

# The BULGE BUGLE

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

VOLUME XXX NUMBER 4

THE ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

NOVEMBER 2011



★ **REMEMBRANCE** ★

DECEMBER 14-16, 2011

ARLINGTON

*Be There*

"EVENTS OF REMEMBRANCE & COMMEMORATION"

**Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc.**  
PO Box 27430  
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703-528-4058

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9th Infantry Division  
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www.battleofthebulge.org  
or www.vbob.org

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**J. David Bailey**  
**106<sup>th</sup> Infantry**  
**Division**



What an exceptional 30th Annual Reunion for the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc.! Veterans and Associate members alike remarked about the engaging events that took place during this special gathering. At the General Membership Meeting a message was read by our Secretary from both the President of the United States and the Secretary of Veteran Affairs acknowledging their support of our Reunion and wishing us well. At the Farwell Banquet I honored Lou Cunningham who was in attendance for his continued service to our organization.

It is only fair to say that the Associate Members are taking over more of the responsibilities at VBOB and will continue to do so in the future. Speaking "of our time to come", as reported, we have a committee - The Future of VBOB - chaired by Alan and Lou Cunningham to explore options available to VBOB as the years progress. The committee "simply stated" is planning ahead for our organization.

It is noted that more than 18,000 veterans have belonged to VBOB and have paid dues since the founding of VBOB. Over the past years many of our members have passed away and more are leaving us every day. There are no new Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge to refuel the tank with younger veterans as is the case with the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Disabled American Veterans. So VBOB has to rely strongly on increasing the number of our Associate members.

In this endeavor, a meaningful marketing effort designed to attract "new" Associate members is getting off the ground. Associate Bob Rhodes has undertaken this major responsibility and the task at hand. Individual letter to all Veterans who are regular members will strongly encourage them to approach their offsprings and other family members to join VBOB. Our eventual goal and aspirations are to make the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc. a strong, workable and vibrant organization in years to come. Only through a robust organization can we keep the memory of the Battle of the Bulge alive.

I attended an event on October 28 at the Collingwood Library and Museum in Alexandria, VA relating to the campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army. The speaker presented the current design element for the outdoor Museum including an update on the progress of the Museum campaign, having as its spokesman the Army Historical Society. My attendance reminded me of the recent loss of Major General Bruce Jacobs a member of their Board of Advisors and a close friend of mine.

Being an Associate member of the Veterans Day National Committee of the Department of Veteran Affairs on

November 11, I attended a Veterans Day breakfast at the White House for the committee before participating in the wreath laying ceremonies at the amphitheater of Arlington National Cemetery. Secretary Eric K. Shinseki joined our group and noted that America's Veterans have changed the course of history and have become leaders in our country. Check out the Veterans Day web site [www.va.gov/opa/vetday](http://www.va.gov/opa/vetday). It was determined at our membership meeting in Columbus, Georgia that our 31st annual reunion will be in New Orleans, LA and we now at VBOB are open to suggestions as to what you are interested in seeing while you are there.

As your President I continue to solicit your support and your ideas in the development of projects that will foster a greater awareness of VBOB and the noble purpose for which it was organized. We want to make certain in the future that BOB history remains factual and accurate.

## HAVE YOU SENT YOUR STORY IN?

We would like to have your story. We have received quite a few lately, but the true story of the Battle of the Bulge won't be complete until you submit your recollections. We will use them in the order that they are received.

**ALL STORIES** will  
*be submitted to the*  
**HISTORICAL  
FOUNDATION**

*after they are published to be  
included in their collection.*

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## WELCOME TO VBOB

Due to a clerical error, some new members listed in the August *Bulge Bugle* were actually existing members who had kindly purchased new memberships for someone else. (THANK YOU for enrolling new members!) So we'd like to welcome aboard these additional folks who became new members between April 1 and July 1, 2011:

MARY TOWE	ARVAL J WOODY	MIKE CHILD
MITCH TOWE	CLARENCE O WALLACE	JEFF DAY
JIMMY BELL	RICK MORRIS	GEORGE GRIMES
PEYTON BELL	CLAY BUMPERS	LINDA M HASLETT
ROBERT BELL	NICHOLAS MESSINA	STEVE HOFF
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JAMES STANLEY	DR STERLING ALLEN	LISA RICHARDSON
JOHN F SHALHOUB, JR	ANNA AMICK	ERNEST KIRBY

And welcome aboard to these new members who joined VBOB between July 2 and October 1, 2011:

CHUCK TEMPLE	EDWIN REOCH	CAROL WOOLBRIGHT
MICHAEL BYERLY	RUFUS D AULT	VALLY WYMAN
THOMAS E BECKWITH	JOHN HENDERSON	S. ROGER PUMPHREY
DAVID E NORCOTT	BURT GURSKY	GARY DIMTROFF
CHARLES F VORBACH	J T GUNVALSON	TOM RAY
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REG JANS	IRISH MCMAHON	JAMES HARROW
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SYLVAIN DENEEN	ROBERT H SMITH	SAM HODGES
VINCENT TEUGELS	EVAN CORNS	
YUAN DENEEN	SCOTT RAMSEY	

We certainly are pleased to have you with us and look forward to your participation in helping to perpetuate the legacy of all who served in that epic battle. You can help immediately by:

- Talking to people about VBOB and suggesting that they also join
- Spreading the word about our website
- Sending us articles to be included in the "Bulge Bugle"
- Attending the December event in Washington, D.C.

## THE 12<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY REGIMENT

by Bill Buell, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

I took basic training in early 1941 and we were taught to believe we were in the best platoon of the best regiment of the best division. During the next 4 1/2 years I've always believed that. In July 1941 we were shipped from basic training to the 12th Regiment, soon to join the 4th division which at that time had become the 4th motorized infantry division, a copy of a German Panzer division.

We were all set to go to Africa until they found they did not have enough boats for the vehicles; therefore we stayed home, eventually becoming motorized and the first logistical training unit to ever go to war for the United States. We landed on D-Day at Utah beach, captured Cherbourg, France on June 25, breakout of Normandy July 25. We captured Paris on August 25 and our motor pool was in front of Notre Dame.

We were first to enter Belgium and also Germany and when we went through the Siegfried line we were forced to stop for a few weeks because of a gasoline shortage. On November 7, 1944 the 12th Regiment entered the Huertgan Forest where we were for over one month, the worst month of war for the 12th Regiment, which suffered 1,493 battle casualties and 1,094 non-battle casualties.

On November 8 we ended up in Luxembourg to recoup and rest. On December 15, 1944 I was ordered to be regimental charge of quarter for the night, the only time this happened before or since. The hours went from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. the next morning. All was quiet. About 5 a.m. on December 16 I started to call each battalion to report what was happening, 1st Battalion and 2<sup>nd</sup> were quiet; but the 3rd Battalion all was quiet until just a moment ago when suddenly a lot of shooting and newly started we were checking into it.

This started the Battle of the Bulge about 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. The first correspondent who walked in the 12th infantry headquarters was working for Collier Magazine and his name was Ernest Hemingway in an Army uniform. He had a canteen strapped by his belt but supposedly it never used for water.

### COULD YOU FIND JUST ONE...

...veteran of the Battle of the Bulge?

If every one of our members found just one new member, we'd be in good shape.

Please make the effort to find a new member...we need to increase our membership so that we can finish the work we have begun and educate the public regarding the Battle of the Bulge.

There's so much left to be done and we can do it with your help.

### BOOKS BY VBOBers

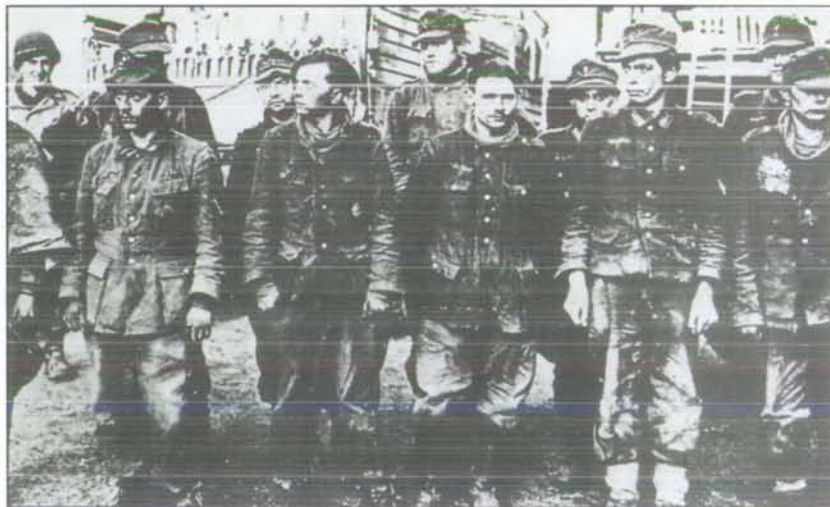
THE BATTLE FOR SNOW MOUNTAIN  
ISBN 978-1-929763-48-1  
Donald J. Young, 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division  
Telephone 408-662-0302

146 ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION – ESSAYONS  
ISBN 978-1-4507-5281-7  
Wesley Ross, 146<sup>th</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion  
5025 Foothills Rd #B  
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

FIRST ACROSS THE RHINE  
ISBN 10: 0760324085  
David Pergrin, 291<sup>st</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion

ENGINEERING THE VICTORY  
ISBN 10: 9780764301636  
David Pergrin, 291<sup>st</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion

FROM FARM TO FIELD  
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Telephone 785-554-9059



A group of dispirited and poorly clad German POW's are paraded by their captors.



# GATEWAY CHAPTER MO. HOSTS RUSSIANS

by Don Korte, Associate

The Gateway Chapter was pleased to have a visit of a number of delegates from the Moscow School of Political Studies at the May meeting. The Russian visitors met with about 25 members to thank them for their service in World War II and hear their recollections of meeting Russian soldiers during the war. To honor V-E Day (May 8), the Russian delegates presented the Chapter with an evergreen tree, which was planted near the Battle of the Bulge Monument and WWII GI Statue in Jefferson Barracks Park a few days later.

The Russian delegates were Ilya V. Savchenko, Timur Botvin, Roman Ryabintsev, Georgy Kaytukov, Magomed Magomedmarov and Natalya Paleeva. The veterans, in return, gave the delegates a copy of our book, "Victory Through Valor: A Collection of World War II Memoirs," and a photo of the Battle of the Bulge Monument and World War II GI Statue. The visit by the Russian group was through the auspices of the University of Missouri-St. Louis' Center for International Studies and coordinated by Professor Jerol Enoch. Photos by August Jennewein/UMSL



Veterans in above photo:

Ray Saul (4th Infantry Division), Dick Cotter (26th Infantry Division), Bernie Schwender (78th Infantry Division), Richard Coyle (28th Infantry Division)  
Billy Stiegemeier (87th Infantry Division), Barney Baker (328th Fighter Control Squadron), President Kent Stephens (26th Infantry Division), Don Green (106th Infantry Division), Clyde Erb (26th Infantry Division), Eugene Ganz (1st Infantry Division), Glen Jarvis (467th AAA AW), Marvin Korte (84th Infantry Division)  
Ralph Forsys (26th Infantry Division), Stanley Gibson (99th Infantry Division)  
Harold Mueller (110th AAA 90MM MBL), Rusty Pendleton (11th Armored Division)



**VBOB 2012 REUNION**  
**NEW ORLEANS - OCTOBER**

*Details in next issue...*



## Chapter 54 Honors CMOH Recipient

Submitted by Al Sussman,  
106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

At the monthly May meeting, of the VBOB Picatinny Arsenal, NJ chapter #54, Nicholas Oresko the oldest living Medal Of Honor Recipient was honored by the chapter. Present at the meeting was the Post's commanding officer, Brigadier General Jonathan A. Maddux to participate in honoring Mr. Oresko.



