



John D. Bowen Editor

ARDENNES CAMPAIGN

Sep/Oct 2015

GET WELL SOON

Earle O. Edmunds
Neil B. Thompson
Please keep them in your prayers.

DECEASED MEMBERS

Please remember our members
in your prayers.

Theodore J. Paluch
285th Field Artillery
Observation BN
Malmedy Massacre Survivor
08 August 2015

Remember also
Lady Augusta Chirwy
Belgian Nurse
"Angel of Bastogne"
23 August 2015

Next Meeting
Sunday
11 Oct 2015
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
BASTA PASTA
Timonium MD

Business Meeting
at **12:30 PM**

Future Meetings
06 Dec 2015
71st Anniversary
Annual Commemoration
&
Holiday Party

*This Veterans' Day please re-
member and pray for all our
Veterans and for our Mili-
tary throughout the world.*

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*PPres	Clancy Lyall
PPres	Neil B Thompson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY CORNER

OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2015	OCTOBER 2015
1012 MC GREW, Kenneth H 26 InfD 101 Inf E	1019 POMFRET, Jim Uncle KIA 1 InfD 18 Inf	1024 THOMPSON, Neil B 740 Tk Bn (Med Spec) A
NOVEMBER 2015	NOVEMBER 2015	NOVEMBER 2015
1115 MORGENSTERN, Edwin A 17 Abn 193 Inf D	1120 OGDEN, Jr., James H 87th InfD 346 Inf L	1128 SCHUERHOLZ, Marcy, Associate, 17th AbnD
1119 HOKE, Thomas E. 87th InfD 312 Med Bn C	1127 LAWRENCE, Margaret R. Associate, 134 AAA	☺ 60, ≈ 65, *70. **75. ***80. ****85 ♡90.Yrs

Next Meeting — Sunday October 11, 2015
BASTA PASTA
60 West Timonium Road, Timonium MD 21093
11:00 AM

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, 11 October 2015**, at **BASTA PASTA in Timonium MD**.

We will have a choice of one of four entrée items which includes salad dessert, beverage and coffee.

Chicken Umbertina, w/asparagus spears, artichokes, cherry tomatoes sautéed in EVOO garlic wine sauce & side of pasta

Orange Roughy Francaise, egg dipped, pan seared, finished w/lemon sauce and side of pasta

Shrimp Scampi, sautéed shrimp in their scampi sauce and tossed with linguine

Veal Parmigiana, breaded, topped with marinara, mozzarella and side of pasta

Dessert — Choice of Strawberry Cheesecake, Tiramisu or Sorbet

Alcoholic Drinks are available at addition cost to the individual.

Please make your reservations by **Wednesday, 07 October 2015** by calling **John Schaffner at 410-584-2754** or by e-mail to **pumexim2@verizon.net**. John has an answering system so if he is not at home leave a message with your name and phone number. A menu will be distributed by the server to make your choice of the four entrees above at the luncheon. **The luncheon will be \$30 payable on the day of the event.** Luncheon guests should plan to arrive by 11:00 AM. For those wishing to attend the meeting only, please plan to be there before 12:30 PM.

DIRECTIONS: BASTA Pasta is at 60 West Timonium Road, Timonium MD 21093. It is just off Interstate 83 north, Exit #16A, at Timonium Road East and **quickly** move into the leftmost lane. Cross Deerco Road and the restaurant will be on your immediate LEFT, adjacent to the SUNOCO station. Access to parking is in front, side and rear. See you there! Bring the family! *Bill Ward, an expert on the M-1 Garand Rifle will our speaker.* See our President's Message

OLD WWII FACTS

The first German Serviceman killed in WWII was killed by the Japanese (China 1937). The first American serviceman killed was killed by the Russians (Finland 1940). The highest ranking American killed was Lt Gen Lesley Mc Nair, who was killed by the US Army Air Corps bombers provide close-in bombing support. This was immediately changed.

The youngest US Serviceman was 12 year old Calvin Graham, USN. He was wounded and given a Dishonorable Discharge for lying about his age. His benefits were later restored by an Act of Congress.

At the time of Pearl Harbor, the top US Navy Command was called CINCUS (pronounced 'sink us'). The shoulder patch of the US Army's 45th Infantry Division was the swastika. Hitler's private train was named 'Amerika.' All three were soon changed for PR purposes.

More US Servicemen died in the Army Air Corps than the Marine Corps. While completing the required 30 missions, an airman's chance of being killed was 71%.

Generally speaking there was no such thing as an average fighter pilot. You were either an ace or a target. For instance, Japanese Ace Hiroyoshi Nishizawa shot down over 80 planes. He died while a passenger on a cargo plane.

When allied armies reached the Rhine, the first thing they did was pee in it. This was pretty universal from the lowest private to Winston Churchill (who made a big show of it) and General Patton who had himself photographed in the act.

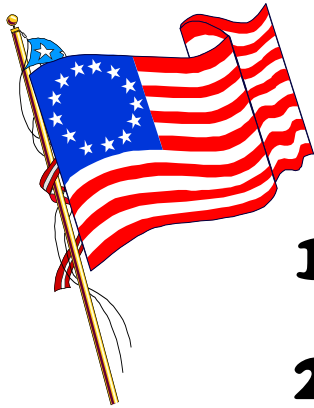
The last Marine killed in WWII was killed by a can of Spam. He was on the ground as a POW in Japan when rescue flights dropping food and supplies came over, the package came apart in the air and a stray can of SPAM hit him and killed him

❖ WWII MUSINGS ❖

Volume 23 Issue 5

John D. Bowen, Editor

Sep/Oct 2015



1776

2015

Veterans' Day
Nov 11th

OURS...to fight for



FREEDOM FROM WANT

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

2016 BULGE REENACTMENT 71st Anniversary Commemoration Battle TO HONOR VETERANS of WORLD WAR II & THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

Fort Indiantown Gap PA

27 Jan – 31 Jan 2016

The World War II Historical Association invites all Veterans to the Battle of the Bulge Reenactment this coming January. We will be honoring all WW II Veterans during the week.

