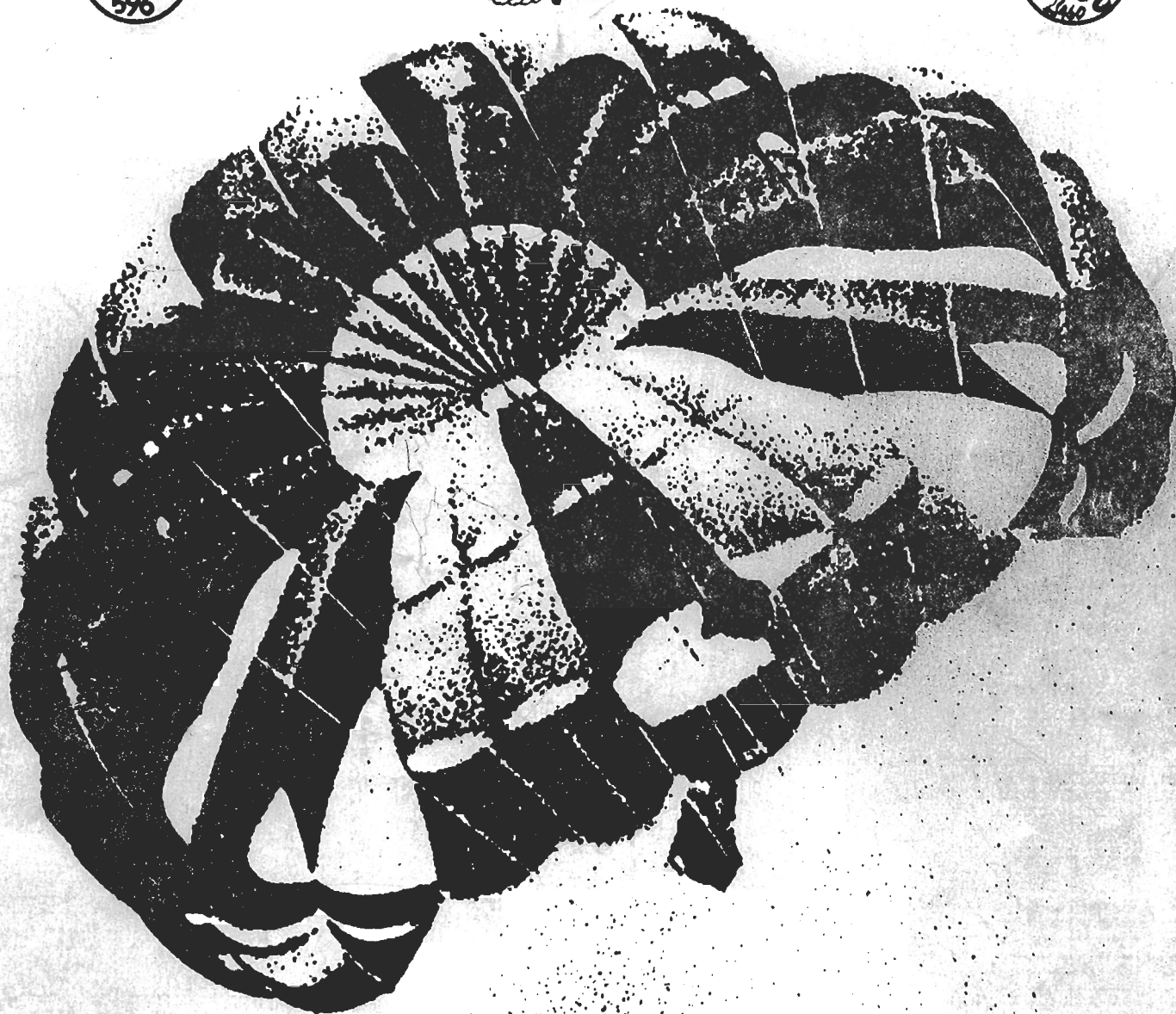




May 1981

# 596 Parachute Engineer Company



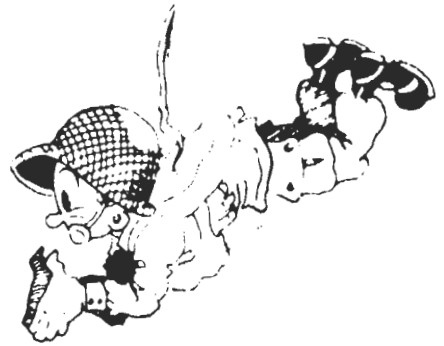
Published and Edited by Charles E. Pugh

*"All the Way"*





MAY 1981



**URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!**

We anticipate that more men of the 596 will attend this Reunion than from any other Company of the Combat Team and probably more than from any Battalion. We want YOU to be there-----not for any attendance record but because we all need to get together. I promise you that you and your wife and other family members will have a wonderful time and that you will have an emotional experience of the finest kind ----and one that you will always remember and treasure. Please make any reasonable sacrifice to be in Orlando for this memorable occasion. Make your transportation and hotel arrangements now. DO IT NOW!!!

# 517 Parachute Combat Team

REUNION

AUGUST 13, 14, 15, 1981

DROP ZONE

LAKE BUENA VISTA (WALT DISNEY WORLD)  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA



Get  
Here Any Way  
You Can





## REGISTRATION FORM

517th Parachute Infantry Regimental Combat Team  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 13-15 AUGUST 1981

Registration Fee \$39.60 per person

Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Wife) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ I served in (unit) \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ persons (\$39.60 each\*)

Will arrive Dutch Inn on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ via (mode of travel) \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE make check/money order payable to: 517th 1981 Reunion

MAIL to: Frank Grbinich, 730 Wing Foot Lane, Melbourne, Florida 32935

*\*Refundable if cancelled with 24 hour notification prior to 13 August 1981*

----- CLIP ----- CLIP ----- CLIP -----

The Dutch Inn is an extremely plush resort hotel situated to the south of greater Orlando, Florida adjacent to Walt Disney World and a part of the village of Lake Buena Vista. The Dutch Inn is self-contained in terms of restaurants, bars, entertainment, lighted tennis courts, swimming, shops and personal services. Lake Buena Vista Village is an adventure in itself and will be an unforgettable experience. The Village is a 3 minute walk from the Dutch Inn and consists of an elaborate shopping, dining and entertainment complex.

A scheduled *free* bus service from the portico of the Dutch Inn will take you to the world famous Walt Disney World where you may enjoy the hospitality of the Contemporary Hotel and the Polynesian Hotel – from the Contemporary you can board the monorail for Walt Disney World. Details on activities and facilities will be available to you at registration.

**REGISTRATION:** The Registration fee for the 1981 Reunion is \$39.60 *per person*. Make your checks/money orders payable to: 517th 1981 Reunion and mail with the form at the top of page 2. **Your registration fee must be received by July 23, 1981.**

The Registration Desk will open and be manned in the Dutch Inn lobby on August 13 from 0900 hours until 1700 hours. Should you arrive after 1700 hours, proceed to the "517th CP" which will be located in the Hospitality room. Location/directions will be provided at the Hotel Desk. The "CP" will remain open throughout the duration of the Reunion – hours will be posted.

**Dutch Inn Reservations:** Your reunion committee has made special arrangements for a targeted number of rooms. All rooms are identical in size and beautifully appointed with two double-beds at a reduced reunion rate of \$60.00 (*plus tax*) per day. This rate is applicable **anytime** during the period from 10 August through 18 August 1981.

As in past reunions, it will be necessary for you to make your own specific arrangements. To confirm your reservations, simply complete the enclosed Dutch Inn registration card and mail it directly to the Dutch Inn, complying with the instructions regarding deposit, etc. There are two toll free numbers for the Dutch Inn:  
Within Florida: 800-432-2926      Outside Florida: 800-327-2994

Please confirm and make your reservations not later than July 23, 1981. **DO NOT MAIL YOUR DUTCH INN CARDS TO YOUR REUNION CHAIRMAN.**

**Land Travel:** All major highways interconnect into I-75 or I-95 and into I-4. Lake Buena Vista is approximately 10 miles SW of Orlando, adjacent to Interstate 4 and Florida 535.

**Air Travel:** Orlando International is served by:

EASTERN    PIEDMONT    BRANIFF    UNITED    DELTA    OZARK\*\*  
PAN AM    USAIR    REPUBLIC    TWA\*\*    PAGE\*\*

Make your airline reservations early in order to get your advanced booking reduced rates. \*\*Although these lines fly into Orlando International they utilize the former McCoy Air Force Base facilities and NOT the main terminal.

**Rental Cars:** The following major rental car agencies are located in the terminal.

AVIS    BUDGET    HERTZ    NATIONAL

Other nationally recognized agencies are in the immediate vicinity, not in terminal.

**Shuttle-Bus:** American Sight Seeing Tours offer comfortable air-conditioned buses between the airport and the Dutch Inn at a cost of \$5.50 per person. The buses leave from the east and west side of the terminal, (baggage pick-up points) every 30 minutes on the hour starting at 0730 hours until 2300 hours. Time of trip from the terminal to the Dutch Inn is 30 minutes maximum.

Limo service is available at approximately \$6.50 per person. Persons arriving via TWA, OZARK or PAGE must call for Limo service from the McCoy terminal. There is NO bus service from McCoy to the Dutch Inn.