(from left): Brian Gillen, Chapter President; Nicholas Oresko, CMOH Recipient; BG Jonathan A. Maddux, Commander Picatinny Arsenal; Al Sussman, 106<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division

Nicholas Oresko who is 94 years old and in good spirits and physical condition, lives alone in an assisted living facility since the passing of his wife several years ago. Being 94 hasn't stopped him from driving a large Lincoln sedan and having a lovely lady as a friend of many years. It was inspiring to be present to see a former Master Sergeant who fought in the Battle of the Bulge being honored by his combat comrades. Born in Bayonne, New Jersey on January 18, 1917, Nick Oresko enlisted in the Army and after basic training was sent to Europe in August 1944, two months after the Normandy landings as a platoon leader in Company C, 302<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of the 94<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. In December, his division was deployed in support of other units forced to withdraw in the early days of the Battle of the Bulge. On January 23, 1945, near Tettingen, Germany, Master Sergeant Oresko, platoon leader with Company C, they went in an attack against a strong enemy position.

Deadly automatic fire from the flanks pinned down his unit. Realizing that a machine gun in a nearby bunker must be eliminated, he worked his way ahead alone, braving fire, which struck about him until he was close enough to throw a grenade into the German position. He rushed the bunker and with point blank rifle fire killed those occupants who survived the grenade blast. Another machine gun position opened fire on him, knocking him down and seriously wounding him in the hip.

Refusing to withdraw, he placed himself at the head of his platoon to continue the assault. As withering machine gun and rifle fire swept the area, he struck out alone in advance of his men to a second bunker. With a grenade, he crippled the dug-in machinegun position and then wiped out the troops manning it with his rifle. Although weak from loss of blood, from four wounds, he refused to be evacuated until assured the mission was accomplished. M/Sgt. Oresko killed 12 Germans, preventing a delay in the assault and made it possible for Company C to obtain its objective with minimum casualties.

For his actions, he was presented the Medal of Honor nine months later, on October 30, 1945 by President Harry Truman at the White House.

## CHECKING FOR LICE AT THE B&F

by John P. Mallory Sr.  
75<sup>th</sup> ID, 291<sup>st</sup> IR, Headquarters

America forces on 3 January 1945 launched a giant counter-offensive in the Ardennes. The VII Corp and the XVIII Airborne Corps began their attack in the northern sector of the Bulge. The weather was atrocious. The rifle companies, living in their foxholes, suffered severe frostbite followed by trench foot in many cases. Non-battle casualties equaled or exceeded combat losses. The infantryman's life was truly miserable and filled with almost constant danger.

The 75th Division's 291st RCT, after screening the advance of the 3d Armored and the 83d Division during the big counter attack, next traveled to Creppe-Spa Belgium for a well-earned three-day rest. On our first break day we were taken to a B&F site (Bath and Fumigation). The unit was in an old theatre with a bombed out roof. There we lined up outside, along with a hundred other men waiting for a five minute turn in the shower.

This was the drill. You walked into an unheated room- the temperatures inside and out were about the same, perhaps twenty degrees. You placed your combat boots, helmet liner, knit cap, and overcoat in a basket. You next removed all your remaining clothes and exchanged them for clean ones placing them in the basket with your boots.

**Now naked as a jaybird you lined up with twenty-nine others waiting your turn to enter the shower. You can imagine the ribald comments as the family jewels were displayed in their full splendor.**

I hadn't removed my clothes in close to two months. Each night, before I crawled into my sleeping bag, I took off only my boots and sometimes my socks. I had worn the same two army OD wool shirts and my underwear during that same period. I truly needed a shower. A whistle blew and we entered the shower. Before you moved under your showerhead a GI took his flashlight and searched you for body lice. If you had them, you were given special attention.

Another whistle blew. For two minute you were sprayed with hot water. It stopped and you quickly soaped- the hot water spray began again. Two minutes later the water stopped and you moved into the adjoining room, dried and dressed. We returned to our truck and clambered into an open troop carrier. I pulled out a candy bar and munched on it while we returned to our home away from home.

The shower routine may sound crude-it was. Despite that, few things I have ever done to my body were more satisfying than that shower. To this day, sixty-five years later, I still remember the wonderful, sensuous feeling of the hot water spraying my body. In my memory, I still revel in the smell and feel of those clean clothes worn while we made the return trip to our vacation spot in the Ardennes.

After three days of doing nothing except staying warm, writing letters home, sleeping, and drinking beer in the local Belgium bars, we went back to the war business.



# 514<sup>th</sup> FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION ACHIEVEMENTS

## *A Diary of the European Theatre Operation*

By Roy Rogers

On September 25, the bn boarded HMT Aquitania and left New York on the 27<sup>th</sup>. We anchored in Scotland's Firth of Clyde on October 3. A craft delivered us to Gronouck, Scotland. There we entrained and traveled through most of England to the port of Southampton, where we boarded two passenger-cargo vessels, the Antenor and Llangibby Castle. The ship was delayed until the 8<sup>th</sup> because of rough waters. On the 9<sup>th</sup>, we jammed aboard an LCT which deposited us (D+126) on Utah Red Beach, 85 mi south of Cherbourg, where initial invasion landings were made.

Camp sites were set up in the mud near Montebourg and later Les Pieux. Since equipment was scattered throughout France and the UK, there were no facilities for training during the three months we remained on the Peninsula. During that time, the bn did QM operations and patrolled the beaches against enemy infiltrations from the Channel Islands. Two casualties resulted from the mines during these operations.

The bn proceeded on Dec 18 to 20 to a camp-site near Forges-les-eaux. At this time, the great German offensive had reached its furthest penetration. On Christmas Day, the bn took quarters in hotels in Forges. Then, part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> army, we journeyed to our jumping-off place, Longuyon, France. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of this year, the first elements left for gun positions 6 miles south of Bastogne, Belgium. Baker Btry fired the first round on the afternoon of the 9<sup>th</sup> - three months to the day after reaching France. Our guns were the farthest advanced of any unit of its type in this sector. In the remainder of January, the guns fired 6212 projectiles on observed and unobserved targets. Most of these rounds were expended in the Battle of the Bulge or the Ardennes Battle as it has since been officially named. It is emphasized that we were lacking in supplies but despite this, bad weather and an enemy in its dying convulsions, we showed as well as could be expected. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> we motored into Luxembourg and took positions near Winorange and subsequently Clerveau and Munshausen. For the first time the 514 hit the enemy in their homeland and had successfully straightened out the bulge, and from all practical aspects, helped eliminate it.

The first phase of Feb operations was defensive. From the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> we supported the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> corps. Gun positions were opposite the toughest section of the Siegfried Line and far enough forward to be flanked by pack 75. The second phase which consumed the remainder of February was offensive and in support of the 8<sup>th</sup> Corps. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> we made our initial entry into Germany through the dragon's teeth and pillboxes of the Siegfried Line, Heckhusheid.

During the month the bn fired 220 missions expended 4874 rounds on such targets as enemy guns, personnel, towns, tanks, CPs, etc. Three German soldiers surrendered to bn personnel.

In the early days of March the 514 aided some of the best elements of the AEF in the breakthrough that carried them to the Rhine River. Before we left Germany on the 10<sup>th</sup>, we had established CPs in Matserath, Niederhershof and Budesheim. Then we moved by motor column through Luxembourg City, past Metz, went in to position at Ettendorf, Engweiler, Steinseltz and moved into Germany at Oberotterbach. Later, under the command of the 7<sup>th</sup> Army, we pushed the enemy from the Wissembourg area in France and proceeded by way

of Kaiserlautern to positions near Abenheim in the Worms area. Here we aided in the important Rhine crossings. From there we proceeded to an area outside of Frankenthal where the 514<sup>th</sup> participated in the reduction of the Mannheim Pocket. In this month, the bn occupied 15 CPs and 9 gun positions which carried us from the vicinity of Prum, Germany to Haguenau, France, and to Worms, Germany - a distance of nearly 470 road miles. On one march of 190 miles we arrived 10 minutes ahead of schedule. The guns fired over 6000 rounds and 25 prisoners were captured.

April was an interesting month. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> guns and equipment arrived at Reding, near Saarbourg for entrainment while a motor convoy proceeded on a 600 mile trip to Cognac, France, via Belfort, Autun, Lotheiers, Chateauroux and Angouleme. The train left on the 4<sup>th</sup> and arrived at Cognac on the 6<sup>th</sup>. A short motor trip brought us to positions close to Biron and in vicinity of Pons. Our specific mission there was to eliminate the German pockets along the Gironde Estuary where the last of the enemy in France was nullifying Bordeaux's value as a port of a starving nation.

At the beginning of this campaign, we were assigned to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army, but soon transferred to the 6<sup>th</sup> Army Group and were directed by the veteran 13<sup>th</sup> FA brigade of the 7<sup>th</sup> Army and the French Army Detachment of the Atlantic. Temporarily attached to the bn was the French Marine 'Albatross' battery. The type of forces in this operation made it an unusual one. There were French marines, North Africans, FFI French marquis, Martinique French Negroes, Regular French Army and American troops. The 514<sup>th</sup> was one of the four American Field Artillery battalions in this battle. In our fastest firing of the war, we hurled 1800 rounds into the pocket in a 24 hour period. To get in a better position to hit the Jerries that had been forced onto Pont la Grave, our guns moved into direct range. The enemy was able to observe our registering gun and fired six rounds into its position. Fortunately, however, several of the shells were duds. The extent of the damage - not great and there were no casualties. Resistance ended after we fired on Royan and the lie d'Oleron from positions near Hiers. In this April action, the 514<sup>th</sup> fired almost 6300 rapid rounds which made replacement of tubes on seven guns necessary.

All units of the Brigade assembled near Saintes for preparation to depart. The departure took place May 5 and 6. The Members of the battalion who were on box cars learned of VE Day while in Nancy, France. Those on the motor convoy first heard the news while in Catteauroux, France. The train-born group joined the remainder of the battalion at a Brigade rendezvous area near Ottoingen, German, after detraining at Strasbourg, France. The final move to this date was made to Nordlingen - arrival being May 17, 1945.

Approximately 23,400 rounds expended on enemy artillery, enemy flak batteries, vehicles, personnel, smoke screens, towns, command posts, pill-boxes, ranks, observation posts; by observed and unobserved fire through sound, flash, ground and air observation in the Battle of the Ardennes, the Battle of the Rhineland, the Battle for Central Germany, and the Gironde Campaign - the accomplishments of the 514<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion in the European Theatre of Operations during World War II.

**Editor's Note: At this writing official battle participation credit has not been received.**



# A CLOSE CALL

By Don Addor, 10<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, 20<sup>th</sup> AIB, HQ

This was our second night in the crossroad town of Noville, Belgium. I had been sent here with Team Desobry to hold the town from the Germans at "any or all costs", while the defenses for Bastogne were being set up.

I and three buddies serving in the 20th AIB Headquarters of the 10th Armored Division were told to stand by with the major's half tract in a three story old stone house on the corner of the main intersection in the town. The house was built on a slope so that in the back the first floor was at ground level, but in the front was one story up looking out over the "main street."

This gave us a great view of the row of stone houses across the street, but beyond that the fog was too heavy to see anything. During the day we had taken quite a pounding from the enemy's artillery and tank fire. The row of buildings and barns out front had been hit so often that only the burned shell remained by nightfall.

I should say here that we had chosen to sleep in a small vegetable cellar that made for lumpy, but safe sleeping as the thick stone walls were under ground. Now there were nice double beds up stairs in this house. They even had clean sheets and blankets on them. Who ever had lived here had left in one big hurry as there was even a nice dinner laid out on the dining room table.

That night I had volunteered for the first shift of guard duty. The rest of the guys went down in to the vegetable cellar and their sleeping bags laid out on a large turnip bin and the cobble stone floor. Not very comfortable but safe!

I pulled a big overstuffed easy chair over in front of the big window facing the row of burning houses across the street. I was far enough back that I could not be seen. We had a sniper some place in town. However, I had a great view of the foggy, misty night outside. I thought it was kind of like watching a big movie screen from a seat in the balcony.

The houses out there reminded me of huge jack-o-lanterns lit up by the flames inside. The fires reflected on the wet cobblestone street making an eerie and haunting sight. There were several vehicles also burning at the side of the street to add their bit to the dancing reflection from the houses. The house across from where I was seated was a burned out shell, but flames still leaped from the debris that had fallen to the first floor. The entire roof was gone, leaving two stone peaks facing me. The peak closest to me had a few layers of stone missing and laying in the street below. The point of the rear peak was complete right to its pointed end.

The whole scene seemed unreal, but an occasional burst of gunfire and a shell exploding some where not too far away, reminded me that this was the real thing, not a Hollywood set. As I gazed out the window mesmerized by the flames a shell hit the rear peak and blew it away.

