story of other men. God bless them.

\*\*\*\*\*

December 17, 1944

**Loren W. Gast**  
**2d Platoon**  
**G Company**  
**2d Battalion**  
**26th Infantry Regiment**  
**1st Infantry Division**  
**Prospect, Ohio**

On December 17th the company moved by truck to an assembly area west of Elsenborn and prepared to go into attack. We started the attack west of Butgenbach and attacked cross-country for 1800 yards.

We reached our objective, dug in and prepared a defensive position. We moved out the 19th for a new defensive position southeast of Butgenbach.

On December 20th our line was overrun by enemy tanks. We were understrength as it was having lost half our Company G in the Huertgen Forest and not receiving replacements.

It was foggy that day and cold as a witch's tail. The Jerry tanks busted through the fog like ghosts, their machine guns blazing. One tank started pulling up alongside our foxholes, dropped that long barrel right down into the openings and blasted the holes and the men together. Some of the men got out of the holes and started running and got away even though some of them were wounded.

The tanks kept going right down toward Butgenbach itself, attacked the 2nd Battalion CP. Lt. Col. Derrill Daniel was the CO and had set up his CP Headquarters in the large farm house cellar. This farm house had been a Field Hospital before the Battle of Bulge.

Most of the German Infantry had been killed or wounded,



Suddenly we stopped and found that the column had come in contact with a machine gun emplacement. As our part of the column came by the emplacement we talked to two soldiers, members of the 106th, who said they came very close to firing on us but wanted to identify us first as friend or foe.

We remained in our column and waited for a while before moving on for what seemed to be a mile where we came upon an intersection. We slipped into the woods and waited until daylight to dig foxholes.

Some trucks were coming along about noon on the 17th. They were having difficulty staying on the road because of ice and snow. Members of headquarters who were available helped the drivers get out of the ditches. Some of the trucks pulled up and parked while others moved on.

By mid-day the cooks from Company Headquarters returned to our original emplacement area and gathered food supplies. They returned in about three hours and had successfully gotten back to the area to pick up the food supplies. They reported that they had not seen any of the enemy and that the enemy had not come into the area we had vacated. Meanwhile, the men from my company returned from the Auw assignment and were very hungry. On the evening of the 17th HQ company had a good meal because of the food the cooks had retrieved. After eating it was almost dark. We were called together and told that the enemy was attempting to encircle us. We were given our hours assigned for standing guard throughout the night.



After duty assignments we were beginning to get quite concerned about what the enemy was up to because a couple of enemy scouting planes had passed over earlier at a very low level. Someone had captured one of the enemy which one of my buddies had spent most of the day guarding in the back of one of the trucks. I stood guard duty two times during the night and kept a lookout for an enemy patrol.

On the morning of the 18th we were assembled and issued rations. They told us that we were surrounded but that an air drop was to take place soon to provide us with food, ammo, and medical supplies. Also they assured us that an armored column was headed toward us and they would enable us to get back to our lines. We moved out about ten o'clock that morning single file. At this point in time we were still atop the Schnee-Eifel. Soon we spotted an enemy sniper standing in a tree. He was ordered down, searched,

and taken along. We spent the entire day of the 18th walking single file up and down hills and finally we bedded down on a hillside. Apparently we were not spotted by the enemy all day. Either that or he did not choose to create any trouble since we were already surrounded. However after dark some flares were shot off in the valley below us. On the 18th we walked three miles as the crow flies and ended up a mile north of Oberlascheid.

On the morning of the 19th the 422nd and 423rd Regiments prepared to take Schonberg in response to division orders. This was the case in spite of the fact that no air drop had occurred. Still, we were hoping that an armored column would be able to get through to us because by this time both the 422nd and 423rd Regiments were surrounded. The enemy had already taken Schonberg and we had lost most of our artillery support which had been moved to other locations. Actually we were attacking against our own lines with the enemy in between.

As the attack proceeded our company moved out at a slow pace because the rifle companies were leading the way. At first we proceeded down the hill and crossed a road. As we crossed the road I saw some combat activity to my left. Then we proceeded about 500 yards and our squad leader signalled for us to get down. We remained in the prone position for about five to ten minutes until the signal was given again to proceed.

We were moving on when suddenly we came under very heavy machine gun fire and small arms fire along with .88's, tanks, etc. By this time we were out in the open because the advance had proceeded to a slope of ground leading to the Schonberg-Andler road. Colonel Deschenaux was pulling the 2nd Battalion back from the open area into nearby woods. Also the 2nd Battalion had, by chance, come in contact with the Fuhrer Begleit Brigade headed for St. Vith by not passing through the bottleneck at Schonberg.

After we hit the ground the machine gun fire was so heavy that the area was alive with tracer bullets. I thought, "My god, how many bullets are there flying through the air?" I believe that for every tracer seen at least three non-tracers had to be flying through the air also. Then small arms became very intense. You could hear the bullets hit the snow because, as yet, we were completely out in the open. First, one bullet hit the snow just to my left. Then one hit just to my right. The third round hit the snow just in front of me. It was close enough to splatter snow in my face. I thought that a round was going to hit me squarely in the middle of my steel helmet and split me in half. It has been said that General Patton had a fear of being split in half by a bullet. Having a round hit this close certainly does create this impression in your mind. You think it will happen all the way down your back including the splitting of your tailbone in half. I was scared to death. Then suddenly a voice told me, "Leon, you will be alright. You will survive this." Suddenly I was not quite so afraid any more. It was as though the Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God, was talking to me.



The only thing at this time was their tanks, mortars and artillery to worry about. All hell had broken loose and I was more afraid of our own artillery, mortars and anti-tank guns than the German. The shells were dropping in front and back--both American and German of our position.

It was close to nightfall when the Germans finally abandoned their attempt to run through the defenders of Dom. Butgenbach driven off by artillery fire and TD support. Our 60 mm's had lobbed 500 rounds into their positions. A couple of the guys said that one mortar round dropped right in a turret and burst, blowing the tank all to hell.

We did not know it at the time, but we were right in the middle of what came to be known as the Battle of the Bulge. The cold was unbearable. The trees looked like men, even during the days, with the fogs and the morning ground mists. A man crawling out of his hole to relieve himself was shot by a friend. C ration cans burst from being frozen. One of our men on the way back from the hospital was killed by our men.

On December 21st, our positions were again attacked by strong enemy tank and infantry forces. Our lines were penetrated at some points. But the enemy was driven back after heavy fighting.

American patrols later reported enemy dead beyond the main line of resistance "as common as grass." One patrol actually counted 300 bodies in one sector alone, and men of a Graves Registration Unit in an early count found 782 dead. In addition, the Germans left behind the hulks of 47 tanks and tank destroyers. We lost five 57 mm antitank guns, three Shermans, a tank destroyer and close to 250 men.

On December 22nd we moved west of Bullingen, Belgium to a new defensive position. For the remaining days of December, artillery and mortar fire fell on us and our patrols continued day after day, night after night. But the counterattack was over. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day came and went. But it was not Christmas.

We had run into the buzz bomb, the V-1, before as we came across France, but we had never seen it in such quantities as we did at Butgenbach. I know they always gave me the creeps; you know there is a human pilot guiding a plane and you don't mind it so much, but somehow the buzz bomb didn't seem real, but the effect was real enough.

I remember one night I lay in my hole and timed them: all night long they came over at the rate of one every 20 minutes. Sometimes they had a weird sort of orange flame; sometimes they made a whirring or chugging noise, then were silent, then started up again, and they would weave in an arc past you and you never knew where they were going to land.

Just before we left Butgenbach they started coming in low and dropping near our position. They weren't accurate but when they hit they hit, and the effect on morale wasn't too good. We would joke and say, open the window and let him through, but no one thought it was very funny.

It's still the same Division, Regiment, Battalion, still

Company G, but the men--many of them--are gone. They have been replaced by men from ever state in the Union. And many of those have gone.

.....

December 1944

**Herman Posch**

**Headquarters and Headquarters Battery**

**Division Artillery**

**17th Airborne Division**

**Greenville, California**

I was a Master Sargent with the 17th Airborne, Artillery Division, but have a poor memory as to our activities in the Bulge. I do, however, recall an episode: We were in a long, open truck trailer and it didn't have enough power to climb the steep hills, so we would jump off and hop back on when the truck stopped at the top. One GI followed along close behind the truck and when he thought that it would make the grade he jumped on. General Patton and a major, in a Jeep happened by, the Major got out and walked over to the truck when the convoy had halted. The slats on the trucks were spaced with openings every six inches or so. The major was trying to find the GI's face through the space between the slats and the GI was trying to find the major's face peering through the slats. Comical, even though the major "chewed" the enlisted man out when they finally came face-to-face. The GI jumped on too soon. He had been accustomed to using a chute, diving down not up.

## 4 AD WINS BULGE PUC

**SHAEF, 28 March 1945** - The War Department by direction of the President, has cited the entire 4th Armored Division for "extraordinary tactical accomplishment during the period from 22 December to 27 March inclusive," it was announced here today.

Referred to by the Nazis as "America's elite 4th Panzer Division" the infantry and tank teams of the 4th Armored's most recent accomplishments include its move from Sarreguemines to Arlon; its greatest drive to relieve the 101st Airborne Division surrounded at Bastogne; the history-making 60-mile dash to the Rhine River; the move to Mainz and the current drive into Germany.

— Stars and Stripes 29 March 1945.

Col. Thomas D. Gillis, former Executive Officer of the 4 AD Reserve Command adds: In ten months the division took 90,354 prisoners in combat, killed an estimated 13,640 of the enemy, wounded an estimated 30,000 more, destroyed or captured 579 German tanks, 3,668 other vehicles, 603 locomotives, shot down 128 Nazi planes, took a score of cities and hundreds of towns and villages. Men and officers of the Fourth won more than 4,000 individual decorations. Three were Medals of Honor. There were 34 Distinguished Service Crosses, 14 Legions of Merit, 802 Silver Stars, 1 Distinguished Flying Cross, 3,031 Bronze Stars, 88 Air Medals, 11 Soldier Medals, 72 Croix de Guerres, 12 Russian Medals for Bravery. Forty men received battlefield commissions as officers. In addition there were more than 6,000 Purple Hearts - grimly known as the German Marksmanship Medal."



