



THUNDERBOLT

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WORLD WAR II

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Spring Issue 2013

— SHERATON CRYSTAL CITY —
SITE OF THE 67TH REUNION!

67

— YEARS —

1946 – 2013

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ARDENNES

BRITTANY

RHINELAND

CENTRAL EUROPE

ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA * JULY 31 – AUGUST 4, 2013

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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1948 Jack M. Straus*
1949 Shelly Hughes*
1950 Julius Ansel*
1951 Walter H. Edwards, Jr.
1952 Leo Schneider*
1953 Finley Heyl*
1954 Lawrence J. Redmond*
1955 Lawrence J. Redmond*
1956 Lt. Gen. Robert H. York*
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1968 Vito C. Palazzolo*
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1970 Casey Szubski*
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1972 Harold H. Dopp*
1973 Louis J. Volpi*
1974 Bernard O. Riddle*
1975 Robert G. Taylor
1976 Mike Skovran*
1977 Manlius Goodridge
1978 Joseph A. Macaluso*
1979 William J. Chavanne*
1980 Samuel Klippa*

1981 Michael Caprio*
1982 Ralph Gunderson*
1983 Arthur Doggett*
1984 Bernie Cove*
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1993 Louis Sandini*
1994 William M. Minick*
1995 Casey Szubski*
1996 Floyd Richmond*
1997 Keith Davidson*

1998 R. C. Hamilton
1999 Pat DiGiammerino*
2000 Salvatore Scicolone
2001 Pat DiGiammerino*
2002 Bob Taylor
2003 Salvatore Scicolone
2004 Allison Shrawder*
2005 Ames H. Miller*
2006 Rudy Zamula
2007 Robert Keck
2008 Michael Catrambone*
2009 John White
2010 Carmella Catrambone
2011 Carmella Catrambone
2012 Carmella Catrambone
2013 Carmella Catrambone
*Denotes Deceased



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CARMELLA CATRAMBONE

Message From Your President Carmella DiMartino Catrambone

Each year the 83rd Infantry Division Association renews its energy at the annual reunion. Our 2012 reunion was held in Nashville, TN, at the request of several veterans. The big draw was the excitement of the city and the all-American Grand Ole Opry where our veterans were recognized twice during the performance.

Many of our veterans who participated in the Tennessee Maneuvers were presented with an

honorary Masters Degree by the President of Cumberland University who was accompanied by members of Cumberland's Board of Trustees.

We scheduled in extra free time this year so everyone could tour on their own or just hang out with friends in the hospitality room. Our reunion ended with a banquet and a fabulous dance band.

As always, the reunion could not have been a success if it were not for those who attended and all of the people in our Association who volunteered their time to assist. We were extremely fortunate to have an excellent staff at the Sheraton who made planning for the reunion a pleasure and our stay at the hotel very comfortable.

Next year's reunion will be held in Washington, DC and is being run by Kathleen Powers. I am sure that it will be a marvelous reunion, knowing that is in Kathleen's capable hands. We shall all await the details from Kathleen.

See you in Washington in 2013! ▼



Looking For Past Issues of the Thunderbolt

Hi folks! We are looking for past issues of the Thunderbolt from the list below. Please note that some years may not have published a fourth issue. If you have any information about these, please contact John Markuns ▼

Possible Missing Vol. and Number:

1947 No. 2
1947 No. 3
1948 No. 1
1948 No. 2
1948 No. 3
1949 No. 1
1949 No. 3
1977 No. 4
1979 No. 4
1981 No. 4

1984 No. 2
1985 No. 3
1993 No. 1
1994 No. 4
1994 No. 4
1996 No. 4
1997 No. 4
1998 No. 4
1999 No. 4
2000 No. 4

2001 No. 1
2001 No. 4
2002 No. 4
2003 No. 4
2004 No. 4
2005 No. 4
2006 No. 3
2006 No. 4
2007 No. 3
2007 No. 4

FROM THE EDITOR

CLIFF WOOLDRIDGE

Please Note: Due to increases in shipping costs the dues for 2013 will be going up to \$30 per year. Anyone who has already paid your 2013 dues will not have to send in the additional \$5. Wishing all a great 67th Reunion!

— Cliff Wooldridge ▼

COMPANIES

Co. "A"–330TH

CHARLES ABDINOOR

sgtchuck83rd@comcast.net

A Co. 330th. News

Hi Gang;

Hope all is well with ALL. We are fine here. The news that I heard about Nashville has me shaken in my boots. I missed one GRAND TIME. I heard all positive comments about our Reunion. I am sorry missing it but, health comes first, they tell me. In any way the Board of Directors, overruled my argument. (wife and son) I was suppose to meet Nellrita and Steward Barrick, also Pauline and Ed Brown. I couldn't believe it. The Barricks had health problems, and had to cancel Their Hotel and Airplane reservation, Pauline and Ed, also had to cancel. Ed had a health problem, and also cancelled. That left no one to represent A-Company, They usually represent the 330th. Regiment, but I am sure some one stepped up. It was a great loss when we lost Walter Pillion this year. I received notification from Pearl. At his Funeral Russell Strand his son in law, gave an inspirational talk of growing up in Tennessee as a child, right to his adulthood. Walter received a Battlefield Commission, and the first thing he showed his GOLD BAR, which he had hidden under his collar. We all knew him as a man, showing no fear, would not send anybody, to do anything that he would not do himself. He usually was in

front of his platoon, and watched over his men. Although there are so many incidents worth mentioning, I feel someone would be able to write a book. We all looked up to him, and surely miss him and Pearl. Cookie Senica is still holding court at his Retirement home and is close to 100 years old. He was the Company's Clerk. Neal Prussman our POW, is now retired but is keeping and eye out, since his Grandson is running the Farm. We are going to Cliff and Nancy's house for a New England Clambake, as I write this, Nell Catrombone, Bobbi Jo and John White, are probably coming also. We hope. This is a typical clambake, Lobster, steamers, corn, potato salad, and all the fixings. YA'LL COME!

UPDATE: We had a wonderful time at Cliff's and Nancy's house, we had an old fashion NEW ENGLAND CLAMBAKE. Mell Catrabone was there, plus her guests, and John Markuns, Paul DiGiammerino and I. Cliff's Daughters and their husbands put it on. A great big thanks to them we did not have to do anything but eat and drink. I won't go into any details of what we had, but if you had not been to a CLAMBAKE, you are missing some thing special. We discussed a little 83rd. business, but ALL were to busy eating LOBSTER, PLUS! also a big THANK YOU to Jonathan, who was also there, for his work on the Thunderbolt.

— Chuck Abdinoor ▼





This is what the Boston Chapter looked like circa 1965...



MAIL BAG

My family and I owe a big thanks to John White, Dave Dimmick and John Markuns and the rest of the 83rd. During the last reunion, my father fell ill away from the hotel. These men, along with others, took care of him when his family couldn't. Fortunately, my father was fine and I am sure it was in part to the care he received from his "brothers in arms." And rest assured 83rd, George is doing all he can to make his mark on his new hats!

Sincerely,
Marguerite E. Cyr,
daughter of Russell Whitehead

Dear Chapter friends,
On Sunday 26 August a group of German locals of the village Kleinhau, Hurtgenwald will re-install an old monument dedicated to the death of soldiers fallen at Kleinhau and in the Hurtgenwald.

The Monument was first erected in 1955 by Frau Sandmann of Kleinhau who lost her son, Wolfgang, as a German casualty of war in Norway. It was dedicated to her son and "to the many German and American soldiers that fell here in the Hurtgenwald."

In front of the monument lay a German helmet as reference to the German Hurtgen soldiers. With the re-install in 2012 an American helmet has been added.

With this ceremony on 26 August, the community people will commemorate two of the victims from the Hurtgen battle as a dedication

to all victims of both sides. One German, Edgar Brunnenau found in 1968 in the woods, and the second will be William Guterding (B Co / 330th IR / MIA 8/12/44 - KIA 14/12/44 - body found May 1946 [indeed 46 !!]). William Guterding and A + B Co. were at the Hill 375 position which is a few 100 yards from the Monument.

Here's the link to the Hurtgen website and information on the old-monument: <http://www-old,hurtgenwald.de/index.php?go=geschichte&366&0>. Look for the "Brunnenau Cross" and "The Madonna."

I represented the 83rd VA at this ceremony. The ceremony started around 12.30.

Enjoy the day!
Wim



67th Annual Reunion Details

The Association's **67th Annual Reunion** will be held at the Sheraton – Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia from July 31 – August 4, 2013. The hotel is located about 15 minutes (depending on traffic) from Reagan National Airport (DCA) and is accessible from the airport both by Metro and by hotel shuttle. For those driving, the hotel is just minutes from I-395. The Metro is just about ½ block from the hotel and the area is loaded with nearby eateries of all kinds that should satisfy the palates of reunion goers.

We have scheduled tours in the mornings, so the afternoons and evenings can be open for attendees to explore the many sights in the DC area. Sadly for baseball fans, the Washington Nationals will be out of town that week. Most museums offer free admission to the public. If you desire tours of the White House or Congress (if the sequestration does not interfere), you should contact your Senator or Representative. For our European friends, you will need to contact your Embassy in Washington, DC.

Currently scheduled activities include

- ❖ **Wednesday evening, July 31** (for those arriving early), the Twilight Tattoo, a 1-hour performance by the Old Guard that traces our military history from the Revolutionary War through the present.
- ❖ **Thursday morning, August 1** for on an onboard bus tour of the many sights in Washington D.C. with a stop at the World War II Memorial where we will meet a historical group for a photo opportunity at one of the bronze reliefs.
- ❖ **Thursday Afternoon, August 1** There will be drop-offs following the tour for those wishing to spend the afternoon visiting one of the many Museums and sites around the National Mall on their own and for those who may want to take a shuttle to College Park Maryland to the National Archives facility where many 83rd records are stored. Cliff Snyder Jr., who works at the Archives, will be providing a primer on the Archives at the reunion, and will be available to assist those who may want to visit College Park to acquaint themselves with what records are available for research. *If you are interested in visiting the Archives at College Park, please check the box on the reunion registration form as space is limited.* To get a head start, you may visit: <http://www.archives.gov/research>
- ❖ **Friday morning, August 2** we travel to Arlington National Cemetery for a public wreath laying at the Tombs of the Unknowns, a visit to the unit plaque and division commander's grave, then a tour with private trams and a guide. This will be followed by a wonderful luncheon at Fort Myers, Virginia.

Some additional activities are still in the planning stages. As always, we hope to have another surprise or two in store, as well as the first class entertainment you have come to expect at our **Saturday Evening Banquet**.

I am looking forward to a great reunion. As time passes, each opportunity to be together is one to be cherished. Hope to see you and your families.