**Taxi:** Per party of 8 in taxi-van is \$13.50. Can be obtained from the front of the terminal.

**Camping:** Camping and RV facilities in the general area of the Dutch Inn - check your RV/Camping directories.

**Tentative Agenda:** 13 Aug: 0900 - 1700 hours - Registration in Dutch Inn lobby  
(Thurs.) 1800 - 1930 hours - (California Committee activity TBA\*)  
Entire day is free time

14 Aug: 0900 - 1200 hours - Registration in the CP  
(Fri.) 1800 - 1930 hours - Poolside Party (Dutch Bar) 596 Hospitality Suite is open at all times!!!!!!  
Entire day is free time

15 Aug: 0800 - 0930 hours - Unit Photographs  
(Sat.) 0930 - 1200 hours - General Meeting (Select 1983 site)  
1200 - 1600 hours - Golf Tournament  
1800 - 1900 hours - Cocktails/Dutch Bar in Ball Room  
1900 - 2100 hours - Banquet/Program  
2100 - 0100 hours - Dancing and ???

(\*To Be Announced)

#### Miscellaneous:

1. Located on the large lake of Lake Buena Vista is the *EMPRESS LILLY*, newly completed 5 million dollar replica of a Mississippi River stern wheeler. This vessel offers the finest in dining and entertainment considered to be second to none. Its restaurants include the *Steerman's Quarters*, serving hearty steaks and seaman's ale; the *Fisherman's Deck* offering a superb variety of seafood delicacies; the *Empress Room* - a gourmet's delight. There are four separate lounges, the largest being the *Baton Rouge Lounge*, with goodtime entertainment both afternoons and evenings with some of the best Dixie Land music east of the Mississippi.

2. Cruise to the Caribbean on the *SS CARNIVALE* - those interested are to contact the Travel Agent - A & L Travel, 757 Pinetree Dr., Indian Harbor Beach, Florida 32937. Tele: (305) 773-5200. Prices range from \$750. - \$859. per person. A \$100.00 deposit is required upon receipt of this flyer - final payment due on 13 June 1981.

3. August is, to say the least, a very warm time of year in Florida - but, it is also the height of the tourist season. Make your air and Dutch Inn reservations NOW - don't delay. Bring your memorabilia for display in the CP.



# Dutch Inn

## RESORT HOTEL

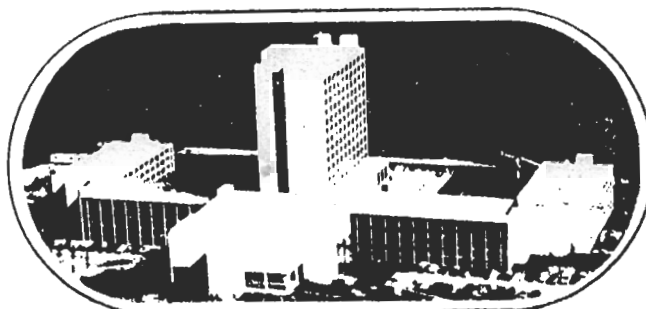
In The

Walt Disney World

Resort Community

of

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA



## HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST

# Dutch Inn

## RESORT HOTEL

P.O. BOX 22202, LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA 32830

460  
PRCHT FIELD  
ARTY BN

517 PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT  
Thursday, August 13th – Sunday, August 16th 1981

596  
PRCHT COMBAT  
ENGR CO.

Convention rate per room, plus applicable taxes.  
(Convention rates apply 3 days prior and 3 days after  
meeting dates. Subject to availability)

No. of  
Rooms

No. of  
Persons

EUROPEAN PLAN

\$66.00 SINGLE OR DOUBLE

Suite rates available on request.

All hotel reservations for the period of the meeting should be made on this application blank and mailed with deposit in the amount of the first night's stay or credit card guarantee to the hotel. You will receive confirmation promptly.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Please list names of additional members in your party and include children's ages.

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TIME \_\_\_\_\_

AM  
PM

DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the following to guarantee your reservation by credit card

☐

☐

☐

☐

☐

BAC

DINERS  
CLUB

MASTER  
CHARGE

AMERICAN  
EXPRESS

CARTE  
BLANCHE

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

# \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

No room charge for children under 18 years of age when occupying same room with adults and when no additional beds are required.

Additional charges: \$5 per extra adult (18 years of age and over including rollaway), \$6 rollaway or crib. Maximum of one additional bed or two cribs per room.

Please accompany this reservation request with a deposit or guarantee in the correct amount per room. Fully refundable upon cancellation up to 48 hours in advance of arrival.

We cannot guarantee your room(s) unless your reservation request and deposit or guarantee are received 21 days in advance of arrival.

We've all the excitement of the complete resort right in Walt Disney World. Free, unlimited transportation to all areas of Walt Disney World via Walt Disney World transportation system. Enjoy championship golf at beautiful Lake Buena Vista Club nearby. Sumptuous dinners are yours for the selecting in our Flying Dutchman Restaurant or simple snacks in our Tulip Cafe. And nighttime are more fun at the Nightwatch Lounge or the Hague Lounge with entertainment.

# Dutch

## RESORT HOTEL

IN THE WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT COMMUNITY  
OF LAKE BUENA VISTA, FLORIDA

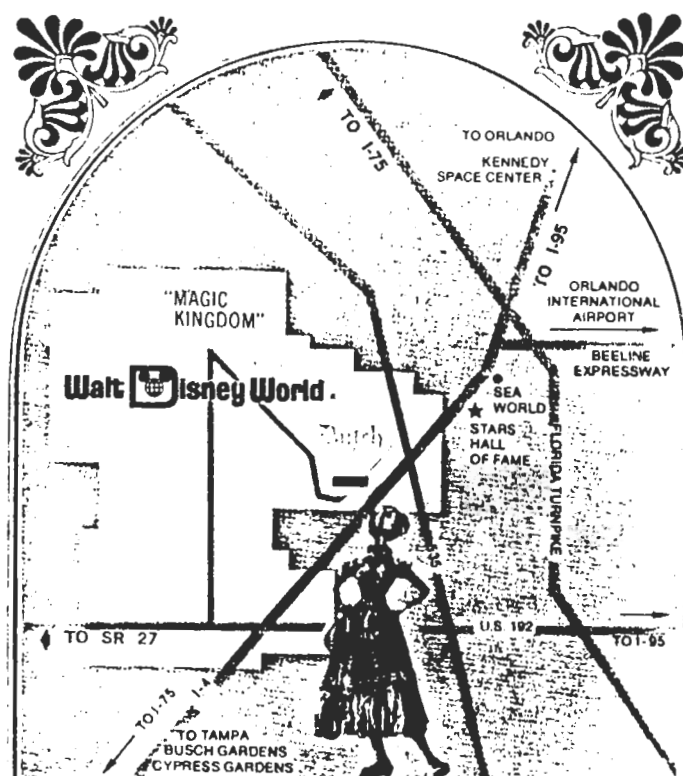
Walt Disney World  
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Daytimes you enjoy snacks and a cool drink poolside or refresh yourself with a swim in our unique heated windmill pool. And Lake Buena Vista at our back door offers great boating and fishing. All the Central Florida attraction tours begin daily just outside our front door. And nearby is greyhound racing, jai-alai and harness racing. One happy visit after another. The Dutch.  
Treat yourself!

The exciting DUTCH RESORT HOTEL — WALT DISNEY WORLD — is a vacation in itself. Your room is a real delight with two double beds, remote control color TV, bedside light controls and honest-to-goodness quiet. Enjoy dining in our award-winning Flying Dutchman Restaurant. Our Tulip Cafe is open twenty-four hours for sandwiches, pizza and breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy music and entertainment in either of our lounges —the Hague or Nightwatch. Complimentary tennis, racquetball and shuffleboard courts, heated pool, game area and children's playground. Championship golf available nearby. For your group or organization . . . 16 attractive, fully equipped meeting rooms for gatherings up to 1800 persons. For you . . . browse through our twin arcades of elegant boutiques, including a beauty salon and sundries shop. And don't forget, hotel provides FREE, unlimited transportation to all areas of WALT DISNEY WORLD via WALT DISNEY WORLD transportation system.

### Discover the Walt Disney World Village

This unique Shopping Center is a few steps away from the Dutch Resort . . . over 30 boutiques and craft shops and four distinctive restaurants line a charming marina waterfront, a restful shopping atmosphere reminiscent of a New England seaside village. For a change of pace, visit the "Empress Lilly Showboat" permanently situated across the lagoon. This 3-deck luxury paddlewheeler features three family and gourmet restaurants plus adventure in any of four nostalgic lounges. Follow the sun to Florida's perfect resort destination! Remember Walt Disney World means the Dutch!



The Dutch Resort is strategically located off I-4, exit 535, within the WALT DISNEY WORLD resort community of Lake Buena Vista. Express bus service from Orlando International Airport is available every half hour and is just a thirty minute ride. FREE unlimited transportation to all areas of WALT DISNEY WORLD, including the "Magic Kingdom" Theme Park. In addition, you're nearby the area's finest attractions—Sea World, Circus World and Stars Hall of Fame are only minutes away, Cypress Gardens and Kennedy Space Center in less than an hour, with tour service right from our front door.

The Dutch Resort Hotel  
1850 Preview Boulevard  
Lake Buena Vista, Florida 32830  
305-328-4411

# tss Carnivale



Cruise the Caribbean  
August 16 - 23

following 1981 reunion, Orlando,  
August 13 - 16

CAT. #7	Main	Outside, Double	
		Outside, Twin	\$859
	Empress	Inside, Twin	
CAT. #6	Riviera	Outside, Twin	
	Empress	Inside, Double	\$819
	Upper	Inside, Twin	
CAT. #5	Upper	Inside, Double	\$792
	Main	Inside, Twin	
CAT. #4	Empress	Outside,	
		Upper & Lower	
	Main	Inside, Double	\$770
	Riviera	Inside, Twin	

(Cruise rates based on double occupancy) Single rates available on request.