**BYLAWS  
OF  
THE VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INCORPORATED**  
As accepted and amended by VBOB Membership on September 6, 1991

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**ARTICLE 1 - CORPORATE NAME**

The name of this corporation is THE VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

**ARTICLE 2 - SIGNIFICANCE OF DECEMBER 16**

December 16 is the anniversary of the commencement of the Battle of the Bulge. The corporation, and each chapter thereof, shall hold or participate in a ceremony commemorating the day.

**ARTICLE 3 - PURPOSES**

The purposes of this Corporation shall be:

- A. To perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices involved during the Battle of the Bulge;
- B. To preserve historical data and sites relating to the Battle of the Bulge;
- C. To foster international peace and goodwill; and
- D. To promote friendship among the survivors of the Battle of the Bulge and their descendants.

**ARTICLE 4 - OFFICES**

The principal office of the corporation shall be located at 1200 South Courthouse Road, Room 418, Arlington, Virginia 22204. The corporation's postal address is P.O. Box 11129, Arlington, VA 22210-2129. The corporation may have such other offices, either within or without the Commonwealth of Virginia, as the Executive Council may determine from time to time.

**ARTICLE 5 - MEMBERS**

**SECTION 1. CLASSES OF MEMBERS.** The members of the corporation shall be divided into three classes as follows:

- A. An individual who received a campaign battle star for the Ardennes Campaign as defined in War Department General Orders No. 114, December 7, 1945, shall be a regular member.
- B. Any other person who is the parent, spouse, child, or lineal descendent of an individual defined in A, or is interested in the work of this corporation and wishes to promote the aims of the corporation shall be an associate member.
- C. An honorary member elected to such membership by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Council of this corporation.

**SECTION 2. ELECTION TO MEMBERSHIP.** Any person interested in becoming a member of the corporation shall submit a written and signed application, on a form approved by the Executive Council, to the Vice President for Membership, for consideration of the membership committee, along with the requisite membership fees. Membership in this corporation may be by gift; provided, however, the donor may sign the application in lieu of the signature of the donee, certifying the information supplies is correct. Upon approval of the membership committee, the applicant shall be a member of the corporation.

If the application shall be disapproved, the application shall be submitted to the Executive Council for consideration. There may be no appeal from the action of the Executive Council.

**SECTION 3. VOTING RIGHTS.** Each regular member and each associate member in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members and shall be eligible to hold elected or appointed office in the corporation.

**SECTION 4. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.** The Executive Council, by a vote of two-thirds of all members of

the Executive Council present at the meeting of the Executive Council, may suspend or expel a member for cause after an appropriate hearing.

**SECTION 5. RESIGNATION.** Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the secretary, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments theretofore accrued and unpaid.

**SECTION 6. REINSTATEMENT.** On written request signed by a former member and filed with the Recording Secretary, the Executive Council, by a majority vote of the members of the Council present and voting, may reinstate such former members to membership on such terms as the Executive Council may deem appropriate.

**SECTION 7. TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP.** Membership in this corporation is not transferable or assignable; provided, however, the widow or widower of a Life Member may have his or her spouse's life membership transferred.

#### **ARTICLE 6 - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

**SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETING.** An annual meeting of the members shall be held during the annual reunion held to the principal office or at such other place designated by the Executive Council during the month of September in each year, beginning with the year 1991 at 9:00 a.m. for the purpose of electing and installing officers and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting. If the election is not held on the day designated herein for any annual meeting, or at any adjournment thereof, the Executive Council shall cause the election to be held at a special meeting of the members at a convenient time with thirty days' written notice to all members.

**SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETING.** Special meetings of the members may be called by the president, Executive Council or not less than twenty-five percent of members at a time or place designated by the Executive Council.

**SECTION 3. NOTICE.** Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of any meeting of members shall be delivered either personally or by mail, to each member, not less than thirty days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the president, or the secretary, or the officers or persons calling the meeting. The purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice.

**SECTION 4. QUORUM.** The quorum shall be those in attendance at the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 7 - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**SECTION 1. GENERAL POWERS.** The affairs of the corporation shall be managed by the Executive Council.

**SECTION 2. MEMBERS.** Members of the Executive Council shall be as follows:

A. Elected members: President, Executive Vice President,

Vice President for Chapter Coordination, Vice President for Military Affairs, Vice President for Membership, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary;

B. Appointed members: Chaplain, Editor, Historian, Activist, Librarian, Public Relations Officer, Surgeon, Liaison Officer for International Affairs, Liaison Officer for Intergovernment Affairs, Liaison Officer for Military Units, Protocol Officer, Chair of Budget, Audit, Reunion, Nomination, and Bylaws Committees;

C. A member of each chapter elected by said chapter shall be a member of the Executive Council. Said Council member-designate shall present his credentials to the Executive Council and the membership at the annual meetings; and

D. All living past presidents of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, as an unincorporated association or this corporation.

E. The President of the Battle of the Bulge Historical Foundation.

**SECTION 3. MEETINGS.** The annual meeting of the Executive Council shall be held during September in 1991 and each year thereafter, which meeting shall be adjourned to convene after the annual general membership meeting on either Friday or Saturday at the same place as the annual reunion and members' meeting. The members of the Council shall designate the time, place and location of regular meetings by resolution at the annual meeting.

**SECTION 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS.** Special meetings of the Executive Council may be called by the president or any five council members at such time and place as the needs require upon seven days' written notice.

**SECTION 5. ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICERS.** The officers of the corporation shall be elected annually by the members at the regular annual meeting of the membership. If the election of officers is not held at such meeting, such election shall be held as soon thereafter as is convenient. New offices may be created and filled at any of the Executive Council meetings. Each officer shall hold office until his successor has been duly elected and qualifies. The term shall begin on December 16 of each year.

**SECTION 6. REMOVAL.** Any officer elected or appointed by the members or Executive Council may be removed by the Executive Council whenever in its judgment the best interests of the corporation would be served thereby, but such removal shall be without prejudice to the contract rights, if any, of the officer so removed.

**SECTION 7. VACANCIES.** A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise, may be filled by the Executive Council for the unexpired portion of the term.

**SECTION 8. POWERS AND DUTIES.** The several officers shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may from time to time be specified in resolutions or other



directives of the Executive Council. In the absence of such specifications, each officer shall have the powers and authority and shall perform and discharge the duties of officers of the same title serving in nonprofit corporations having the same or similar general purposes and objectives as this corporation.

**SECTION 9. QUORUM.** A quorum shall consist of those members in attendance at a properly called meeting.

**SECTION 10. BONDS.** The Executive Council shall have the authority to purchase a bond or secure the faithful performance of a duty under such terms and conditions as may be appropriate and shall pay the premiums therefor.

## **ARTICLE 8 - COMMITTEES**

**SECTION 1. STANDING COMMITTEES.** There shall be five standing committees, whose members shall be appointed by the President, as follows:

- A. **AUDIT.** The audit committee shall meet quarterly to review the books and records of the corporation, and render an appropriate report thereon. It shall, when appropriate, move the Executive Council to have an independent audit made by a CPA or public accountant not a member of this corporation. The committee shall make a full report to the Executive Council and members at each of their annual meetings.
- B. **BUDGET.** The budget committee shall meet annually, or so often as the circumstances require, to review the financial needs of the corporation. It must approve all expenditures that are not within the adopted budget. The committee shall present a complete budget to the Executive Council at the council's annual meeting. The adopted budget shall then be presented to the membership for its approval.
- C. **BYLAWS.** The bylaws committee shall meet at the call of its Chair. Any member or chapter shall have the right to petition the bylaws committee for a change in bylaws. All suggested changes must be in writing. The committee shall review the requested change, and present the proposed change with or without its recommendation to the Executive Council.
- D. **REUNIONS.** The reunions committee shall meet at the call of its Chair. It shall oversee and arrange for reunions for three years in the future, and report its findings and plans to the Executive Council and the general membership, for their approval.
- E. **NOMINATIONS.** The nominations committee shall consist of all past presidents of this association in its unincorporated state or of this corporation. The immediate past president shall chair the committee. The committee shall meet at the call of the Chair to nominate one or more persons for the offices open, and present that slate to the general membership prior to July of each year.

**SECTION 2. OTHER COMMITTEES.** Other committees may be designated by a resolution adopted by a majority of

the Executive Council. The president shall appoint the chair, who in turn, shall appoint the members of the committee.

## **ARTICLE 9 - CHAPTERS**

**SECTION 1. FORMATION.** Five or more members or associate members may form a chapter of this corporation. The request for a new chapter shall be made through the Vice President of Chapter Coordination who shall report to the Executive Council from time to time to provide information and receive instructions.

**SECTION 2. MEMBERS.** Only members in good standing may be members of a chapter of this corporation.

**SECTION 3. DISPUTES.** In the event of any disagreement between chapters, the parties agree that Executive Council, after hearing all parties, will make a final decision which shall be binding on all parties.

**SECTION 4. REPORTS.** Prior to December 31 of each year, the President of each chapter shall submit a written report concerning the activities, affairs, and status of the Chapter during his term of office, ending in September.

## **ARTICLE 10 - CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND GIFTS**

**SECTION 1. CONTRACTS.** The Executive Council may authorize any officer or officers or agent or agents of the corporation to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or may be confined to specific instances.

**SECTION 2. CHECKS, DRAFTS, OR ORDERS.** All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation, shall be signed by the Treasurer or an Assistant Treasurer and countersigned by the President or Executive Vice President of the corporation. [Amended 3-16-91]

**SECTION 3. DEPOSITS.** All funds of the corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Executive Council may select.

**SECTION 4. GIFTS.** The Executive Council may accept on behalf of the corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for any purpose of the corporation.

## **ARTICLE 11 - DUES**

**SECTION 1. ANNUAL DUES.** The Executive Council shall determine from time to time the amount of an initiation fee, if any, and annual dues payable to the corporation by members and associate members, and shall give appropriate notice to the members and associate members. The annual dues shall be approved by the membership at its annual meeting.