— Kathleen Power

Christmas 2012

This has been a quiet year for us and the most exciting thing I can do is to re-view old files about investments, insurance and other bills and dump old records. I stopped working at the National Archives in College Park, MD (NARA II) two years ago, but I occasionally go there to copy records of my 83rd Infantry Division and have lunch with former co-workers.

Evelyn continues her once-a-week job processing Medicare bills for a family counselor. We keep in touch with her former colleagues at the Food & Drug Association by attending their luncheons at Umberto's restaurant nearby.

In early May we attended my Rutgers Reunion in New Brunswick, NJ and heard a speech by outgoing president Richard McCormick at a luncheon for alumni. I marched in the Alumni Parade up College Avenue, but had to give up after 4-5 blocks. On 1 June we attended Evelyn's reunion at Douglass (aka New Jersey College for Women (NJC).

In May I also attended a CIRA luncheon at which DCI David H. Petraeus spoke. Before he spoke, I asked if I could shake his hand and convey a message on behalf of the few remaining CIA retirees present who had joined the Agency in the early 1950's. I got my wish and a photo was taken of this historic event.

In June I began doing volunteer work for Maryland Congressional candidate John Delaney, starting out with phone calls. It was more productive to go door to door soliciting votes and I learned a lot about my suburban neighborhoods. Delaney won the election by 59 percent.

A powerful storm hit this area in July, and a tree fell across our rear deck. A charming female insurance adjuster from Atlanta, Georgia surveyed the damage and a check arrived in a few days. Bartlett Tree Service did a good job in cleaning up the damage.

August 2-4 I attended my 83rd Infantry Division Association meeting in Nashville, TN. I thought the town looked different until I recalled that the previous reunion I had in mind was in 2006 in Nashville, Indiana. The entertainment consisted mostly of country western groups (one had a violin instead of a guitar) and singers. They did play a few of the old favorites like Patsy Cline that I enjoyed.

I established contact with the family of my 83rd Signal Co Captain Marion L. Harkey, thanks to our 83rd Historian Dave Curry. Harkey's daughter, Roberta Himebrook has an amazing collection of 83rd "Radio News" reports that are being posted on the Belgian Website <http://83rdinfdivdocs.org/> I was able to provide Mrs Himebrook with the excellent monthly After/Action reports (78 pages) written by Capt. Harkey that she had never seen.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
Rudy and Evelyn Zamula ▼



CIRA LUNCHEON



Director Petraeus



Director Petraeus, Rudy Zamula



Director Petraeus



Director Petraeus, Dave & Charlene Carey



Director Petraeus, Dave Carey



After Normandy, before Saint-Malo: The 83rd Infantry Division enters in Brittany

By Antoine Noslier, Epiniac, France, edited by George Studor, 83rd Association
photos by the same plus Margot Cauhape, Rennes France

The 330th was the first infantry regiment of the 83rd Infantry Division to enter Brittany. The first objective of the regiment was the town of Dol-de-Bretagne, an outpost of the Fortress of Saint-Malo. This town was the area of two ambushes that were carried out on August 2nd, 1944 by a naval advanced reconnaissance party and Task Force A - particularly the 17th Cavalry Reconnaissance squadron. The American losses were 18 men. At the end of August 3rd, the 330th received the mission to take the town the next morning. Apparently, during the night, Colonel Foster ordered Sgt. Pusta and Corporal O'Donnell, from the CIC attached to the 330th, to contact the German commander and request his departure from the town in order to save the Cathedral and the town from destruction. The next morning, Dol-de-Bretagne was taken with only small resistance from twenty Germans.



This picture was taken by a civilian of an antitank gun crew with some civilians. These men were from the 330th, but I can't say if they were from the Anti-tank Company or if it was an Anti-tank platoon from one of the battalions of the 330th. During the afternoon, of August 4th, 1944, the Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon of the 330th crossed the little town of Cherrueix. They made a reconnaissance mission in this town to see if the Germans were there.

Cherrueix is a small coastal town, between Saint-Malo and the famous Mont Saint Michael. The following pictures were all taken at Cherrueix. Their jeeps were surrounded by the happy French people! And some received a very nice welcome!





Photo left: From the markings on this vehicle in Cherrueix, I suppose this soldier is from the 330th Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, sent on the same day in reconnaissance to the little town of Le Vivier sur mer. That town is located by a small harbor on the coast between St Malo and Mont Saint-Michael. Today, Le Vivier is famous for it's oysters and moulds.



Above right, a 83rd Military Police Platoon detains a suspicious man. The yellow strip that surrounds their helmets were not cut to inscribe the letters "MP." It's very unique, a marking I have not seen in any other unit. The photo was taken on August 4th or shortly afterwards in front of the cemetery of Dol de Bretagne, at the southern entrance of Cherrueix.

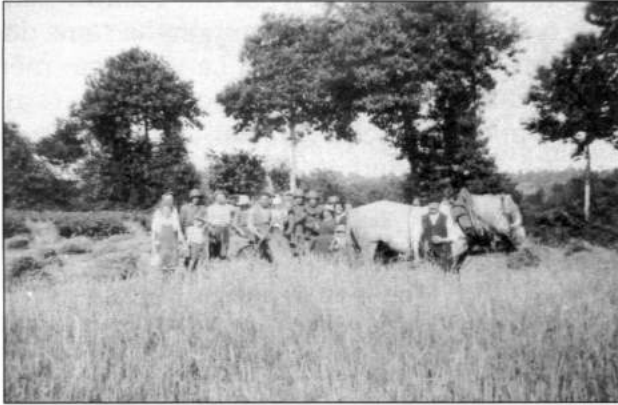
— continued



Do you have any 83rd Newspapers from WWII?

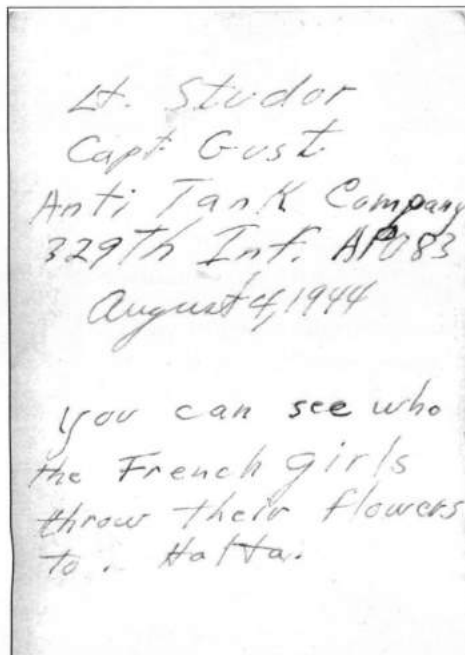
You can Help the Legacy Chapter Preserve and Catalog them. Prior to and during WWII, the 83rd Infantry Division and its units printed several newspapers. Today, one of the goals of the Legacy Chapter is to preserve them and make them digitally available on the internet. I am leading this effort. Several can be read online at: www.normandytothebulge.be and 83rdinfdivdocs.org, but we still need many issues to complete our newspaper 'archive'. ALL newspapers that were published by the 83rd Infantry Division, supporting or attached units are of interest. Some examples on division-level are 'The Bounce' published in Camp Breckinridge, 'The Spearhead' and 'The Thunderbolt'. If you have WWII issues of 83rd Division newspapers, you can check on the websites above or email me at jelthy13@hotmail.com to see if we already have them scanned in. To get your papers scanned, you can ask a nearby copy center to do help; then send it to me at my email address above. Thank you!

— Jelle Thys, Belgium ▼



The 329th Infantry Regiment at Epiniac:

At the same time, the 329th arrived during the morning of August 4th in the little town of Epiniac, where I live. The 3rd Battalion was stationed in the field of the small village of Saint-Leonard, which is my neighborhood. One of the command posts of the 329th was located at a farm called "La Bigotiere". The 1st Battalion was located around this farm, so it may have been the 1st Battalion HQ Command Post. This picture was taken in the same sector.

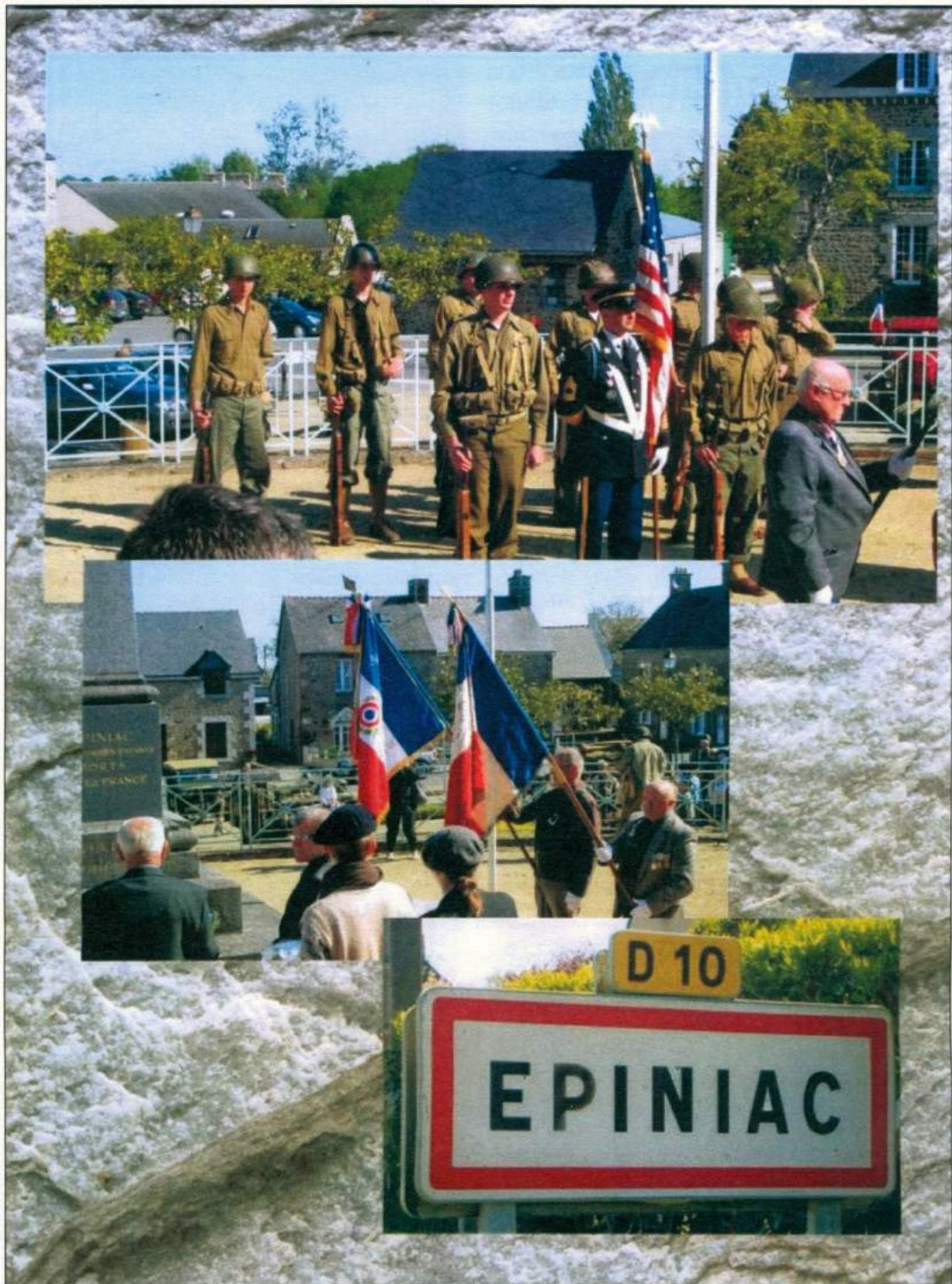


Lt. George Studor, left, said in his letter, dated August 4th, his 26th birthday, that here is where they met the friendliest French people since they arrived in France. This was understandable since people in Normandy had suffered great loss of their homes, family and friends. The following days weren't so quiet as August 4th, 1944 as the push for St. Malo began in earnest after that.