## CARNIVALE Itinerary IT CT CRNC7

Date	Port	Arrive	Depart
Sunday	Miami		4:00pm
Monday	At Sea		
Tuesday	Samana	12:00pm	5:00pm
Wednesday	San Juan	9:00am	
Thursday	San Juan		2:00am
Thursday	St. Thomas	8:00am	5:00pm
Friday	At Sea		
Saturday	At Sea		
Sunday	Miami	8:00am	

## On Board the tss Carnivale

27,250 tons of fun/entered service in 1957 as Empress of Britain/completely renovated and re-entered service in 1976 as the tss CARNIVALE/Italian officers/Mixed service staffs/central air-conditioning system throughout the entire ship, individually controlled in each stateroom/private facilities in each stateroom/piped-in music/telephones/4 outside swimming pools and 1 indoor pool/Deck Sports: trap-shooting, table tennis, shuffleboard, golf-driving/International Dining Room/3 meals a day, plus midnight buffet, late-night buffet and early morning, mid-morning and afternoon snacks/Lido Bar/Galaxy Bar/Fly-Aweigh Discotheque/Mardi Gras Nightclub/Riverboat Lounge/Riverboat Club Gambling Casino/Dolphin Bar/The Showplace/Enclosed Promenade/Cinema/Relax Room and Sauna/Exercise Room/Duty-Free shops/Hairdresser and Barber shop/Vanity Room/Hospital with doctor and nurse/4 elevators/Registered in Panama

## RATES INCLUDE:

- \* Round Trip Bus Transportation from Lake Buena Vista
- \* Eight meals and snacks a day
- \* Full range of entertainment, Full Casino, 2 Nightclub shows a day
- \* Port Taxes
- \* Welcome Aboard Rum Swizzle Party
- \* Captain's Cocktail Party and Farewell Dinner
- \* Briefings on each port-of-call
- \* Complimentary deck chairs
- \* Duty-free shopping on board
- \* 24-hour stateroom service.



TRAVEL, INC.  
SHOPPERS WORLD

FOR RESERVATIONS CLIP AND MAIL COUPON AND DEPOSIT TO:

757 Pinetree Dr  
Indian Harbour Beach, FL 32937  
305-773-5380

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CABIN CATEGORY \_\_\_\_\_ AIR REQUESTED: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ NEAREST AIRPORT \_\_\_\_\_

Special arrangements can be made by A & L Travel, Inc. for air travel to and from your home city. The lowest obtainable air fare at time of reservations will apply.

A deposit of \$100. per person is necessary at time of booking. The balance of the cruise payment must be received on June 16, 1981.



## AIRBORNE MAIL CALL



The first order of business in this issue of our Newsletter is to urge, beg, plead, and beseech each and every one of you to attend the Reunion in Orlando in August. Yes, I know it involves considerable expense but I believe you will find the value much greater than the cost. You can always make more money but your time is constantly diminishing and you can't replenish it.

Our team effort to locate men of the 596 has been an extraordinary success. I want to personally thank all of you who have worked so hard and spent so much time and money on this project. Check the Roster in this issue and you will see just how successful we have been. When you consider that we were working from a 1945 list of addresses, the results have been truly amazing. Sadly, we located some of our brothers who were deceased. The search for 596ers is a continuing one so let me know if you locate or even get a promising lead on someone.

My thanks to all of you who have written me letters and telephoned me. The response to our last Newsletter (April 1980), which I sent to every 596er as we located him, has been wonderful and very gratifying. Your response is the only thing that will keep this Newsletter operating or even make it worthwhile to you. So, keep those cards and letters and phone calls coming.

The devotion and dedication and time and effort and energy and MONEY spent by Don Saunders should be made as widely known as possible. He has gone so far beyond the call of duty in his efforts to locate 596ers and in communicating with 596ers that we all owe him a debt of gratitude. Thanks, Don, from all of us!

I have reserved a large suite at the Dutch Inn Hotel in Orlando that will serve as the Headquarters for the 596. I have arranged for bar facilities to be set up and for folding chairs so we can have adequate seating. There will also be a coffee and snack bar set up in the suite. Bring your own hooch but beer and mixers will be provided.

Please remember to bring your World War 2 photographs and other memorabilia for us all to look at and enjoy.

You guys are wonderful and I can hardly wait to get together with you again but I must say that a few of you are very reluctant letter writers. It is literally harder than pulling teeth (I should know) to get some of you so-and-sos to write. Surprise me. I will make an exception of "Pop" Spencer. What can you expect from a guy who wrote his wife during the war only when the Red Cross and Capt. Dalrymple forced him. I think that was the last time he wrote a letter to anyone.

Thank you to those of you who have sent me postage stamps or money to help with the expense of the Newsletter. I really appreciate your generous thoughtfulness but it really isn't necessary. The cost isn't great and I get so much pleasure from your letters and calls that I am amply rewarded.

I wish I could include every letter in its entirety that I have received during the past two years but there are too many and they are too lengthy. This Newsletter would have to be 75 or 100 pages in length so regrettably I will reprint only a few and use excerpts from the others.

If you wish to receive "The Thunderbolt" put out quarterly by the 517th Parachute Combat Team, Write Bill Lewis, the Editor. See his address elsewhere in this issue.



Static Line is a wonderful monthly publication, now in its 16th year, that covers news from and about all airborne and other elite units of the past and present. A subscription is \$16.00 per year and the Editor and Publisher is Don Lassen, Box 87518, College Park, GA 30337. I commend it to your attention.

Be sure to have your wife bring a needle and thread to sew or tack a 596 emblem on your jacket. I bought about 15 of these emblems before the price went to \$3.50 each. Now I am going to give you the name and address of the company that makes them and ask you to order your own. I will sell the 15 or so emblems that I have to the first of you who send me \$3.50. If you plan to order one from the manufacturer, I suggest you do so right away as it generally takes 3 to 4 weeks to get one. The 596 unit insignia emblem is made by Airborne Unlimited, P.O.Box 33012, Decatur, GA 30033

The 596 Hospitality Suite will also have medicinal remedies for those who for one reason or another may develop symptoms such as headache, bad taste in mouth and generally feeling like "hell". For some strange reason this malady seems to affect some of our members at almost every Reunion. There have been no fatalities but a few people have briefly wished for death.

If you would like the next Reunion of the 517 Combat Team to be held in your city, come prepared to make a persuasive presentation to the General Assembly.

In October, 1980, Dennis Shipley came by and took me out to lunch. For 10 these many years he has lived only 30 or 40 miles away and we didn't know it. Dennis is Vice-Pres. in charge of Sales for a large painting and decorating contractor in Dallas that does really big commercial, industrial and institutional jobs all over the country. Dennis had also visited with John Holbrook before John's untimely demise. Dennis looks great and much younger than he has any right to.

Please send me the story of some of your favorite and most memorable experiences of our days together in the 596-----they may be humorous or sad or anything that was important enough to remain in your memory for this long.

Vince Podrasky is a railroad engineer at Bethlehem Steel Corporation and plans to retire in 4 years. He and his wife, Joan, have 3 boys and 3 girls.

Last summer, Hank Simpson and his wife drove from New York to Mazatlan and spent three weeks there. They drove something over 7,000 miles. Hank is obviously doing well financially in order to be able to afford the gasoline.

George Shull was in real estate and insurance for 17 or 18 years but for the past several he has been engaged in purchasing highway right-of-way for the state of North Carolina. He and his wife, Winston, have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. They plan to be in Orlando.

(continued)



Jim Greenwood is Assistant Vice-President of the Southern Railroad. He and his wife, Hildred, have two children and three grandchildren. Not long ago Jim had open heart surgery and has made a complete recovery. I located Jim by luck through telephone contact with his sister who is married to the Manager of the San Francisco Giants.....that is unless they have changed managers in the past year. You know how it goes with baseball managers and football coaches.

I talked on the phone last May with Monk Johnson. He worked for many years with International Salt Company. While with them he hired Jim Benson who is now a Regional Manager with that firm.. Monk left the salt business and went into the brokerage business for a few years but is now retired due to health reasons. Two years ago Monk had by-pass heart surgery and now wears a Pacemaker. He has also had to have lung surgery. He said that when he was travelling for the salt company several years ago, he ran across John Whelan, Sgt. Morgan, and Wickersham, all of whom stayed in the Army until retirement. Monk and his wife have two sons living in Texas, one in Sherman and one in Dallas, and plans to visit them this September if his health and strength permit. He also plans to be with us in Orlando if he possibly can.

If you will look through our 596 Roster you will find that wherever you may go in this country you will not be very far from one or more of your old buddies. You really should make advance arrangements to get together for a drink or dinner. I guarantee it will add a measure of pleasure and enjoyment to your trip.....and your buddies will enjoy the experience equally, if not more. Try it; you'll like it.

Prior to the meeting in Orlando this August, I would like each of you to think about possibly electing two or three of our group to look after the affairs of the 596. Those "affairs" are certainly very limited and you may feel that organization is undesirable. In any event, think about it and we will discuss it in August. If you can't attend the Reunion but have some thoughts about this question, please drop me a letter and your input will be made. I hope each of you will also give some thought to the idea of having annual rather than biennial meetings. This proposal, if made, would of course have to be considered by the General Assembly.