Veterans may arrive after 1500 hours on **Wednesday, 27 Jan 2016**. As usual, the Veterans will have a hospitality suite set up in their barracks as well as memorabilia & WWII videos.

Veterans should bring a pillow, sheets and a blanket (or a sleeping bag) for their bunk as well as wash cloth and towel and shower clogs. Enjoy a week of camaraderie, relaxation, WWII videos, stories and hospitality and a chance to relive your basic training days in newly updated original WWII Barracks. Enjoy the transformation of the barracks area by the re-enactors to WWII period and enjoy the many restored WWII vehicles. Observe re-enactor's formations in period uniforms and equipment. Meet re-enactors who are interested in learning from WWII veterans about the period as well as the respect that they hold for you. The reenactors cover a broad spectrum of our society and even includes British, French, Canadian and German citizens. The reenactor community includes business leaders, professionals (such as doctors and engineers); current, former and retired military.

Thurs, the 28th of Jan, we will be transported by bus to Williams Valley Jr. High School at 0800 hours for a Vet Program... Breakfast will be provided on the bus... The Flea Market will open at 0800 hours and will remain open to 2200 hours.

On Fri, the 29th of Jan, the WWII Historical Assn will salute the Veterans with a Pass in Review at 1500 hours. At 1630 hours there will be a Wreath Laying at the VBOB Monument by the Community Club followed by a free reception there also for WWII Veterans at 1700 hours.

The cost of the event is Free to Veterans, which includes 4 nights bunk in the barracks, the Friday Reception and the Dinner and a Period Entertainment USO-type show on Saturday night.

On Sat, 30 Jan at 1030 hours buses will load for a Veteran Tour of the Battlefield, departing at 1100 and returning by 1200 hours. At 1700 buses will begin shuttling from the barracks area to the Community Club, for the Dinner which starts at 1800 hours. At 2000 hours period entertainment & talent shows will begin and followed by dancing to the 40's big band music. Buses will return from the Community Club until 0100 hours 31 Jan..

WWII Veterans will be free, however Vets must register by the deadline which is extended to 20 Dec 2015 for Veterans.

Contact John D. Bowen for Registration forms at 301-384-6533, e-mail johndbowen@earthlink.net or go to www.wwiia.org/index.php/events/battle-bulge-fig/ for on-line registration or optional mail in registration forms.

Editor's Corner

71st ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

After a great trip in 2014 to Belgium & Luxembourg, this year, we will return to our annual commemorations of the Battle of the Bulge in the Washington Metro Area, sponsored by the Battle of the Bulge Historical Foundation, Inc.

We have been invited to two receptions first, on the evening of 14 December by the Luxembourg Ambassador, His Excellency Jean-Louis Wolzfeld at the Luxembourg Embassy on Massachusetts Avenue NW, in Washington; and second, on the evening of 16 December by the Belgium Ambassador, His Excellency Johan Verbeke, at his residence on Foxhall Road in Washington DC.

On the morning of 15 December, we will visit the Rotunda of the National Archives to view the Charters of Freedom, the Magna Carta and the Archive's Museum. We will follow that with lunch on our own at the Union Station and shopping in their Mall there for those who are interested. That evening we will have our Banquet of Remembrance to commemorate the 71st Anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Bulge, at the DoubleTree Hilton of Crystal City, Washington Ballroom, (Lobby Level).

On Wednesday morning of 16 December, VBOB will hold its wreath laying ceremonies at the World War II Memorial, the VBOB Memorials in Arlington Cemetery and a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Following this we will return to the DoubleTree Hilton Hotel for lunch followed by the installation of VBOB officers for the 2016 year.

As usual, we will have our great hospitality room, with great snacks and beverages along with memorabilia displays and a large collection of books on the Battle of the Bulge. Feel free to bring your memorabilia for display.

Details and a registration form are available in the August Bulge Bugle and the November Bulge Bugle. As an inducement to sending in your registration early, checks will not be deposited until 1 December 2015. Be sure to make your hotel reservations early with the DoubleTree Hilton. Be sure to mention Battle of the Bulge to get the special rate of \$119 plus taxes from their usual rate of \$249 per night.

See you there!

WWII Musings is published for the enjoyment of WWII Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. It is based on the research of John D. Bowen, 613 Chichester Ln, Silver Spring MD 20904-3331 in the Unit Records maintained at the National Archives and Records Administration. Proper credit should be given both to the researcher and to the National Archives. Comments are welcome. E-mail: johndbowen@earthlink.net

Letter to the Editor

CIVILIZATION

By Pete Wells

Many Americans confuse technology with civilization.

The United States enjoys technological improvements at a dizzying rate. Many of us can remember no TV, black & white TV, and then, color TV with today's hundreds of channels.

Cars have improved dramatically, as has housing with air conditioning (I would be embarrassed to mention no electricity) & all sorts of labor saving devices. Transportation is dramatically better, jet aircraft to almost anywhere in the world, logistics so great you can always count on everything at McDonalds. Communication with cell phones, Facebook, Twitter & others.