The First Celebration of Liberation of Epiniac, France - May 12 & 13, 2012

I was rewarded for the planning and hard work to make this celebration finally happen for my town. I could see the eyes of the most aged twinkling like stars when they went to our reenactment camp and saw our exhibition about the liberation of Epiniac. They told me their remembrances, and the liberation of Epiniac was probably one of the most important events of their lives. I think that they would like me to say "Thank you" to our Americans liberators of the 83rd Infantry Division for them.





I hope some of you recognize the GI's on the older pictures! You can contact me if you know some of these men (my email antoine.noslier@329th-buckshot.fr) or post your reply in the next Thunderbolt.

Note: See more at the Website of our reenactment association: www.329th-buckshot.fr

The Thunderbolt Chronicles



Dave Curry

email: davecurry@ncweb.com

phone: 440-942-5030

It was a great reunion this year in Nashville, and we were glad to see so many old friends and acquaintances. There were a lot of important things going on, and it was great to hear about all the plans being made by our Legacy Chapter and by our European friends. Some really important things are being worked on, including a project to scan all copies of the Thunderbolt and make them

available as digital files. John Markuns has already visited Cliff Wooldridge and created one primary collection of Thunderbolts (the better copies) out of all the copies that Cliff has and found that most are in good shape. There are a few missing copies from the second year of the Thunderbolt. John is working on an inventory so that an estimate can be made to determine the cost to scan the issues.

Our European members had a lot to report, including plans to create a "Trail of the 83rd Division" in Normandy. Jean Paul had a great presentation showing how all of the battlefields of the 83rd would be memorialized with signage throughout Normandy.

Eddy Monfort had a big announcement about an 83rd Museum in Bihan, Belgium—which just opened at the end of September. Eddy and some others posted quite a few pictures on the 83rd Facebook page of the grand opening of the museum, and I'm including some of these elsewhere in this article, as well as some other photos and information from the Facebook page, which has become a great resource for connecting descendants, veterans, and others with an interest in the 83rd Division.

A lot of new information about the 83rd has shown up on the 83rd Facebook page, and I would encourage all of you with computers to at least take a look at it, and possibly become involved.

Normandy Visit

We were fortunate to meet several descendants at the reunion that we had not met in

Patrick Houlihan sent along this photograph of a boat that was built in honor of the 83rd. Patrick reports that "inspired by attending the reunion in August at West Point [2011 reunion], my son decided he wanted to build a boat. In our design and construction it ended up looking like a landing craft and we decided to honor those members of the 83rd ID. Here is the maiden voyage of the 'Thunderbolt.' Thought it might be a good picture for the news letter. In Picture; LtCol Patrick Houlahan, USMC and Ryan Houlahan (age 11). Grandson and Great Grandson of SSGT Walter Knapp."





Mayor Lepourrey receives a plaque from Larry Scheerer. The plaque, from Larry and his family, was a "thank you" to the mayor, Jean Paul, and the people of Sainteny for their work in honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans.

person before. One of them was Larry Scheerer, who contacted me in February about his potential trip to Normandy to visit the areas where his

father, 1st Lt. Richard W. Scheerer, had fought with the 331st Infantry as the leader of a machine gun platoon. Larry had already done some research, and located a couple of the places where his father fought. He asked if I knew of anyone in Normandy who had information about the 83rd. It was an easy request to fill, and in short order I had Larry in contact with Jean Paul Pitou. What followed was a massive exchange of emails with much information provided by Jean Paul, and a trip in May to Normandy where Jean Paul acted as the host in a grand tour of the 83rd Battlefields.

Larry and his wife Rosaline were "happily overwhelmed" with the amazing coordination and hospitality of Jean Paul and all of the great people that he met in Normandy. Larry shared much of the information with his father, who is 96 and living in St. Louis. Some of the special events arranged by Jean Paul included a complete tour of Lt. Scheerer's journey starting with the American Cemetery at Colleville, Omaha Beach,

83rd Division Museum



Here are a few pictures from the recent dedication of the 83rd Division Museum on September 30th in Bihain, Belgium. Photos taken by Remy Mortelette and Thijs Hodiamont. These were posted on the 83rd Facebook page shortly after the dedication.

Bricqueville and Colombieres, through Isnigny to advance of the 331st and the communities along Carentan, Auvers, Meautis, and finally Le Bas the way. Larry and his wife also participated in Boscq. They visited the barn where his father was many other events including meeting Mayor carried when he was wounded and the farm fields Lepourry in Sainteny, as well as ceremonies at the defensive line. Jean Paul also acted as a May 8th in Meautis, mass and ceremonies in guide for a complete driving tour of the path of Auvers, and ceremonies in Sainteny. ▼

Captain Mitchell's Uniform

One of our 83rd friends in Normandy is Glyn Nightingale, a British citizen who has a home near the Taute River. Over the past few years, Glyn has discovered many 83rd Division items in his back yard, including ammunition, helmets, grenades, and other objects. But just a few months ago he made another discovery. He found someone who owned the uniform and other items belonging to Captain Robert Mitchell, CO of F Company, 331st Infantry. Glyn purchased the collection, some of which is shown in these photos, which were posted on the 83rd Facebook page.



War Lives On In Veteran's Painting

By Jeff Spencer

WEST AMWELL TWP. — Russ Whitehead remembers the whistling of incoming artillery shells and pine trees bursting. He remembers the knee-deep mud, the snow and the friends he made in the Hurtgen forest during the winter of 1944.

Attached to the United States Army's 83rd Division as a scout in a rifle company, Mr. Whitehead, now 77, was reminded of the tooth and nail battle when his war buddy, Warren Boucher, died in June 1999 and left him a special gift.

The gift, a large oil painting of the Battle of Hurtgen, often called a "blunder" near the Germany-Belgium border, is so realistic, Mr. Whitehead said, it floods him with memories of war.

"The only way you could exist in that forest was on the ground or running like hell and I was a blur," recalled Mr. Whitehead who long admired the artistic talent of his friend, Mr. Boucher.

"Whatever he saw he captured in his mind's eye," he said. "This painting was done some 50 years after the war." When the war was over, the self-taught artist often painted battlefield scenes he witnessed in Europe during World War II, said Mr. Whitehead.

Winter Comes to the Hurtgen Forest depicts a rugged band of American "forwards observers" scouting the front lines through the dark and damp pine forest, said Mr. Whitehead. The painting is graphic — trees are splintered and burned from incoming artillery, German snipers lay dead in the blood-stained snow, and several cigarette smoking GIs huddle in a shallow, muddy trench.

"That snow was just so beautiful, but when the shells hit it turned black and you could guess what happened when one hit a man."

In addition to fighting the best German army and panzer divisions before they reached the Battle of the Bulge, the troops fought trench foot,

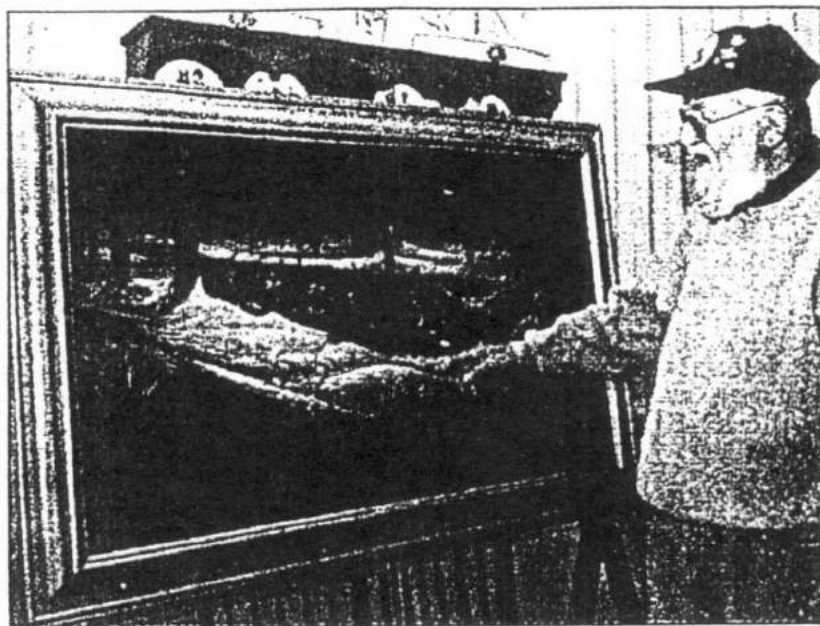


Photo by Jessie Galis

RELIVING A WAR — This painting of the Battle of Hurtgen during World War II was donated to the Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pa. Russ Whitehead of West Amwell Township, a veteran of the fierce battle, points to a pine tree that had been splintered by German artillery shells.

diarrhea, sleeplessness and temperatures that plummeted to 30 degrees below zero at night, he said.

After the war, Mr. Boucher and Mr. Whitehead often wrote letters to one another and occasionally hung out together at Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) reunions.

While on his deathbed, Mr. Boucher asked his family to make sure the painting was given to Mr. Whitehead after he died. "He finished the painting two months before he died . . . you could never understand the love between men in a rifle company."

To ensure the prosperity of the painting, Mr. Whitehead packed the art into a shipping crate last week and drove it to the Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pa., where it will be displayed in a public museum.