Bill Doane sent me a lot of old photographs that I will show around at the Reunion and hope to return them to Bill in person. Bill lacked only 6 months finishing his college degree but illness stopped him. He went to work for Texaco and retired a year ago. He does plan to be with us in Florida.

Harold Roberts has been involved in construction work, auto body repair work, a small retail business and now contracting and remodeling homes. He and Jeannie have one daughter and two grandchildren. They are interested in politics, organic gardening, and enjoy dancing and hiking in the Puget Sound area mountains. They will be at Reunion if possible.

If you would like to purchase a maroon beret, send your hat size and \$14.60 to Ranger Joe's, 4030 Victory Drive, P.O. Box 2568, Columbus, GA 31902

I had a very nice Christmas letter-greeting from Father Al Guennette (Chaplain) from Chile.

Moses wrote to tell me that he and "Pop" Spencer went quail hunting in GA and goose hunting in NC as they have for many years. He says they both are getting too old to walk good enough to hunt but that they both can still lie good enough.

Bill Hudson isn't sure about making the Reunion. He tried to telephone De Ole Priddy in Alaska but had no luck in Fairbanks or Anchorage.

Ray Hild says that he will bring his WW 2 pictures and souvenirs and memories to Orlando. He says his favorite picture is the one of Hudson and Zubricky fighting over the bacon. Ray is retired and spends a lot of time home gardening and fishing.







Marshall Turner is a civil engineer. He went back to Europe in 1964 as a tourist and re-visited many places in Italy, France, Belgium and Germany. He married Davona in 1969 and they have a daughter. Marshall started his own company 5 years ago.

Louie Gelen attended college for a couple of years and was a tax assessor in Bemidji for 4 years and then joined the Minnesota State Patrol in 1952. He plans to retire next year. He is married and he and his wife, Vera, have a son and a daughter. He hopes to make it to Orlando.

T. J. Sumpter went back to his job with Phillips Petroleum Company after the war and now has 39 years with them. He said this letter to me was the first he had written in 30 years. He and his wife, Oleta, have two children and 6 grandchildren. You can be sure that he thinks a lot of his 596 buddies if he wrote the letter himself instead of turning it over to Oleta.

Hal Eddy wrote that he and his wife, Pauline, live right next to the 8th tee of the country club and playing golf is so convenient that little time is left for letter writing. The kids are grown and gone (he didn't say how many) and they plan to drive their motor home to Orlando in August.

Ed McKinley worked as a Quality Control supervisor in the Aircraft industry in California for 30 years. He retired 3 years ago. He and his wife, Jean, have 2 boys and 2 girls. They plan to be with us in Florida.

Bob Wikerson plans to retire in September 1981 from Virginia Chemicals Incorporated after 30 years service. He also does T.V. repair work in his spare time. He was with the Virginia State Police for 5 years before going with Virginia Chemicals. He and his wife, Betty, have 4 children. They plan to be at the Reunion.

Al Kunzer has done electrical maintenance for Eastman Kodak Co. for the past 35 years. He and his wife have 6 children and 6 grandchildren. He plans to retire in about 4 more years. They plan on being a part of the Reunion.

Al Schornberg is another one who has expended great amounts of time, energy and money in locating 596ers. He should have been a detective. He brought his wife, ~~Andree~~, over here from Nice in 1947 and they were married in Detroit. They have 5 children. They have been back to Nice three times, once for 14 weeks. Al has been working since the war as an electrician and plans to retire in 8 years. They will be in Orlando. He closed by saying that in Minneapolis he had the feeling of being in a room filled with brothers and that he thought the wives enjoyed themselves also.

Al is working every day but is having some trouble with arthritis in his hands.

Mose is still a "private eye" and a polygraph examiner and plans to retire in 4 or 5 years. He talked with Jim Botts by phone and learned that he is retired and will be at the Reunion as will Moses.

Hugh Sterling plans to be at the Reunion with his wife, Marje. They have 5 children and 3 grandchildren. He has a degree in science and has been working for the mint making paper money for many years. He said he got a laugh out of the photos of us guys at the Minneapolis Reunion as he compared us to his memories of how we looked "when". He said he then looked at an old photo of himself of that time and got a good laugh out of that too.

Al Goodman started another letter to me but before he had said much he wrote that Alice had just finished her shower and was on her second glass of wine and he signed off with "To hell with you for now."

George Williamson writes that he went to work for Monsanto Chemical in July 1946 and is still with them. He and his wife, Mary, have three daughters and a grandson. He plans to come to the Reunion. He and Shipley see one another from time to time.

Mike Kovach has been a kettle operator brewing Schlitz for the past 33 years. He plans to retire this year and he and his wife, Violet, hope to be able to make it to Orlando in August.

MAIL CALL-----continued

Earl Dillard went into the insurance business in Dallas after the war and in 1961 went into a general agency with an associate in Lubbock. He closed the agency in 1965 and went to work for the Texas Tech University Book Store. He retired last August and is now catching us on his fishing. He stayed in the reserves after the war and retired in 1956. He and his wife, Edith plan to be in Orlando in August.

Dick Bartholomew has worked for allied Chemical for the past 25 years doing engineering management and has lived several different places. He has 4 children by his first marriage. After the loss of his first wife, Dick married Florianne who had 4 children of her own and they had 17 grandchildren at last count. Dick was in Dallas last year on business and we had dinner together at our home in Fort Worth and he also visited with John Holbrook. Dick is like Ventoza and Barnes in that he looks very little older than he did 35 years ago. Rats and Damn!!

Dave Pierce and his wife, Olga, have one son and 2 grandsons. He worked for Remington Rand for awhile and then for the Postal Service for the past 31 years. He just recently retired and now drives a school bus part time. Dave is 40% disabled from Bergstein mortars. The Pierces plan to be with us in Orlando.

Art Stark told me I need not apologize for a late reply to his letter as he answered a letter in 1969 that he had received from Moses in 1946. He has been working in graphic arts for past 20 years. He and his wife Jean, have one daughter and one granddaughter.

Jack "Red" Guthrie wrote some very interesting reminiscences and says he will definitely be in Florida with us. He and Bill Wickersham and Raymond Morgan moved across the street to "I" Company of the 517th after the Tennessee Maneuvers but he will remember many of his 596 buddies.

The following letter came from Dick Spencer of Colorado Springs, CO. Needless to say, I sent him a complimentary 596 patch.

"I sure want to thank you for sending me the photo proving I was at the Reunion in Minneapolis, and for the copy of your 596 booklet. I saw several fellows wearing the 596 patch in Minneapolis and wonder if you can have one made up for me---the reason being that I designed that patch during the war. I did it when we were writing that little book on the 517th that was published overseas. I also designed the 517th patch---and the 460th already had theirs. We wanted to have all three represented on the cover, so I just drew up the little jumper with the mine detector for the 596th. I'd like to have one in my collection---see you in Florida"

Dick is the Publisher of Western Horseman.

Clarence Hatlestad is the Manager of a local advertising publication in Crookston, MN where Louis Gelen also lives. Clarence plans to be with us in Orlando.

Herb Reichwald has twice had his own business and also worked for various auto dealers as manager over the past 33 years. Two years ago he sold his business in Milwaukee and retired to Green Lake. Presently he is Service Manager for a small dealership in Ripon and says it is much different from the big auto dealerships in the city. He and his wife, Marie have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. They definitely plan to be at the Reunion.

John Whiteman and wife, Marilyn, have 3 sons and they enjoy golf, tennis, canoeing, hiking and most of all, travel. After college he spent 5 years with Avco Corp. Sixteen years with Ford Motor Co. and the past 9 years with Chemrock as Vice President and Treasurer. He writes, "I joined the 596 in Feb. 1945 at Chablis and by Aug. 1945 was on my way back to the U.S. enroute to the invasion of Japan which thankfully was unnecessary. Therefore my shared experience is much more limited than that of the fellows who were in the company from the beginning. Anyhow instead of Japan I ended up back at Ft. Bragg and ultimately in the 32nd. I was discharged in April 1946." I hope John and Marilyn will join us in Orlando in August.





Ray Sampson has been with the Washington Water Power Co. for 33 years. He and his wife, Ann have a son and a daughter. Ray enjoys fishing and puttering in his shop. He wrote "You asked if I was a 596er when you called and I answered, "You bet"!! Actually I joined you people when you came back from the front and became "B Company" although none of the ten of us who joined you ever thought of you as anything but the 596 and not "B Company 129th". At any rate, it was a great honor for me to know you fellows for the short time it was. " Ray didn't say but I hope he and Ann can be with us in Orlando.

Ray Poe wrote a long and interesting letter about the contacts he had over the years with a few of our 596ers. He is a drafting supervisor with Fuller Company which engineers and manufactures cement producing equipment. He has been with them since 1946. He has been divorced and is now married to Peggy. Ray says they already have plans to visit Disney World in June. I hope a lot of you will call or write him and urge him to either change his plans or come back in August.

Warren Sandberg wrote last June to tell me that the leg and back he busted up in the Southern France jump have bothered him for years and he finally had to have back surgery. He was recovering nicely at that time and he and his wife do plan to be at the Reunion. His son is a Staff Sergeant in the 82nd Abn Div. with 10 years service.

Tom Small of Kabwe, Zambia, and his wife, Mary, have been missionaries in Zimbabwe and Zambia since 1955. He has been involved with beginning churches, starting a Bible Correspondence School with an enrollment of 95,000, teaching in the Theological Seminary and presently Director of a Zambia wide training program for pastors and church leaders.