**SECTION 2. LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES.** The Executive Council shall determine from time to time the amount of Life Membership dues payable to the corporation by Life



Members over a period of time. After payment of life membership dues, the life member shall not be required to pay any further dues. The Executive Council shall give appropriate notice to the members. The raising of Life Membership dues shall not operate retrospectively. The Life Membership dues shall be approved by the membership at its annual meeting.

**SECTION 3. PAYMENT OF DUES.** Dues shall be payable each year on or before the anniversary date the member joined the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. [Amended 2-16-91]

**SECTION 4. DEFAULT AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.** When any member of any class is in default in the payment of dues as of the anniversary date the member joined the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the membership may be terminated three months thereafter upon the motion of the Vice President of Membership by the Executive Council as set forth above; and, that delinquent member shall be notified in writing of the pending action. [Amended 2-16-91]

#### **ARTICLE 12 - FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the corporation shall be December 1 of each year and end on November 30, of each year.

#### **ARTICLE 13 - VIRGINIA NONSTOCK CORPORATION ACT**

The provisions of the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act, Title 13.1, Chapter 10, Code of Virginia, are applicable where the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of this corporation are not controlling.

#### **ARTICLE 14 - EMBLEMS, SYMBOLS, CORPORATE PROPERTY AND CORPORATE SEAL**

**SECTION 1. EMBLEM.** The emblem of the corporation shall be approved by resolution of the Executive Council, which emblem shall thereafter be copyrighted or registered as a trademark. The Executive Council shall regulate and license its use where applicable.

**SECTION 2. NAME.** The name of the corporation is a registered corporate name, and as such is protected in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Executive Council may register the name as a trademark or copyright the name. The Executive Council shall regulate and license its use where applicable.

**SECTION 3. CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP.** The Executive Council shall provide for the issuance of certificates evidencing membership in the corporation, which certificates shall be in such form as may be determined by the Executive Council. All certificates evidencing membership of any class shall be consecutively numbered. The name and address of each member and the date of issuance of the certificate shall be entered on the records of the corporation. If any certificate is lost, mutilated, or destroyed, a new certificate may be issued therefor on such terms and conditions as the Executive Council may determine.

**SECTION 4. ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATES.** When a member has been elected to membership and has paid any initiation fee and dues that may then be required a certificate of membership shall be issued in his name and delivered to him by the Membership Chair.

**SECTION 3. CORPORATE PROPERTY.** The Executive Council shall have the exclusive right to purchase, sell and use corporate property, and shall regulate its use. The list of membership names and addresses are to be regulated by the Executive Council, for the benefit of the members of the corporation.

**SECTION 4. CORPORATE SEAL.** The Executive Council shall provide a corporate seal, which shall contain the corporate name and year of incorporation.

#### **ARTICLE 15 - WAIVER OF NOTICE**

Whenever any notice is required under Title 13.1, Chapter 10, of the Code of Virginia, Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of this corporation, a waiver of notice in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

#### **ARTICLE 16 - AMENDMENTS**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed, and new Bylaws may be adopted by a majority of the Executive Council present at any regular meeting or at any special meeting, if at least thirty days' written notice is given of intention to alter, amend, or repeal or to adopt new Bylaws at such meeting. The Bylaws shall become effective immediately, subject to the approval of the membership at the annual meeting or a special meeting called by the membership for the purpose of approving or rejecting the alteration, amendment, repealing and adoption of new Bylaws.

#### **CERTIFICATE**

I, FRANCES W. DOHERTY, the Secretary of The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., a Virginia Nonstock Corporation, hereby certify:

The foregoing bylaws comprising four (4) pages, were adopted as the bylaws of The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., a Virginia Nonstock Corporation, on November 17, 1990, and amended on February 16, 1991, and March 16, 1991. The Bylaws in effect at present are the same as those adopted and amended on such date by The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., a Virginia Nonstock Corporation, subject to ratification by the membership on September 6, 1991.

Dated: March 17, 1991

*Frances W. Doherty*  
Frances W. Doherty

COUNTY ARLINGTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA : SS

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 17th day of March, 1991, by Frances W. Doherty, Recording Secretary of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., on behalf of the corporation.

*Nancy C. Monson*  
Nancy C. Monson

My commission expires April 30, 1993



## DECEASED VBOB MEMBERS

**September 1, 1990 to August 31, 1991**

*The following comrades who have passed away, as reported to VBOB, were remembered at the Charleston Reunion in ceremonies at the Citadel on September 6, 1991, in Charleston, South Carolina.*

FRED ANDERSON, Haddonfield, New Jersey, 9 ARMDD 14 BN HQ  
JOHN W. ANGEL, Plymouth, Minnesota, 75 INF 289 INF I  
CHARLES J. ATTARDO, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania, 51 ENGR CMBT BN HQ  
FRANCIS W. BAKER, Deltona, Florida, 2 ARMDD 67 AIR D  
ARNOLD L. BALLARD, Dayton, Ohio, 87 INF 312 ENGR CMBT H & S  
KENNETH W. BARBOUR, Las Cruces, New Mexico, 75 INF 899 FA BN HQ  
CLYDE D. BEACH, Hartwood, Virginia, 6 ARMDD 9 AIB C  
WILLIAM BEILKE, Wausau, Wisconsin, 6 ARMDD, 50 AIB B  
VINCENT J. BEIRNE, West Haven, Connecticut, 16 FA OBS BN HQ  
RICHARD J. BINDER, La Grange, Illinois, 285 FA OBS BN  
JOSEPH M. BENICKY, Fremont, Wisconsin, 87 INF D  
CLYDE D. BODEN, Arlington, Virginia, 84 INF 557 AAA AW BN  
HAROLD J. BRUMMER, Cranford, New Jersey, 106 INF 423 INF I  
ALBERT CARLIN, Waverly, New York, 84 INF 333 INF HQ  
JAMES CARLUCCI, Forestville, Maryland, 2 INF 23 INF I  
JOHN F. CHADWICK, Chamillis, New York, 44 INF 141 ORD MM CO  
WILLIAM G. CHAIN, Pleasant Unity, Pennsylvania, 84 INF 334 INF C-309 ENGR CBT  
JOSEPH J. CHIMENTO, Bayonne, New Jersey, 1303 ENGR GS REGT  
ROBERT L. CHRISTOPHER, Gadsden, Alabama, 159 ENGR CMBT BN  
RICHARD N. COOPER, Lawrenceville, Georgia, 179 FA BN Att 4 ARMDD  
THOMAS A. COOPER, Naples, Florida, 3 ARMDD 35 AIR L (10/90)  
FRANKLIN L. COPE, SR., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 285 FA OB BN  
JOSEPH COURI, Chillicothe, Illinois, 743 TK BN  
GEORGE W. CUMMING, Hopewell Junction, New York, 35 INF 216 FA BN HQ  
VINCENT E. DALZELL, Kenne, New Hampshire, 551 PIB HQ  
STANLEY DARINSIG, Port Carbon, Pennsylvania, 75 INF 291 INF  
DAVID DATZ, Maple Shade, New Jersey, 705 TD BN  
NORMAN C. DAVALL, Gloucester City, New Jersey, 9 ARMDD 14 TK BN  
CLARENCE L. DAVIS, Hanover, Pennsylvania, 87 INF 312 ENGR CMBT HQ  
W. F. DEAN, Ben Wheeler, Texas, 5 INF 10 INF C  
HAROLD DELTGEN, Appleton, Wisconsin, 1 ARMDD 89 CAV RECON SQ  
LOUIS DONNELLY, Salem, Ohio, 83 INF 33 INF C  
THOMAS DOROSKY, Shavertown, Pennsylvania, 106 INF 592 FA BN SRVC  
ALBERT W. DOGAN, Valparaiso, Indiana, 28 INF 109 INF C  
ROBERT P. DOWELL, Overland Park, Kansas, 90 INF HQ  
JOHN J. DUNLEAVY, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 99 INF 393 INF CANNON  
DAVID T. DRESEN, Madison, Wisconsin, 106 INF 422 INF C  
RAY EMMERLING, Alsip, Illinois, 141 AAA BN HQ  
THEODORE G. FLECHSIZ, Silver Spring, Maryland, 258 FA OBN BN C  
JOHN R. FOSCHAAR, Munster, Indiana, 6 ARMDD 86 CAV RECON C  
JOHN P. FREEHAFFER, Shillington, Pennsylvania, 2 EUROPEAN CIV AFF REGT G  
ROBERT J. GORDON, Atlantic City, New Jersey, 17 ABND 7 101 ABND 513 PRCHT I  
JAMES W. HANLEY, JR., Mason City, Iowa, 159 ENGR CMBT BN C