Almost simultaneously these thought ran through my mind: Wow!; If that peak had not been there the shell would have landed in my lap; they hardly ever sent just one shell at a time. I leaped out of my comfy chair and headed for the safety of the root cellar.

About eight feet from the cellar's door I hear that second shell tear through the stone outer wall and come crashing across the floor above me. I took a dive and entered the storage room head first plowing down about 12 wooden steps. When I hit the floor ever one was awake. The shell had not exploded, but still had made a lot of noise crashing across the floor and through the furniture.

We all hunkered down with fingers cross waiting for the explosion. We waited and waited, but none came. We thought that maybe the shell had a proximity or time fuse so no one ventured out of our little "bunker" until daylight. By then we were fairly sure that there would be no explosion, but wondered what the Hell had happened. With the sun shining through the windows up stairs things did not seem so grim. Actually it wasn't sunshine we saw, just its light that had filtered through the still dense fog. Ever thing was alright in the living and dining room. I told Sarge that the shell had come through the wall upstairs. I added that as I was sliding across the floor on my nose. I could hear it smashing things above me.

I volunteered to go up and take a look. Sarge said that he would come with me. When we looked into the front bedroom we saw a mess. There was a shell-shaped hole cut right through the stonewall jus a few inches above the floor. A small table and a chair lay in splinters. The big bed had been split right down the middle and there it was buried halfway into the interior wall.

We gave it a good looking over, but didn't touch anything. We also put our ears close to it, but could hear no ticking sound or anything else. Even though it looked mean and nasty stuck in that wall, we both came to the conclusion that it was a genuine dud. We had been getting a lot of them lately.

Sarge and I went back down and told the guys what had happened and that there seemed to be nothing to worry about, at least from that shell. We did not stay in Noville much longer, but I never sat in that chair in front of that window again.



A TOMB FOR THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER?  
NONSENSE, WE KNOW WHO ALL OUR  
SOLDIERS ARE."

Never tell the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.  
- Unknown Marine Recruit-



## TO BE A PRISONER OF WAR

by James Gardner, 106<sup>th</sup> ID, 422<sup>nd</sup> IR, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn, Hdqtrs



To be a prisoner of war is to know hunger. I am not talking about the hunger you feel when you miss your lunch or when you can not stand your diet. I am talking about hunger from the lack of solid food for weeks and months. Hunger that gnaws at your vital organs and strips the flesh from your bones. Hunger that forces you to eat anything and everything available...black stale bread made from sawdust, watery soup infested with worms and made from garbage, rotten potatoes and turnips dug from the muddy fields, and, if you are lucky, hot water to wash it all down.

To be a prisoner of war is to experience cold. Not the cold, blustery Minnesota winter when you wish you had worn your gloves. I am talking about standing for hours in soup lines in freezing weather pelted by sleet, feet numb and fingers nearly frozen. You are sick, your body is racked by uncontrollable shivering and your mind is a mask of pain. Dysentery knots your stomach, adding to the misery- You begin to wonder if death is far away. It never comes...it merely teases you.

To be a prisoner of war is to experience fear. Nameless terror as you lie packed into a railroad box car, doors locked and barred, while attacking aircraft bomb and strafe and not knowing if you will be blown to bits the next second. The terrible fear of catching a horrible disease that runs rampant throughout the camp and no medicine or strength to fight back. The fear that you might never again be free...

To be a prisoner of war is to experience anger and deep depression. Anger knowing that your enemy counterparts, imprisoned in the United States, are well fed and clothed. Thoughts of family and home lock your mind in bottomless depression and is perhaps the crudest torture. Anger at your captors and wishing for their death.

To be a prisoner of war is to suffer the agony of rehabilitation in a suddenly alien world. It is the frustration of trying to cope and fit into a society that seems foreign and unable to relate to your experiences. It is the resentment you immediately feel for those who have never felt what you have, seen what you have and whose personal problems pale by comparison. It is the recurring nightmares that will plague you for the rest of your days. It is the nagging question, "What was it all for?" What good did it do? Who cares?

Perhaps there was a purpose. Perhaps the ex-POW has a clearer perspective of what is real and who is genuine. Perhaps he understands what is really important in life.

## HOW I SPENT CHRISTMAS DAY 1944

by Charles Hunt, 253<sup>rd</sup> Armored Field Artillery Bn

As I look back to Christmas Day 1944, I can remember it like it was yesterday. My battalion, the 253<sup>rd</sup> Armored Field Artillery Battalion, was sitting at the Rhine River waiting for a bridge to be finished so we could cross. The Germans had broken through at Bastogne, and Patton had volunteered us to go and contain them. Captain Keyes came out and asked if I could get the blackout lights burning on all the vehicles. I looked at him and said, "Are you kidding?"

"No!" he said. "Do what you can because we are going to make a 200-mile march tonight." We had good air coverage and identification banners on all our vehicles. We made the march without much trouble.

The farther north we went, the colder it was. At Hobbo La ville it was ten degrees below zero. We immediately started to unload the gas and ammo away from the vehicles. Just as we finished, Bed-Check Charlie strafed us and set the gas on fire. We spent the rest of the night containing it. Tragically Sergeant Maples was killed.

After that, we were assigned to homes of the Belgian people. My section was assigned to Grandpa and Grandma Klopes and their grandson. I went into their house, and the old man could speak a bit of broken English. Grandma immediately spied me and saw that I was wrapped in an old filthy blanket. She asked me if I had a change of clothes. I told her, "Yes," and she offered to wash my clothes and provide me a tub of hot water. I went and got my clothes and a bar of the lye soap that every GI knows about. Mrs. Klopes fell in love with that soap, and nothing would do but she washed my back.

The next morning, Christmas Day 1944, a truck came by and threw out a frozen turkey and all the trimmings. Mrs. Klopes' eyes were as big as silver dollars. We agreed that she would cook the dinner as long as they would eat with us. It was the best meal I had had since I left the states.

The next morning, the old man wanted a "boom-boom." He wanted a gun, but all I had was a Thompson sub-machine gun. He did not want that, and I did not want him to have it either. I did remember about an old carbine we had. We took it and went to look for a deer we could kill. We never saw deer, and I realized we were getting close to the German line. I was scared to death. As we were going back to their house, we ran into the biggest jack rabbit I had ever seen. Of course, I shot at it but missed it completely. The old man asked me for the "boom-boom," and I gave it to him. His shot was much better than mine, and we had rabbit and apple strudel that night for supper.

The next morning we jumped off and went to Bastogne, and I did not get to say goodbye to the Klopes. To this day, that missed goodbye has bothered me my whole life. During this campaign, I froze my feet and my hands causing nerve damage, and I am now on a walker. I wonder how my life would have been different if I had kept my feet and hands warm and dry.

*P.S. If there is anyone in this outfit who has the same thing I have, please write and tell me what you are doing for it*



# Walter Reed Closure Ends an Era

For more than 100 years, this revered Army hospital treated hundreds of thousands of U.S. wounded. Though its doors have closed, its name lives on.

BY JANIE BLANKENSHIP

WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER in Washington, D.C., shut its doors permanently in August. Rich in history, presidents such as Warren Harding, Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon were all patients there. Winston Churchill and other foreign heads of state also were treated there over the years.

Throughout the past 10 years, wounded warriors of Iraq and Afghanistan have received the highest level of care at this famed hospital named for Army Maj. Walter Reed. Reed led the efforts on Cuba in 1900 to identify the mosquito as the carrier of yellow fever.

Opened to 10 patients on May 1, 1909, the Army hospital had been slated to close since 2005. It's part of the effort to consolidate military bases nationwide on the recommendation of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

"Walter Reed has sort of been like a safe place for soldiers for so long," Sgt. Sean Patterson, whose buddies recovered there after being wounded in Iraq in 2003, told the *Los Angeles Times*. "When the worst that can possibly happen to a soldier happens, Walter Reed is the place that a soldier goes to for the best that can happen to a soldier. So seeing this close is—it's an end of an era."

Some of the 72 buildings on the 113-acre complex were turned over to the District of Columbia in September for commercial development and housing. Other buildings will go to the State Department.

The hospital's staff of 5,000 will be divided between the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., which will be renamed the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, and the newly completed Fort Belvoir



PHOTO COURTESY WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER

## Caring for GIs Since World War I

Here are important dates in the hospital's more than 100-year history.

- 1909:** Walter Reed General Hospital opens with 80 beds. It is named for Army Maj. Walter Reed, who proved mosquitoes carry yellow fever and developed protective practices to prevent it.
- 1914-18:** Capacity grows to 2,500 beds during WWI.
- 1951:** Hospital is renamed Walter Reed Army Medical Center on the 100th anniversary of Reed's birth.
- 1969:** Former President Dwight Eisenhower dies there.
- 1977:** A new main building is dedicated.
- 2007:** Some 14,000 patients are admitted annually. The \$10 million Military Amputee Training Center opens in October.
- 2011:** Hospital shutters its doors after more than 100 years.

Source: USA Today

Community Hospital in Virginia.

The hospital will be operated under a "joint" medical command and not fall directly under any single service. It will have 345 beds, space for 50 patients in intensive care units and 20 operating rooms. The Fort Belvoir hospital will hold 120 beds, 10 beds for intensive care patients and 10 operating rooms.

According to John Pierce, historian of the Walter Reed Society and former physician there, the number of soldiers in the medical holding company, which provides administrative support, went from 100 in 1998 to 900 by 2007.

In the summer months when fighting seems to peak, about 20 wounded troops from Iraq and Afghanistan are evacuated to Walter Reed every week. Nevertheless, military officials are confident in the restructuring.

Maj. Gen. Carla Hawley-Bowland, the final commander of Walter Reed, told the *New York Times* that treatment has improved greatly over the past 20 years. It requires less inpatient care, but more outpatient capacity, which is why this move was necessary.

"Walter Reed National Military Medical Center will be the military's largest medical center, so it will concentrate on tertiary and sub-specialty care, very expert kinds of care," Vice Adm. John Mateczun, commander of Joint Task Force National Capitol Region Medical, told *Military Times*.

During the July 27 ceremonial closing in which the hospital's flags were cased, sentiments were often bittersweet.

"If you go any place in the world, and you speak to people who are in the military, even people who can't speak English, and you say the words 'Walter Reed,' that's all you need to say because they instantly understand what you're talking about," Col. Novell Coots, commander of the Walter Reed Healthcare System, told the *Los Angeles Times*.

Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh expressed a similar view. "These doors may close and the address may change," he said, "but the name, the legacy and, most important, the work and healing will endure."

Hawley-Bowland agreed: "This place carries a lot of memories. My folks will take Walter Reed's legacy with them." ☛

E-mail jblankenship@vfw.org



# A CHRISTMAS I WILL NEVER FORGET

by Donald Hahn, 28<sup>th</sup> ID, 112<sup>th</sup> IR

Prior to the start of the Battle of the Bulge we were in a holding position next to the Seigfried line. We were there for a couple weeks because intelligence figured the war would be over by Christmas. On the morning of the 16th a company of Germans attacked us and after a firefight they gave up.

Over on the next hill German tanks were in a clearing but they couldn't get to us because there was a river between us. They were shelling the hell out of us and we were surrounded for two days. On the second night we fought our way out and left our wounded and dead behind. From then on it was hold, fight and retreat. The night before Christmas we ended up in a pine forest; no snow yet but everything was very cold and we had nothing to eat for couple of days.

The next day, Christmas, we retook a Belgian town and stayed in some of the houses. There was an infantry unit nearby but all they could spare in food was turkey and pineapple. The next few days were fight and retreat. One night they moved us into the edge of this large town. It was awful cold and some stayed on guard while the rest of us went into a house where there was a fire. Again we had no food for a

couple days. A Belgian woman came down into the room and motioned to us if we were hungry so she bought potatoes and carrots we helped her and she made a stew for us.

The next morning they relieved us and we dug in on a hill overlooking the town. The 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division was moving out and we wondered what was going on. We could see in the distance German tanks coming but as soon as the last 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division tanks went over they blew the bridge. That was the first day of sunshine and American planes came out so we could watch the dog fights, it was quite a sight.