"This was his last painting. We found

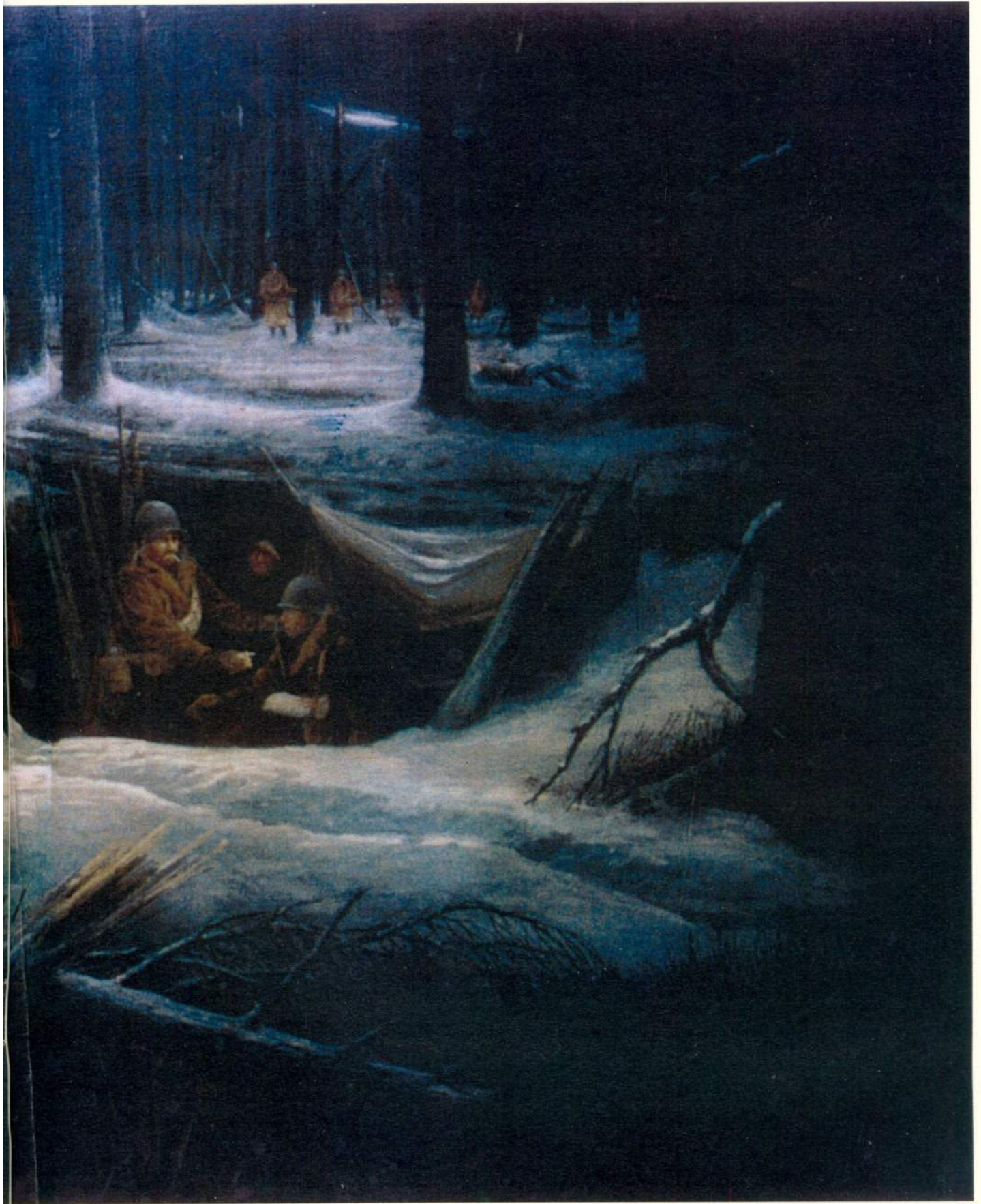
a home for it where it wouldn't be stored or sold."

For more information on the painting and the institute call (717) 245-3971.

— continued

Warren Boucher, *Winter Comes to Hurtgen Forest*





Deaths and Funerals

To learn of area deaths before our next issue, go online to www.advertisergleam.com and click on the Death Notices button.



Henry A. "Tubby" Smith

Tubby Smith, 90

- A staff sergeant in the Army, he went ashore in France in the second landing on D-Day.

- He worked in the state grain inspection office at East Lake until he retired in 1979.

Henry Alfred "Tubby" Smith of Guntersville died Friday, Aug. 10, 2012, in the Gadsden Regional Hospital, at the age of 90.

He had been in McGuffey Healthcare and Rehab in Gadsden for the last month, and before that he lived in Merrill Gardens of Albertville for about 5 years.

His wife Mildred Smith died in 2009. They had celebrated their 60th anniversary in 2007.

He was born in Brewton, Ala., to Daniel H. and Clifford Elizabeth Hughes Smith.

He served in World War II as a staff sergeant in the Army and was awarded 3 Bronze Stars, an

oak leaf cluster and a Purple Heart. He was passionate about telling of his time in service, and compiled a notebook with articles and memorabilia that he enjoyed sharing with people.

He moved to Guntersville in 1955 in his job with the state.

He was a charter member of Creek Path Baptist Church and took part in construction of the church. He also took special interest in the Marshall Baptist Retreat Center, where he was chairman of the planning committee for years.

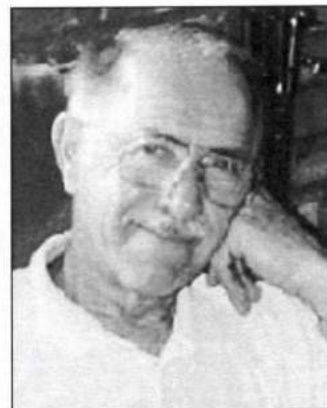
He is survived by a son, Al Smith of Tampa; 2 daughters, Nancy Sims and Cindy Martin of Guntersville; 2 grandchildren, Will Sims (Melissa) and Erica Martin of Guntersville; a great-grandson, and a brother, Edward L. Smith of Evergreen, Ala.

He was preceded in death by 2 sisters, in addition to his wife.

His funeral was Monday at Creek Path Baptist Church with Bro. Rick Douglas, Bro. Donald Cotten and Bro. Phil Robeson officiating. Burial was in Marshall Memorial Gardens, directed by Marshall Memorial Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Hal Miller, Rodney Beasley, Benny Sims, Tony Baggett, Andy Beasley and McRae Benefield.

The family suggests memorial donations to the Marshall Baptist Retreat Center, 271 Baptist Camp Road, Guntersville, AL 35976, or Creek Path Baptist Church, PO Box 667, Guntersville, AL 35976.



Just want all to know that we lost another active 83rd'r. **Edwin F. Brown**, one of our Rare Breed passed away February 3rd. Ed was a familiar face at our Reunions, having attended many with his wife Pauline. Ed was a main stay, volunteering to set up our seating reservations for our Saturday night Banquet. He had that magical smile on his face, I swear 24 hours a day. He was a proud member of A-Co. 330th. He was also proud to represent the 330th at our Memorial Service. He was also a giving person, having volunteered to help out Churches in Alaska with his wife Pauline. He leaves his wife Pauline and his two boys Jeff and Scott. I will surly miss that smiling face picking them up at the Airport. He was a High School Teacher, teaching Math. and was also a Counselor. He was known throughout the School as EASY ED. I wonder if the students knew that he was a Rifleman, having served in the Bulge, and also a Purple Heart Recipient. I wish that I was able to put in words what a Great Man he was. My condolences go out to his Pauline and Family, and BUDDY we will most certainly miss that SMILING FACE. REST WELL BUDDY.

— Chuck Abdinoor,
B & A Co. 330th

Deceased List

Our sympathy goes out to all the families of these veterans. We will miss all of them.

Name	Unit	Reported by
James Brown	331st, L Co.	Greg Chipps/Dave Curry
Edwin F. Brown	A Co., 330th	Charles Abdinoor
Quinto Tony DeAntoni	C Co., 308 Engineers	Janice DeBastiani (Daughter)
James R. Mellman	HQ Bat. Arty	Andrew Mellman (Son)
Adolph (Cookie) Seneca	A Co., 330th Regt.	Charles Abdinoor
Philip Simmons	330th	Flo Jackson/Bobbie White
Henry A. "Tubby" Smith		

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

HANCHER, Betty Lorraine Belle



89, of Country Place Village, New Port Richey, died Sunday Oct. 21, 2012 at home. Born in Garrett, PA on July 15, 1923, to the late William A. and Lulabelle (nee Romesburg) Sipe. She was preceded in death by sister, Fern Louise (nee Sipe) Fluder, brother Jay A Sipe and brother Joseph Sipe, died in infancy. Betty moved from Garrett to Central City, PA as a young girl. She graduated from Shade Township High School in 1939. Betty spent most of her adult life in Baltimore, MD, where she worked on the tabulation machines for the Social Security Administration in Baltimore for many years. Over the years, Betty gave her time to the Baltimore, MD Girl Scouts as Troop Leader and Troop Service Director, and to her church's Ladies Auxiliary. Betty and Paul retired in 1985, to their hometown of Central City. After several years of being "snowbirds" they moved to Wauchula, FL and later to Country Place Village in New Port Richey. In New Port Richey, she was a longstanding

member of the Elfers TOPS chapter, the Sassy Lassies Red Hat Chapter of Country Place Village and for many years she served as secretary of the Ladies Auxillary of the 83rd Infantry Division Veterans Organization. Her hobbies included sewing, crocheting and making greenware ceramics. She was particularly talented at painting faces with expressive eyes and delicate features. Betty is survived by her husband of 69 years, Paul Hancher. They were married on March 19, 1943 in Baltimore, MD at the height of World War II. Betty is survived by two daughters, Lori Hancher Fritzsche, of New Port Richey and Jaimie Louise (nee Hancher) and Robert Beavers of Holiday; two grandchildren, Melisande Catherine Fritzsche and Peter Nicholas Fritzsche, both of Baltimore, MD. Services will be held at **Michels & Lundquist Funeral Home, 5228 Trouble Creek Rd., New Port Richey.** Betty's family invite friends to call on Wednesday, Oct. 24th, From 2-4 pm and 6-8 pm, with funeral service on Thursday at 11 am. Interment will follow at Florida National Cemetery. The family suggests donations to HPH Hospice. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I just received a notice of **Adolph (COOKIE) Seneca** passing. Cookie was a member of A Co. 330th. His son Jim called to let me know. Cookie was 100 years old, and was living at the Soldiers Home at LaSalle, IL. He was the oldest Veteran living there, and was very highly respected. His Daughter and Son Jim brought him to our Reunion at Nashville, IN. I believe that was the last time we had so many members of A-Company all together. Cookie was the Company Clerk, and he made sure that all was in order. He will surely be missed by all our members. Our condolences to his Family, they spoiled him rotten. He was the Heart and Soul of his Family.