FRED D. HARE, St. Clair, Missouri, 468 AAA AW BN  
CHARLES S. HAWKINS, San Francisco, California, 26 INF 328 INF C  
ROBERT E. HICKO, La Quinta, California, 146 ARMD SIGL CO  
WILLIAM HOINASH, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 106 INF HQ  
HARRY HOOK, Ukiah, California, III ARMY, XII CORPS 91 MRT R BN  
ARTHUR J. HOPWOOD, Oil City, Pennsylvania, 75 CAV (10/90)  
WILLIAM W. HOWE, Rockville, Maryland, 82 ABND, 508 PRCHT INF G  
WALTER HUDDLESON, Carlisle, Kentucky, 83 INF 329 INF E  
DELLOS HOWARD JACKSON, Haleyville, Alabama, 159 ENGR CMBT BN C  
ROMAN P. JANIKOWSKI, Wausau, Wisconsin, 5 INF 11 INF M  
PAUL JULIAN, Denver, Colorado, 3 ARMDD 83 RECON BN A  
DANIEL L. KENSLEA, Newton Center, Massachusetts, 87 INF 346 INF 1 BN HQ  
KENNETH K. KING, Quartzsite, Arizona, 106 INF 422 INF I  
FRANK KLENOTIC, JR., Parma, Ohio, 101 INF 84 INF 1ST ARMY  
ELWIN W. KNAPP, Ilwaco, Washington, 4 ARMDD 6 ARMDD 10 ARMDD  
ERLING D. KOEHLER, Tampa, Florida, 705 TD BN C  
EDWARD KOVARIK, Scranton, Pennsylvania, MILITARY INTEL SERV  
WILLIAM F. LAHNER, JR., West Chester, Pennsylvania 19382, 2 INF INF K  
NICHOLAS LAMPOS, McLean, Virginia, 3257 SIGL SVC CO (RAD-INTEL)  
FRANCIS X. LEARY, San Marcos, California, 84 INF HQ  
ROBERT A. LEAVITT, Indianapolis, Indiana, 9 ARMDD 131 ORD BN B  
DONALD LIND, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 30 INF 119 INF K  
JOHN LIVINGSTONE, Richmond, Virginia, 740 RAILWAY OP BN  
WAYNE R. LOCKE, Omro, Wisconsin, 5 MED BN  
COWAN J. MC FARLAND, Vienna, Virginia, 69 INF 369 MED BN A  
JOSEPH M. MARINO, Landing, New Jersey, 28 CAV RECON B  
PHILIP F. MATARESE, Rahway, New Jersey, 357 FTR GRP  
JOSEPH L. MARGOCS, Parma Heights, Ohio, 99 INF 924 FA BN SVC  
ROBERT A. MILLER, Bellevue, Ohio, 7 ARMDD 17 TK BN HQ  
LEWIS MILLER, Barnesville, Ohio, 99 INF, 324 ENGR BT HIS  
GOTTLIEB W. MOLTENBREY, Roslindale, Massachusetts, 7 ARMDD 23 AIB A  
MICHAEL J. MURPHY, Madison, Wisconsin, 28 INF 109 INF F  
EARL NIEMANN, St. Louis, Missouri, 285 ENGR CMBT BN  
NED PAYNE, Shelby, Ohio, 770 FA BN BTRY B  
STEVE PAUL PAYKOS, Roebling, New Jersey, 501 ENGR LP VII CORP  
WADE PERRY, Birmingham, Alabama, 83 INF 329 INF 308 MED A  
ROBERT W. PIERCE, SR., Warren, Ohio, 106 INF 81 ENGR CMBT  
IRVING J. PROULX, Warwick, Rhode Island, 30 INF 30 SIG CO  
JOHN F. RACE, Genoa, Ohio, 106 INF 424 INF HQ C (10/90)  
ALFRED F. RAGO, Port Orange, Florida, 9 INF 9 SGNL CO  
WILLIAM H. RICHMOND, Trenton, New Jersey, 11 ARMDD 41 CAV RCN SQ A  
IRVING A. RILEY, Po Floral Park, New York, 28 INF 103 ENGR CMBT BN A  
ELDEN R. RISING, Elyria, Ohio, 705 TD BN C  
ARTHUR J. ROBERTSON, Palm Harbor, Florida, 114 SIGN RADIO INTELL CO  
EARL SCHIER, Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, 3 ARMDD 36 AIR F  
CUFFORD L. SCHUMACKER, Sparta, Wisconsin, 11 ARMDD 42TK A  
EUGENE J. SELECKY, Surreysville, Pennsylvania, 84 INF 557 AAA AW BN HQ  
JOHN SHARP, Gibsonia, Pennsylvania, 90 INF 773 TD BN  
ROBERT C. SHAW, Springfield, Oregon, 84 INF 33 INF G  
FRED B. SHRAKE, King, Wisconsin, 102 INF 405 INF L  
JOHN C. SHUNNEY, Woonsocket, Rhode Island, 4 INF 22 INF 3BN HQ CO  
CHARLES E. SKINNER, Arlington Heights, Illinois, 26 INF  
VIVIAN V. SLATTUM, San Clemente, California, 99 INF HQ  
E. LEE SMITH, JR., Dallas, Texas, 2 INF 23 INF K & I

(Continued on Page 18)



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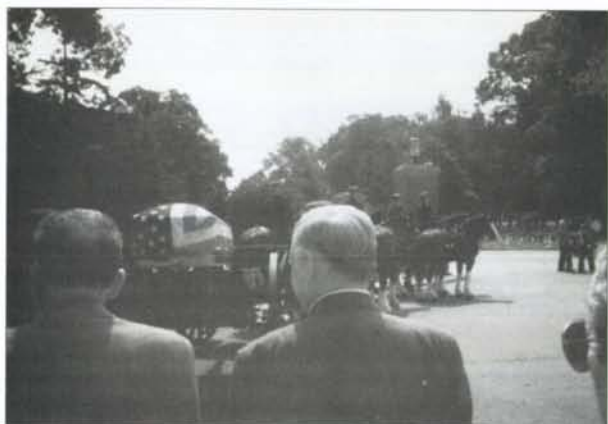
ROY W. SMYTH, Lutz, Florida, 788 AAA AW BN B  
CHARLES B. SWETZER, Alexandria, Virginia, 291 ENGR CMBT BN  
GEORGE R. SPENCE, Silver Spring, Maryland, 5 INF MEDICAL  
CORPS

GLENN TALBOT, New Ipswich, New Hampshire, FEMINO  
ROBERT R. THOMPSON, Tacoma, Washington, 32 CAV RECON SQDN  
H & HQ TRP

GEORGE W. THORPE, Clifton, New Jersey, 511 ENGR LT PONTON CO  
ROBERT VENABLE, Church Hill, Tennessee, 8 ARMDD  
THOMAS VISOCKI, Dumont, New Jersey, 106 INF 422 INF D  
NEAL J. WADE, JR., Denton, Texas, 80 INF 319 INF HQ  
ROBERT WALDO, Key Largo, Florida, 35 INF 137 INF B  
ROBERT H. WANDESFORDE, Seattle, Washington, 4 INF 8 INF C  
FRANCIS J. WARD, South Farmingdale, New York, 76 INF 385 INF I  
ALVIN T. WEST, JR., Fulton, Missouri, 106 INF 242 INF HQ  
T. E. WILONDEK, Garrett, Indiana, 35 INF 137 INF C  
ELMER L. WRAGE, Grand Island, Nebraska, 75 INF 291 INF B  
JOSEPH P. YADOUGA, Lake Winola, Pennsylvania, 6 ARMDD 50  
RECON BN

"We ask the blessings and mercy of God for our comrades who have died in the past year. We also pray for the thousands of comrades who died in the service of our country in the Battle of the Bulge, as well as the many others who have died in the intervening years. May they rest in the eternal peace reserved for the valiant."

Msgr. William F. O'Donnell, VBOB Chaplain



Family, friends, VBOB members prepare to march behind the caisson carrying Clyde Boden to his final resting place in Arlington National Cemetery.



An honor guard of the 3rd Infantry (Old Guard) presents ceremonial flag to Phyllis Boden, widow of Clyde D. Boden, Jr.

## G COMPANY 291 INFANTRY REGIMENT DEDICATES MEMORIAL TO 37 KIA IN BULGE

In two hours of fighting just outside Grand Halleaux, Belgium, 30 men of G Company, 191st Regiment of the 75th Infantry Division, were killed 15 January 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge.

Seven other G men died from wounds in action against the Germans in the Colmar and Ruhr pockets.

The company association dedicated a memorial to the fallen men on Memorial Day at the Zachary Taylor National Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky.

Colonel Eugene Drouillard, G Company Commander, told the surviving company members and their wives at the dedication: "It is most appropriate that our memorial is located just inside the entrance to the cemetery. The names of our gallant soldiers from our rifle company will be displayed with dignity and honor among the fallen heroes of other wars. Their names are inscribed on a bronze plaque in bold letters for all to see by those who visit the cemetery from this day forward to eternity. What a fitting and everlasting tribute to our honored dead."

The monument was unveiled by Colonel Drouillard and Benjamin Twigg, of the 75th Division. It was then presented to Gary Peak, cemetery director by Raymond Runner, G Company organization president, and George Knaus, Jr.

The keynote speaker was Peter Dounis. Francis Conway, Jr., was the memorial speaker. Dedication arrangements were made by David Sealey and Buchner Conn, Grand Halleaux attack survivors and Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge members.



"In the hands of God--may their heroic souls forever rest in peace," reads the memorial statement on the plaque presented to Zachary Taylor Cemetery by G Company Association of the 291st Infantry Regiment, of the 75th Division.

Make your reservation early  
for the VBOB  
December 15th & 16th  
Ceremonies.



## CHAPTER NEWS

**GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER** • June 20, 32 members gathered in the Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant in beautiful Sausalito. After the many traditional dishes, we moved out onto the wharf where VP for Chapters Bob VanHouten gave us an update on affairs at national, the History Book, and answered questions from the membership. He presented a beautiful plaque from the chapter to Treasurer Jack Deasy which was given in appreciation of the dedicated service he has rendered to the chapter since its organization.

September 28th we met in the Presidio Officers' Club and were given an update on the Annual Reunion in Charleston by Ernest Figueria, who attended as our representative.

**TRI-STATE CHAPTER** • We met August 27th at the Knights of Columbus Hall, in Hooksett, New Hampshire. We had four veteran guests and their wives and they all joined before the meeting was over.

John Dagat talked about his ordeal in the battle and related how he has tried to get his Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medals for 46 years. He received only the stock answer: the records were burned up in St. Louis. (Where have we all heard that before?) Finally, with the help of NH Senator Warren Rudman, he has now received them.

We had a 50/50 raffle to help fatten our treasury.

Bernadette Chevette was appointed to create a Chapter Scrapbook containing the history of the chapter, pictures and clippings of the members.

We are already forming plans for a group of us to go together to the next National Annual Reunion.

We are asking all members to submit a name for our newsletter.

A member showed us a Swastika flag which was about 25 feet long.

**SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER** • We met on June 2 in the Veterans Building in Scranton, Pennsylvania, with three new members joining. They related their Bulge experiences. George Waters asked permission to carry our chapter flag in a Loyalty Day Parade in Waymart, Pennsylvania on June 6. After reading the newsletters from other chapters, we discussed having one of our own and what to name it.