That was the only time we had armored artillery make a direct hit on a foxhole; nothing left of the poor soldier. After a few days we started to take back some ground. We went over a river, which was frozen and all day long we fought in a snowstorm and suffered lots of wounded.

I don't remember the name of the town but the Germans had killed all the people in their houses we stayed one night and next night they brought in a regiment of the 106th Infantry Division.

We left there after spending the night and in the morning trucks were waiting for us to load up. They drove all day and night until the morning and were back in France. We boarded box cars and they shipped us to the Voges mountains.

## LOOKING FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE BULGE

My name is Mike Smeets, 40 years of age and a (spare-time) historical researcher from the Netherlands. For many years already I have been studying the actions of the infamous Battle group Peiper and its US adversaries during the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944 - Jan. 1945. I have had the privilege to receive the support of many veterans from both sides, as well as civilian time-witnesses. I also visited the battlefield(s) numerous times as I live only about one hour drive by car from where it all happened. I heard and read the stories of courage, duress and horror and every time became more convinced that these stories should be preserved for the future and the sacrifices not forgotten.

I also adopted two graves at the US War cemetery at Henri-Chapelle, BE and visit them as often as possible. Although during the last few years several books were published who deal with the Northern front of the Bulge, it still is a somewhat forgotten chapter. For many Americans and Europeans Bastogne still stands synonymous for the US victory at the Bulge. In fact - the German push in the Northern sector was the most important one!! Krinkelt/Rocherath, Bullingen, Dom Butgenbach, Stavelot, La Gleize and Stoumont are only a few names where heavy battles to place and many lives lost!

I am aware that there are other researchers and authors who are also keeping the history alive and preserved for future generations. Please contact me if you can supply information about the battle at the above mentioned towns and villages against the German 1st and 12th SS Panzer divisions (also including the fights against these divisions in the southern sector at Lutrebois/Lutremagne/Losagne/Remonfosse/Saiwet and Hill 535). It would be very much appreciated!

Mike Smeets, Akkerwinde 27  
6374 RD Landgraaf, THE NETHERLANDS

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General Skorzeny in the Battle of the Bulge gave his infiltrators this advice on how to imitate an American:

1. slouch
2. chew gum
3. relax against the wall
4. say, "Go lay an egg" "So's your old man buddy"  
"Go crap in your hat"

-Ardennes: The Secret War



## MILITARY PROBLEMS

by Hal O'Neill, 83<sup>rd</sup> Signal Bn

The stories of military foul-ups are legion. The Army way often lacked common sense. It began in the induction centers with ill-fitting uniforms and assignments to jobs unrelated to civilian skills. The man who had been a restaurant cook for five years was made a motor mechanic; a civilian radio operator was sent to cooking school, etc. The Army In Europe continued this proud American tradition.

1. We were issued finger gloves within which fingers stiffened and lost feeling. Solution - we traded cigarettes with German prisoners for their fur lined mittens with a trigger finger.
2. Jeeps and trucks lacked heaters. Solution - cut a hole in the firewall and put a pipe on the exhaust manifold. You cooked one foot at a time to the smell of hot iron.
3. We were issued short mackinac coats because all Signalmen climb telephone poles. We hardly ever climbed poles in combat areas and when we did we did not wear bulky coats. Solution - we borrowed long overcoats from those who no longer needed them - the dead.
4. There were no scarves or face protection for drivers in open cabs or jeeps. Solution - some used towels, a stretch sock, cut up blankets or had some local girl knit something.
5. Army issue boots got wet, encouraged trench foot and were so cold you could not feel your feet. This was especially distressing when trying to brake a truck. Solution - by using boots several sizes too large and then wearing three pairs of socks your feet stayed warmer

## ON PATROL IN EUROPE

by Gilbert Troxell, 28<sup>th</sup> IN, 112<sup>th</sup> IR

When I went overseas, I joined the 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division somewhere in France. I was in Company F, Second Battalion, 112<sup>th</sup> Infantry. We were in Luxemburg on December 16, 1944 when the Battle of the Bulge broke loose. We went through the Battle of the Bulge. It ended January 25, 1945. After that they pulled us back near Colmar, France.

One night, about 1:00 in the morning, they sent us out to make contact with another outfit about a quarter of a mile away. They wanted us to see if the enemy was penetrating through. We made contact with the outfit and were on our way back when we met a German patrol.

The Germans walked within four feet of us. We had our rifles on them, and they had their rifles on us. Nobody fired a shot. The Germans went on, and we got up and went back to our outfit.

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, I got wounded. They got me to the hospital on February 1<sup>st</sup>. I stayed in the hospital about forty days before they returned me to my outfit. The sergeant and a lot of my buddies had already moved on.

longer. I cut up parachute nylon as a foot wrap held in place by wool socks and a large pair of galoshes - a homemade muk-luk. Silk or nylon was very warm and dried quickly. We found real silk underwear, in abandoned houses. Some G.I.'s dried socks using armpit warmth.

6. We were issued sleeping bags made of one blanket thickness. Solution - most of us sewed additional blankets around the bag. I put a layer of rabbit fur between two blankets, but there were problems. - it tended to bunch up and I kept shedding rabbit hairs all day from my clothing - we slept dressed. A lucky few borrowed, stole or bought down sleeping bags from Artillery spotters. They were the best.
7. The wooden tent pegs issued for pup tents and larger tents often split. Solution - we picked up German aluminum tent pegs - if bent, they could be straightened.
8. Heating food was a problem - especially the K-rations or Ten in One's. Solution - we heated some on engine blocks, tarning Remember to puncture the cans before heating or they can explode and make the engine smell for days. Others used a can of sand or pebbles soaked in gasoline, others used a wood fire or the coal stoves in abandoned houses. Cans were boiled in a helmet of water. Note - Do not puncture cans.
- 9 Keeping warm - Many wore long Johns, itch or not, two wool shirts, two wool pants, wool or fur caps and a face protector made from towels or blankets. Note - Wool even wet has warmth. We had too many unnecessary cases of trench foot and frostbite because of inadequate Army clothing.
10. And lots more.

## LIBERATORS OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS

I work for March of the Living, an organization, which every April brings thousands of high school and college students as well as Holocaust survivors from all over the world to Poland to commemorate the Holocaust. In 2012, we hope to bring some concentration camp liberators to Poland as well.

Many veterans of the Battle of the Bulge went on to Germany and were involved in the liberation of concentration camps.

If you are interested in learning more about this please contact me.

David Widawsky  
March of the Living  
2 West 45th Street, Suite 1500  
New York, NY 10036  
917-294-9791  
[davidw@motlmail.org](mailto:davidw@motlmail.org)  
[www.motl.org](http://www.motl.org)

"Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword, obviously never encountered automatic weapons."

- General MacArthur -



## WE NEED YOUR STORIES NOW!

There are many different types of information in the Bulge Bugle, but the most important are the stories submitted by the veterans. These stories provide insight to the non-veteran of the horror of war and it is important that these stories continue to be told to perpetuate the legacy of all who served in that horrific battle.

Since 1988 the Bulge Bugle has been published four times each year; however currently, we do not have enough material to publish four issues next year. Over the years more than 700 veterans have submitted their story and in several cases veterans have submitted more than one story. Our current membership includes about 4000 veterans and associate members so there are plenty of stories out there. Associate members are encouraged to submit stories about relatives, friends or people they know who fought in the battle.

If we receive a story from just 10% of our membership we will have enough material to publish four issues per year for many years. When a car runs out of gas it stops; when we run out of stories, publishing the Bulge Bugle stops.

Send the stories to:

**VBOB**

**PO Box 336**

**Blue Bell, PA 19422**

**BULGE  
VETERANS  
WANTED**

We are looking for Battle of the Bulge Survivors living in Southern California who may be interested in taking part in a symposium in San Diego next February. The symposium is sponsored by the History Channel and other groups that are promoting public awareness and participation in the observance of the new national day of remembrance, honoring the World War II generation. Visit the web site:  
[www.Spiritof45.org](http://www.Spiritof45.org)

## ONE OF MANY BATTLES

by Harry Loveless, 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division  
submitted by Marie Loveless

We were the engineer platoon and assigned to the point of the combat command and bivouacked just behind the lead elements Army Infantry and a Company of Tanks.

Our orders were to report to the point commander at the designated hour to fall in column in our proper place. All this is important because of what happened later. As usual with a top notch platoon we came over the hill as the tanks in bivouac were warming up preparing to cross the line of departure at their assigned hour, minute, second.

As we came over the hilltop exposed to fire along a straight downward sloping road a single gun, a 88 opened fire on us. The first round hit about 10 feet of my jeep and miraculously did no damage. The second hit was your half track. Obviously the German gunners knew they would only be able to get two or three rounds off, so they mentally at least pre-set the elevation knobs and before they knew if the first round hit its mark set their sights for the second.

It hardly seems possible that men can react so fast but that is exactly what the gunners in our tanks did. We leaped off of the jeep and rushed back to you people and could see the tankers guns being leveled at the spot where the shots seemed to come from.

Before the third round could be fired, our tanks had fired. It silenced the gun. In fact when we did jump off, after a short delay we had destroyed the gun. I never did see the gunners or know if they survived. Perhaps they were German stragglers who knew they would have to abandon the gun anyway, so they wanted to take one or two shots at us. I do not know.

General Sylvester came up quickly that morning as soon as he heard the firing. Perhaps, someone was asleep at the switch without a scout out to detect someone in the woods at the bottom of the hill. It was certainly unexpected and I doubt it would have happened a week later. Or, perhaps it was just one of those unexpected things that happen in war that you cannot prepare for, the road is cleared and someone slips in behind. But I was mighty impressed that morning with how fast those tank gunners hopped into action and how accurate their firing.

The track and your squad were replaced several days later. The new track happened to have a fifty caliber machine gun aboard, which we welcomed heartily. But nothing could replace you people. The platoon was never the same after that.

Contact:

Mr. Robert Corpus,  
History San Jose,  
1650 Senter Road,  
San Jose, CA 95112  
Telephone 408-887-3311  
[robertjcorpus@gmail.com](mailto:robertjcorpus@gmail.com)



## THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE HISTORICAL FOUNDATION, INC.

*Invites You to Join Your Friends for the*

### **"EVENTS OF REMEMBRANCE AND COMMEMORATION" OF THE 67<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE December 14, 15 and 16, 2011 Metropolitan Washington, DC**

The Belgium Ambassador and Mrs. Matthysen have invited us again to their residence, on Thursday, 15 December 2011, from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, for their wonderful reception. As a result we will hold our annual Commemoration Banquet, on Friday evening, 16 December 2011, between 6:00 and 10:00 PM. Our speaker for the Banquet will be Major General Wendel, the new commander of First US Army Division East, headquartered at Ft Meade MD. We are also planning a bus trip on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, to Ft Meade MD to the NSA Cryptologic Museum, our Battle of the Bulge Conference Room and lunch at Club Meade. We will also lay a wreath at the MD/DC Memorial by the Museum at Ft Meade. The DoubleTree Hotel Crystal City by Hilton, 300 Army-Navy Drive, in Arlington VA22202 has been selected again, with its panoramic view of our Nation's Capital. This hotel, just off Route 1 in Crystal City is a 7 minute drive from Reagan National Airport and a 2 City block walk to the Pentagon City Metro Station and the Pentagon Mall. It provides easy access to Washington DC and underwent a major renovation in 2006 for great accommodations. **We have managed to retain the reduced rate of \$99.00, single or double occupancy plus taxes, as well as food prices. We have blocked 20 rooms so it is imperative to make hotel reservations immediately.** Parking is Complimentary. This rate is available for any night(s) between December 12 and December 18. For room reservations, please call the DoubleTree Reservations (1-800-Hiltons) or 703-416-4100 by **December 1, 2011.** Mention the **BATTLE OF THE BULGE** for this special rate.