The only time our technology is in question is when weather knocks out our electricity and yanks us back to reality.

But . . . That is not civilization. Civilization is the long, slow political slog of western societies, led by England, to a point where we have government by laws, not by men, and respect for property. Certainly not political systems masquerading as religions or economics. In fact, we've been through that before.

Our internal problem is one of the regression of civilization abetted by the effects of technology. Fast food and logistics allow us to be obese. Education postpones childbearing among the well educated. Obsessing about sex takes the place of serious study of history and/or civics. Even the ability to write a letter in cursive. Transportation allows displacement to distant jobs, removing us from the obligations of family, religion or shame.

The result is an ever increasing society of narcissistic pajama boys and girls hostile to capitalism atop a growing underclass of uneducated and unemployable minorities prone to self-pity and violence, all using coarse language with only distant concepts of conducting themselves as gentlemen or ladies. Open borders preclude assimilation taking care of the problem as it once historically did, for example, with the Irish.

Massive public works, the favorite of effeminate elites, provide only temporary relief. And are opposed by the fanatical environmentalists as well as captured by the unions. Radical restructuring of the tax and welfare systems are necessary but unlikely unless we can persuade the Jap(anese) to again bomb Pearl Harbor, or, perhaps, the Iranians nuc(k) Jerusalem.

Bottom line though—God is in charge of the eventual outcome regardless of what we as people of the world think and whatever technology brings.

Source: Alfred H M Shehab.

PERSHING CEREMONY

The annual ceremony by the Military Order of World Wars to honor ~~General Pershing will be held on 11 Nov 2015~~ at his gravesite in Arlington National Cemetery at 3:00 PM. Wreaths will be laid by the various Allied Embassy military attaches and the BOB. You may drive into the cemetery by telling the security at the stop sign that you are attending the Pershing ceremony.

JDB

**A FEMALE BELGIAN HERO PASSED AWAY
AUGUSTA CHIWY
"Angel of Bastogne"**

6 June 1921—23 August 2015

Submitted by Roger Marquet

BASTOGNE, Belgium, Feb. 22, 2011 – It was a bitterly cold winter morning when Augusta Chiwy's tram pulled into Brussels Central train station, Dec. 16, 1944.

On that very same day at 5:30 a.m., green troops of the 106th Golden Lion Division were rudely awakened from their winter sojourn by a hellish barrage of incoming artillery shells, "screaming meemies," accompanied by the menacing rumble of Tiger and Panther tanks on the move. Just over the German/Belgian border, out in an area known as the Schnee Eifel, three German armies had assembled almost under the noses of the allies.

Brussels was still alive with commuters going about their daily routines when Chiwy arrived at the train station. She had been working at St. Elizabeth General Hospital in the Flemish town of Louvain and was on her way to visit relatives in Bastogne. Above the din of collective voices at the station, the public address system droned out monotone information about trains, platforms and destinations, adding that, "There will be no departures for Luxembourg or Bastogne. Passengers wishing to reach these destinations should take the 7:50 to Namur."

Chiwy noticed an inexplicable sense of urgency in many of the assembled passenger's demeanors as she boarded the train for Namur about 30 miles south of Brussels. The train stopped there, and passengers wishing to go to the next destination were herded into open cattle trucks and taken as far as Marche. From there, Chiwy hitched a ride from a GI who took her to the center of Bastogne.

She arrived in Bastogne around 5 p.m. and noticed that it was a hive of activity as news was beginning to filter through of an all-out German attack to the north and east of the city. In anticipation of the approaching storm, Bastogne civilians were leaving in droves and all roads west quickly became gridlocked with a seemingly endless trail of human traffic.

Bastogne was an old market town and natural junction where seven roads converged. The German army's high command had decided many months previous to the actual attack that it was going to be a prime strategic objective, but no one there had expected what was about to occur during the coldest winter in living memory.

Chiwy had already decided that it was best to go to her uncle's house first to see if she could gather some more information on the situation. Her uncle, Dr. Chiwy, had a practice close to the main square and the young nurse wanted to know if she could help out. By that time of night the civilians and military personnel still there could audibly make out the booming sounds of distant artillery shells exploding a few miles away.

Within a few days of her arrival in Bastogne, the U.S. Army had sent reinforcements to the city. The first to arrive were 2,800 men and 75 tanks of the 10th Armored Division. The following day on Dec. 18, the 101st Airborne Division arrived around midnight and almost immediately began taking up positions at the allocated roadblocks around Bastogne in support of the existing teams. These groups proved to be a stubborn barrier that would allow the necessary time to build Bastogne's defenses and prepare for the German army's main assault.

Chiwy set to work as a nurse by assisting both civilian and military wounded wherever she found them. These efforts didn't go unnoticed. GIs from the 10th Armored Division were on the lookout for medical supplies and personnel to assist with their Aid Station on the Rue Neufchateau.

On Dec. 20, Bastogne became a city under siege. The ever-decreasing perimeter had reduced a once-beautiful city to a blood-soaked and battle-ravaged collection of skeletal smoldering ruins. The only safe places were the dank freezing cellars of ruined houses where remaining civilians and soldiers huddled together for safety and warmth. They survived on basic rations and shared whatever supplies they could find. Chiwy hadn't had a warm meal since she left Louvain and had also been reduced to this grim subterranean existence.