His principal hobby is golf and last year played in a Zambia Pro-Am tournament with Billy Casper. Their next furlough isn't until 1983 so maybe they can make the Reunion that year. They have two sons and a daughter. I must not fail to quote one part of his letter because it is the part I enjoyed the most. He writes, "You will be interested to know that a few days before your letter came Mary remarked " If I knew where Charlie Pugh lived, I'd drop him a line and let him know all the good remarks dentists have made about his work when they have looked in my mouth." That is quite an ad for work done over 25 years ago."

Bob Anderson is a Manager with Nebraska Public Power and has been with them for 35 years. He and his wife, Avis, have 4 children. Bob didn't mention the Reunion but I hope they decide to attend.

Earl Dillard sent me a copy of a letter he received from Wayne Norwood. Wayne took a regular commission after WW2 and joined the 11th AB Div in Japan and the 187th in Korea. From there he served in the Pentagon, Southeast Asia, Taiwan, Thailand and finally retirement in 1967. He then became an urban planner and lived in Omaha, NE until 1978. He and his wife back-packed and canoed from Montana to Florida where they bought a sail boat on which they have continued to explore the Florida Keys and Bahamas. They plan to be in Orlando with us.

Joe Miller is Deputy Executive Vice President of the American Medical Association. He received his B.S. degree from the University of KY in 1949 and began his work in Medical Health Administration. He went with the American Medical Assn. in 1957 and his career has been marked by a continuous rise to positions of greater responsibility and authority. Joe's curriculum vitae is longer than this newsletter. He and his wife, Mary, have two children and a granddaughter. I don't know what Joe and Mary's plans are for the Reunion but I hope that they make it.

Bill Conger and his wife, Marge, divide their winters between Brownsville, TX and Eureka Springs, AK. I believe Bill told me on the phone that they would make the Reunion but I don't recall for certain.



past two years and just about had it licked when in April the doctors found a malignant tumor in his cerebrum. He is presently in and out of the hospital for chemotherapy and radiation treatment. I know Fred would love to be with us in August but I'm sure he will still be having therapy. I hope all of you will either write him or send a card because I know it will mean a lot to him and elevate that tough little Italian's spirits and warm his heart. Fred and his wife, Betty, have been living in Tokyo for 20 years. Fred worked as a correspondent for United Press International for 16 years and then became a professor of English at Hosei University in Tokyo. I have talked with Fred two or three times on the telephone since our Reunion in Minneapolis. He is a wonderful, witty, charming, amusing and warm person and writes graphic and amusing letters about Japan and his life there. Today, 19 May, I talked with his sister in El Paso, and she reports that he is responding remarkably well to his therapy but the treatment period will be at least 6 more months.



Here is an excerpt from a letter that he sent to Al and Alice Goodman a few months ago:

"I've enclosed a map showing the location of my house. The reason I send the map is because it's something you can not be without in Tokyo. Streets and addresses mean nothing here because there is no order. My house address is the same as for a dozen other houses in the neighborhood. For most people who have business cards, the name and address and phone number are printed on one side of the card and on the back side is a small map indicating the location and ways to find it. This you give to a taxi driver or policeman when trying to get to your destination. Everything is secret here----even your own rabbit hutch."

"Most of my Japanese friends enjoy having a few elbow bending sessions. It's really funny. When they drink, especially whiskey, their faces become bright red. Don't ask me (or them) why, but it happens. The girls drink and become so embarrassed and pat their cheeks and pull their hair down over their ears. They giggle, titter and cover their faces. Right now in Tokyo there is a lot of this going on because it is the cherry blossom viewing season. The season last about a week or ten days and during this period in the late afternoon or early evening, people gather under large cherry blossom trees, set up little stoves or hot plates, spread straw mats on the ground and proceed to get sloshed."

"From my University to the nearest railway station is a long path about 1/2 mile long. It's lined with huge cherry blossom trees. Companies hire buses to bring employees to this district. Areas for each company are roped off or enclosed in red and white canvas wind protectors. Mats are spread on the ground by the women who also prepare all the food and drinks (plus serve it) while the men do nothing. Japanese never drink without eating at the same time."

"As the evening wears on there's much singing and hand clapping. Every now and then one of the men will leap up and perform an ancient Japanese festival dance (till he falls down). Much laughter and shouting. Many dirty jokes are repeated. The girls are right in there, too. Mostly they just kneel and serve, giggle and cover their mouths with their hands. About nine or ten o'clock at night things are picked up, everyone climbs back on the bus and home to bed. Next day, not a word is said by anyone about the events of the evening before. It's as if it had never happened. I've attended many of these parties and they're fun. But for several days afterward no one drinks much sake (this is the favorite and most traditional cherry blossom viewing beverage). Raw fish, dried octopus and rice balls are the favorite foods. When you get up the next morning you have a breath that nearly takes the paint off the wall. This custom is not the only one of this nature. They occur throughout the year, but this one is a happy spring custom which young and old can savor. It's supported by all companies."

Fred, all of your 596 buddies send their love and best wishes and prayers for your complete and speedy recovery. At the Reunion in August you can be sure that many toasts will be raised to your health.

(cont.)



MAIL CALL-----continued

Al and Alice Goodman write or call from time to time. He says he isn't sure that he can afford to show up in Florida because we keep finding guys who loaned him money to get married in 1943. Since he is bringing the same wife, he asks Driscoll and Ayling to at least forgive the interest. Al has involved several of our guys in writing supportive letters to Fred Zavatterro as he fights a serious health problem. Al got a degree in civil engineering after the war. He settled in Bakersfield and is now President of a firm engaged in structural steel fabrication and erection. They have 4 children and five grandchildren. Al is a devoted husband and golfer; I hope in that order. They will be at the Reunion.

Homer McRay plans to be at the Reunion. He is a confirmed bachelor. He went to college for a while after the war and then worked for 28 years for an industrial supply company. He played a lot of semi-pro basketball and baseball in the 50's and 60's. For the past 20 years he has played around with wine, women, and song, but says he has now eliminated most of that. He didn't specify which parts he had dropped. He weighs 170 lbs. and has high blood pressure.

John Randall and his wife, Alice, have three children. He had his own company for 11 years making concrete products. He sold it and has been selling heavy industrial equipment for the past 8 years. They plan to attend the Reunion in Florida.

Jim Nolan and his wife had two daughters. His wife was killed in an auto accident in 1972. Jim bought a small business in 1945 and sold it in 1975 and retired. He said he put his money in C.D.'s and has been watching it depreciate. He plays 18 holes of golf everyday and says he is in the upper 10% of the duffer class. He says he has gained about 50 pounds, lost most of his hair, drinks a little, smokes a lot, and thinks about chasing women. He had a stroke in 1976 but is now recovered from the effects of that. He will be in Orlando with us.

David Twilight is a sailor on the Great Lakes and hopes to retire at the end of this year and do some hunting and fishing in Canada. He is on a boat for months at a time.

Hal Bean wrote to marvel at how young Barnes looks in his photo in the last Newsletter. He was delighted to learn about his 596 buddies. His home was hit by the Teton Dam Flood in 1976 and he lost all of his photos of his 596 buddies. He worked as a plumber for several years and says he hated every minute of it. One day a lady called up and said, "I've gotta leak in my sink." Hal said, "Go ahead, lady, it's your sink!" That ended the job. He then worked for 13 years for Phillips Petroleum Co. at the Atomic Energy Site in Idaho. He now is a Land Manager for the Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game and loves the work. He rides horseback through the mountains and sees that no harm comes to the elk herd. He plans to attend the Reunion.

I had a very moving letter from Annie Boyer after Jack's death. She is a music teacher in the public school system and a lovely lady. She lives near the Gus Madisons and I believe they have gotten together.

Clyde V. Hoffman died of a heart attack in 1947.

QUESTION? Does anyone have any information about Capt. Dalrymple after 1945?

Robert E. Powers, Charlestown, MA died in 1976. He was a pile driver, in the construction business and a fireman. He was survived by his wife and ten children.

QUESTION: Where was Robert S. Bogan from?

Col. Rupert Graves' wife died on 19 Dec. 1980. His address is 919 Avenue W, Hendersonville, NC



MAIL CALL-----

Jim Benson and his wife, Dorothy, will be with us in Orlando. Jim played professional baseball after the war and had gotten to the Triple A level when he developed an Airborne back. He has been with International Salt Company for the past 24 years and is a Regional Manager. They have two children and two grandchildren.

As you can see by his photo elsewhere in this issue, Jim is another of those "eternal youth" guys.

---

"TIME CHANGES, AND WE WITH TIME, BUT NOT IN THE WAYS OF AIRBORNE FRIENDSHIP"

---

We 596ers have a bond one with the other that is rooted deeply in a mutuality of extraordinary experiences involved in a three year period of severe training, adversity, fear, danger, tragedy, courage, and triumph. Few if any of us would care to relive those years but getting together as a group to laugh and reminisce gives rise to a feeling of warmth and closeness that is difficult to describe. I think you feel it most when the three days of the Reunion come to an end and it comes time to say goodbye. God willing I'll see you in August in Orlando.

---

One picture is worth a thousand words.....AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY!