— Chuck Abdinoor ▼

Quinto DeAntoni (1917 - 2012)

November 6, 2012

Mr. Clifton Wooldridge,

I am writing to inform you that my father, Quinto DeAntoni, passed away on October 19, 2012, at the age of 95. He was born in San Francisco on July 21, 1917 and lived there until he married Frances Kelly in 1941. They lived in Belmont for the rest of their lives.

He was very proud of his service in WWII. He and Frances enjoyed traveling to the 83rd reunions, meeting up with friends. They kept in touch with many veteran friends for all these years since the war.

In 2011, Dad received the French Medal of Honor. He had lifetime memberships in the American Legion, VFW, DAV, & Military Order of the Ardennes. He attended luncheon meetings of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge and the Military Order of the Purple Heart locally.

He worked as a carpenter in high rise construction in San Francisco until his retirement. He continued doing carpentry as late as this past spring building a picnic table and benches for his five great-grandchildren. He enjoyed his family and loved being together with everyone. He was a very gregarious man and spoke to everyone in his community. He was well known and loved. He will be greatly missed.

— Janice DeBastiani, daughter ▼

We will all
miss him greatly.
He was our
corner stone.



Quinto (Tony) DeAntoni

Resident of Belmont

Age 95, passed away on
October 19.

He was born 1917 in San Francisco. He was married to Frances for 56+ years. Served in the Army WWII Europe 83rd Infantry Division known as "The Thunderbolts" and is highly decorated for his service, including receiving the French Medal of Honor in 2011. Quinto (Tony) retired after 25 years with Cahill Construction Company. He was a Lifetime member of many military organizations. He is survived by his daughter, Janice. His grandchildren, Annette, Natalie (Jason), Dean and 5 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Frances, son-in-law, Al, and 7 brothers and sisters.

A service will be held Wed., Oct. 24th 4-8pm at Lifemark (Skylawn). Mass will be held Thur. Oct. 25th 10:30am at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Belmont with interment following at Skylawn.

He was a very loving and caring man with a huge heart! He will be greatly missed.

We have said to each other over the years... "I LOVE YOU MORE!"

James Mellman (1922 - 2012)

I am writing to inform you of the death of
James R. Mellman
HQ Bat. Arty.
20676 Fairmount Blvd., No 301
Cleveland OH 44118

Mr. Mellman passed away on 20 November 2012. His obituary from a local paper follows:

Mellman Posted: Thursday, November 29, 2012 5:55 pm; Cleveland Jewish News



James R. Mellman, former deputy director of budget and management and director of health and human services for Cuyahoga County, died recently at age 90. Prior to his those roles, Mr. Mellman served as president of Ohio Cycle and Supply, a toy wholesaler covering northern Ohio, which he founded with his brother-in-law.

Raised in Cleveland Heights, Mr. Mellman graduated from Shaker Heights High School. He earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and an MBA from Fenn College, now Cleveland State University, where he also taught.

During World War II, Mr. Mellman served as a staff sergeant with the 83rd Infantry Division and fought in all five of the major battles in Northern Europe: Normandy, Brittany, Central Europe, Ardennes/The Bulge and Rhineland. The division also encountered and liberated the Langenstein concentration camp, and the division flag flies in the honor court of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Mellman served as chairman of the USO of Northern Ohio and on the national governing council of the USO. He was chairman of the task force of North Central Ohio of the president's Jobs for Veterans Program, and he chaired the Cuyahoga County committee on group homes for children, the committee on integration of service continuum for children, and the Cuyahoga County Agency task force for troubled employees.

Active in the United Way, Mr. Mellman's other volunteer roles included serving on the board of trustees of The Temple-Tifereth Israel and of the Hebrew Free Loan Association, where he was chairman two times. He was a member of the Harvard University Schools and Scholarships Committee, and the men's committee at The Cleveland Play House.

Mr. Mellman was predeceased by his wife, Ruth (nee Gans). He is survived by his son, Andrew (Maxine L.); two grandchildren; and sister, Doris Frankel. Contributions are suggested to USO of Northern Ohio, 20637 Emerald Parkway, Cleveland, OH 44135.

As his son, I can tell you that my father remained close to several from the Division throughout his life, and that those individuals were extremely important to him and (along with his war-time experiences) played a major role in his life.

— Andrew Mellman ▼

Greetings to the Descendants of the 83rd Infantry Division Association

67 years ago, members of the 83rd Infantry Division once more banded together, now in peacetime, to form an Association "to bring together those who have served." Please join us once more in honoring and thanking the members of the 83rd for their contributions and sacrifice. We are looking for a record number of descendants to include their names on special "Thank You" pages in the Program Book for the 83rd Infantry Division Association's 67th Reunion to take place Arlington, VA on July 31 – August 4, 2013. All names will be listed below the name of their special veteran under the following caption:

On this the 67th Reunion of the Thunderbolt Division, we offer all our love, respect and thanks for our freedom. We honor with wonder the bond you share with your buddies, a bond forged in service and sacrifice for our country and for future generations. May we as descendants and Americans as a whole learn from your sacrifices. We are forever grateful.

Your name may be included for a contribution of \$10. If you would like to include the names of additional family members (for example spouses, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews etc) all we ask is another \$5 per name. We will print as many names as we receive, no matter how many pages! All proceeds will be used to help defray reunion costs. We will also include a display of this special thank you in the reunion hospitality room.

— On behalf of the Legacy Chapter and its members, George Studor, Chair

DEADLINE IS JULY 1ST

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Descendant of: _____

2nd Name _____ 3rd Name _____

4th Name _____ 5th Name _____

6th Name _____ 7th Name _____

*** Attach sheet for additional descendants ***

Contact Name: _____ Relationship to Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____ email: _____

Make check payable and send with form to:

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN.

P.O. Box 406

Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406

Special Note: Are you coming to the reunion? Would you like to give us a hand?

We need your help with:

- ☐ Hospitality Room (3-hr. blocks) (e.g., setting up refreshments, serving, clean up)
- ☐ Transportation Assistance (assigned per trip) (e.g., monitoring a bus, assisting passengers in & out)
- ☐ Registration (3-hr. blocks) (registration table, information, special assistance)
- ☐ Event Coordination (3-hr. blocks)(assigned per event) (Assistance on Tour, Memorial Visits, etc.)

*In this the 68th Anniversary year of
The Victory in Europe our deepest
thanks to the members of the 83rd
Infantry Div. for our precious freedom
and your sacrifice for us all*



CAPT. JOSEPH MACALUSO

Wilhemena T. Macaluso - wife

**Joseph L. Macaluso - son
Cheryl Macaluso - wife
Joseph Macaluso
Christopher Macaluso**

**Kathryn M. Brown - daughter
Tim Brown - husband
Christine Brandau
Laurie Kindred
Jamie Brown
Luke Brandau**

**LTC(R) Kathleen M. Powers - daughter
Tom Powers - husband
Mary Shoemaker
Amanda Powers
2LT Jennifer Powers
Thomas Powers
Jessica Powers
Dylan Shoemaker
Kathleen Wiggins**

**Kevin R. Macaluso - son
Brenda Macaluso - wife
CPL Anthony Macaluso
Lauren Macaluso
Michael Macaluso**

**LTC(R) Wayne E. Macaluso - son
Gretchen Macaluso - wife
Emily Macaluso
Daniel Macaluso**

**Richard A. Macaluso - son
Melinda Macaluso - wife
Mia Macaluso
Joshua Macaluso**

**Terry A. Macaluso - son
Brenda Macaluso - wife
Matteo Macaluso
Mario Macaluso
Giovanni Macaluso**

**Monica M. Vosberg - daughter
David Vosberg - husband**



83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, activity and meal costs. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to 83RD INFANTRY DIV. ASSN. in the form of a check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **July 9, 2013**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis.

We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing it to:

**83rd Infantry Div. Assn.
c/o Kathleen Powers
6910 Conservation Drive
Springfield, VA 22153**

Questions?

Call: 703-455-1883

	Price Per Person	# of People	Total
■ REGISTRATION PACKAGE – ■ Registration Fee includes Saturday Night Banquet	\$80 per Person	#	\$
Please select your entrée for SATURDAY BANQUET:		#	
<i>Sliced Flank Steak</i>		#	
<i>Chicken Breast</i>		#	
Wednesday: Twilight Tattoo	\$20 per person		
Thursday Morning: D.C. Bus Tour with stop at World War II Memorial	\$30 per person	#	\$
Thursday Afternoon Visit to National Archives at College Park, Maryland . Are you interested? <input type="checkbox"/> If so, how many in your party? _____			
Friday Morning: Trip to Arlington National Cemetery with Italian Buffet lunch at Ft. Myers, Virginia	\$55 per person	#	\$
Total Amount Payable to: <u>83rd Infantry Div. Assn.</u>			\$

Please Print:

Name (for name tag) _____ (Veteran _____) (Descendant _____)

Unit (example: B Co; 329th Inf.) _____

Street Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____ Email _____

Spouse Name (for name tag) _____

Guest Names (for name tags) _____

Are You Confined To A Wheelchair ? _____

Emergency Contact _____ Relationship _____ Phone # _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ Are You Staying At The Hotel? Yes _____ No _____

If Flying, Airline _____ Flight # _____ Airport _____ Arrival Date _____ Arrival Time _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

CK# _____ Amt _____ Date _____ 1 _____ 2 _____ Tag _____

Beef _____ Chicken _____ Spl Menu _____ Wed _____ Thurs. _____ Fri. _____

RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

Sheraton Crystal City Hotel
1800 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
Phone: 703-769-3942 Fax: 703-769-3955
www.sheraton.com/crystalcity

For reservations, please call 1-888-627-8209 and refer to 83rd Infantry Division Association

You can also complete this form and mail it directly to the hotel

Check-in Time: 3:00 PM

Check-out Time: Noon

Name _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Please reserve _____ (# of rooms) For _____ (# of people per room)

RATES: Single and Double Occupancy \$119; Triple Occupancy \$129 and Quadruple occupancy \$139, plus 10% state and local taxes; Discount Parking available at \$10 per day/night (vehicles over 6'8" cannot fit into garage). The Metro runs directly from Reagan National Airport to the Crystal City Metro stop next to the hotel. A hotel shuttle from the airport is also available.