On the morning of the Dec. 21, Chiwy left the safety of her uncle's cellar and along with Nurse Renee Lemaire, she volunteered to work for the 20th AIB, 10th Armored Division at the aid station on Rue Neufchateau where Dr. John Prior was in charge. The situation there was desperate. There were hardly any medical supplies, save for a few bags of sulpha powder and a couple of vials of morphine. While Lemaire helped make the wounded soldiers as comfortable as possible, Chiwy dressed their wounds and never once shied away from the gory trauma of battlefield injuries.

On at least one occasion, Dr. Prior asked Chiwy if she would accompany him to a battle site east of the Mardasson hill. She was wearing a U.S. Army uniform at the time because her own clothes had become so dilapidated and blood stained. She was well aware that if she would have been captured by German forces it would have meant instant death for collaborating with the "Amies," the German name for the American soldiers.

During a raging blizzard Chiwy calmly loaded up onto a deuce-and-a-half and went to the outskirts of Bastogne. When they arrived there, she actually went out onto the battlefield with Dr. Prior and the two litter-bearers to retrieve wounded soldiers.

(Continued on page 10)

A CONCERNED VETERAN SPEAKS

“Grey Haired Geezers”

The typical U.S. household headed by a person age 65 or older has a net worth 47 times greater than a household headed by someone under 35, according to an analysis of census data released recently.

They like to refer to us as senior citizens, old fogies, geezers, and in some cases dinosaurs. Some of us are "Baby Boomers" getting ready to retire. Others have been retired for some time. We walk a little slower these days and our eyes and hearing are not what they once were. We worked hard, raised our children, worshiped our God and grown old together.

Yes, we are the ones some refer to as being over the hill, and that is probably true. But before writing us off completely, there are a few things that need to be taken into consideration.

In school we studied English, history, math, and science which enabled us to lead America into the technological age. Most of us remember what outhouses were, many of us with firsthand experience. We remember the days of telephone party-lines, 25 cent gasoline, and milk and ice being delivered to our homes. For those of you who don't know what an icebox is, today they are electric and referred to as refrigerators. A few even remember when cars were started with a crank. Yes, we lived those days.

We are probably considered old fashioned and out-dated by many. But there are a few things you need to remember before completely writing us off. We won World War II, fought in Korea and Viet Nam. We can quote The Pledge of Allegiance, and know where to place our hand while doing so. We wore the uniform of our country with pride and lost many friends on the battlefield. We didn't fight for the Socialist States of America; we fought for the "Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave." We wore different uniforms but carried the same flag. We know the words to the Star Spangled Banner, America, and America the Beautiful by heart, and you may even see some tears running down our cheeks as we sing. We have lived what many of you have only read in history books and we feel no obligation to apologize to anyone for America.

Yes, we are old and slow these days but rest assured, we have at least one good fight left in us. We have loved this country, fought for it, and died for it, and now we are going to save it. It is our country and nobody is going to take it away from us. We took oaths to defend America against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and that is an oath we plan to keep. There are those who want to destroy this land we love but, like our founders, there is no way we are going to remain silent.

It was mostly the young people of this nation who elected Obama and the Democrat Congress. You fell for the "Hope and Change" which in reality was nothing but "Hype and Lies."

You youngsters have tasted socialism and seen evil face to face, and have found you don't like it after all. You make a lot of noise, but most are all too interested in their careers or "Climbing the Social Ladder" to be involved in such mundane things as patriotism and voting. Many of those who fell for the "Great Lie" in 2008 are now having buyer's remorse. With all the education we gave you, you didn't have sense enough to see through the lies and instead drank the 'Kool-Aid.' Now you're paying the price and complaining about it. No jobs, lost mortgages, higher taxes, and less freedom.

This is what you voted for and this is what you got. We entrusted you with the Torch of Liberty and you traded it for a paycheck and a fancy house.

Well, don't worry youngsters, the Grey-Haired Brigade is here, and in 2016 we are going to take back our nation. We may drive a little slower than you would like but we get where we're going, and in 2016 we're going to the polls by the millions.

This land does not belong to the man in the White House nor to the likes of Nancy Pelosi, Harry Reid, and Eric Holder. It belongs to "We the People" and "We the People" plan to reclaim our land and our freedom. We hope this time you will do a better job of preserving it and passing it along to our grandchildren. So the next time you have the chance to say the Pledge of Allegiance, stand up, put your hand over your heart (or now veterans can salute), honor our country, and thank God for the old geezers of the "Gray-Haired Brigade."

Footnote: This is spot on. I am another Gray-Haired Geezer signing on. I will circulate this to other Gray-Haired Geezers all over this once great county.

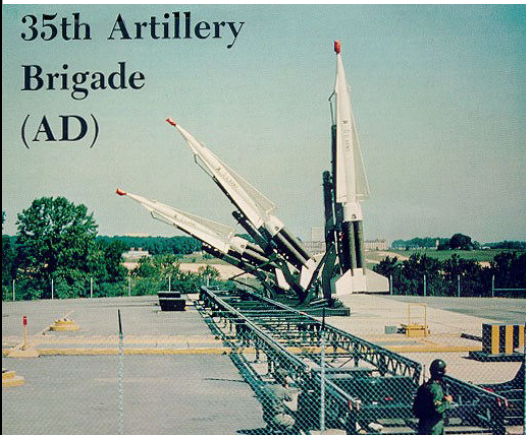
Can you feel the ground shaking??? It's not an earthquake, it is a STAMPEDE.