#### **•WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011**

- 2:00 PM – 9:00 PM Registration & Hospitality Room open - Harrison Room - Receive name badges, Parking Passes, Banquet/bus tickets. (If you are only attending the Banquet, (on the 16<sup>th</sup> this year) you may pick up your tickets at the DoubleTree by 6:00 PM Dec 16<sup>th</sup>.)
- 3:00 PM – 10:00 PM Hospitality Room/Exhibits, Books, scrapbooks, memorabilia open everyday. John Bowen, BOB Vice-Pres will be the host. Marty Feldman will again be in charge of refreshments. Supper will be on your own.
- 6:00 PM We will be having our traditional **Tree Trimming Ceremony** "Salute to Bulge Veterans" in the Harrison Hospitality Room
- 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM By special request we will offer a **bus tour of "Washington under the Lites,"** provided we have thirty people who would like to do it. Washington is beautiful at nite and especially with the various Holiday lites. We will make a night stop at the WWII Memorial Bus. The bus will leave promptly at 7:00 PM off of the North Tower-Lower Lobby and return by 9:00 PM.

#### **•THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2011**

- 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM Load buses and depart promptly at 9:00 AM for Fort Meade MD from North Tower Lower Lobby.
- 10:00 AM We will first visit the outstanding **Cryptologic Museum**, outside the gates of the National Security Agency at Ft Meade MD, where we will have a guided tour of the facility. This is the first and only public museum in the Intelligence Community, and because of the intelligence failure during the Bulge it will have particular interest to Bulge veterans. We will take a peek into the secret world of codemaking and codebreaking and view the German Enigma machines that the Allies were able to crack during WWII.
- 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM **Buffet lunch at Club Meade**, former Ft Meade Officer's Club.
- 1:00 PM - 1:30 PM **Wreath laying** at the MD/DC VBOB Memorial outside the Ft Meade Museum
- 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM Break into groups of 25 and alternate between the **Battle of the Bulge Conference Room** and the **Ft Meade Museum**. The BOB Conference Room has the beautiful handcrafted conference table & chairs from the oak of the Ardennes Forest. The patches for the 12<sup>th</sup> Army Group, First & Third Armies, Corps, Infantry, Airborne and Armored Divisions that fought in the Bulge are inlaid in the top of the table.
- 2:30 PM Return to DoubleTree Hotel to rest and prepare for our visit to the Belgium Ambassador's Residence
- 5:45 PM – 8:30 PM Bus departs at 5:45 PM for **Reception** at beautiful Belgium Ambassador's Residence from 6:30 – 8:30 PM

#### **•FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2011**

- 8:45 AM - 12:30PM Bus loads 8:45 AM leaves Hotel promptly at 9:00 AM for **Wreath layings** at World War II Memorial, large VBOB Memorial, and Tomb of the Unknowns and changing of the Guard.
- 12:30 PM Return to DoubleTree Hotel for annual **VBOB Luncheon** in Windows Over Washington.
- 1:00 PM **Lunch** of hot soup, Grilled Chicken or Smoked Turkey sandwich, beverage and cookies.
- 5:00 PM **Swearing-in** of new National VBOB officers for 2012.
- 5:00 PM Hospitality Room Closed till after Banquet.
- 6:00 – 10:00 **BANQUET AT THE DOUBLETREE CRYSTAL CITY HOTEL COMMONWEALTH ROOM.**
- 6:00 PM Social Hour/Cash Bar. Seated for Dinner at 6:45 PM.
- 7:00 PM Color Guard & Honors.
- 7:15 PM Dinner served: *Apple Brandy Pork Tenderloin OR Chicken Florentine*
- Program: Greetings from Dignitaries, Person of Year Award, Speaker BG Arthur B Morrill III
- Hospitality Room open

Notes: Free Airport shuttle provided by the DoubleTree Hotel every half hour, 3 miles from Reagan Washington National Airport.  
Free Shuttle from DoubleTree Hotel every hour on the half hour to METRO: Pentagon City (Blue/Yellow Line) and to Pentagon City Mall.  
Skydome Lounge, the area's only revolving rooftop lounge, for a spectacular view of Washington at night. 09/16/11



**RESERVATION FORM**  
**"REMEMBRANCE AND COMMEMORATION"**  
**OF THE 67th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE**  
**December 14, 15, and 16, 2011 Metropolitan Washington, DC**

Return form and check by December 7, 2011 to:  
 Battle of the Bulge Historical Foundation, Inc.  
 PO Box 2516,  
 Kensington MD 20895-0181

Questions:  
 John D. Bowen, 301-384-6533  
 E-Mail: [johndbowen@earthlink.net](mailto:johndbowen@earthlink.net)

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

Name of Spouse/Guests: \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Battle of Bulge Unit You Served With: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a WWII Pictures to send us?

<u>RESERVATIONS:</u>	<u>Number Attending</u>	<u>Cost/Person</u> <small>If you haven't before?</small>	<u>Total</u>
Registration Fee: Provides for Badges, Programs, Hospitality, etc.	_____ X	\$20.00	\$ _____

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011**

6:00 PM	Tree Trimming Ceremony Harrison Room	_____ X	FREE	
7:00 - 9:00 PM	Bus Tour "Washington Under the Lites"	_____ X	\$25.00	\$ _____

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2011:**

Chartered Bus: All Day & Evening Bus Transportation	_____ X	\$35.00	\$ _____
Only Evening Transportation to/from Amb Recept	_____ X	\$20.00	\$ _____
09:00 AM	Bus Leaves for Ft Meade		
10:00 AM	Cryptologic Museum	_____ X	FREE
12:00 PM	Buffet Lunch Club Meade	_____ X	\$15.00
1:00 PM	Wreath Laying MD/DC Monument	_____ X	FREE
1:30 PM	BOB Conf Room/Ft Meade Museum	_____ X	FREE
5:45 PM	Lv for Belgium Ambassador Residence Reception Evening	_____ X	FREE

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2011:**

Chartered Bus: Wreath Layings VBOB Memorials, Tomb of	_____ X	\$25.00	\$ _____
Depart 9:00 AM	Unknowns & WWII Memorial		

09:00 - 12:00 AM Wreath Laying Ceremonies: Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

12:30 PM	VBOB Luncheon at DoubleTree Hotel	Chicken _____ X	\$30.00	\$ _____
		Turkey _____ X	\$30.00	\$ _____

Commemorative Banquet, DoubleTree Hotel Crystal City	_____ X	\$65.00	\$ _____
--	---------	---------	----------

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM Please make your Main Course selection(s):

<input type="checkbox"/>	Apple Brandy Pork Tenderloin	_____ (Names) _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chicken Florentine	_____ (Names) _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diabetic Meal	_____ (Names) _____

Sitting is assigned. Plan ahead with your friends to be seated at the same table. Tables are Rounds of 8. Please indicate friends with whom you would like to sit: \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL** (Enclose check made out to BoBHF 2011 Commemoration): \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Checks will not be deposited until 1 Dec 2011 so you can register now.**

Permission granted for Hotel to notify BoB Historical Foundation that room reservation has been made.

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

**NOTES & REMINDERS:** Banquet Dress: Business suit/black tie optional (miniature medals encouraged) or military dress uniform  
 Room reservations must be made with the DoubleTree Crystal City directly, by **December 1, 2011** Telephone (1-800-Hiltons) Block of 20.  
 Return completed Reservation Form for events to BOB Historical Foundation ASAP but no later than **7 December 2011**.  
 No cancellation refunds after December 7, 2011.

Hotel Reservations based on Availability. Please do not delay.

Please indicate in all places the number & names attending so that we can be advised of the proper number to plan. Thanks!

\*\*\*PLEASE BRING A PICTURE ID (Drivers License, Passport, Mil ID) for the Washington area\*\*\*

07/20/11



**FREE FOR WWII VETERANS  
BULGE REENACTMENT  
67th Anniversary Commemoration Battle  
TO HONOR WORLD WAR II VETERANS  
Fort Indiantown Gap PA  
24 Jan – 29 Jan 2012**

The World War II Federation invites you to their 65th Battle of the Bulge Commemoration Reenactment this coming January and they will be honoring you the World War II Veterans during the week, with special events scheduled for Friday, 27 Jan 2012.

This is a great week for veterans which allows you to relive your initial days in the Army, living in genuine GI bunks in original WWII barracks. You need only bring a set of sheets, a blanket or sleeping bag, your pillow and shaving gear. All sleeping is on lower bunks. It gives you an opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow veterans, enjoy WWII videos, peruse material on the Bulge and partake of the hospitality. It will also give you an opportunity to visit the reenactors, barracks which they will have transformed back to the days of WWII and be able to interact with them. You are their role-models and they are trying to learn about what it was like back in the 1940s. They do this to honor you.

Veterans may arrive after 1400 hours on Tues 24 Jan 2012. Registration is in Bldg 12-90 on Clement Avenue corner of Howitzer Road. The Veterans Barracks will be Building 12-15. As usual, the veterans will have a hospitality suite set up in the barracks as well as a memorabilia display brought by individual veterans. Feel free to bring yours.

First thing Wednesday, Veterans will depart for the North Lebanon High School where a program will be held with the students at 0830 hours. In the morning, on Thursday, Veterans and escorts will visit the VA Hospital in Lebanon PA to which the vets there look forward. Lunch will be provided at the VA Hospital. On Friday, the Federation will salute the Bulge Veterans with a VBOB Monument Wreath Laying at 1600 Hours and 21 gun salute, a Tactical Battle Briefing at 1630 Hours in the Community Club and a Reception at 1700.

As usual there will be 1940 Movies and hospitality in Bldg #12-15, the Veterans Barracks, all week. **For WWII Veterans Registration for the week is free.**

Registration hours are Tue, 1400 to 2100 hrs; Wed & Thu, 0900 – 1130 hrs, 1400-1630 hours and 1800-2300 hours; Fri, 0900-1130 hrs, 1400-2400 hours; Sat, 0600-0700 hours

On Sat, troops will move into the battlefield at 0900 hrs. Veterans will be transported by bus for a tour of the battlefield 1030-1300 hrs. At 1800 hrs dinner will be served in the Community Club and at 2000 hrs there will be an Evening of Period Entertainment during which the Veterans will act as judges for the 1940's Talent Show.

For non-WWII Veterans: **Option A** with a bunk in the barracks and with Dinner on Saturday will be \$75 for the 5 days **Option B** with a bunk but without meal will be \$55.00. **Option C** at \$30 is for the Sat Dinner Meal & Entertainment only, for those not staying in the barracks.

If you would like a Registration packet contact John D. Bowen, 613 Chichester Lane, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331, e-mail [johndbowen@earthlink.net](mailto:johndbowen@earthlink.net) or go to [www.wwiifederation.org](http://www.wwiifederation.org) **Deadline for Veterans to register is 31 Dec 2011.**

**VBOB Columbus, GA  
Reunion  
A Huge Success!**

by: J. David Bailey, VBOB president, 106th ID

The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge at our 30th Annual Reunion were in for a treat! Our registration headquarters was the Hilton Garden Inn and upon arrival were given a wine and cheese reception. A spirit of comradeship soon followed and our organization made a special presentation to Ashley Woitena of the Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau, for her forbearing spirit in making our visit so worthwhile.

The Veterans and Associate Members of VBOB will cherish the memory of the wreath laying ceremony at Fort Benning, GA where an invocation was delivered to perpetuate the memory of the sacrifices made by those who served during the Battle of the Bulge. Fort Benning is well known as a self-sustaining military command and has served as *Home of the Infantry* since the early 20th century.

Located right outside Fort Benning's gate we visited the National Infantry Museum and Soldiers' Center — a Tribute to Heroes. Inside we found a plethora of exhibits including six galleries each representing a different era in Infantry history from the Revolutionary War to the desert wars. This Museum is well designed for self-guided tours and trained docents were stationed through the museum to direct us, answer our questions and enhance our experience.

We Visited the National Prisoner of War Museum, which tells the story of the prisoners of war throughout American history. Located at Andersonville, Georgia this site also includes the infamous Civil War Prison.

Probably the occasion we will most remember was when we departed from our hotel to the Little White House of Franklin D. Roosevelt and his Memorial Museum in Warm Springs, Georgia. We were escorted from our hotel by a large motorcycle brigade of the Patriot Guard of Georgia who stood at attention at the entrance way as we approached the Little White House. David Burke, interpretive park ranger, with the help of others arranged for a memorable day.

Georges A. Hoffman, Honorary Consul, Grand-Duche De Luxembourg and Colonel John W. King III, Commander, Ranger Training Brigade, Fort Benning were our guests at the banquet.