REUNION DATES: Wed., July 31; Thurs., Aug. 1; Fri., Aug. 2; Sat., Aug. 3, 2013

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF ACCOMMODATIONS REQUESTED:

All Rooms Are Non-Smoking

_____ King _____ Traditional Double _____ Accessible Doubles

_____ Triple Occupancy _____ Quadruple Occupancy

PAYMENT TYPE:

_____ Visa _____ Master Card _____ Discover _____ American Express

_____ Check _____ Money Order

(Check/Money Order Payable to: Sheraton Crystal City Hotel)

If payment is by credit card, the attached credit card authorization form must accompany this form. (See other side of this sheet)

**ROOMS BLOCKED FOR THE 83rd WILL BE RELEASED JULY 9, 2013.
TO RECEIVE THE GROUP RATE YOU MUST REGISTER BEFORE THEN.**

Individual guest rooms must be cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival by 6 p.m.

**IF REGISTERING BY MAIL,
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO:**

Sheraton Crystal City Hotel
1800 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202



Sheraton Crystal City Hotel

1800 Jefferson Davis Highway

Arlington, VA 22202

Phone: 703-486-1111

Fax: 703-769-3955

ATTN: Sales

CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

NAME ON CREDIT CARD: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

CREDIT CARD STATEMENT
MAILING ADDRESS: _____

GUEST/FUNCTION NAME: _____

DATES OF STAY/FUNCTION: _____

CARD HOLDERS PHONE NUMBER _____

I, _____ hereby authorize the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel to charge the items listed below to the attached credit card number. If Selecting Hold Reservation, Credit Card will be charged for any violations of the cancellation policy.

_____ ROOM & TAX

_____ HOLD RESERVATION

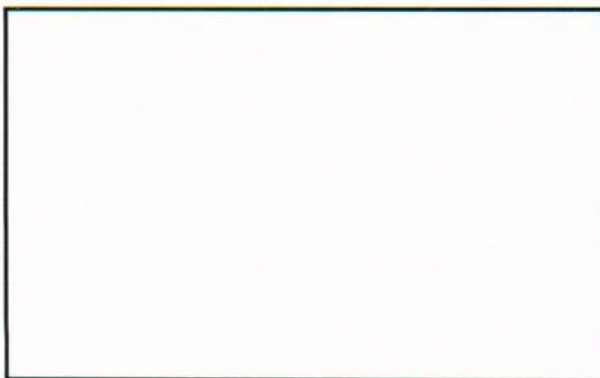
_____ BANQUET / CATERING / AV

_____ ALL CHARGES

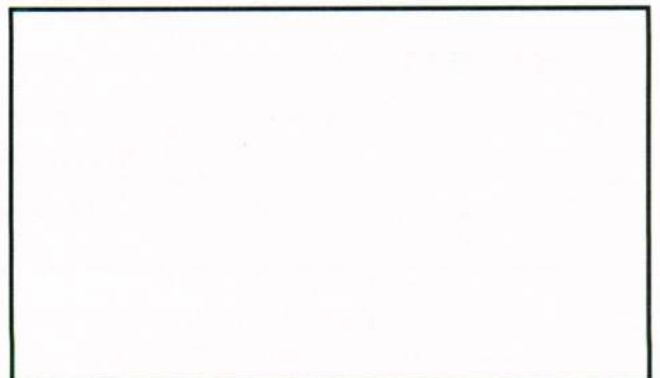
_____ DEPOSIT _____ AMOUNT

_____ DATE _____ APPROVAL CODE

CARD HOLDERS SIGNATURE / DATE



Copy of Front of Credit Card



Copy of Back of Credit Card

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE FRONT OF THE CREDIT CARD

IMPORTANT - Without a LEGIBLE photocopy of the FRONT & BACK of the credit card, The Sheraton Crystal City CANNOT apply charges to the credit card. If the photocopy is not placed in the squares above, please ensure it is attached! Thank you!



**67th ANNUAL REUNION
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN.**

ARLINGTON, VA

JULY 31 - AUGUST 4, 2013

PLEASE SELECT SIZE OF AD

FULL PAGE @
\$90.00

HALF PAGE @
\$50.00

THIRD PAGE @
\$35.00

QUARTER PAGE @
\$25.00

BOOSTER ADS ARE \$5.00

Make check payable to and send to:

83rd INFANTRY DIV. ASSN. REUNION
P.O. Box 406
Alton Bay, NH 03810

URGENT – ACT NOW

As you know, this money is needed to help pay for some expenses for our 67th Reunion.

DEADLINE – JULY 1, 2013

PLEASE Type or Print Ad Clearly and Circle Size of Ad
If you want your name on the ad, include it below

A Broadcast from the European War Theatre

by Ted Malone



*Compliments of Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company
306 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania*

WESTINGHOUSE
ELECTRIC & MANUFACTURING COMPANY



305 FOURTH AVENUE
P. O. BOX 1017
PITTSBURGH 30, PA.

Dear Radio Friend:

Thank you for writing in regard to our Ted Malone program.

We are glad to comply with your request for script material of the broadcast which we are enclosing herewith.

We invite you to listen also to our regular Sunday program presented over the National Broadcasting Company network at 2:30 p.m., E.W.T. featuring America's beloved baritone, John Charles Thomas; John Nesbitt, radio's gifted story-teller; the Westinghouse Chorus under the direction of Ken Darby and Victor Young and the Orchestra.

Sincerely yours,

G. Edward Pendray
Assistant to the President

GEP:mt

WESTINGHOUSE—THE NAME THAT MEANS EVERYTHING IN ELECTRICITY

— continued

WESTINGHOUSE PRESENTS
"TOP OF THE EVENING"
TED MALONE SPEAKING FROM OVERSEAS
MAY 23, 1945

ANNOUNCER: From liberated Europe WESTINGHOUSE brings you Ted Malone with personal close-ups of some of the men who have brought us victory on the Western Front. Now Ted Malone, WESTINGHOUSE correspondent, recorded from overseas.

MALONE: Hello, there! This is Ted Malone overseas. The other evening, more than a week ago now, I guess--gee, how time flies--I promised to tell you one of the most romantic stories I have run onto over here. I have not forgotten it but I have delayed for two reasons: One, I have dug up several more romantic stories recently just as good and the other, well, this story doesn't have any end yet.

I don't know how it will come out and although I have tried to get a clue as to the final chapter, so far I am completely stopped. It is the story of a lovely 17-year-old girl in Germany, a British subject who can't speak a word of English, who suddenly found herself adopted by a whole division of Yankee soldiers--but, I should begin at the beginning.

It was four-thirty in the afternoon and I was at the 9th Army press camp trying to make arrangements to catch a plane to Paris from Oschersleben, Germany. The battle along the Elbe River had been relatively quiet for several days and about the only thing anybody was talking about was another anticipated link-up with the Russians. From all reports, these link-ups were more or less mad affairs. The military formalities were like story books and the social events accompanying them--well, for those who could remember, they were memorable affairs.

The Russians, it seems, always brought their secret weapon--vodka--and after a couple of toasts with vodka, even the Nazi Wehrmacht became Volga boatmen. So, when the phone rang at the press camp and word spread that there was to be another link-up with bands, salutes, songs, caviar and everything, we piled into jeeps and headed for the Elbe River town for the celebration.

It was to be the link-up between the 83rd Division and the particularly celebrated division of Russians distinguished as having made a great stand at Stalingrad and also outside the gates of Moscow. The American 83rd has a proud history, too. It landed at "Omaha Beach" on D-Day plus twelve, relieved the 101st Air-borne after the Battle of Purple Heart Lane along the road to Carentan, fought and won the campaign of the Cherbourg Peninsula and proceeded eastward into Brittany. They fought through Luxem-

bourg and attached to the First Army, crossed the Moselle River to fight the Battle of the Huertgen Forest.

The first patrols into Duren were from the 83rd and they pulled out when the Germans broke through in the Battle of the Bulge and fought back, after a famous night ride to rally their forces and stop the Nazis at their furthest point of penetration at the Christmas breakthrough. Taking Dusseldorf on March 3rd, they pulled back, gathered their strength, and finally made the dash across the Rhine and straight on through to the Elbe River.

An interesting item they like to tell is that they crossed Germany in 14 days, reaching the Elbe on Friday the 13th at 13:30 o'clock. In the course of this remarkable drive, the 83rd captured more German prisoners than all the American Armies captured during the first World War, and to top it off, they liberated several German prison camps, in one of which there were some 19,000 prisoners, over 1200 of whom were American, many having been captured two and a half years ago at Kasserine Pass in North Africa.

So, as I said, the 83rd was proud of its history, two. And, having contacted the Russians by radio and arranged for a link-up and a celebration, they called the press camp and invited us down for the party. I might as well tell you right now, there was no party, no link-up, no celebration. It was just one of those things. The band was there and waited around most of the day. The Mess Sergeant fixed up tables full of hors d'oeuvres, shoes were all shined, brass all polished but the Russians never arrived.

It was a small town and the Germans, of course, long ago removed most of the sign posts and maps are vague and maybe the plans were too--anyway, we couldn't really, blame the Russians for getting lost because all of the other correspondents did, too.

We were a little late ourselves. The band had gone when we got there and the Honor Guard, but nevertheless, we considered the journey eminently worthwhile because the tables, covered with hors d'oeuvres, were still there untouched and sitting down to a Smorgasbord dinner, we found the romantic story I started out to tell you.

The first hint of it came when the officer said we'd all wait to sit down until their mascot arrived. "Mascot?" "Oh, yes.

Haven't you heard about the First Lady of the 83rd?"

"Lady?"

And a moment later here came a rosy-cheeked, dark-haired little girl escorted by half a dozen solicitous officers, all anxious to do the honors.

"She Is a British girl we found over here who can't speak English," they said.

"A British girl who can't speak English? Where are her folks?"

— continued

"She doesn't know. It is rather a curious story. Sit down and have something to eat and we will tell you all about her."

And, so, over a couple of plates of indescribable snacks concocted for a Russian delegation that never arrived, I got the story--a rather romantic little story. I will tell you in just a moment after a word from WESTINGHOUSE in New York.

ANNOUNCER: What those Army cooks and mess sergeants can't do! Imagine hors d'oeuvres ... Smorgasbord ... and not a refrigerator within a hundred miles. Because, for really fine eating, there's nothing like a big, roomy electric refrigerator--the kind WESTINGHOUSE will build after the war. The new WESTINGHOUSE refrigerators--which we hope you'll be seeing before too many months pass--will be just one more proof that for better postwar living, every house needs WESTINGHOUSE ... for even finer electric refrigerators and home freezers will be among the wondrous new electric servants bearing this famous name. WESTINGHOUSE acquired vast experience in the manufacture of more than thirty million electric home appliances ... and recent years of highly specialized war production have added much to traditional WESTINGHOUSE craftsmanship in everything electrical. But today it's wise to keep your present refrigerator and other electric home appliances in the best possible condition! To help you do this, WESTINGHOUSE offers free a fifty-two page booklet, "The Care and Use of Electric Appliances in the Home." It tells how to make minor repairs and adjustments ... so get your free copy of the "Care and Use" book right away! Write WESTINGHOUSE, care of this station, TONIGHT! Now back to Ted Malone, overseas.