NIKE MISSILES

ARMY AIR DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY: 1950-1973

by Merle T. Cole

In February 1950, the U.S. Army's 35th Antiaircraft Artillery (AAA) Brigade transferred from Fort Bliss, Texas to Fort Meade, Maryland. For the next two decades, the brigade controlled air defense batteries which served as the last line of defense for Washington and Baltimore against Soviet long-range bombers. Many command and firing elements of this major strategic network were situated in Anne Arundel County.



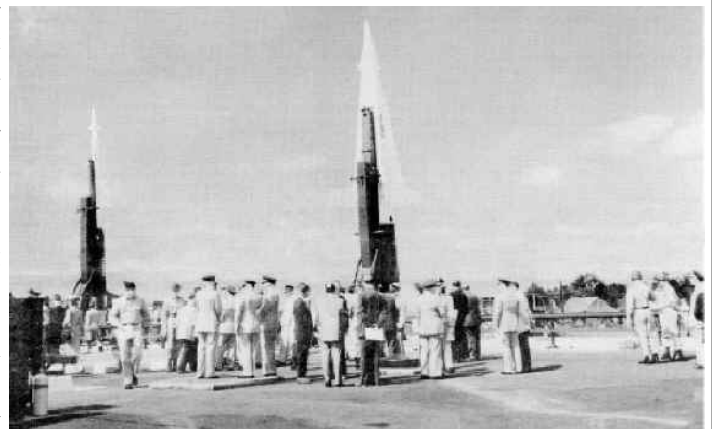
**35th Artillery
Brigade
(AD)**

Although the Army had been assigned a major role in continental air defense in 1948, it did not establish a specific command for this purpose until July 1, 1950, immediately after the Korean War broke out. The Army Antiaircraft Command - commonly known by the acronym ARAACOM - performed planning and oversight functions until April 1951, when it assumed actual operational control of Army air defense units throughout the United States. Army National Guard (ARNG) batteries were included in the air defense mission starting in March 1954, largely because the Regular Army did not have sufficient batteries to meet the nationwide requirement.

By the end of July 1952, 35th AAA Brigade had deployed 90-mm. and 120-mm. gun batteries around both Washington (under 19th AAA Group) and Baltimore (under 208th AAA Group). On March 28, 1956, the "Washington-Baltimore Defense" was activated under 35th Brigade control. "Defense" was an ARAACOM administrative designation for a defended locality. Brigades such as the 35th exercised control of tactical units (batteries, battalions and groups) within defenses until December 1973, when brigade echelons were replaced by groups (23d in Washington-Baltimore) as a cost cutting measure.

In December 1953, ARAACOM began converting from gun to missile batteries. The first conversion occurred when 36th AAA Battalion at Fort Meade traded its 120-mm. guns for the new Nike-Ajax guided surface-to-air missile (SAM). The unit was accordingly redesignated 36th AAA Missile Battalion. By 1955, ARAACOM had more missile than gun batteries in its Regular Army component, and the command was "all missile" by June 1960. On March 21, 1957, ARAACOM itself was redesignated, becoming Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM). This title was preferred because "antiaircraft" was too closely associated with obsolete gun defenses. Six months later, ARADCOM became part of America's contribution to the joint U.S.-Canadian North American Air Defense Command (NORAD).

NORAD operated an extensive radar network providing blanket coverage of the aerial approaches to North America. Canadian and American air force squadrons were responsible for early detection, identification and engagement of hostile targets at maximum range. This "area defense" mission was accomplished by manned interceptors and long-range, nuclear tipped Bomarc missiles. Both interceptors and missiles were controlled by the Air Force SAGE (Semi-Automatic Ground Environment) command and control system. SAGE centers also fed data to Army Air Defense Command Posts (AADCP). If "area defense" failed, AADCP's would activate the "point defense" mission by directing Nike batteries to launch against penetrator aircraft. Thus, Nike batteries were the "ultimate defense" of protected localities. The AADCP at Fort Meade operated the first Missile Master system in the United States, which became operational in December 1957 under 35th Artillery Brigade. Missile Master could coordinate a maximum of 24 firing batteries. In mid-1958 ARADCOM began replacing Ajax with the more capable, nuclear tipped Nike-Hercules SAM. Fewer batteries were needed to sustain the same level of defense. And fewer batteries meant reduced fire control requirements. Thus, the Fort Meade AADCP replaced Missile Master with Missile Mentor (capable of coordinating up to 16 firing batteries) in August 1966.



Ft Meade Nike Ajax on left & Nike Hercules at Davidsonville MD missile site

(Continued on page 10)

**Theodore J. Paluch, 92,
Malmedy Massacre Survivor
285th Field Artillery Observation BN**

By Bonnie L. Cook, Inquirer Staff Writer

POSTED: AUGUST 17, 2015



Theodore J. "Teddy" Paluch, 92, a World War II veteran and a survivor of the infamous Malmedy massacre of American GIs during World War II, died Saturday, Aug. 8, of congestive heart failure at the Philadelphia Veterans Community Living Center.

Mr. Paluch, a Philadelphia native, was drafted into the Army at age 20 and deployed to Europe with the 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion.

He was witness to the Malmedy massacre, a wartime atrocity in which 84 American soldiers who had surrendered in a field in Belgium were gunned down by the Waffen-SS on Dec. 17, 1944.

Mr. Paluch survived by playing dead and then crawling to safety. At that time, his extraordinary account of what happened, and those of others, galvanized the Allied forces to repel the Germans at the Battle of the Bulge.