**General Membership Meeting Highlights:**

The candidates for the 2012 VBOB Executive Council as listed on page 11 of the August Bulge Bugle were elected without dissent. Our 2012 reunion will be held in New Orleans, LA. A motion was passed to donate \$250 for a "VBOB paver" at the National Infantry Museum in Columbus, GA.

Vernon Brantley, president of the South Carolina presented a letter stating their chapter is volunteering to host our 2014 reunion in Columbia, SC.

Looking back, travel and change of place imparted new vigor to the minds of we Veterans and Associate Members of VBOB.



# VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE, INC.

## 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion, Columbus GA, Sept. 20-25, 2011



### REUNION PHOTOS

Here are just a few photo highlights from our 30th Annual Reunion in Columbus, Georgia.



Doris and Vernon Brantley (75th ID) at wreath laying ceremony-Fort Benning



Patriot Guard reception line-FDR Museum



Veterans at the Roosevelt Institute



Four generations of Leunigs (Bill 285th CEB)



# ATTENTION, VETERANS!

## ORDERS FROM VBOB HEADQUARTERS

We have received photos from 50 veterans since the August issue of the "Bugle", thus bringing the total number up to 434, all of which are on our web site. There are about 3,500 veterans who have not yet sent a photo.

We'd really like to honor all our members by displaying their photos on our website.

Times awastin', so let's get moving!

Once you have located your photo, please send a copy to:

**VBOB, PO Box 336, Blue Bell, PA 19422**



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

1. George Sperl –  
75th Infantry Division

2. Leonard Fazio –  
1st Infantry Division

3. Matthew Wojtaszek –  
82nd Airborne Division

4. Edmund Marks –  
126th AAA Gun Bn

5. Charles Israelian –  
7th Armored Division

6. Lawrence Anderson –  
87th Infantry Division

7. Charles Holub –  
26th Infantry Division

8. Philip Bonner –  
159th Engineer Combat Bn

## BULGE BUGLES NOW ON OUR WEB SITE

Associate members and members:  
Do you want to reminisce? Well,  
now you can, because we are putting  
our complete archives of *Bulge Bugles*  
on our website. Here's how  
to access them:

- Go to our web site:  
[www.battleofthebulge.org](http://www.battleofthebulge.org)

- Click on the Research helmet
- Click on Newsletter Archives
- Enter the password:  
readbugles!
- Click on Submit
- Follow the directions

**Bring back memories?**







### Up Front With Mauldin



"Ah cain't agree. You Irish woulda lost this war without allies like Texas an' Russia."

Nazi prisoners walk along the center island of the autobahn near Giessen, as vehicles of 6<sup>th</sup> Armd Div roll past them on both sides. *US Army*

### IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE SOLDIER

It is the Soldier, not the Reporter  
Who has given us Freedom of the Press;  
It is the Soldier, not the Poet  
Who has given us Freedom of Speech;  
It is the Soldier, not the Campus Organizer  
Who has given us Freedom to demonstrate;  
It is the Soldier,  
--who salutes the flag;  
--who serves beneath the flag;  
--and whose coffin is draped by the flag,  
Who allows the protestor to burn the flag.

Unknown

### CORRECTION

Refer to the third photo from the top of page 6 of the August Bulge Bugle. The second woman from the left is Carole Rocco, not Dorothea Darago.



# BATTLE OF THE BULGE

by Rocco Gedaro, 90<sup>th</sup> ID,  
357<sup>th</sup> IR, Co C



January 13, 1945 I was removed from the front lines for the second time with trench foot (frozen feet). I was in the First Aid Tent waiting to be sent back to the hospital when word came through that the Germans were counter-attacking. All the wounded that could fire a rifle were loaded on trucks. They wrapped my feet in a blanket and put me in the truck. They drove us as close as possible to the front and unloaded us. They told us that they expected the Germans to try to break out at this point and we were to hold our positions at all costs. Here are a bunch of wounded soldiers along with cooks, bakers, MP's and whoever else they could find.

The Germans hit us hard and tried to break through our lines, but we held on, it was like shooting ducks in a shooting gallery, we shot so many of them that they finally surrendered. We took many, many, prisoners. We later found out that this was called the "Battle of the Bulge" that we protected. I was picked up and carried to a truck and brought back to the Aid Station. The soldier next to me looked at me and said "Rocky". He was my best friend! We grew up next door to each other. We had gone through school together and graduated from PORTLAND HIGH SCHOOL in 1942. I asked him where he was wounded and he said that he had frozen feet. We rode together in the ambulance to Verdun, France. There we both were shipped to England. He went to a different hospital than me. I never saw him again until he arrived home in 1946. His name was Reginald Papi and he passed away on September 30, 1974.

I received battle credits for Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes. I entered the army as a private, made pfc, when I left the States, received a battle field promotion to s/sgt (Later found out that my promotional papers never reached battalion head quarters, so I was still a pfc). At discharged time I was discharged as a private. At the time of discharge I believe that I was one of the earliest discharged under the point system.

So you see, I entered the army as a private, and was discharged as a private, despite making pfc. and staff sergeant I served from November 1943 to November 1945. So you see if you were in the infantry during WWII you had to get a shafting. The rear headquarters people never knew what was going on at the front.

I have a little fact to share with you. I landed on D+2 at Utah Beach, Normandy, France as a replacement for Company "C" 357 Inf. 90th Division. I fought as a rifleman from June 8, 1944 to Jan. 13, 1945, without being wounded. I was in every

attack and every Fall Back. (We never say retreat) On January 13, 1945 I was removed from the front lines for the second time with trench foot (frozen feet). The first time was about a week or so earlier. I was in an aid station waiting to be evacuated, when the Germans counterattacked to try to break out of The Battle of The Bulge. All the wounded in the tent were given rifles and blankets to wrap around our feet, and lifted into trucks, and rushed to the front along with cooks, and any available personnel. We stopped the counterattack and then I was evacuated to England and spent the next three months in the hospital.

I had made staff Sgt. several months earlier, after we were shot up very badly. We were in a rest area, and a Sgt Johnson and I were the only two left from our squad. A replacement Captain commissioned Sgt. Johnson to Lieutenant Johnson and I was ordered to become staff Sgt. Having been in combat for months and seeing officers and sergeants continually being wounded or killed, I had refused stripes on many occasions, especially after my best buddy Bill Reedy from Chicago, became a corporal and was killed several days later in Berle, Luxembourg.

I was in every battle that company "C" was in for seven months and never was wounded. After I left the hospital and arrived at a repo depo in France (was assigned to a non combat engineering outfit. After being there for a month or so I was told that I was still a private, my promotion to staff Sgt. never reached headquarters in the battle zone. So you see I went in as a private, and was honorably discharged as a private. I have official army papers showing that I was a Pfc. If I remember correctly, when we left the U.S. for Europe, General Eisenhower ordered all privates to become Pfc's automatically. I believe that I am the only U.S. Soldier who entered the army as a Pvt. and was honorably discharged as a Pvt. without being busted for any reason.

Can anyone top these two things, in as a Private and being discharged two years later as a Private and seven months as a combat rifleman without being wounded?

## GENERAL SHALIKASHVILI DIES

by John E. McAuliffe, 87<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division  
347<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Company M

You may recall that General John Shalikashvili was the main speaker at the 50th anniversary VBOB reunion in 1994. He said I have just come from Bastogne and he held up a container of earth for all 2000 veterans to see. He said, "This is your Memorial it was a combination of earth and the blood of American soldiers."

Then he said you were the heroes Hitler did not account for. Hitler could account for the greatest army ever assembled including rockets, V2s, 70 ton tanks, rapid fire machine guns. But he did not account for the GI soldier stamina, character and tenacity that you might say were outstanding.

Then the general made another analogy. He compared the strength of the great German army to that of the blacksmith's anvil. The anvil being the American army upon which the German armies were crushed.

That was quite a powerful tribute. I remember that well and use all of the above in my talks to student groups etc. God bless General John Shalikashvili, may he rest in peace.



## Historian wants information about Bastogne

I am a historian and teacher from the UK and I've been fascinated by the Battle of the Bulge and its implications for the final months of the Second World War and particularly the heroism of the 101st Airborne Division at Bastogne. I am currently preparing a proposal for a new book on Bastogne and I am really interested in writing it from the perspective of the men who were there. This is my first military history title, but I am published in the UK and have featured writing about history online quite extensively, as you can see from the link below.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2011/mar/30/history-teaching-schoolchildren-humanities>

I would like to reassure you that the purpose of the book is to focus on heroism and determination, and all discussions and testimonies will be treated with great sensitivity.

I would be very keen to interview either in person or via email, phone, correspondence or whatever method is most practical.

Yours Sincerely, Nick Shepley  
19 St Margarets Court, Linnet Close,  
Linnet Close, Cyncoed, Cardiff,  
CF237HG, United Kingdom.  
[nick\\_shepley@hotmail.com](mailto:nick_shepley@hotmail.com)

## LOOKING FOR INFORMATION

My father William D. McNulty Sr. served in the 28<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 110<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and received training at Camp Croft, SC during February 1944. He fought in France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Battle of the Bulge and was killed in action on December 20, 1944. He was with Lester Carpenter of Quaker City, OH when he was shot.

Please contact me if you have any information about my father.

Warren D. McNulty, 13250 94<sup>th</sup> Rd  
Topeka, KS 66618, Telephone 785-986-6889  
[warrenmcnulty@centurylink.net](mailto:warrenmcnulty@centurylink.net)

## LONG ISLAND CHAPTER VIDEO

by Murray Leff, 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division,  
137<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

Recently I made a video of the guys in my chapter. The DVD runs about an hour and gives each man two minutes or so to tell a story about his time in The Battle of the Bulge. The membership has viewed the video and greeted it with great applause. Any member who wants a copy will be able to get it at cost.

The actual making of the video made for a great deal of enthusiasm among the membership. Among other things it was an opportunity for the membership to know each other better. I feel comfortable recommending this activity to all our chapters.

I will be sending a copy of the DVD to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. If you know of any other institution that might want a copy, please let me know.

*"Hear the other side"*

St. Augustine

## THREE DAYS IN THE BULGE

by Chuck Katlic, 99<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division,  
394<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

*The following log was kept by T/5 Robert Root, Company F*

December 15, 1944 - Weather clear again today - something unusual was happening in our area - regimental and battalion commanders visited our company area - Private Hanssen was decorated with the Purple Heart - enemy action was light tech - T/Sgt Fowler went to the hospital with infected blisters - S/Sgt Brown is suffering from bursitis in the right knee - both men were dropped from assignment

December 16, 1944 - today the weather was cloudy and cold. The Jerries laid a barrage of artillery in our area starting at 0500 and from now on artillery continued to land in our sector all day and night - all men were kept on the alert for an attack all day and night - things are beginning to pop - two casualties were suffered today from shrapnel - PFC Smiley was wounded in right femur and Pfc. Allen was wounded in the left shoulder - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Woods was also evacuated with second-degree burns on the right hand and left knee - back in the American lines where the kitchen was located shells came in early in the morning - all men took the bomb shelters in the backyard one shell landed 15 yards from a house in which our kitchen was located no casualties

December 17, 1944 - artillery barrage continued along the lines occupied by our troops - at zero 0900 air activity was terrific and friendly planes were in the sky - jerry planes were strafing our lines and our planes were strafing and bombing the German lines - dogfights were overhead and three Jerry planes were shot down during the fight - one P-38 was shot down - it was apparent that the Germans were starting a big attack - back in the kitchen area artillery was coming in fast and men went to the bomb shelters at 1000 and remained there until seven o'clock - one shell knocking out the windows and strafing the side of a house and roof - although artillery had seemed to decrease enemy patrols were numerous and active all day - upon receipt of orders to withdraw the company withdrew at 1500 leaving a small covering force to assemble near homes and Belgian, where the company dug in for the night and set up a perimeter defense - In the rear echelon kitchens received orders to load up about 0900 but due to enemy positions the convoy did not move out until 1500 from Merrigan, Belgium to Camp Eisenborn before arriving at 1850 - lieutenant Murray was the only casualty suffered today he was hit by a fragment of a booby-trap

Reprinted from STARS & STRIPES, Dec. 22, 1944

## OD-Clad Spies Infiltrate Lines In Allied Cars

German agents, wearing American and British uniforms and supplied with false identification papers, are operating behind the Allied lines and in "rear areas" to sabotage or destroy vital war instal-

lations, the Seine Section Provost Marshal revealed in a special warning announcement yesterday.