PHOTOMONTAGE



Jim Molare



Jim Fowles



Ray



Harold & Jeanne Roberts



Jim & Mary



Ray & Agnes Johnson



John Whitman



Ed Mc Finley



Roy Herren



Hal Beard

PHOTOMONTAGE



Homer McRoy (then)



Homer McRoy (now)



James Botts



Ray Sampson, Nick Mirissis, Gus Madison  
Ray Wild



Dave Pierce



Dave & Olga Pierce



Charles Pugh



MAY 1981



✓ Robert E. Anderson (Avis)



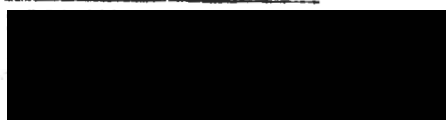
Ambrose W. (BUCK) Buchanan



Robert L. Dail



George Ayling (Lee)



Michael Bulino (Catherine)



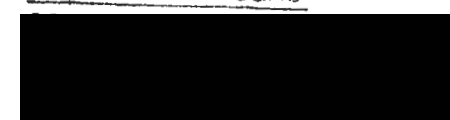
Earl Dillard (Edith)



Richard L. Bramley



William R. Doane



✓ Bill Christian (Sophie)



Cornelius (Connie) Driscoll



Bernard F. Barnes (Thelma)



Bernard S. Frieberg (Zella)



✓ Richard B. Bartholomew (Florianne)



Sal Ciulla



Harold (Hal) L. Eddy (Paul)



Harold R. Bean



Willard H. Conger (Marge)



Robert Egglar



Joseph W. Bennett



Charles R. Courchaine



Alfred E. Emerick



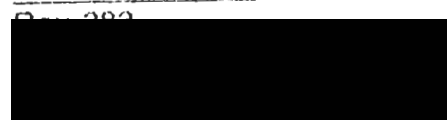
James Benson (Dot)



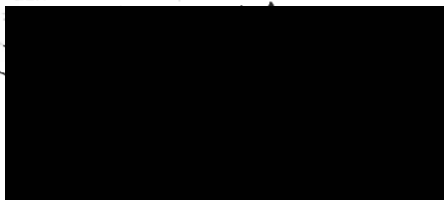
Ralph W. France (Virginia)



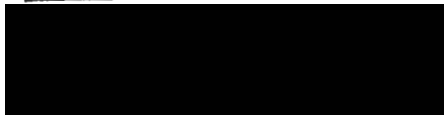
James R. Botts



Glenn Gainer



Louis Gelen (Vera)



Corey F. Gibbon



✓ Al Goodman (Alice)



Donald A. Goudie



Jack R. Green



James O. Greenwood (Hildred)



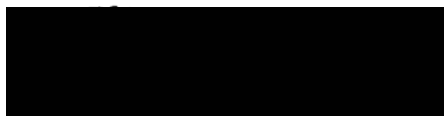
John (Jack) Guthrie



Ned R. Hosterman



Clarence T. Hallestad



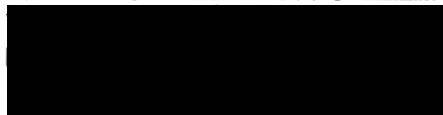
Marion Leroy (ROY) Herren  
(Naomi)



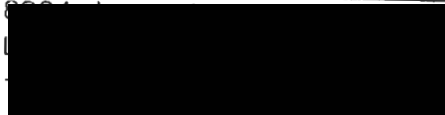
Ray Hild (Mary)



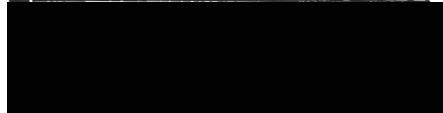
✓ Bill (Mo) Hudson (Gloria)



Lester E. (Gene) Hyman (Mary)



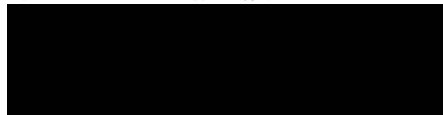
Murray B. (Monk) Johnson



Max W. Grona (Maxine)



Kyle F. Kenyon



Miko F. Kovach (Violet)



Alfred Kunzer



Robert E. Kuston



Ernest C. Kosan (Judy)



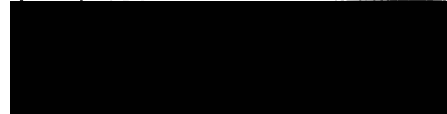
Herbert V. Larson (Ann)



Edward J. Larivey



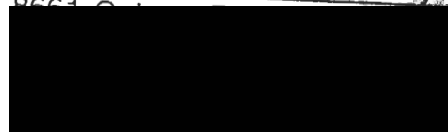
Peter W. Lannen (Josephine)



Warren J. Leatham



Dr. Bernard W. Lyon (Kathy)



James H. Lyon

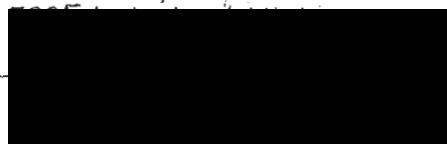


Edward T. Lucey (Maureen)

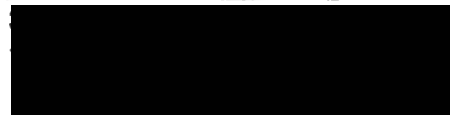


ROSTER--continued

George E. McCook



James W. McEanney



Carl Lee McIntyre



Edward T. McKinley (Jean)



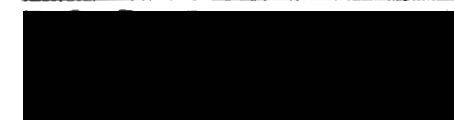
Homer L. McRoy



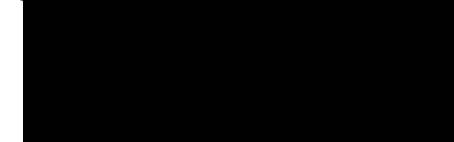
Lyle S. (Gus) Madison (Mary Ann)



✓ James M. (Brooks) Moses (Mary)



Joe D. Miller (Mary)



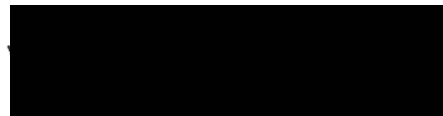
Joseph J. Malone



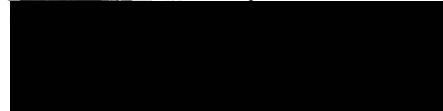
James M. MacFadden (Ruth)



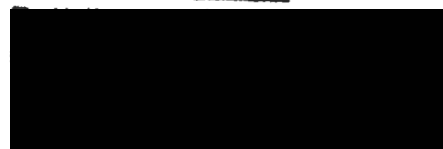
John A. McConnell



John F. Nelson, Jr.



James H. Nolan



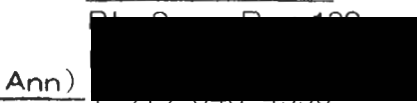
Richard J. Nosky



Wayne B. Norwood (Aimee)

E "Bohemian"  
K 87

Warr R. Meares



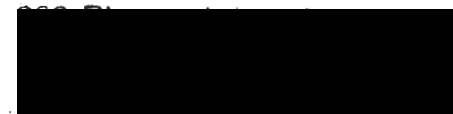
Francis J. O'Lone (Peggy)



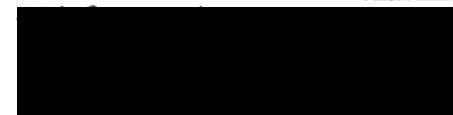
Edward P. Phillips



David Pierce (Olga)



Vincent D. Podrasky (Joan)



Russell Pearson



Raymond E. Poe



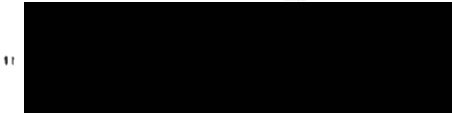
Dr. Charles E. Pugh (Ann)



Marvin A. Rigdon (Ann)



James M. Rogers



Charles Ryznic



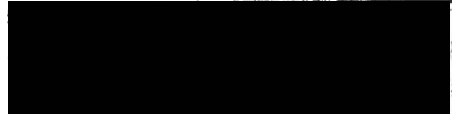
John L. Randall (Alice)



Herbert A. Reichwald (Marie)



Harold A. Roberts (Jeanne)



Paul Roberson



Raymond R. Sampson (Ann)

Joe Smith

Marshall H. Turner (Devona)

Don Saunders (Marian)

B.E (Pop) Spencer

David Twight

Al Schornberg (Andrée)

Lloyd H. Spencer

Wesley G. Williams (Gladys)

George "Speed" Sebring

Art G. Starck (Jean)

Manuel (Manny) Ventoza

T.J. Sumpter (Oleta)

(La Verno)

Merrill W. Seeley (Dorothy)

Bob Verdi -MARIE

Warren E. Sandberg (Marilyn)

Art Von (Marian)

Dennis Shipley

Don Sherman

George H. Shull (Winston)

Glenn C. Spangler (Agnes)

Henry (Hank) S. Simpson (Marian)

Hugh D. Sterling (Marje)

Tom G. Small (Mary)

Joseph F. Senter

Melvin P. Schneider





George T. Walden



Thomas J. Young



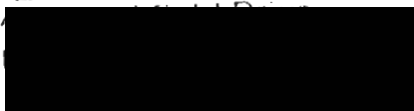
William F. Winterling (Frances)



Leonard I. Walker



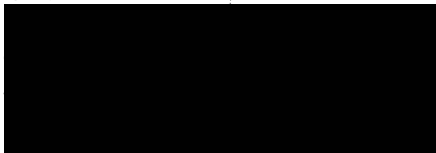
John M. Whitman (Marilyn)



Robert Wilson



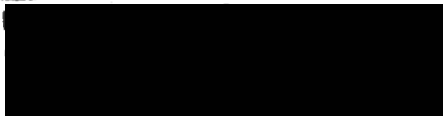
Fred H. Zavattero (Betty)



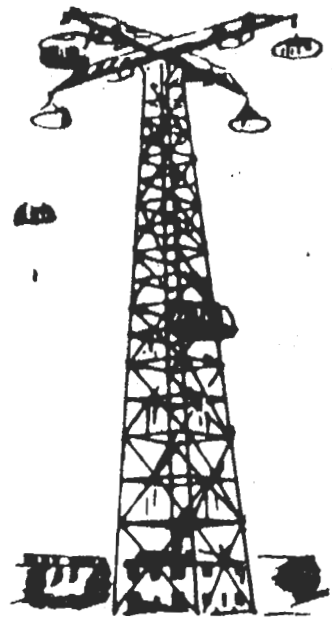
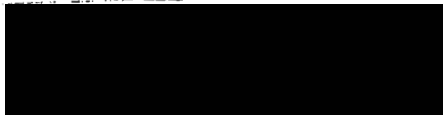
Robert C. Wilkerson (Betty)



George W. Williamson (Mary)



Leo Wroblewski



Please send me any address change.  
If your telephone number is not in the Roster,  
please send it to me. Also, wife's first name.  
Please notify me of the illness or death of  
any 596er.