Later, it helped form the grist of an attempt to prosecute the Nazi perpetrators, albeit an unsuccessful one. It also provided material for Danny Parker's 2013 book, *Fatal Crossroads: The Untold Story of the Malmedy Massacre at the Battle of the Bulge*.

Mr. Paluch made his life's work recounting his wartime experience, on file in the Library of Congress.

Anthony Waskie, a Temple University professor and close friend, spoke to him on July 24, as Mr. Paluch's health failed.

"I've been lucky. I have no regrets," Waskie said Mr. Paluch told him. "I cheated death on Dec. 17, 1944, and all the rest has been gravy. I wouldn't change anything."

Waskie said: "Ted was not the hero type, but a humble, basic guy who loved a good steak and his quiet role in a big event in World War II history. He will be missed."

Born in Philadelphia, Mr. Paluch grew up working at his family's candy shop in Kensington. While attending North Catholic High School, he paid close attention to news reports from Europe.

Mr. Paluch was playing pinball on Dec. 7, 1941, a Sunday, when he heard about the attack on Pearl Harbor from a friend. Immediately, he tried to join the Marine Corps, but the corps wouldn't take him.

In January 1943, though, he was drafted into the Army. "When you're young, you figure that you will do all the shooting. Well, it turned out a little different," he said in an oral history in 2009.

Mr. Paluch's battalion first saw action in the Hürtgen Forest just before the Battle of the Bulge. He saw trees explode as the Germans fired round after artillery round. "In just a matter of days, it seemed that every tree within sight was stripped bare of all limbs. It was a bloodbath in there," he said.

On Dec. 16, 1944, the German Wehrmacht attacked the U.S. Army through the Ardennes, a dense forest between Belgium and Luxembourg. The surprise offensive forced the Americans to retreat.

The next day, Mr. Paluch's unit was ordered to join the Eighth Corps. On the march to Malmedy, Belgium, his unit encountered German Waffen-SS troops.

"I saw them coming and our column stopped. I jumped out of the truck and into a ditch full of icy cold water," he recalled. "All we had was carbines and here was this tank coming down the road right at us. As it got close to us, it leveled its gun at the ditch, and the tank commander told us to surrender. What were we going to do? I threw my carbine down and threw my hands up."

Mr. Paluch and his comrades were taken captive by two SS troopers who searched them and assembled them in a field near the crossroads of Baugnez.

"We were standing there in the field with our hands up not knowing what was coming. I could hear guys praying, maybe I was, too . . . all you could think of was getting away," Mr. Paluch said.

(Continued on page 11)

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

By Big John T. Bill Asbill

I think most of us are old enough to appreciate this bit of nostalgia!!!

"Subject:Gee Whillikers

A language is similar to a living organism, and like any other organism some of the cells die along the way and new ones divide and split into new cells. This is also true for words, phases and expressions.*

Think for a moment of all the new words that have come into our language in the past twenty years in regard to the Internet and the communication media. Each specialty has it own language and often some of these specialties die and disappear from our culture.*

Below are some of these examples of deceased expressions.

Heavens to Betsy,

*WORDS**AND **PHRASES**REMIND **US OF THE
WAY**WE WORD*
by Richard Lederer

About a month ago, I illuminated some old expressions that have become obsolete because of the inexorable march of technology. These phrases included:

"Don't touch that dial,"

"Carbon copy,"

"You sound like a broken record"
and "Hungout to dry."

A bevy of readers have asked me to shine light on more faded words and expressions, and I am happy to oblige:

Back in the olden days we had a lot of moxie. We'd put on our best bib and tucker and straighten up and fly right. Hubba-hubba! We'd cut a rug in some juke joint and then go necking and petting and smooching and spooning and billing and cooing and pitching woo in hot rods and jalopies in some passion pit or lovers' lane.

"Heavens to Betsy!"

"Gee Whillikers!"

"Jumpin' Jehoshaphat!"

"Holy moley!"

We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley, and even a regular guy couldn't accuse us of being a knucklehead, a nincompoop or a pill. Not for all the tea in China!

Back in the olden days, life used to be swell, but when's the last time anything was swell? Swell has gone the way of beehives, pageboys and the D.A.; of spats, knickers, fedoras, poodle skirts, saddle shoes and pedal pushers.

Oh, my aching back. Kilroy was here, but he isn't anymore. Like Washington Irving's Rip Van Winkle and Kurt Vonnegut's Billy Pilgrim, we have become unstuck in time.

We wake up from what surely has been just a short nap, and before we can say,

"I'll be a monkey's uncle!"

or "This is a fine kettle of fish!"

we discover that the words we grew up with, the words that seemed omnipresent as oxygen, have vanished with scarcely a notice from our tongues and our pens and our keyboards.

Poof, poof, poof go the words of our youth, the words we've left behind. We blink, and they're gone, evanesced from the landscape and wordscape of our perception, like Mickey Mouse wristwatches, hula hoops, skate keys, candy cigarettes, little wax bottles of colored sugar water and an organ grinder's monkey.

Where have all those phrases gone? Long time passing. Where have all those phrases gone? Long time ago: Pshaw. The milkman did it. Think about the starving Armenians. Bigger than a bread box. Banned in Boston. The very idea! It's your nickel. Don't forget to pull the chain. Knee high to a grasshopper. Turn-of-the-century. Iron curtain. Domino theory. Fail safe. Civil defense. Fiddlesticks! You look like the wreck of the Hesperus. Cooties. Going like sixty. I'll see you in the funny papers. Don't take any wooden nickels. Heavens to Murgatroyd! And awa-a-ay we go!