We refined our Bylaws and listened to Norman Jones explain the difference between Individual and Unit Citations.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** • May 19th our members marched in the big Hollywood "Welcome Home Veterans" parade. We combined with members of the Rhine & Danube Society (French-American veterans) and the Glendale High School ROTC. June 18th we had our semi-annual get-together with 50 members attending a grand buffet beautifully served by several ladies of the chapter. We saw a new film on the Battle of the Bulge and viewed the tables that had a collection of memorabilia of the members. Bob VanHouten gave us an update on what was happening at national and other chapters.

June 29th our chapter participated in services honoring returning Gulf veterans at Northridge Fashion Mall. We put in a pitch for VBOB and explained to the assembly what the battle was all about.

**CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER** • June 15th our meeting

was enlivened by a drawing for a handsome clock made by Dean VanLandingham. Norm Schoonover suggested that a banner be made for carrying in parades.

July 20th, 22 members, including 4 new ones, gathered to discuss a future yard sale, obtaining a banner to be carried in parades and to view the patches collected by Mickey Gilbert from the clothing of men taken to her hospital. She offered the extras to members.

**SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER** • The largest parade in the history of Charleston, South Carolina, took place back in May to welcome home all troops returning from the Gulf War. Bob Mitchell informs us that he cranked up his jeep, van, pickup or whatever he calls that "THING," decorated it up, put our banner on it somewhere and represented the Chapter. We surely do appreciate that kind of initiative.

**WILLIAM P. SCHNEIDER CHAPTER OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN** • We had our annual picnic on June 23 attended by 50 people, four of whom traveled from far away. A good time was had by all. Our next big event will be Veterans Day ceremonies.

**CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER** • We held our annual picnic July 8th on the shores of Onondaga Lake. We entertained ourselves with tales of action in the battle. Paul Pirro was ordered to blow up a bridge over a small stream that had three tanks on it. They had placed the dynamite under the bridge's main supports and could hear the sound of an approaching column of German tanks. They retreated as far as they could. When they saw three more tanks on the bridge they twisted the handle of a small detonator called a Hellbox, sending an electric current along a wire to set off the charges. When the tanks went down they started to run. The following tanks fired on them, but they all got away safely.

Clarence Krausnick and some of his men came upon what appeared to be an abandoned American tank. One of the men jumped on the tracks and looked inside, finding a dead man with a cigarette still dangling from his lips. He summoned the others to come look, and after a half-dozen had joined him, Germans opened fire on them from the woods. None were killed, but many were wounded by shrapnel.

**FROM YOUR VP FOR CHAPTERS** • We were pleased to see seven chapter flags decorating the wall of the solarium at the Sheraton Hotel in Charleston. We also had presidents and representatives from eleven or more chapters on hand for the business meeting and fun and entertainment. The South Carolina Chapter outdid themselves to present us all with a fine meeting place, interesting tours, great entertainment and a delicious banquet. Rack one more up for the chapters and the great job they do for the organization.

We have been visiting some chapters and/or presidents. In April on a private visit to Florida, I visited Bob Strickland, North Carolina Chapter; Brick Worth, South Carolina Chapter; Tom McFadden, Central Florida Chapter; and while at a POW Stalag Reunion I met with Whitey Schaller, Western Pennsylvania Chapter. Then in June, I made a whirlwind tour of Southern California, Fresno, and Golden Gate Chapters. We discussed their successes and problems and brought them up-to-date on National's doings.

Bob VanHouten



**WALTER NIEDERMAYER, a member,**  
is the author of a book about  
**The Battle of the Bulge, entitled**  
**INTO THE DEEP MISTY**  
**WOODS OF THE**  
**ARDENNES**

Published by A. G. Halldin Publishing Co., Inc.,  
Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701-0667  
Copies can be obtained from the author,  
911 Yorkshire Road  
Colonial Heights, VA 23834 for \$13.50

**WILLIAM C.C. CAVANAGH, GUEST**  
**SPEAKER AT VBOB REUNION BANQUET**

*["Will" Cavanagh, military historian, lecturer and author, came from Belgium to share his memories and experiences with members of VBOB at the banquet in Charleston, South Carolina. His enlightened comments were warmly received by those in attendance. With the hope that you will also enjoy his remarks, hereafter is a summary of his speech.]*

...My late mother, Marthe Close, a Belgian, had worked for C2G1 1st Army in Verviers and later for 3rd Army as an interpreter. Born in England (Durham) in January, 1950, I grew up, like other boys on a diet of war stories. We held unofficial collector's meetings in our schoolyard and bought, sold, or exchanged German medals, Japanese swords, etc.

Every summer, along with my brother, I would spend six weeks in Belgium 'foraging for souvenirs.' At age 12 I wrote to Ike and received a reply! I then contacted other generals like Bradley, Taylor, MacAuliffe, Collins, Middleton, Westmoreland, etc.... At 14, I wrote to the Office of Chief of Military History and received a reply from Charles MacDonald. Thus began a long and most interesting friendship. He helped me locate many veterans, to whom I then wrote for information, etc. I eventually realized that it is much more interesting to establish contact with front-line 19-year-old draftees than four-star generals!

In 1983, I moved to Belgium with my wife and two children. Since then my research continues and brings me into contact with many interesting people. The Belgium and Luxembourg people haven't forgotten what they owe the WW II GI. Monuments to American soldiers exist everywhere--erected in gratitude by local people such as CEBA, CRIBA, Jean Claude Hendryck, Marcel Ozer, Emile LaCroix, etc.

At a recent WW II division reunion...they told me of their 'Last Man's Club' whereby the last surviving member will 'win' a bottle of French cognac. It was suggested that in a few years that prize will be won. A couple of weeks later, in an English newspaper I read about three WW I vets making a return to Belgium and France on the 75th anniversary of their battles...! My conclusion after reading that was that it will be quite some time before anyone wins that cognac.

*[With respect]* to the 'Bulge' MIAs--one of whom was discovered last year and buried in Texas last month. Young people, not even born in WW II are deeply interested in the subject. I was asked: 'How can you be knowledgeable?' My answer is: I know experts on the Roman occupation of Northern England who weren't around when the Romans built Hadrian's Wall! The Diekrich Museum is run by ded-

icated history buffs, some of whom lived through World War II [and] others who weren't born until the mid-50's. Returning veterans' groups include more and more vets' children and grandchildren who are often very interested in the 'Bulge.' My message is--don't make the mistake of thinking there are no younger people interested in the subject.

*[A recent communication from Will expressed his pleasure at having been invited to speak at the banquet and for the opportunity to renew his acquaintances. He also stated: I consider myself truly fortunate to have known Clyde Boden--a fine man who had the foresight to help found VBOB!]*



**VBOB**  
**CHAPTER**  
**PRESIDENTS**

(Alphabetical by State)

•ALABAMA•

GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON, JR.  
CHAPTER (XI)  
Glynn L. Arrington  
4602 Lake Valley Dr.  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
205-979-3920

•CALIFORNIA•

FRESNO CHAPTER (V)  
Kenneth Hohmann  
4111 N. Sherman St.  
Fresno, CA 93726  
209-227-5232

GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON, JR.  
CHAPTER #13 (XIII)  
George Waldron  
3801 Soquel Dr.  
Soquel, CA 95073  
408-475-3989

GOLDEN GATE CHAPTER (X)  
Martin E. Turkington  
55 Millthwaite Dr.  
Martinez, CA 94553  
415-372-8031

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER  
(XVI)  
Murray Shapiro  
10847 Delco Ave.  
Chatsworth, CA 91311  
818-341-7071

•FLORIDA•

CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER (XVIII)  
Tom McFadden  
1217 Buccaneer Ave.  
Deltona, FL 32725  
407-860-1720

•MARYLAND-  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA•

MARYLAND/D.C. CHAPTER (III)  
Woodrow F. Purcell, Sr.  
800 Dixon Dr.  
Stevensville, MD 21666  
301-643-6847

•NEW HAMPSHIRE•

C.G. PAUL NEWGARDEN CHAPTER  
(VIII)  
Matthew Femino  
711 Colonial Dr.  
Portsmouth, NH 03801  
603-436-2571

•NEW JERSEY•

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER (XII)  
Anthony W. Andriola  
33 Clover St.  
Nutley, NJ 07110  
201-667-9363

•NEW YORK•

CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER (II)  
Alexander F. Noce, Sr.  
Champion Mobile Homes, Lot 16  
Eldridge, NY 13060  
315-689-3457

•NORTH CAROLINA•

NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER (IX)  
William Robert Strickland  
R.D. #3, Box #514  
Dunn, NC 28334  
919-897-8295

•NORTH DAKOTA•

NORTH DAKOTA CHAPTER (XX)  
Frank H. Dusek  
R.R. 1, Box 83  
Anamoose, ND 58710  
701-465-330

•PENNSYLVANIA•

DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER (IV)  
Stanley Wojtusik  
9639 Wissinoming St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19114  
215-637-4191

SUSQUEHANNA CHAPTER (XIX)  
Frank Lo Voulo  
6 Peasant Court Dr.  
Binghamton, NY 13905  
607-722-4918

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER  
(XIV)  
Leroy D. Schaller  
R.R. #1, Box #341  
Bolivar, PA 15923  
412-238-2297

•SOUTH CAROLINA•

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER (VII)  
George A. Worth  
109 S. Live Oak Dr.  
Moncks Corner, SC 29461  
803-899-4384

•VERMONT-

NEW HAMPSHIRE-MAINE•  
TRI-STATE--VERMONT, NEW  
HAMPSHIRE, MAINE CHAPTER (XVII)  
Roger Desjardins  
4 Forest Park Est.  
Jaffrey, NH 03452  
603-532-8420

•VIRGINIA•

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER (XV)  
H. Dean Fravel  
3218 Nealon Dr.  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
703-573-5718

•WASHINGTON•

NORTHWEST CHAPTER (VI)  
Casimer Pomianek  
6232 53rd St.  
Seattle, WA 98115  
206-523-0055

•WISCONSIN•

WISCONSIN CHAPTER (I)  
Clarence Marshall  
2505 Teal Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
715-845-2632

If there's a chapter near you, give their president a call. They are engaged in a lot of activities we are sure you would enjoy. You may encounter some old friends and you surely will make some new ones.



## VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

### IN OUR ASSOCIATIONS, WHY WE DRAW CLOSER TOGETHER

There comes a time, after dragging one's spouse to a dozen reunions, to answer her/his question, "What do you get out of this?" Now, I hasten to explain that my spouse's question is not asked in anger, or even exasperation, but maybe with just a wee bit of impatience. Well, the spouse deserves a reply. Further than that, we veterans need to reflect a bit on why we do achieve so much therapy from getting together, swapping war stories, dressing up and marching in parades, etc.

I think as we approach that time in our life, those "September years," we do begin to ask ourselves, "Why do we feel a need to draw together; why do we enjoy so much organizing not only into national groups such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, etc.; but 'specialty' associations such as Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the 28th Division Society, the Rhine and Danube Society, (French American War veterans), etc." Sure, we have valid and official reasons for being: helping other veterans, securing proper legislation for veterans' causes, promoting Americanism, etc. But I think there are other, more deeply seated emotional reasons for forming into so many larger and small groupings. I suggest that the following three reasons are probably of major importance to World War II veterans especially.

1. **Reliving the Great Adventure** - Most of us grew up during the pit of the greatest depression to ever hit the United States or the world. Our horizons were low. We generally kept close to home. There was no money to travel, to eat well, to enjoy the stimulations of life. We could afford the movies and the radio; and they became our vicarious adventuring. Then, World War II! We traveled, we generally ate better than ever before, we had a great adventure. Today, anything to do with war is condemned by many as evil and totally unproductive. But that war provided the greatest thrill of our lives - before, during and since. And as we enter into our 70's we need to relive that great adventure, even if only to stimulate our heart and arteries, and to remind ourselves that we had some exciting times. While it is hard for us to translate to our wives, our children our grandchildren what were those "highs," we still thrill to them. The critics be damned!

2. **We suffered immense and continuous pain, emotional as well as physical.** We either slept out in the snow suffering frost bite, gangrene and even amputation; or we developed jungle rot which produced similar and unpleasant living and dying conditions. We saw comrades blown to pieces and maybe we were wounded ourselves, or suffered the prolonged and deep pain as a prisoner-of-war, captive of the worst kind of brutes and dehumanizers. That long period of pain and deprivation has sensitized us so that we

can appreciate much more the joys of life than can most non-veterans, particularly those opportunities offered in this great country. As a friend of mine, a hero of Bastogne, remarked when chided about his large pot-belly, "Ah, the good life, man!" Yes, against the back drop of evil one can better appreciate good; and against a back drop of prolonged suffering one can better appreciate the joys of living in America.

3. **We absolutely glory in our Americanism and we know more than most who is an American and what that means.** For 200 years we have been trying to approach the great ideals laid out for this country by our founding fathers. We have painfully and slowly come closer to admitting all our citizens to full citizenship. When one's life literally depends upon another he doesn't ask his race, religion, creed or ethnicity. Hitler thought he would have an easy time with us. He derided "Americans" as that "mongrel race" which had no real identity or morale. Well, we showed him. We stood up to the greatest war machine in history up to that time. We were ill-prepared, poorly trained, and badly equipped. But we beat back the so-called master race. We conquered and won. Who is "we"? Why that mongrel race of Italians, Poles, Germans, Mexicans, English, Scottish, Irish, etc. Those Protestant, Catholics, Jews, agnostics and atheists. Those blacks, browns, whites, and Indians. **THOSE AMERICANS!**

Well, my darling spouse, this is what we get out of it. This encompasses our oft hidden reasons for association. We hope you can understand a little of its import to us.

*[This thoughtful rumination was given by Murray Shapiro, President of the Southern California Chapter, at the beginning of their meeting in June 1991.]*

### THE WEAPON

Like a speeding locomotive that  
comes rushing down the track

You hear 88's a whistling just  
before you hear them crack.

An' you swear each pack your  
number, that it's heading for your  
hole--

There to tear you all to pieces as  
it's own specific goal.

Comes another, then another,  
whipping by or landing near,

Til your mitts are wet from  
sweating, your heart is cold with  
fear.

Then your non-com starts yelling  
signals up to the attack.

For while 88's can kill you, they  
must never hold you back.

So you rise and get to rolling thru  
a hurricane of shell.

With your face toward his cannon  
an' the open mouth of hell.

Eddy Kijono

691st Tank Destroyer Battalion, "C" Company



## B-BAG

### WORLD WAR II TIMES PRINTS VBOB STORY-- WHAT IF WE LOST BATTLE?

WORLD WAR II TIMES December issue 1991 will carry the VBOB story, "What If We Lost the Battle of the Bulge?"

THE TIMES, a national publication, published by Elbert L. Watson, is headquartered at 1010 East 86th Street, Suite 61J, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240.

THE TIMES initiated the effort ending with the Congressional joint resolution designating 2-8 June as a "Week for the National Observance of the 50th Anniversary of World War II." The monthly publication uses BUGLE stories frequently. A recent issue featured VBOB Clifford May's story, "Miracle at the Bulge," reprinted in this issue of the BUGLE....

•Since there are so many Battlers who have eyewitness accounts and knowledge of their units' Bulge participation, THE BUGLE will not continue to print, temporarily, in numerical order, the Army History Division and Army Library-provided unit histories. Every battler who wants his unit history published must send in a one-page summary, single-spaced, of his unit's history, whether it be a division or smaller separate unit.

The document must state the source of the information. This information will be printed as a footnote to the article. If you want your unit history published and do not have a reliable source of your own, tell THE BUGLE the division number and we will print the Army history version.

If you were in a unit smaller than a division, you will have to provide the one-page summary, documented. Army history does not have narrative-style histories for all units, which can be printed verbatim by THE BUGLE. THE BUGLE has been unsuccessful in getting information quickly and readily from official sources. They are over-worked and under-staffed.

THE BUGLE, with its small staff, too, cannot precis division histories--we do not have any historians on our staff. We are only reporters, printing only what we have been assured by a reliable authority is a bona fide document. If you have some personal types of photos to go with your narratives, please send them along. We will return them. The size does not matter as long as the photos are clear and distinct.

•There are some Battlers who think the United States should stomp on Iraq for not complying with Operation Desert Storm end-of-war requirements, and to halt future nuclear adventures by Saddam Hussein. Do you think **The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge** should take a position on Iraq, and, if so, what should it be?...

•Dr. William W. Wenzel, 75th Infantry Division Medic, sends us a collection of military Murphy's Laws compiled by a Vietnam vet, but which have rich application to battlers: the vet writes: "A soldier learns that Murphy's Law applies to the military and combat like flies attracted to an outhouse. Following is a list of thoughts that have occurred

to every combat veteran:

1. Military intelligence is a contraction in terms.
2. Recoilless rifles--aren't.
3. A sucking chest wound is nature's way of telling you to slow down.
4. The enemy diversion you are ignoring is the main attack.
5. If the enemy is within range, then so are you.
6. Friendly fire, isn't.
7. If it is stupid and it words, then it ain't stupid.
8. When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy.
9. If you're short of everything, then you're in a combat zone.
10. Try to look unimportant. They may be low on ammo.
11. The easy way is always mined.
12. Tracers work both ways.
13. Incoming fire has the right of way.
14. Teamwork is essential. It gives them other people to shoot at.
15. Never draw fire, it irritates everyone around you.
16. No combat ready unit has ever passed an inspection.
17. No inspection ready unit has ever passed combat.
18. Make it too tough for the enemy to get in and you can't get out.
19. If both sides are convinced they're about to lose, they're both right.
20. Combat has no winner.
21. Professionals are predictable, but the world is full of dangerous amateurs.
22. Fortify your front and you'll get your rear shot up.
23. When in doubt, give it a 20-round burst.
24. In war, important things are very simple and all simple things are hard.
25. Don't look conspicuous, it draws fire.
26. Communications will fail as soon as you need fire support desperately.
27. Weather isn't neutral.
28. Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than you because sooner or later you'll have to stop the bleeding.
29. Remember, your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
30. If you can't remember, the Claymore is pointed at you.
31. The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.
32. If your attack is really going well, it's an ambush.
33. No plan survives first contact.
34. If it flies, it dies.
35. If it moves, it dies.
36. When you are forward of your position, your artillery will always be short, friendly.
37. Suppressive fire, won't
38. You are not Superman.
39. Cavalry does not always come to the rescue.
40. B-52's are the ultimate in close-air support.
41. Sniper's motto--Reach out and touch someone.
42. Peace is our profession, mass murder is just a hobby.
43. Killing for peace is like whoring for virginity.



44. There's always a way.
45. Murphy was a grunt.
46. It's not the one with your name on it you have to worry about, but the round addressed "To Whom It May Concern" you've got to think about.
47. Remember, napalm covers a large area.
48. Smart bombs have bad days, too.
49. Mines are equal opportunity weapons.
50. When you think you're safe, you're not.
51. Everything that can go wrong will go wrong, especially in combat.

Do you have any other military Murphy's Laws to contribute?

Combat is chaos and for every rule there is a counter rule--no one knows that better than a combat soldier....

●Battlers of the Battle of the Bulge should do all they can, privately and in groups, to make sure the names of those Battlers who died recently have their names mentioned as part of some VBOB activity, at least once a year, it has been suggested.

Even though most of us will die in a time of peace for the world, we still rate a final salute. The calling of the roll--a last muster--is the last time that man's name will be mentioned. (Most people make the news only when they are born, marry and die.) After his great contribution to the nation, it is the least we can do--call his name out publicly for the last time....

●"B BAG" will be a regular BUGLE feature. It will carry short-short stories, comments--news and views--that normally could not make separate stories in THE BUGLE; yet, here those still-precious little items can be given space and recognition.