The Germans have infiltrated the Allied lines and are using American and British vehicles.

The announcement especially warned the French public to be on the alert for suspicious persons and to report their presence immediately to their nearest Commissaire de Police. They were requested to comply in every way with all military restrictions.



## AN INFANTRYMAN REMEMBERS

by James M. Powers, 11<sup>th</sup> AD, 55<sup>th</sup> AIB

Tonight my home is a hole in the frozen ground.  
It was the same last night and the night before.  
If I am fortunate I'll be in yet another tomorrow night.  
My dirty, ragged blanket is simply snow trimmed with mud.  
My dinner is cold from a camouflaged box,  
While my uniform clashes with the white that surrounds me.  
If I had a sheet, I'd wrap in it to hide  
For more protection from the enemy in front.  
Please understand, I am an outpost without friends ahead.  
And stretched behind me is the needed support for my fight.  
The battle continues on an epic scale, but for me  
The epicenter is here, a temporary and forsaken hole.  
We fight in small groups, relying on instinct and prayer  
Unaware of what decisions are being made in the rear for us.  
Wars are not won in large scale battles,  
But rather in small skirmishes by lonesome dedicated troops,  
Who sometimes have no clear orders from those in charge.  
Hungry, cold, tired, dirty, duty is our leadership.  
Some troops far back have shelter, hot food, a decent bed,  
And comfort in knowing they won't be shelled tonight.  
I am fortunate that I lived to tell the story of so many  
Who perished too young to leave their mark.  
They are the heroes, the too soon forgotten ones  
To whom our country owes a debt of immeasurable gratitude.

144 Bishops Court  
Memphis, TE 38111  
[Jamesmoorerep83@bellsouth.net](mailto:Jamesmoorerep83@bellsouth.net)



## CHRISTMAS EVE 1944

by George Whitten,  
166<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineers

I was on a machinegun post with two comrades when a gentleman who lived behind our foxhole came out and offered us some "schnaps" to celebrate Christmas. One of our comrades was French Canadian and spoke fairly good French and asked him to take a swig first. He did. Then we all had a sip because being on duty we could not drink.

I then asked him how many "kinder" he had. He held up three fingers and said "three." I had in my pocket three peppermint paddies from Schrafts candy company, because a friend of my father's was Chief Engineer at the factory and had access to the candy, of which he sent me a package. In our trucks we each had a compartment where we kept our things, and I also had three oranges, which I gave to him.

A few moments later he returned and asked us to Christmas dinner. The Lieutenant returned at that moment and gave us permission. We had rabbit, potatoes and peas. I don't remember the dessert.

We then gave the farmer a package, which contained one days meal for ten men: canned bacon, coffee, scrambled eggs, beef stew crackers toilet paper, hard candy and cigarettes.

That was the best Christmas dinner I ever had, or will have.

## MY VETERANS DAY

By Wayne Field  
President Chapter 34 VBOB  
6<sup>th</sup> Armored Division

Every Veterans Day I 'm in school all day; giving a presentation to six grades. It started with stories about the Battle of the Bulge, but has expanded. We, as many of us as possible, need to pass along the history of this country, that generally most teachers haven't learned, and therefore can't teach their students. I enjoyed what I learned about the Star Spangled Banner history; I want others to have the same information, and appreciate our National Anthem as I have. So far, I've presented it several times in five different states.

I would be happy for many others to present it to as many people as they can, they must mean what they're saying; they must empathize with Key and Beans. The words of the Star Spangled Banner must be read with meaning, as a real story, not as if reading the lines of a song. I mean every word of it as I read it. Will you join me in giving this presentation wherever you can?

Following is the schedule I follow if I can, however the odd numbered lines are most important:

1. Prayer – by a chaplain or someone else if available otherwise myself.
2. Colors brought in; 2nd flag dips. – if there is an honor
3. Everyone sings the Star Spangled Banner, one verse.
4. Colors posted. – if an honor guard is available.\*
5. Pledge of allegiance.
6. Flag folding ceremony, including the most common narrative and the new Air Force narrative.\*
7. The history of our national anthem. –sometimes preceded by reading of a poem about the flag.
8. Distribute copies of the complete Star Spangled Banner to everyone.

\*Honor guards can usually be arranged in advance from most military bases, from most veterans' organizations, from ROTC and Junior ROTC units, from Civil Air Patrol units, and from scout troops. The Honor Guards are generally arranged by the organization where I make the presentation, especially if it's out of town.

Contact me for additional details.

Wayne Field  
[awf.3@comcast.net](mailto:awf.3@comcast.net)  
719-640-4914



## REMEMBRANCE

ARLINGTON

December 16, 2011

Be there...



## ANTWERP X - EDMUND MARKS

126<sup>th</sup> AAA Battalion

by Lane Lambert, Patriot Ledger

The ordeal of thousands of American soldiers who fought in World War II's Battle of the Bulge is well-documented. Edmund Marks' story isn't. The longtime Weymouth resident was one of many troops who were hurriedly sent to Belgium's Ardennes Forest in December 1944 to stop a desperate German desperate offensive. But Marks was among a handful who took a secret weapon – radar.

Now 88, he fought the war as a radar operator with the 126th AAA (anti-aircraft artillery) battalion, one of a few special Army units stationed in England and then Antwerp, Belgium, to shoot down German V-1 rockets. "Back then it was all top-secret," Marks said, in his first interview about the program.

He was looking forward to sharing his experiences with other veterans this week at the 30th reunion of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. But health problems kept him from going to the Columbus, Ga., event, so he says he'll have to make do with a phone call or two. "I'd have been the only Bulge veteran from my unit," Marks said.

Nazi dictator Adolf Hitler's gamble turned out to be the single biggest battle of the war, with 500,000 German troops against 650,000 Americans and Allies. The 26th "Yankee Division" was among those pitched into the fight. The offensive was quickly nicknamed "the Bulge" for the 60-mile pocket the Germans cut into the Allied front.

Marks' radar battalion was 100 miles to the north in Antwerp when the order came to head to the Ardennes. They arrived late on Dec. 17, the day after the Germans launched their attack. From then until the end of January 1945, the unit

took a hillside position overlooking a strategic bridge over the Meuse River. Never threatened by the German advance, the batteries shot down more than 20 German planes before the battalion returned to Antwerp, where the program was known as "Antwerp X."

Marks, a Dorchester native, was 17 when his National Guard coastal artillery unit was activated for regular Army duty in 1940. After the 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, his unit was sent to California. In 1943, he was back at Camp Edwards on Cape Cod, training with the newly formed 126th radar battalion.

"The radar was mobile then," Marks said of the early, wheeled equipment. "They kept it behind barbed wire, with guards day and night." The 126th and other units were part of Operation Crossbow, a classified program that tracked and shot down V-1 rockets as they arced over the English Channel toward London and other English industrial cities.

"They sounded like a car with a bad muffler," Marks said. Marks was one of 13 men in his battery. He worked 12-hour shifts at the circular radar screen. The 126th and other anti-aircraft units shot down more than 800 V-1's at the Dover Cliffs, and 2,000 more from Antwerp before and after the Battle of the Bulge.

Marks left the Army as a sergeant in October 1945. He didn't want to follow his grandfather and father into the Boston police force, so he went to work as an electrical lineman for Boston Edison. He retired in 1988 after 43 years there. In those decades he saw Operation Crossbow's primitive radar become a high-tech fixture of 20th-century military and civilian life. He still savors the memory of being among the first to use it. "Everything I learned about it, I learned in the field," he said.



The 75<sup>th</sup> Division move forward to relieve the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne men of the 291<sup>st</sup> Infantry. / US Army



## DONATIONS

We thank the following people for their generosity

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### APPRECIATION

As requested in your August issue, enclosed you will find a photo of my father, Orval G. Sievers, who was a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge for. Sadly, he passed away July 7, 2011 at the age of 90. He so enjoyed receiving "The Bulge Bugle". He would read each issue cover to cover and when I or any one of my siblings would stop to visit he would have marked a letter or two that he would want us to read. He made a special wooden box where he kept all of the issues he had received. I have those issues now and plan on reading them myself over the winter.

The 413th would have reunions quite often and he and my mother would go. He really enjoyed those reunions. He and his comrades would keep in touch at Christmas and even visit each other. We believe there is only one member left and two widows and corresponded with them after Dad's passing.

I want to thank you for your efforts in putting together this publication. It is very much appreciated.

Very Sincerely,  
Kathy Hill



"Well, Achingback, we finally got you all patched up. Now relax, take it easy, and don't do too much laughing."

Reprinted from STARS & STRIPES, Dec. 22, 1944

## Fog Shrouds Battle In Eerie Setting

By Jules' Grad

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. FORCES IN BELGIUM, Dec. 21.—American troops are fighting Germany's mightiest counter-offensive in the eerie atmosphere of an Alfred Hitchcock movie thriller.

After hacking through Normandy hedgerows and slugging it out in Germany's snow and mud, they are now up against their strongest natural enemy—fog.

From this slate-gray shroud blanketing Belgium, guns bark blindly, infantrymen grope around the front like sleep-walkers. Mammoth Tiger Royal tanks

lumber out of the fog, belching fire from their 11-foot guns. Then the fog settles in and they disappear silently.

Soupy gloom is so solid that moving figures blend in the background when scarcely 20 feet away.

Von Rundstedt must have waited weeks for this kind of weather. His lightning successes depended upon it. He knew his paratroopers could skulk through the fog with less chance to be recognized. His ground troops could infiltrate toward American lines with less chance of capture. When the dripping atmosphere started moving in, it was time for him to strike.



## 2012 VETERANS TOURS

### **PILSEN LIBERATION FESTIVAL TOUR** April 29 (Arr Frankfurt) - May 9 (Dept Prague)

The increasingly famous annual Pilsen Liberation Festival celebrates in four days of historical events. Pilsen was liberated by the Americans twice - first from Nazi and then from Communist domination. All American veterans and their families (especially of Third Army which liberated the former Czechoslovakia) will be guests of honor. During the tour, we see the huge Merkers salt mines where the Third Reich's treasures were hidden, Nuremberg with its Nazi Rallies area and War Crimes Trials Palace of Justice, Flossenbuerg concentration camp where many VIP prisoners were held, as well as the beautiful, historic Czech capital Prague.

### **OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO MUNICH** May 9 (Arr Prague) - May 12 (Dept Munich)

Visit Salzburg and Hitler's mountain HQ around Berchtesgaden, Obersalzberg and the Eagles Nest. Tour Dachau Concentration Camp and Munich.

### **IO6<sup>th</sup> INF DIVIS - BATTLE OF THE BULGE TOUR** May 13 (Arr Brussels) - 20 (Dept Frankfurt)

After bearing the brunt of the unexpected massive initial German Bulge offensive on Dec 16 1944, two regiments were cut off without supplies and became prisoners of war on Dec 19 1944. They had a tragically short but honorable, courageous and important war because they delayed the German capture of St Vith, which was vital to the German offensive as a forward supply depot and communications center. The third regiment escaped encirclement and went on to heroically defend St Vith and stop a German breakthrough on the northern shoulder of the Bulge. Our tour covers in depth all three regiments, including the prisoners of war's long march into captivity.

### **VBOB BATTLE OF THE BULGE 'MEMORIAL DAY' TOUR** May 24 (Arr Brussels) - June 2 (Dept Paris)

Take part in Memorial Day in Europe, followed by an in-depth Battle of the Bulge tour. The awe-inspiring commemorative ceremonies at the American Battle of the Bulge Cemeteries are Memorial Day as it should be celebrated and experienced. American and international military and VIPs participate. You are guests of honor. Request in advance your "special places" in the Bulge battlefields and we will do our best to include them in the tour itinerary.

### **OPTIONAL EXTENSION TO D-DAY NORMANDY** June 2 (Arr Paris) - 8 (Dept Paris)

Celebrate the anniversary of D-Day and tour Normandy in depth.

### **HONORING GENERAL GEORGE C MARSHALL ON THE MARSHALL PLAN'S 65<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Sept 15 (Arr Paris) - Sept 23 (Dept Paris).