Oh, my stars and garters! It turns out there are more of these lost words and expressions than Carter had liver pills. This can be disturbing stuff, this winking out of the words of our youth, these words that lodge in our heart's deep core. But just as one never steps into the same river twice, one cannot step into the same language twice. Even as one enters, words are swept downstream into the past, forever making a different river.

We of a certain age have been blessed to live in changeful times. For a child each new word is like a shiny toy, a toy that has no age.

We at the other end of the chronological arc have the advantage of remembering there are words that once did not exist and there were words that once strutted their hour upon the earthly stage and now are heard no more, except in our collective memory.

It's one of the greatest advantages of aging. We can have archaic and eat it, too.

**See 'ya later, alligator
When your legs get straighter!**

(Continued from Page 7 Missiles)

MISSILE MASTER NEWS RELEASE -1

ARMY MISSILE MASTER AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM PUT INTO OPERATION AT FORT MEADE TODAY

IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 5, 1957

MISSILE MASTER, the first fully operational electronic air defense control system in the United States, was put into action today (December 5) by the Army Air Defense Command.

Located at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, MISSILE MASTER will help defend the Washington-Baltimore government-industry complex against air attack. It is an electronic system which controls and coordinates the fire of the Army's air defense weapons to insure their maximum effectiveness. Targets can be selected economically, with control of each NIKE missile being retained by local battery commanders. In this way, preselected targets in an attacking air fleet are assigned for destruction by Missile Master to individual batteries of a NIKE network.

This first MISSILE MASTER installation is operated by the 35th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade. The Army said that the next MISSILE MASTER systems to become operational will be for the New York City defense area and other strategic, industrial and population centers across the nation.

Prior to MISSILE MASTER, the antiaircraft batteries were controlled and coordinated by voice telephone from a central defense command post where targets were plotted manually on a map of the area.

The increase in speed of aircraft and the high accuracy of the NIKE missile has necessitated the development of a rapid, automatic, electronic system for transmission and coordination of information. MISSILE MASTER relays a tactical decision of a weapons battery commander or the defense commander to all other commanders in the area as soon as it is made.

MISSILE MASTER electronically stores all information on targets in the area and presents it on a TV-like picture tube in a simplified form. This is in addition to its instantaneous trans-mission function.

Although MISSILE MASTER operates independently, it also has the capability of coordinating the fire of the NIKE batteries in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force SAGE interceptor aircraft control system in the overall defense of the continental U.S.

The MISSILE MASTER system was developed by the U.S. Army Signal Engineering Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey in conjunction with The Martin Company of Orlando, Florida. Principal subcontractors were the Airborne Instruments Laboratory of Mineola, Long Island, New York, and the American Machine and Foundry Company, New York, New York. Experience with a test system installed at Fort Meade in 1954 enabled the development of a production system for operational use in a relatively short time.

The 35th Artillery Brigade (Air Defense) was responsible for Army air defense of the Washington-Baltimore-Norfolk complex. The 35th moved to Fort Meade from Fort Bliss, Texas, in 1950.

(Continued from page 5- Augusta Chiwy)

Mortar shells were falling close by and German heavy machine guns were raking the ground around Chiwy's small frame as she tended the wounded, but despite this she focused on her duties undaunted. Dr. Prior said the bullets missed Augusta because she was so small, to which Chiwy retorted, "A black face in all that white snow was a pretty easy target. Those Germans must be terrible marksmen."

The skies above Bastogne had cleared on Dec. 23, and C-47s had dropped desperately needed supplies, but the very next day on Christmas Eve, those clear skies gave the German Luftwaffe a chance to send out a few of their remaining bomber squadrons over the city to cause even further death and destruction.

A 500-pound bomb fell directly on the 20th AIB Aid Station, instantly killing 30 wounded U.S. soldiers, along with nurse Renee Lemaire. Chiwy was in the adjacent house with Dr. Prior and a lieutenant when the bomb hit. She was blown clean through a wall, but miraculously survived unscathed.

On the following day, the remaining wounded were taken to the 101st headquarters at the Heintz Barracks where Chiwy worked until they were all evacuated when Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd Army arrived Dec. 26.

Surviving members of the 10th Armored Division recently signed a letter of appreciation for her service to them during the battle. Her efforts had never been officially recognized until then.

This month (Feb 2011), a letter was also received from King Albert II of Belgium stating that he acknowledges Augusta Chiwy's service and will officially recognize her courage and sacrifice during the Battle of the Bulge.



Which brings us to King Albert II's awarding Augusta a Knighthood. Friday, June 24th, 2011, and Augusta Chiwy becoming a Knight (Lady) of the *Order of the Crown* from King Albert II of Belgium, its nation's highest honor. The Knighthood was presented, for the King, by Defense Minister, Pieter De Crem

On 12 Dec 2011, Augusta was awarded the *Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service* by the US Department of the Army, presented to her by the US Ambassador Howard Gutman



US Army Award Photo by
HowardGutman

Augusta Chiwy was born on 6 June 1921, in the Belgium Congo, daughter of a Belgium Veterinarian from Bastogne and his Congolese wife.

Augusta Chiwy passed away on Sunday night, August 23, 2015, in her sleep.

Good bye farewell Mrs. Chiwy.

We will never forget you.

(Continued from page 8 Ted Paluch Obotuary)

Suddenly, one of the German vehicles came around the corner and its occupants began firing at the GIs. Other troopers joined in.