MALONE: The second day after the 83rd Division reached the banks of the Elbe, a jeep rolled up in front of the headquarters and a slender, brown-eyed girl with a small travelworn suitcase climbed out and followed the officer indoors.

The officer, it seems, was from the headquarters of an armored division which had just been in Rathenow across the river. Shortly after their tanks had taken the town, this young miss had appeared at their command post with a pocket full of British and German passports and papers and through an interpreter, had explained that she was a British subject and wanted to know what she should do.

The officer in charge didn't know so he told her to be ready to leave in 30 minutes and he would send her back across the river, well within army lines, and let somebody back there worry. Unable to understand all this explanation that was going on, she just stood there by the desk and smiled. Apparently, if anybody was going to worry, she wasn't.

So, the CO at the 83rd thanked the officer in the jeep and said that he would see what could be done and with a gesture he motioned for her to sit down. Since she couldn't speak English, the first problem seemed to be to find out who she was, why she was in Germany, who her parents were and whether or not she was really what she claimed to be--a British subject.

The CIC, or Counter Intelligence Corps of the Army is equipped for jobs of this nature, so they were called in. Her passport and papers were carefully gone over, checked and the CIC concluded that they were all in good order, so the Division headquarters, then, decided that the only thing to do was to turn her over to the 9th Army headquarters and after a good meal, she was dispatched in another jeep to Army.

But a few hours later, back she come with a brief note from Army saying that the only thing they knew to do was to send her back through the regular channels for all displaced persons. These are channels set up to take care of the thousands of people of all nationalities who have been prisoners of Germany during the last six years and now want to get back to their homes. When you consider the fact that there are several million such people, old and young, some sick, some half-starved and that they are scattered in all sorts of groups in thousands of little communities, I don't have to tell you that things do not always run smoothly.

Sometimes they move by truck, sometimes by train, sometimes they walk, sometime they are flown and usually before they get to wherever they are going, they use ell methods. Usually there is food for them but not always, so somehow the idea of sending this little girl into that parade of possibilities didn't appeal to the fellows of the 83rd. The evening we were there for the celebration, they hadn't made up their minds to do it just yet, so I asked them for an interview with the girl to get her story and after dinner, it was arranged.

A sandy-haired, young private, William L. Baer of New York City, acted as our interpreter and translated the questions and answers. Private Baer was an interesting lad himself. His dad's name is Max Baer, he told us, but not the same one. He was born in Germany, Frankfort on the Main. He is a salesman for window displays in civilian life and works for the Military Government in the 83rd.

The girl's name is Edith Fletcher. She is seventeen. Her Mother is Swiss, her father British and she was in England only once. That was in a visit to Coventry to see her father in 1931. Her father went to India on a visit shortly after that and, as far as she knows, her mother has not heard from him since. She and her mother lived with her grandmother in Bremen until the war started and then her mother was interned in a prison camp because she had married a British man.

— continued

The girl remained with her grandmother in Bremen. About a year ago, when the bombing of Bremen became intense, the girl moved to Stuttgart where her mother had been sent to work in a factory. After about three months there, she became ill and was sent to Rosslau to live with her half-sister of her mother's who was also Swiss. This is where she was when the Americans arrived.

In Bremen, she had gone to ward school but had not been allowed to attend high school because she wasn't German. In Rosslau, she had been conscripted to work in a railroad ticket office and, apparently, earned enough to dress well because when she left, she brought with her sufficient clothes to make a neat and smart appearance wherever she has been.

The evening we talked with her, she had on a plaid dress of rayon or silk or something ersatz, rayon stockings, black shoes with rubber soles and a blue wool coat. I asked her about her father. His name is Eric Stanley Fletcher. Her grandfather, George Fletcher, was a goldsmith in Coventry but that was all she knew. She had not heard from her mother or grandmother for about a year. She thought they were still in Stuttgart or Bremen, but, of course, she didn't know.

What did she plan to do? Well, she didn't know that either. She had suggested that she be sent back to her mother or grandmother, but being a British subject, she had been told she'd have to go to England. In the meantime, she laughed, she was enjoying the best food she had had for years and the Americans were all very nice to her. I can vouch for that.

She is the kid sister of every officer at headquarters. They have fixed her up a room with the best the town can provide and never less than half a dozen take her to lunch and dinner.

What is the end of her story? Well, I told you -- I don't know. When I arrived back in London, I called Coventry to talk to her father and have him arrange to get her and send for her, but there is no record in Coventry of Eric Stanley Fletcher or a goldsmith named "George." That is not too surprising in itself since the last she heard from them was in 1931, but it does complicate things.

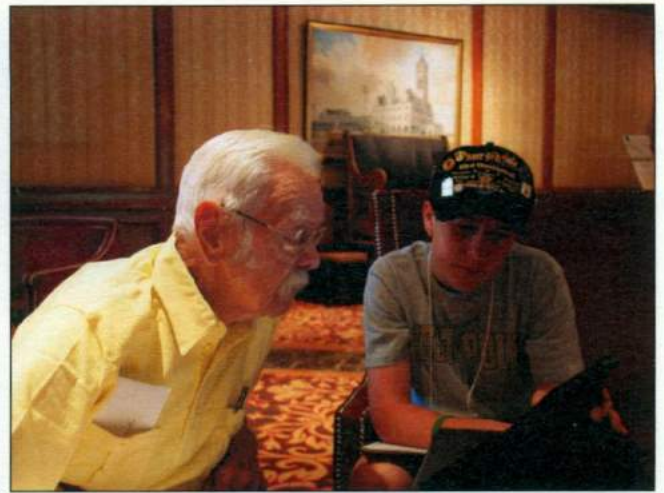
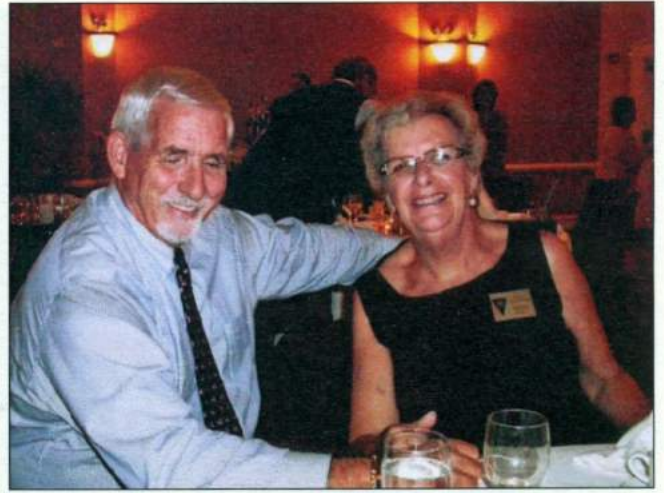
Of course, this is just one of the millions of complicated problems in Europe tonight. Edith is lucky to have the 83rd Division as her big brother. They will get her back safely all right, I am sure they will. It was the 1st of May when they found her. Private Baer, our interpreter, said she was sort of, well, sort of their May basket. I am certain she's the flower of the outfit.

This is Ted Malone overseas "Wishing You Top of The Evening" and returning you to New York and WESTINGHOUSE. ▼

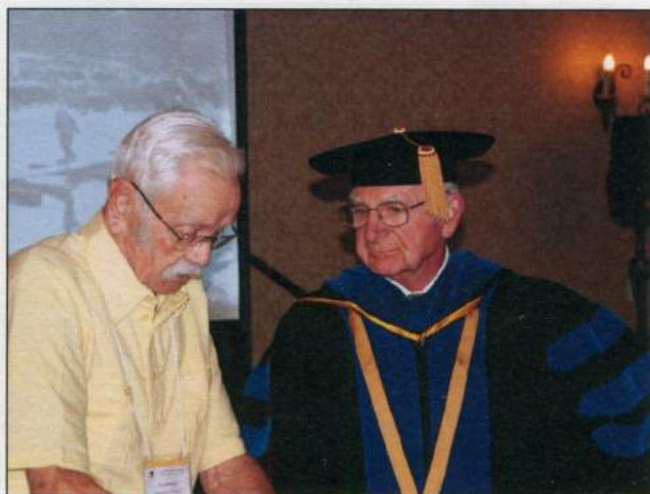
— 66TH ANNUAL REUNION, NASHVILLE, TN —



— 66TH ANNUAL REUNION, NASHVILLE, TN —



— 66TH ANNUAL REUNION, NASHVILLE, TN —



— 66TH ANNUAL REUNION, NASHVILLE, TN —



Merry Christmas! - Here is a taste of 2012 with George & Mary – Reunions!!



Busy Birdfeeder
Continuous Reunion



Wood duck
Reunion



Twin Lake
Eagle
Convention



Annual Twin Lake MN
Goose Family Reunion

In Cazenovia for Class of '72 Reunion



– Sister Nancy



83rd Infantry Reunion - Nashville



James and Ashley's Wedding & Smith Family Reunion
Ancient Studor Sibling
Reunion



Amanda & Josh
Reunion



Mary and George Reunion
after the beach wedding



George,
a Reunion
with an old
Friend!



Our Brazilian Family
Reunion



August Return of Our
French Student Margot



The James and Matt
Reunion

The Reason for the Christmas Season is Christ: The same God who created us and everything around us, came to live with us and then died to save us... just as was told centuries before. Now, trusting Jesus, we have a sure foundation for life!
God Bless you at Christmas and 2013 – George and Mary



453rd AAA(AW) BN Association

While I, Fred Pearson, was in Sainteny in July of 1944, I found a card that was blowing around in the rubble. The Town itself was a disaster from Shelling as the battle raged on.

The card was from a Prisoner of War confined to a camp in Germany to his Mother in Sainteny. Because it was a small item that I could put in my pack, I thought it would be a Souvenir of that area of the war.

I've had it all these years in my momento book.

When I planned on going to the Reunion at West Point last year, I found out that the Mayor of Sainteny was going to attend. So I decided to take the card with me and see if it could be returned to the persons involved.

I presented the card to the Mayor of Sainteny and he could understand what it was, but questioned me in French that I could not understand, about how I had acquired the Card. A person that came with the mayor then said to me that the Mayor could speak or understand English, and wondered how I came to have the card. This was Joane Paule Piteau. He told me that he knew the persons involved and that the Man had died in 1978. His wife and son still lived in the area.

He then said he would take care of the card and at the next D Day celebration in 2012 on June 4th, he would return it to the Family.

Because of financial problems I could not return to Sainteny. He had arranged to have Bill Spriggs, from the 83rd div. return the card to madame

Letourneau, on behalf of myself.