## In Memoriam



JOHN R. BERRYHILL  
JACK W. BOYER  
JOHN CELECZ  
WALTER K. CHARLTON  
ADOLPH A. CORREA  
MILTON O. DORMAN  
CARROLL W. DOROTHY  
FRANK R. ENNIS  
AL FOLLEY

WALTER WASJURKA  
CLYDE V. HOFFMAN  
DR. JOHN T. HOLBROOK  
GORDA L. (TOMMY) LANDRUM  
PETER LIBERATORE  
RALPH LONGSTRETH  
DURLAND (BUCKY) McCAULEY  
ELIAS NOLAN  
ROBERT E. POWERS  
IRA VAN DYKE



## Holbrook

Wednesday, June 18, 1980.

He was a familiar figure around the Dallas County Courthouse, routinely testifying on behalf of both prosecutors and defense attorneys in innumerable criminal cases.

And although his name would be recognized only by a small circle of criminal law experts in Texas, his opinions influenced the fate of such prominent criminal defendants as Jack Ruby, T. Cullen Davis, Darrell Cain and Christopher Nally.

News of Holbrook's death swept the Dallas County Courthouse Tuesday, where the 57-year-old goateed psychiatrist, who earned over \$21,000 in 1979 in conducting court-appointed psychiatric exams, was considered by both prosecutors and defense attorneys as a fair and respected witness.

Vincent Perini, president of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association, noted that Holbrook occasionally testified that a defendant was a "sociopath," a finding that has recently been questioned by other psychiatric scholars.

But Perini quickly added that "John Holbrook had a reputation of being a moderate and even-handed psychiatrist. He enjoyed great respect and was frequently hired by members of the defense bar, including myself," to testify about criminal defendants.

Defense attorney Phil Burleson recalled that one of the first cases in which he came against Holbrook as a prosecution witness was the Jack Ruby case.

Burleson said part of the defense strategy was proving that Ruby suffered from epileptic seizures that had affected his thinking and led him to shoot Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy. But he said Holbrook testified Ruby was sane and not suffering from epilepsy.

Peter Liberatore passed away on Feb. 28, 1980 due to respiratory arrest.



During the past year we have lost four of our comrades; Jack Boyer, Dr. John Holbrook and Peter Liberatore.

General Mel Zais lost his battle with cancer on 5 May 1981 and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

In later years, Burleson said he turned to Holbrook to help two other clients — Darrell Cain, the Dallas police officer convicted of shooting 12-year-old Santos Rodriguez, and Fort Worth millionaire T. Cullen Davis, charged with the murders of his then-wife's lover and his step-daughter.

Burleson said he and Holbrook engineered an innovative polygraph, administered to Cain while he was under the influence of sodium penathol, or truth serum.

The results of the polygraph were never admitted in court, but Burleson said the new approach would have proven that Cain believed he had emptied all bullets from his gun before he held it to the Mexican-American youth's head and pulled the trigger.

In the Davis case, Burleson said Holbrook testified at Davis' initial bond hearing that the Fort Worth industrialist did not have any propensity to future violence.

Looking back, Burleson said he tended to call Holbrook in important criminal cases because "I thought it would have an effect on the trial judge" because of Holbrook's credibility as a witness.

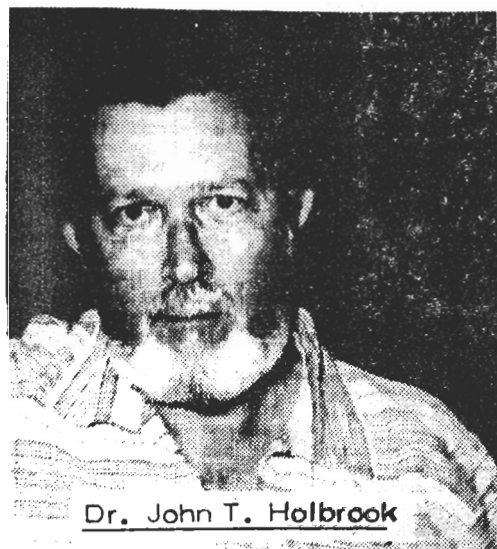
Memorial services for Holbrook will be at 10 a.m. today at Restland Memorial Chapel.

He is survived by his daughter, Susan, and his son-in-law, renowned polygraph examiner Eric Holden.

In one of his many court appearances, Holbrook testified he had been affiliated with Texas Christian University, the University of Texas Medical Science Center in Dallas and the Baylor Medical Center before going into private practice.

From 1968 to 1973, he was chief of psychiatry for the Texas Department of Corrections.

Born in Fort Worth in 1923, Holbrook attended Southwestern Medical School and graduated in 1958. He received further medical training at Parkland Memorial Hospital.



Dr. John T. Holbrook

## Jack W. Boyer, 55, former area stock broker, 30 July 1980

DELRAN, N.J. — Jack W. Boyer, 55, Delran, stockbroker, a former resident of Sunbury, died Wednesday in the Zorbrugg Memorial Hospital.

A graduate of Sunbury High School in 1942, he also was a 1948 graduate of Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove.

He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Army where he received the Purple Heart, Parachute Badge Silver Star, European and American Theater ribbons; and the Crouix DeGare.

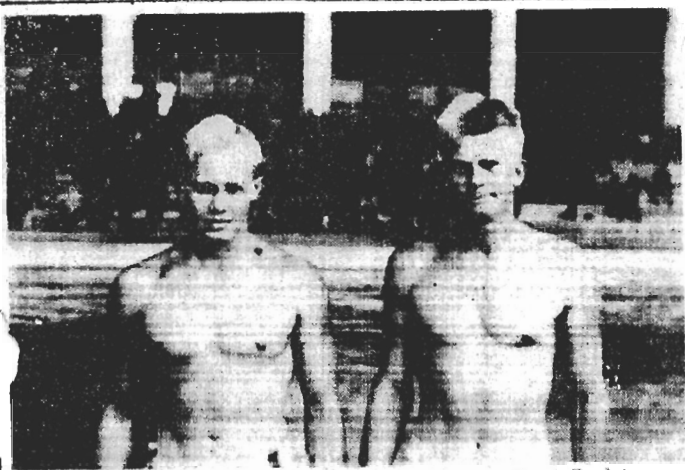
In 1967, he was manager to the assistant vice president of the municipal bonds department of the Philadelphia National Bank. While in Sunbury he was president of the Central Pennsylvania Securities Corp., and dealt in stocks and bonds. He was manager and promoted to vice president of the National Central Bank in Lancaster in 1973, where he was founder of the municipal bonds department and was director of the municipal bonds underwriters activities.

Born in Sunbury, he was a son of Lillian Boyer of Sunbury and the late Levi Boyer.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his wife, the former Anne C. Miller; a son, Kirby W. of Mount Holly, N.J.; and a grandson.