"Everybody started to drop and I dropped, too. I got hit in the hand as I went down. After that, as each vehicle passed, they fired into the group of us, laying there dead, or dying, in the field. Anyone that was moaning they came around and finished them off," Mr. Paluch said.

He lay in the field motionless for perhaps an hour.

Then a voice yelled, "Let's go," so Mr. Paluch got up and ran down a little road. Germans came out of a house and shot at Mr. Paluch as he dived into a hedgerow.

"I heard one of them come running towards where I was laying, and look me over. I could feel that guy standing above me, he could have shot me in the back and gotten it over with, but he didn't. I knew he was waiting for me to move, but I just laid there . . . dead still."

After a while, Mr. Paluch stuck his head up and saw no one, so he rolled down the hedgerow and crawled along a railroad line toward Malmedy. Along the way, he met two others from his unit. The men went to Malmedy and reported the massacre to American intelligence officers.

A total of 84 soldiers were killed that day. Their bodies were left to freeze in the field. Forty-three survived. The news that Germans were shooting prisoners of war outraged the American public, and strengthened the Allied resolve to counter the German offensive in the Ardennes.

While Mr. Paluch was in Malmedy, his wound was treated, and within two weeks he was back with the remnants of the 285th in the Ardennes.

After the war, he tried not to think about the Malmedy massacre, but the memory of his lost comrades haunted him.

"I tried to put it behind me, but it never really has been behind me, it's hard to forget. I don't know if we would have done that [to the Germans], but I don't really hold any animosity towards them, I wish it didn't happen, but it did."

When asked if the memories of the massacre affected him, his eyes welled with tears and his chin trembled.

"I lost a lot of good friends that day, I knew almost every one of those guys who were killed that day," he said. "I'm lucky. All my friends, all those young guys, they were all my age, with their whole life ahead of them. It never should have happened, and I hope no one ever forgets that it did."

Mr. Paluch returned to the States and held various jobs, including as a shipping supervisor for a manufacturer in South Jersey. He never married.

Mr. Paluch was a member of American Legion Post 405 at the Union League of Philadelphia and of the Delaware Valley Chapter, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. After he died at the veterans center, a wheelchair honor guard of veterans escorted his body to the hearse.

He is survived by his sister, Florence Evans, and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held from 9:30 a.m. until noon Monday, Aug. 17, at the Tomaszewski Funeral Home, 2728-30 E. Allegheny Ave., Philadelphia. Burial will be at a time to be determined at Washington Crossing National Cemetery in Newtown.

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610-313-8102

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON (MDW) COMMAND CHANGE

Major General Bradley A. Becker, recently promoted, has assumed command of the Joint Force Headquarters = National Capital Region, The U. S. Army Military District of Washington.,

Prior to taking command he had served as Brigadier General, Commanding the U. S. Army Training Center and Fort Jackson, South Carolina. While at Fort Jackson he supported the 2014 VBOB Reunion visit to the Post as well as the wreathlaying ceremony we had there. Barbara Mooneyhan of the South Carolina Chapter and Co-Chair of that Reunion says that he had been a great supporter of their Chapter and activities.

He was commissioned in May 1986 after graduation from Univ of Cal at Davis. He has had assignments in Korea, Opn Iraqi Freedom, Opn New Dawn Iraq, and a number of joint assignments. He has been awarded various meritorious medals. He is Ranger qualified and earned the Combat Action Badge, Parachutist & Air Assault badges. We welcome him to his new assignment.

BULGE UNIT REUNIONS

Wednesday, 27
January – 31 January 2016.
Battle of the Bulge
Reenactment, Fort
Indiantown Gap PA.
Wreath laying and Veterans

Reception on Friday, 29 Jan
2015 at the Community
Club. Dinner and WWII
entertainment Saturday, 30
Jan 2016. Stay 4 nights or
one, in renovated, original

WWII barracks. Free for
Veterans of WWII. See
information, on Page 3, in
this newsletter. Contact:
John D. Bowen, for
application, 301-384-6533 or

johndbowen@earthlink.net.
or you can go to
[www.wwiia.org/index.php/
events/battle-bulge-fig/](http://www.wwiia.org/index.php/events/battle-bulge-fig/) for
Registration form. Deadline
for Veterans is 20 Dec

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

John R. Schaffner
106th Infantry Division

Our October meeting is fast approaching and I am anxious to inform you all of our members that we are going to have as our guest this time, Bill Ward. I am introducing Bill to you as a student of, arguably, the most important infantry weapon employed during the Second World War. In spite of its importance, the history and development of the Garand M-1 rifle is probably not widely known today. Of millions manufactured many still exist seventy years later, and, if in good and original condition command high prices from collectors. I realize that those of us who were issued this weapon are of an age now, when we rarely talk about an "M-1."

Here is your opportunity to learn about the M-1 first hand from an expert. Bill Ward will be bringing weapons for display. Sorry, no ammo! (Strange, but they seem a lot heavier now than when I was 18 years old.)

Come and join us on Sunday, 11 October 2015, at Basta Pasta, for great company, a nice time, and fine dining. Bring a friend, we would love to have you with us.

JRS

Editor's Note: See below and Page 2 for details about Basta Pasta, Reservations and Location.

Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, MD/DC
John D. Bowen, Editor
613 Chichester Lane
Silver Spring MD 20904-3331

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Sunday 11 October 2015

BASTA PASTA,
60 West Timonium Road
Timonium MD

Note: Reservations to John Schaffner
pumexim2@verizon.net or
410-584-2754

By Wednesday 07 October 2015

MARCHER & WWII MUSINGS

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