Johe Paule did not tell her why she was to attend this Celebration, only that he had a surprise for her. He narrated the story and then Bill Spriggs gave the card to Madame Letourneau.

Her son started to cry and his Mother was quite overcome with the surprise. It was the only thing that they had, of Memory of her husband and Son.

The Episode was covered by the local Newspapers and TV Stations and was picked up Nationally because of the affiliation of the News groups.

I was greatly pleased with the return of the card to the Family, I thought it appropriate. I thought it was great that Bill Spriggs, a member of the 83rd Inf. Div. Was there to represent me.

Addendum:

When I attended the Reunion in Nashville, some one in the 83rd Artillery accused the 453rd..Ack Ack of stealing there pet Crow. He said they got it back without having WW III. I still want to know what was he doing training Crows instead of fighting Germans.

It is to be noted that I have only 11 original members or the 453rd AAA still with us at present.

Some others may be in Assisted living quarters or in homes of their relatives that I don't have any means of finding them.

Submitted by Fred C. Pearson.
Pres. Of the 453rd.AAA (AW) BN. Assoc.

★ NORMANDY ★ BRITTANY ★ ARDENNES ★ RHINELAND ★ CENTRAL EUROPE

THUNDERBOLT

Vol. 4, No. 1

Washington, D. C.

January-February 1950

PITTSBURGH THIRD ANNUAL REUNION HUGE SUCCESS

The 83rd Infantry Division Association's third annual reunion was one of the greatest conventions held of its kind in the city of Pittsburgh. More than 700 members, wives, and friends attended the Thunderbolt meeting in



This is a picture of us celebrating our 60th birthday, Kathryn (Brown) is on the left in the Saints shirt and I am on the right (Kathleen Powers).

William Penn Hotel, August 5 and 6. A member of Commerce stated that the 83rd's success and in spirit seven other similar divisions there previously last summer. Pittsburgh as early as Wednesday. It was held Thursday, for over 150 members all day ahead of the official convention



The Macaluso

N. Y.... Present address for Harold H. Levinthal, 8110 Forrest Ave., Philadelphia 19, Pa... Mr. & Mrs. Joseph A. Macaluso, 8537 Forshey Street, New Orleans, La., announce the birth of twins, Kathryn and Kathleen. Atta-boy, Joe, double the membership... Planning to marry, well, see William Chapman the jeweler for the ring, 1946 Irving Park Rd., Chicago 13, Ill....

I was looking through some old Thunderbolts and came across this article about the birth of the Macaluso twins, Katherine and Kathleen. — Cliff Wooldridge

P.O. Box 63
Richlands, N.C.
26 July 1962

Humor in Uniform Editor
% The Reader's Digest
Pleasantville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

I certify that the following is a true experience and has never been submitted for publication. It is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

In December, 1944, during World War II in Europe, my battalion (3rd Bn, 530th Inf, 83rd Div) was engaged in an attack on the town of Strauss, Germany, as part of the breakout from the Hurtgen Forest. In the early stages of the assault I received a machinegun burst in the stomach that abruptly terminated my participation in the activities. Late that night I was delivered to the 13th Fie

Stelberg, Germany. I was placed on a stretcher and eventually arrived at a General Hospital in England.

One day, during my recuperation period in England, I had an unexpected visitor. A medical officer came to see me and, upon introducing himself, informed me that he had been my anesthetist when I was operated on at the Hospital in Germany. During our conversation he told me of a number of things that had happened during my stay there of which, due to my condition at the time, I had no recollection. He then excused himself for a minute, returning shortly with the medical envelope containing my medical record that had accompanied me from Germany. When he handed it to me the first thing I saw, written across the envelope, was the following: "Last Rites administered by Father Donovan, 13th Field Hospital, Stelberg, Germany, 10 December 1944."

Several years later, at a new duty station, I had the good fortune to run across a Catholic chaplain from my home town whom I had known for some time before the war and who had been a very good friend of my father, a Presbyterian minister. We talked over old times and mutual friends and were jokingly discussing various happenings of the past when something the chaplain said reminded of the above incident. Without thinking, I said: "OK, I don't know about that, Padre. Look at me. I had the Last Rites and they didn't take."

The chaplain looked at me seriously for a minute. Then a smile lit his face and his eyes sparkled as he replied: "Sure, Mike, and how do you expect the Last Rites to take on a Presbyterian minister's son?"

If this account is published, I sincerely hope that Father Dohovan may see it and know that one more of those to whom he gave comfort during those hectic times under the grade and is still going strong.

Sincerely,

William G. (Mike) White
Lt Col USAR (Ret)

EIGHTY THIRD DIVISION THUNDERBOLT

NORMANDY, BRITANNY, LOIRE VALLEY, LUXEMBOURG, HURTGEN FOREST, ARDENNES, FIRST TO RHINE, ELBE BRIDGEHEAD

VOL 1, No. 1

EAST OF THE ELBE

APRIL

83rd Holds Only Elbe Bridgehead



Here it is — the first and only American bridge over the Elbe — and the first Army project to be dedicated to President Harry S. Truman. Built by the 295th Engineers for the 83rd Division, it marks the fourth river crossed by the Thunderbolts in an unbelievable ten-day race from west of the Rhine that saw doughs outstrip armor in a 215-mile dash that added 25,500 more prisoners to the Division's PW score and freed over 75,000 foreign slave workers. (Signal Corps Photo)

Thunderbolts Pace Armor Four Rivers In Two-Week That Sets Infantry Speed

In the 14-day smash of the 83rd Division across Germany, M. Robert C. Macon's doughboys crossed four rivers, liberated more Allied prisoners, captured almost 34,000 Germans and climaxed establishing and holding the only American bridgehead east of the Elbe, a natural barrier before tottering Berlin only 34 miles away.

Keeping pace with the hard-driving armored columns across Germany, the doughboys wrote a new chapter in infantry history as they blitzed their way from the Rhine to the Elbe to uncock one of the final bayonets against a badly battered Wehrmacht.

The operation was climaxed by abortive counter-attacks aimed at eliminating the bridgehead across the Elbe but doughs, tankers and TDs fought side by side to roll back every enemy attempt. The entire Allied world watched the 83rd, hoping the Germans would not be able to knock out the vital American bridgehead.

Riding as many as 50 men in every tank and tank destroyer, 10 to 15 men on jeeps and trailers, advancing infantrymen rapidly acquired German trucks, buses, ambulances, motorbikes, command cars and trailers from garages, fields and street corners to help relieve the problems of transportation and supply.

RODE ON TANKS

"The men looked as though they were sprayed on the tanks," said Brigadier General Claude B. Ferenbaugh, assistant division commander. Tec 4 Paul P. Noll of Covington, Ky., commanding a 736th tank, claimed, "I carried as many as 34 doughs on my tank. It looked like a high bee hive." The 643rd TDs were also doing their

One old school bus got at the hands of Pfc. Moch Afton, Va., who used it to carry between 50 and 60 men. "One day," he claimed, "I carried 60 men."

One battalion used a deliver messages along the columns, the rider hand signals and overlays held in pin attached to a long stick.

ENGINEERS BIG HELP

The 308th Engineers got out keeping up close on advancing infantry to help with operations. Using rubber tracks and cross-country, the 308th Engineers crossed with the weapons with out loss of men.

When the 329th and 330th Regiments crossed the Elbe, the crossing was made in the afternoon and the 329th crossed at 0730, more than 200 tanks and trucks.

(Continued on Page 2)

329th First Infantry Across Elbe After Bitter Battle For Barby

Thunderbolt Division doughs temporarily abandoned the tanks, tank destroyers, jeeps, bicycles, German command cars and wheelbarrows they had been utilizing to keep pace with armored columns to launch an assault boat crossing of the Elbe at Barby.

The initial crossings of the last instant natural barrier before Berlin were made by Co A and Co C of Col. Louis B. "Thunderbolt" Cobble's 329th.

He said, "The first thing I saw was a tremendous white smoke ring. That was followed by a thunderous explosion and

Vol. 1, No. 1 . . .

By choice of the General and his men, by their dramatic 14 day dash from west of the Rhine to east of the Elbe, the 83rd is now officially the Thunderbolt Division.

So with this issue, the 83rd's official newspaper becomes the Thunderbolt. But the change is in name only. The same Spearhead staff, style and Hollywood

'Thunderbolt Division I

Infantry of the Snows

*The bleak Ardennan wood shrouded
In mist and snow. Snow, a winding
Sheet for many. Yet life was there,
Merging with the shadows. In this
Solitude men moved among the trees.
The infantry of the snows. There
Amid the sounds of war borne on the
Winter wind, in the dim morning
Light they crossed the no mans land
Into the baptism of fire. When at last
The battle ended, for those who lived
The forest released its hold upon them.
For the sun in its course returned and
In pity erased the fearful record. But
To the living there remained always the
Memory of the white wasteland, and the
Infantry of the snows.*



Signal Corps Photo

"Ridemen on their way to the line of
departure for the attack on
Petite Langlir."

Infantrymen of the 83rd US Division, crouching beside a 57-mm anti-tank gun on a road near Bovigny in Belgium in readiness to repel any sudden German attack. They are covering their comrades, advancing through the snow-covered fir trees on either side of the forest road. Hitler had timed the offensive to coincide with a period of bad weather, predicted by his meteorologists. It was dark and frosty as German troops moved up to their assault positions on 15 December, the landscape covered with a cold, thick mist—



— Paul Willis

**The 2013 Reunion will be held at
SHERATON CRYSTAL CITY
ARLINGTON, VA
1-703-486-1111
July 31 – August 4, 2013**

**WOULD YOU LIKE A ROSTER OF THE
2013 MEMBERSHIP?**

This roster includes all members who have paid their dues
for 2013 and also includes their units.

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P.O. BOX 406
ALTON BAY, NH 03810-0406**

**2014 Membership Dues (\$30)
are
Payable August 1, 2013**

****Please check the date on your Membership Card****

THUNDERBOLT DEADLINES

***ALL articles to be published in the Thunderbolt
must be at this office by
October 10, February 10, and May 10***

**Cliff Wooldridge
P.O. Box 406
Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406**

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Dues for 2014 ARE DUE AUGUST 1, 2013

RENEWAL____ NEW____

NAME (please print) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

Company _____ Regiment _____ 83rd Division

Phone _____ e-mail _____

SPRING13

DESCENDANT____ ASSOCIATE____ OTHER_____

Name of 83rd Division Member _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

IMPORTANT

When you move and change your address, PLEASE send your change of address. It does no good to mail you a Thunderbolt at your old address. The Post Office WILL NOT forward this magazine. It will just go to waste. With the cost of printing and postage this is very costly to the Association to have even one go to waste. Send your change to the Association Office address above and not to someone else. Thank you for your cooperation. Send old and new addresses.