●NAME ENOUGH--Col Thomas D. Gillis, Ret., Greenbrae, California, reports that his outfit, the 4th Armored Division was the only division which "did not have a nickname. Our commanding general, Maj. Gen. John S. 'Tiger Jack' Wood, said, 'They shall be known by their deeds alone.' And so, our division earned its 'Name Enough' on the battlefields of France. Col. Gillis will send in an account of the 4th Armored Division (according to the new BUGLE guidelines for division history--see previous item in this B BAG). His telling of the 4th AD 'exploits' will include their 'relief of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne.' The colonel will also provide BUGLE with additional anecdotes. You can do this, too, for your outfit. Gen. George S. Patton said: 'There has never been such a superb fighting organization as the 4th Armored Division,' reports Col. Gillis. 'All of the other armored divisions in WWII earned or adopted sobriquets or names to set them apart from the others. No so the 4th AD. Why did this famous fighting machine refuse to follow the usual route to fame? The story goes back to our early days in training at Pine Camp, New York, in June, 1942.'"

"At that time as Supply Battalion CO, I wrote a letter to Tiger Jack Wood proposing that since our men were 'nearing the peak of training when all that is needed to insure victory in battle...is the incentive of organizational pride, an identity, to adopt a name...that will connote the goal toward which every soldier is willing to lay down his life.' I suggested the division become world famous as America's 'Fast and Furious Fourth' and added that the choice of name or motto is 'insignificant alongside the spirit

engendered by its utterance."

"Across the top of the letter Gen. Bruce Clarke (then Chief of Staff) wrote 'C.G.--Not in favor. B.C.C.' And below that in green pencil with his gigantic forceful scrawl our beloved 'P' Wood wrote: 'C/C--No name now. We'll earn one.'"

"And so our 4th AD earned its 'Name Enough' on the battlefields of France--long before it had completed its sweep deep into Germany and over 4,000 individual decorations and 6,000 'German Marksmanship Medals.' The division's Presidential Unit Citation and its French Croix de Guerre avec Palme attest to the regard in which this Name Enough division was held by both our country and its allies."

TIME magazine, 19 March, 1945, reported: "German soldiers facing the 4th AD were told (according to a captured document): Each American had been qualified for the Division by proving that (1) he had been born a bastard, and (2) he had murdered his mother."

●Jean Paul Linden, 39 Rue Eysden-Mines, GG38 Grand-Halleux, Belgium, 22-years-old, writes that he has a collection of different objects found on Bulge battlefields. There are some that belong to "Milton M. Conner MAT: 6288766 of (perhaps) 7th Infantry Division or 82nd Airborne." He would like to contact Conner about the relics....

●Dorothy Davis, VBOB nurse and VBOB Gallery honcho, reports that the VBOB resolution for support of the Gallery was attached to the Defense Authority Bill and passed. Senator Nunn had his name added to the resolution as co-sponsor....

●Joe F. Zimmer and Nancy C. Monson (Battler and VBOB Staffer) had a Battle of the Bulge story printed in the national AMVET Winter 1991 issue....

●The Center for the Study of War and Society at the University of Tennessee, which is collecting WWII anecdotes and oral histories, is beginning brown bag lunches on the first Monday of each month on campus, second floor of Hoskins Library, beginning at 12:30. Dr. Charles W. Johnson is Director of the Center for the Study of War and Society World War II Veterans Project, 220 Hoskins Library--UTK, Knoxville, Tennessee 37996....

●Battler Arthur B. Jackson, Jr., Suffolk, Virginia, reports he is active in VFW and DAV. He has been a past VFW post commander and past district commander. He has been Sergeant-at-Arms for the Department of Virginia DAV for the past 10 years. He also serves as deputy representative to the Hampton Veterans Hospital for the VFW....

●VBOB Vice President for Regional Coordination Bob VanHouten and his wife, Beverley, VBOB Corresponding Secretary, have been feted across the country in their visits to the far-flung VBOB chapters. They report the chapters are burgeoning and operating at the peak of perfection expected of all Battlers....

●Lucian K. Truscott, III, member of the famous Army family, and 1945 West Point Graduate, who commanded an infantry company in the Korean War and an infantry battalion in Vietnam, reports: The U.S. Army Military History Institute at Carlisle Barracks shows "that more than 80 percent of all our casualties in our recent wars have been infantrymen. Total casualties of WW I, WW II, Korea, and Vietnam are 1,387,928. Infantry casualties are: 1,133,109...."

●SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER●



## MEMBERS SPEAK OUT

**GERALD HOPKINS** advises that he is a member of a committee looking for members of the **35TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 320TH INFANTRY, COMPANY H**. They have the names of some men in Chicago, but have had no luck in contacting them. They are: **ROY H. CHRISTIAN, ROBERT E. KAY, JAMES J. ZELEZNIKAR, and EDWARD HEIR**. They would also be most happy to hear from any other member of Company H. They plan a reunion for later this year. Contact Gerald at: N. 2924 Highway Cth Qq, Waupaca, Wisconsin 54981.

**ROBERT J. CLARK** asks that we help Mrs. Dorothy Pavan, 9 Myrtle Avenue, Clifton, New Jersey 07014, locate anyone who might remember her brother. Her brother, **SIBER (BUD) SPEER** was in the **506TH INFANTRY, 101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION**, and was killed in action in Bastogne on December 21, 1944. If you can provide any information, please drop her a line.

**MITCHELL G. BARD, 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION 423 INFANTRY, COMPANY I**, drops us a line to let us know he is working on a book about American victims of the Holocaust. He would like to hear from anyone who was an American citizen during the war and was sent to a concentration camp or knows of Americans in the camps. He's particularly interested in the treatment of American Jewish soldiers in POW camps and any eyewitness accounts of their mistreatment or deportation to concentration camps. Write to Mitchell at: 2810 Blaine Drive, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, or call 202-639-5300.

Received notices from **BOB HASEN** and **ROY KING**, that the **546TH AAA (AW) BATTALION, CHARLIE BATTERY**, held its reunion October 4-6, 1991, in Memphis. The notice arrived too late to be included in the last *Bugle*, but this item at least lets you know they are active. You can contact Bob at: 15113 Village 15, Camarillo, California 93012 (telephone: 805-482-3198), or Roy at Route 1, Box 13, Carlton, Georgia 30627 (telephone: 404-797-3372).

Likewise, we received a notice (too late) from **BILL ZIMMERMAN** regarding a reunion for the **999TH SIGNAL SERVICE COMPANY**. Drop Bill a note at: 1139 Ashbourne Road, Cheltenham, Pennsylvania 19012.

**C. E. McCLANAHAN, 9TH ARMORED DIVISION, 73RD ARMORED FA BATTALION, HEADQUARTERS BATTERY**, advises that he has struck up correspondence with **GARY SCHONE** as a result of locating him through *The Bugle*. *[We're always happy to hear that we've brought members together.]*

**LAWRENCE J. RHEA** wants to know if anyone is out there from the **586TH MEDICS**. If so, please write to him at: 37 Forest Hills Drive, Washington, Missouri 63090.

**MARK LUDIG** writes from Luxembourg: We are looking for a soldier named **CHARLEY (PUPS) TAYLOR**, who lived or worked in Chicago prior to the war. Charley was in Luxembourg around October, 1944, and stayed at a place called Pulvermuehl. Charley carried a picture of a girl near a car and whom he identified as his wife, Eleanor. In addition, Mark is also trying to locate two other soldiers: **ROBERT DODD AND RICHARD LEE**. He doesn't have any further information on them. If you can help write to Mark at: 18a, Gromscheed; L-1670 Senningerberg; Luxembourg.

**GEORGE L. MOORE, 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 422 INFANTRY, COMPANY B**, would like to hear from anyone who was with him when he was captured on December 19, 1944. Write to George at: 80 Memorial Drive, Salem, Massachusetts 01970 (telephone: 508-744-0145).

**GUY K. HALL, 407 FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION, HQ**, writes to see if anyone remembers going from Aaken, Germany, south to Liege, Belgium, to the Bulge. He recalls standing around a tin barrel with a fire in it to keep warm. He also recalls the trip to Polsum, Germany, under fire from the guns (88's) and crossing the Rhine on pontoon bridges. If you have any knowledge about this, write to Guy at: 24 Pritchard Avenue, #CI, Aberdeen, Maryland 21001 (telephone: 301-272-7442).

**BOB BECKER, 103RD DIVISION**, wants to hear from men in his division who were trucked to the Bulge on Christmas Eve. He states that not everyone in the division was on the trip and he has been trying to find out who was involved. Write to Bob at: 3514 East LaSalle, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909 (telephone: 719-597-3933).

**MARY ELIZABETH ARTHUR, 135TH GENERAL HOSPITAL**, would like to hear from any personnel or patients stationed or wounded and in the 135th General Hospital in the fall of 1944 or winters of 1944 or 1945. She was a nurse at the hospital. Mary's address is Epis Square Apts., Stevenson 107, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257.

**EVELYN (MICKEY) DeFONTE GILBERG**, would like to hear from anyone who was with the **16TH FIELD HOSPITAL, 3RD PLATOON**, stationed at Wiltz, Luxembourg, during the Battle of the Bulge. Is Lorraine Fuller, or a nurse from Texas affectionately called "Rattlesnake" out there or do you know their whereabouts? Evelyn is in communication with Ruth Cox Long, who lives in Buffalo, New York, but she would like to hear from others to renew old acquaintances. Please write to her at 2215 Hand Blvd., Orlando, Florida, 32806-1552.

**REID W. McNARY, 981ST FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION**, advises that he has developed a "wonderful correspondence" with Dave Olson,

*(Continued on page 25)*



**Members Speak Out** (Continued from page 24)

of Wheaton, Illinois, in response to his inquiry in this column. [Thanks for the follow-up information, Reid.]

**JOSEPH MACRI, 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 242TH INFANTRY, HEADQUARTERS**, was in the motor pool getting his jeep fixed (St. Vith) when the Bugle began. If you were there him, drop him a note. His address is: 66 Home Avenue, Rutherford, New Jersey 07070.

**MRS. M. H. BALLARD, 9725 Saver Lane, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301**, is looking for anyone who can provide information on her brother--**SGT. WILLIAM A. HOWARD, 99TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 393 INFANTRY, COMPANY 8**. He was reported killed in action in Belgium on the 16th of December. The family is most anxious to hear from anyone who might remember Sgt. Howard.