Franklin D Roosevelt and Winston Churchill hailed General Marshall as "the true organizer of victory." This tour covers Marshall's achievements in Europe. Firstly, the WW1 battlefields from Cantigny to the Meuse-Argonne where the young Marshall first showed his promise; then his greatest achievement, organizing the final defeat of Germany in WW2 and post-war European peace and security, in which we highlight Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge and the Marshall Plan.

### **45<sup>th</sup> INF DIVIS - BULGE COUNTERPUNCH IN ALSACE** Sept dates tba (Arr Nice, Dept Paris)

When Hitler's massive Bulge offensive faltered in late 1944 after Third Army broke through to Bastogne, he threw a powerful but largely unknown counterpunch through the overstretched Seventh Army frontline in Alsace, to try and hit Third Army in its flank. This tour follows 45th ID's battle route from the south of France to the ferocious battles in Alsace to block Hitler's Bulge counterpunch.

### **82<sup>nd</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION TOUR** Oct 6 (Arr Paris) - 18 (Dept Amsterdam)

A special 82nd Airborne WW2 heritage tour for 82nd AB Golden Brigade Vietnam veterans, and covers 82nd AB's most famous WW2 combat operations, D-Day Normandy, Operation Market Garden and the Battle of the Bulge. 82nd AB WW2 veterans, their families and friends are especially welcome.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on all tours, contact Doris Davis, President of VBOB Golden Gate (San Francisco) Chapter. Email [doris@battleofthebulge.org](mailto:doris@battleofthebulge.org) Tel (650) 654 - 0101 (PST).



# MEMBERS: IN MEMORIAM 2011

Starting with this issue, we would like to honor our recently fallen comrades by listing them in *The Bulge Bugle*. Please notify us when you hear that any member of our organization has passed away, so that we may honor them in a future issue.

Notifications can be sent by mail to: Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc., PO Box 27430, Philadelphia, PA 19118; by phone: 703-528-4058; or by email to: [tracey@battleofthebulge.org](mailto:tracey@battleofthebulge.org). Please notify us of any errors or omissions.



**We have received word, as of October 1, 2011, that the following members of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc. have passed away in 2011:**

ACCATTATO, ROCCO	FENNELL, JAMES	NEFE, HARRY
ALLARD, JOHN	FRAUENHEIM, WALTER	NEUHOFF, PAUL
ALLEN, CAM	GILBERG, EVELYN	NOTARO, THOMAS
ANCHORS, SR., CECIL	GRIFFIN, RODERICK	PORRECA, CHARLES
ANDRIOLA, ANTHONY	GROVES, CLARENCE	PRICE, EDWARD
ASKEY, JOHN	HABERLE, JR., JOHN	RABBERS, BLAINE
BEALKO, EDWARD	HAZELGROVE, PAUL	RADZWICH, EDWARD
BERRY, SR., JAMES	HIPPEL, DONALD	REED, DONALD
BILDER, MICHAEL	HORNBACK, WILLIAM	RENTSCH, GEORGE
BLOYS, WILLIAM	HOWARD, JR., ROBERT	RHEINBERGER, JAMES
BLUNT, JR., ROSCOE	KANE, GEORGE	RICH, GEORGE
BOESE, SAM	KLARIK, DAVID	SMITH, IRA
BRALEY, JAMES	LEDBETTER, HAROLD	STROBLE, BEATRICE
BROWN, EMMITT	LOVELESS, HARRY	TENANES, JOHN
CARPENTER, EDGAR	LUCAS, BERNARD	THORNTON, CLARENCE
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DINOCCO, ANTHONY	MCVAY, LAWRENCE	WHEELER, RICHARD
DOUGLASS, CLARENCE	MOONEYHAN, JIM	WHITT, J. FRANK
DOVELL, CLARK	MORLOCK, GUSTAV	WICHTERICH, JR., GEORGE



## THE VBOB CERTIFICATE: Have you ordered yours?



Over 6,500 certificates have been purchased by Battle of the Bulge veterans. If you haven't received yours, then you might want to consider ordering one to give to your grandchildren. They are generally most appreciative of your service now and they make excellent gifts—also for that buddy with whom you served in the Bulge. The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc. is proud to offer this full color 11" by 17" certificate, which may be ordered by any veteran who received credit for the Ardennes campaign. It attests that you participated, endured and survived the largest land battle ever fought by the US Army.

You do not have to be a member of VBOB to order one, but you must have received the Ardennes

credit. This beautiful certificate is produced on parchment-like stock and is outlined by the full color World War II insignias of the major units that fought in the Battle of the Bulge, starting with the 12th Army group, then followed numerically with Armies, Corps and Divisions and the two Army Air Forces. We wished that each unit insignia could have been shown, but with approximately 2000 units that participated in the Bulge, it was impossible. However, any unit that served in the Bulge would have been attached to or reported through one of the unit insignia depicted. You may want to add one of your original patches to the certificate when you receive it. **Please allow approximately 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.** The certificate will be shipped rolled in a protective mailing tube. **Please be sure that you place your name, service number and unit as you would like it to appear on the certificate.** The unit name should be as complete as possible because you want someone reading it to understand what unit you were in. We will abbreviate it as necessary. It is important that you type or print this information and the unit must be one of the 2,000 units authorized for the Ardennes Campaign credit that is in the Official General Order No. 114 for units entitled to the Ardennes Battle Credit and will be the basis for sale of the certificate. **The cost of the certificate is \$15 postpaid.**

### Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Certificate Order Blank

*I request an 11" by 17" certificate and certify I received credit for the Ardennes campaign. I have enclosed a check for \$15 for the Certificate. Please include the following information that I would like on the certificate*

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

*(usually Company, Battalion and/or Regiment and/or Division)*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that I have received the Ardennes Credit.*

#### Mailing Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

VBOB member: ☐ yes ☐ no (membership not a requirement)

Make checks out to VBOB for \$15.

**Orders should be mailed to: VBOB Certificate, PO Box 27430, Philadelphia, PA 19118-0430**

*Questions can be directed to John D. Bowen, telephone: 301-384-6533 or by e-mail to: johndbowen@earthlink.net*



# ENGINEERS ALL

by Marlin Kreighbaum  
280<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineers

Once we were soldiers, young and brave,  
We thought the world was ours to save.  
We fought and served our country well,  
And lived so our stories we could tell.

Now we are old, with not much ahead,  
It's even tough to go to bed.  
But we still live to tell our stories.  
Of buddies rich with unsung glories.

We pass them on to listening ears,  
With hopes you will excuse our tears.  
Remember well these brave men's deeds  
As they followed our nation's sacred creeds.

And wish us well, without a sigh,  
As we look to that bivouac in the sky.  
We're veterans all and buddies still,  
Ready to climb one more big hill.

So shed no tears and please don't sorrow  
We still look toward a great tomorrow.  
We served you well as Engineers  
Proud and respected through the years.

So bid farewell as all good friends,  
Ours is a friendship that never ends.  
We drink to those who have gone before  
Keep a watch for us at Heaven's door!

## Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, Inc

### 2011-12 Budget

#### Income

Donations	\$8,500
Life Memberships (70+)	\$3,700
Membership dues	\$35,000
Quartermaster:	
Certificate Sales	\$2,800
Quartermaster Sales	\$5,900
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$55,900</b>

#### Expense

Bulge publication:	
Other services	\$2,100
Postage	\$8,500
Printing	\$17,000
Operations:	
Insurance	\$1,500
Licenses and permits	\$300
Office supplies	\$1,100
Postage, mail service	\$1,400
Printing and copying	\$300
Recording Secretary	\$800
Professional fees:	
Accounting fees	\$3,100
Outside contract services	\$250
Subcontractor	\$16,500
Subcontractor telephone, etc	\$700
Travel and meetings	
Meetings	\$1,350
Travel	\$300
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$55,200</b>



## SPRING WILL BE A LITTLE LATE THIS YEAR,

by Matt Walters, 160<sup>th</sup> CEB, 3<sup>rd</sup> Army

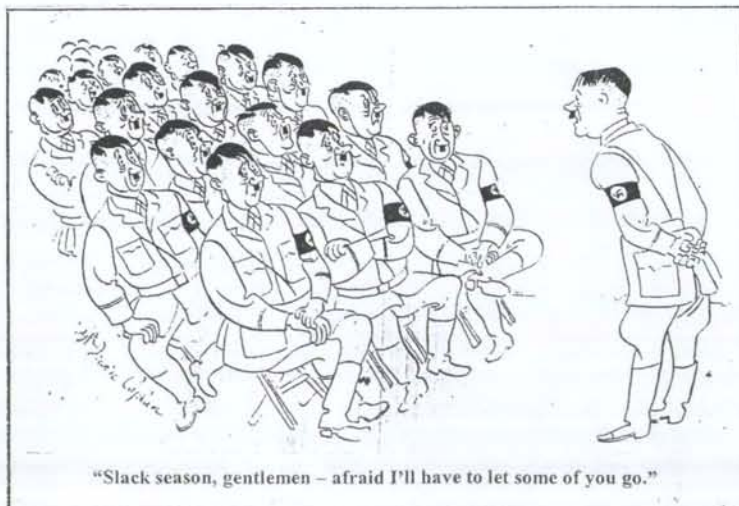
My squad was walking knee deep in snow when we came to a bend in the road. To our right was an American tank with some GIs standing around. When we got close, someone told us to, "halt!" We paid no attention and continued on our way. Then they told us to, "HALT!" the second time. They raised their rifles and the turret on the tank swung in our direction. We stopped when the G.I. got close to us.

We could see their MP armbands. One got behind me and asked, "Who was Dagwood's Shackjob?" I heard someone else ask another, "Who was Joe DiMaggio?" After we satisfied them that we were Americans, I asked what was going on. We were told the Germans were infiltrating our lines with Germans dressed as GIs. They told us we were possibly cut off, and if we had anything German to get rid of it.

It was cold and the tank's motor was running, so I went to the back, by the exhaust to get some warmth.

A tankier opened the hatch and asked me if I wanted to hear some music. He played with his radio until he got Radio Paris and there was Frank Sinatra singing "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year".

I never met Sinatra; but I will always remember him and that day in the snow. Just something on the light side of WWII.







## VBOB QUARTERMASTER ORDER FORM

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** QM prices have changed due to increased manufacturing and shipping costs. Therefore, we will no longer accept old QM forms from previous issues of the *Bulge Bugle*. Please complete this form and send your payment to the address listed below.

Please ship the selected items to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Last)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(No. & Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM DESCRIPTION	PRICE EACH	QUANTITY	TOTAL PRICE
VBOB logo patch 4"	\$5.50		\$
VBOB logo decal 4"	\$1.25		\$
VBOB windshield logo 4"	\$1.25		\$
VBOB logo stickers 1 1/8" (in quantities of 10)	\$1.25		\$
Baseball cap with 3" VBOB logo patch (navy only)	\$12		\$
Windbreaker with 4" VBOB logo (navy only) Please circle size (they run a little snug): S M L XL XXL XXXL XXXXL	\$36		\$
VBOB logo lapel pin 1/2"	\$5		\$
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Miniature VBOB logo medal with a ribbon (pin-on type)	\$8.50		\$
VBOB logo belt buckle silver tone or gold tone (please circle one)	\$16		\$
VBOB logo bolo tie silver tone or gold tone (please circle one)	\$16		\$
VBOB license plate frame with logo (white plastic with black printing)	\$5		\$
VBOB 100-sheet note pad with logo "This Note is from....A Veteran of the Battle of the Bulge" (white paper with blue printing)	\$6		\$
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## November, 2011

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*We hope that with the passing years, we'll not forgotten be.  
We, who fought and bled and died, to keep our country free.  
We heard our country's cry and call, and gladly gave our all,  
So that thru freedom you enjoy might live and never fall.  
Whene'er you pass our resting place, at home or o'er the sea,  
Remember that we gave our lives for hallowed liberty ..*

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Regular Membership is for those who have received the Ardennes campaign credit. Associate membership is for relatives, historians or others with an interest in preserving the memory of the Battle of the Bulge. Both have the same rights and privileges.

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All Regular members, please provide the following information below:

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

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

All Associate members, please provide the following information below: (Military Service is not a requirement but as a 501 c(19) we need to identify all veterans)

Relative of Bulge Veteran \_\_\_\_\_ Bulge Vets Name & Unit \_\_\_\_\_

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