**HARRY STUTZ, 28TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 28TH SIGNAL COMPANY**, writes: Last year a small item was published in the *Bugle* indicating that a Belgian housewife was looking for the GI who held her as a baby during the St. Nicholas Festival in December, 1944, by the Message Center Unit of the 28th Signal Company. I was that GI and as a result of that item I have established contact with this housewife and her family. We plan a reunion soon. I thank the *Bugle* for making this reunion possible. [We thank you, Harry, for letting us know.]

**JOSEPH E. FECSKOVICS** advises us that the **80TH DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION**, Florida Post #47, held its reunion November 1 and 2. Although the notice arrived too late to get any of you to the reunion, you can write Joe for more information at 601 Charles Street, Port Orange, Florida 32119. He'll see that you get some information on the association.

**W. H. Sanders** would like to correspond with anyone who knew his brother--**PFC JOHN W. SANDERS, 4TH ARMORED DIVISION, 66 ARMORED FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION**. John was killed in action on March 6, 1945. If you knew him, drop his brother a note at: 55 Houston Street, Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303.

**JOHN PINER, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, 26TH REGIMENT, B COMPANY**, would like to hear from anyone from his company or from **1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, 16TH REGIMENT, K COMPANY**, who remembers the Germans hiding in corn stalks and advancing on December 21, 1944, or, December 22 when a combat patrol from one of the above companies was hit by shells from a Tiger Tank and two of the six GI's survived. The remaining two were rescued after dark by a GI from their company who said, "I can guide you back to our lines if you are able to walk." Contact Bob at 4341 Thomas Drive, Box #-28, Panama City Beach, Florida 32408.

**DAREL E. MIDDLETON, 110TH MEDICAL BATTALION, COMPANY C**, responded to our press release advising that his group has had 10 reunions. If you were a part of that group he would like to hear from you. Write to him at 4220 North 127th Court, #125, Omaha, Nebraska 68164-1909.

**DONALD D. OSBORN, 331ST INFANTRY REGIMENT, 2ND BATTALION, COMPANY G**, also wrote as a result of the press release. He's looking for members of his group. Please write to him at: R.R. 4, Box 134, Muscatine, Iowa 52762. Telephone: 319-263-2036.

**WILLIAM STONE, 995TH ENGINEERS**, also responded to the press release asking if we could help him reach members of his group. Please write Bill at: 305 Raymond, Glendive, Montana 59330.

**VITO MUSTACCHIO** would appreciate hearing from anyone with the **907TH GLIDER FIELD ARTILLERY** or the **101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION**. Write to him at 22600 Donna Court, Land-O-Lakes, FL 34639.

**JEB STIFFORM** would like to hear from anyone who may have known his uncle **RICHARD H. LING, 18TH CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON**, who was killed in the Bulge. Write to: P.O. Box 1044, Hays, Montana 59527.

**WAYNE GASSERT** would like to locate anyone who remembers **PVT HARLAN R. RHEN, 84 INFANTRY DIVISION, 333 INFANTRY**, who was killed in action December 3, 1944. Write to Wayne at 530 Hill Street, Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042-2945.

**DOMINICK DEL CORSO** would like to locate any one associated with the **4TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 8TH INFANTRY, COMPANY D, BATTALION (81ST MORTAR)**. Drop him a note at: 645 Passaic Avenue, Kenilworth, New Jersey 07033.

If anyone knew **EMANUEL MAJORS, BATTERY C, 482 AAA (AW) BATTALION**, who was at Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas, just before he shipped out, please contact Mrs. Ruby Majors Hight, 507 A, Jamestown Drive, Box 13 G, Madisonville, Kentucky 42431. Phone: 502-825-0483.

Does anyone remember **JAMES FRANCIS BROPHY** from Brooklyn? He served under General Patton, received a battlefield commission, and the Silver Star. He was killed in action. Write his daughter: Patricia A. Alger, Dogwood Glen B-3, Northfield, Vermont 05663. She wishes to know more about her father.

**VINCENT D. SUTPHIN** would like to hear from any former members of **781ST TANK BATTALION, 7TH ARMY, 6TH CORP**, regarding organization of a reunion. Write to Vince at 11625 Kenwood Terrace, Fairfax, Virginia 22030.



**(USE THIS FORM ONLY!!)**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    (first)                                  (last)                                  (member #)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
              (no.)                (street)                (city)                (state)                (zip)

A3	Plaque 5" Diameter	\$11.00	J1	VBOB 1/2" Lapel Pin/Tie Tack	
A4	2 Pen VBOB Desk Set	21.00		(w/clutch)	\$ 7.00
B1	Patch 2-3/4" Diameter	2.50	J3	VBOB Tie Bar	7.00
B1A	Patch 2-3/4" Diameter		J5	VBOB Medallion (w/ribbon)	32.00
	(w/clutch)	4.00	K1	VBOB Logo Pocket Leather	
B2	Patch 4-3/4" Diameter	6.00		Key Case	5.00
B2A	Patch 4-3/4" Diameter		K2	VBOB Logo/Flag Plastic	
	(w/clutch)	8.00		Key Chain	1.00
C1S	VBOB Silver Belt Buckle	12.50	T2	VBOB T-Shirt--(S) (M) (L) (XL)	13.00
C2G	VBOB Gold Belt Buckle	12.50	W1	VBOB Logo Quartz Watch	
D1	Decal 4" Diameter	.50		(Men's)	35.00
D2	Logo 4" Diameter Windshield		W2	VBOB Logo Quartz Watch	
	Logo	.50		(Ladies')	35.00
D3	COLOR Logo 8x10 for framing	4.00	BK1	<u>First Across the Rhine</u>	22.00
D4	COLOR Logo 1-1/8"		V50	<u>The Damned Engineers</u>	
	stick-on	10/1.00		(VHS) (BETA)	34.50

November 1991



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

At the September 6 General Membership Meeting, approval was given to a VBOB dues increase. Effective December 1, 1991, annual dues will be increased from \$10.00 to \$15.00. Administrative costs, postage expense, printing, etc., etc., have risen to the point where there was no alternative but to raise dues.

This increase will also allow us to locate BoB veterans who do not know of our existence. We are anxious to reach as many as possible prior to the big 50th Anniversary observances.

**PLEASE CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR DUES ARE DUE--JUST ABOVE THE MAILING LABEL ON THE BACK OF THE BUGLE.**

## UPDATE--BATTLE OF THE BULGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation continues to collect the written materials, both personal and historical, on the experiences of those who served in the Battle of the Bulge. This includes letters, diaries, unit histories, photos, etc. Consideration is being given to the invitation from the United States Military History Institute, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to preserve and catalog these interesting and valuable documents.

The Patrons Fund Plaques, with the names of those who have contributed \$500 or more are on permanent display at the U.S. Army Museum, Fort Meade, Maryland. A small exhibit of Battle of the Bulge artifacts is also available for viewing. The museum is open from 1100 hours to 1600 hours, Wednesday through Saturday and from 1300 hours to 1600 hours on Sunday.

The financial audit of the Foundation is now complete and will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees at the upcoming meeting--after review it will be available for those who are interested.

A slate of officers is now being selected by the nominating committee, with elections to also be held at the next Board Meeting.

At the recent VBOB Reunion, many of you inquired about the annual Foundation Gala. Regrettably, this year, responsibilities created by Desert Storm took precedence over the Gala, and it was not possible to devote the time needed to host this special event for 1991. However, plans are underway for the 1992 Foundation Gala (December

14/15) in conjunction with VBOB's annual wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, December 16.

In the meantime, the Foundation continues to fervently pursue, within the limits of the available resources, the ultimate goal of the Foundation--TO PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE.

Dorothy S. Davis, R.N.  
President, Historical Foundation

## REUNIONS

**78TH INFANTRY DIVISION**, January 25-26, 1992, Sheraton Harbor Place Hotel, Fort Myers, Florida. Contact: Bud Green, 1356 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001. Telephone: 813-997-7929.

**526TH ARMORED INFANTRY BATTALION**, is planning a reunion for 1992. Contact: Will H. Wasson, 5121 Bowden Road, Suite 311, Jacksonville, Florida 32216.

**561ST FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION**, May, 1992, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact: Richard P. Zwislner, 2810 Heidelberg Drive, Boulder, Colorado 80303. Telephone: 303-494-6284.

**607TH QUARTERMASTER GRAVE REGISTRATION COMPANY**, May, 1992, San Antonio, Texas. Contact: John D. Little, Box 63, Kingston, Arkansas 72742. Telephone: 501-665-2602.

**687TH FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION**, September, 1992, Denver, Colorado. Contact: Richard W. Atkins, 8232 East Phillips Place, Englewood, Colorado 80112. Telephone: 303-796-9604.

**738TH TANK BATTALION**, October 2-4, 1992, Defeated Creek, Tennessee. Contact: Harris Kemp, Route 1, Box 251A, Carthage, Tennessee 37030. Telephone: 615-744-3473.



Photo by Sam Silverman

**CHAPTER REPS. AND PRESIDENTS, 10th ANNUAL VBOB REUNION, CHARLESTON, SC.** (Back, L to R) PP William Greenville, Pres. Darrel Kuhn, VP, Chapter Coordination Robert Van Houten, Pres. Delaware Valley, Stan Wojtusik, (Front, L to R) Pres. Northern VA, Dean Fravel, Pres. FL Tom McFadden, Rep. of Golden Gate, Ernest Figueira, Pres. SC "Brick" Worth.

The time not to become a father is eighteen years before a war.

E. B. WHITE





# VETERANS of the BATTLE of the BULGE

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NOVEMBER, 1991



## GET OUT YOUR MAGNIFYING GLASS....

We've set our ideal goal for membership at 15,000 for September 1, 1992. We're almost at **9,000** so we've got a lot of looking to do. **ONLY WITH YOUR HELP WILL WE ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE. SO, SEARCH FOR NEW MEMBERS HIGH AND LOW--WE NEED ALL THE HELP YOU CAN GIVE.**

...KEEP A SHARP EYE OPEN

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☐ New Member ☐ Renewal - Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

All new members, please provide the following information:

Campaigns \_\_\_\_\_

Units(s) to which assigned during period December 16, 1944-January 25, 1945 - Division \_\_\_\_\_

Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ Battalion \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

RECRUITER (Optional)