# LEST WE FORGET

1st Lt. George E. Flannery-----Italy  
PFC Francis T. Ropyak-----Italy  
Pvt. Harry L. Springer-----Italy  
Pvt. Henry Wikins-----Jump area So. France  
Sgt. Howard D. Jaynes, Jr.-----Var River Valley--So. France  
PFC Ernest R Coffelt -----Var River Valley--So. France  
Pvt. Leonard Mathis-----Var River Valley--So France  
Pvt. Patrick L. Michaels-----Mountain above Nice, France  
PFC William F. Boggan-----Nice, France Airport  
Sgt. Wallace P. Englert-----Nice, France Airport  
Pvt. Vestal A. Lucas-----Nice, France Airport  
PFC Herbert B. McLamb-----Nice, France Airport  
Pvt. Harold H. Miller-----Nice, France Airport  
PFC Alois J. Siewierski-----Nice, France Airport  
Pvt. George (Pappy) Jones -----Belgium



Howie Jaynes      Ernie Coffelt



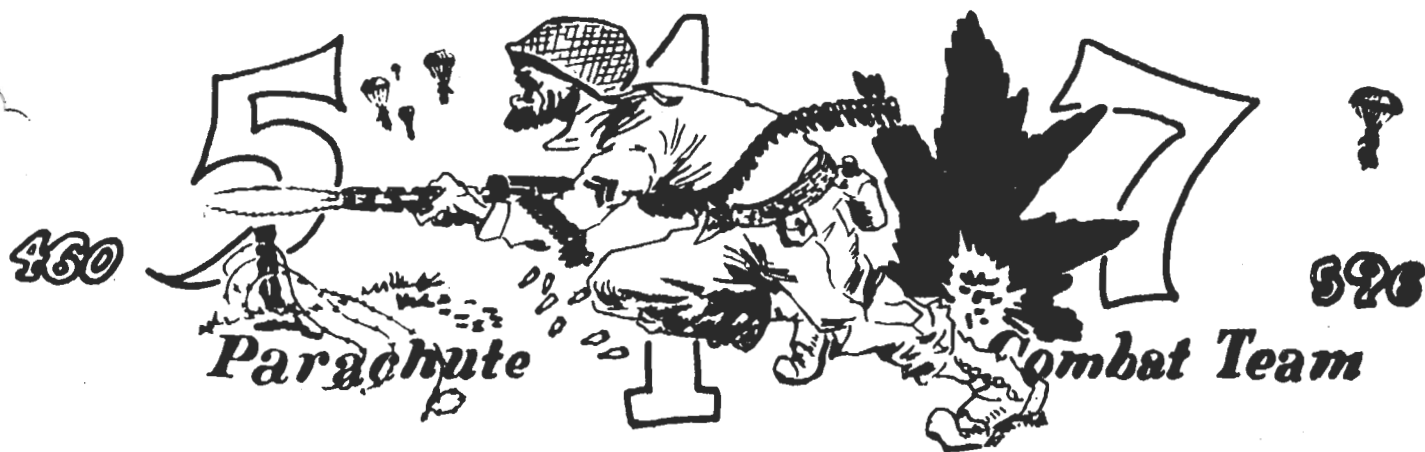
Annie & Jack Boyer



Ralph & Ceil  
Longstreth



**GEN. ZAIS**



If you should ever wish to contact the President of the 517 Parachute Combat Team or a Member of the Board of Directors, here are their names and addresses:

Col. Rupert D. Graves---Honorary President

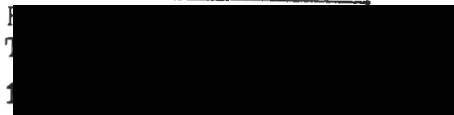
Cameron J. Gauthier, Pres.



Clinton A. (Tex) Lowe, Vice Pres.



William (Bill) Lewis --Editor, Sec/Treas.

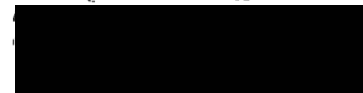


Mr. Joe A. C. Williams



92517

George Milton



set  
880

Gene Camplin, Past President



Henry (Hank) Simpson

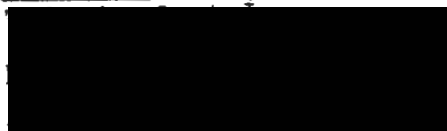


Richard Spencer



1981 Reunion Jumpmaster --Orlando DZ

Frank Grbinich



Hank Simpson has been our very capable and devoted representative on the 517 Combat Team Board of Directors for quite a few years. We all thank you ,Hank.



## MY MOST MEMORABLE CHRISTMAS

PETER W. LANNEN

On Christmas Day, 1944, with a platoon of the 596th Parachute Engineer Company, I was temporarily bivouacked among some farm buildings just outside the small village of Xhoffraiz, Belgium. Xhoffraiz is situated on the Belgium-German border, a few miles northeast of Malmedy, Belgium. Unless you have a very detailed map of either Belgium or Germany, you will have a difficult time locating that little inconspicuous village with such an impressive name.

On December 25, 1944, there was no peace and little good will in that part of the world. The "Battle of the Bulge" was in its second week, and a combination of weather and powerful German armies had exacted a terrible toll among the Allied forces. We had overwhelming air superiority, but weather had grounded all but small observation planes. As a result, German armor and German troops moved with impunity from air attack.

Christmas Day, 1944, dawned bright and cold with cloudless skies. Out of the west, flying over our position, and to the north and south of the little village of Xhoffraiz, and as far as the human eye could see, came the greatest air armada the world had ever seen -- an armada, the likes of which will never be seen again. They came by the thousands - a continuous stream of aircraft more than 300 miles long. I am told that when the leading squadrons began dropping their bombs over Germany, the trailing squadrons were taking off from their airfields in England. After dumping their bomb loads, those mighty squadrons returned to their bases, not to enjoy their Christmas dinners, but to fuel up - load up with bombs and ammunition, and to return to the conflict again.

(continued)

Most Memorable Christmas-----continued

Over, under, and often among the bombers were their escorts, the fighters. They also numbered in the thousands. And then there were the German fighters, the last remnants of Herman Goering's "invincible" Luftwaffe, who rose to meet the bombers and their escorts by the many hundreds. There were so many dogfights going on in the sky simultaneously on that Christmas Day that one pair of eyes could but selectively watch them. As the bombers flew over our position, they began to meet the black puffs of heavy flack from German anti-aircraft guns. With a sort of stately dignity, the bombers held to their course. All too often a bomber would be hit, sometimes to explode in the air with debris slowly spiraling to the ground. Then there were the bombers disabled by flack and often on fire. We, on the ground, would breathlessly wait for the billowing of parachutes and count those parachutes, praying that all of our comrades on that stricken bomber would live to see other Christmases.

At that time, and in that war, ground troops were often critical of the flyboys and their "soft life." Christmas Day, 1944, forever changed that attitude for me, and I am sure for many others. It was a most memorable Christmas.

Isn't this a beautiful piece of writing by Pete Lannen of Spokane , WA ?

Pete was a carpenter before he went into the service and he resumed his trade for 5 years in Newark, NJ after the war and then moved to Alaska until 1976.

Most of those years he was an Officer of the Carpenters Union. In 1976, he retired and move with his wife, Josephine, to Spokane. They have no children.

Here is some more of Pete Lannen's excellent prose;

"During WW2, Parachute engineers were very rare birds, as you are well aware of. We of the 596th were the rarest because of our bastard status---without divisional parents---always on loan to someone. Since the war, I am sure that each of us has shared this frustrating experience when we are asked about our wartime service. We respond that we were in the 596th Parachute Engineer Company, which was a small unit of the 517 Parachute Infantry Regimental Combat Team, which was attached to so many larger units that we cannot recall all of them. At about this stage, I just throw in the towel and order another drink. By the time we went into the "Bulge," the 596th had been attached to 13 larger units. I was Operations Sergeant prior to, during the Bulge, and until disbandment of the 596th. One of my assignments was to help Ray Pbe prepare situation reports to parent units. It seems to me, we had different parents every week. I would suggest that during its existence, the 596th was attached to at least 20 different units."



# The Airborne Mystique



Major James K. McCollum,  
United States Army, Retired

**I**N FRENCH, they are known as *les paras*, in German *die Fallschirmjäger*, in Spanish *los paracaidistas* and, in English, we call them paratroopers. Whatever the language used, the connotation is that of soldiers who are held in awe and respect by their countrymen and possible adversaries. They form a body of tough, elite, highly disciplined troops for any nation. For some, they have been held back as a general reserve; for others, they have been the first forces employed in time of trouble.

Almost 20 years ago, a nonjumper assessed the importance of airborne forces in the US military establishment as follows:

*More than any other types, airborne forces are most directly and effectively useful in cold war, limited conflict, and general war. In cold war they represent the nation's 'hole card'—mobile forces always ready for rapid deployment—and so are a deterrent force. In limited war they would likely be the first army forces strategically deployed. In general war they could carry out a variety of missions such as reinforcing combat elements already deployed, filling strategic gaps where there were no deployments and interdicting enemy forces by vertical envelopment.*<sup>1</sup>

The current importance of airborne forces was underscored by the G3 of the 82d Airborne forces in similar terms. They are a very important segment of the realistic deterrence which

calls for "maintaining strong, quick-reacting, general purpose forces that can meet a communist threat anywhere."<sup>2</sup> New techniques to minimize the deficiencies of airborne operations in the past make the paratroopers of today probably as viable as they have ever been in history.<sup>3</sup>

A large part of the viability factor in the airborne as an important part of the force structure comes from the effect of airborne training on the individual. Says jump school instructor Major Mark Ponzillo:

*Why airborne? Aside from the practical value of airborne troops, there's a tremendous psychological mystique that's established around men who jump out of airplanes.*<sup>4</sup>

The "mystique" is, in reality, a personality change undergone by those who become paratroopers. The change is based upon two major facets: the rite of initiation which allows a soldier to be called a "paratrooper," and the continued reinforcement of this status.

## The Initiation Rite

Sociologists long ago confirmed in laboratory experiments the logic that all men who have undergone stress to be accepted into a particular group intuitively know; a severe initiation causes entrants to value the group highly, whereas a mild initiation does not engender nearly as much of a commitment to the group.

This was demonstrated by Elliot Aronson of Stanford University and Judson Mills of the US Army Leadership Human Research Unit, Human

Resources Research Organization, in their 1959 studies. Aronson and Mills described a situation in which a number of subjects were given a severe initiation to a group they knew nothing about; an equal number were given a mild initiation; and a third group was given no initiation at all. After listening to the group's discussion by the use of headphones, the subjects were asked to rate the group and their own feelings toward being a part of the group. The subjects who received no initiation or a mild initiation rated the group a statistically significant amount lower than did the subjects who received a severe initiation.

Said Aronson and Mills:

*The results clearly verified the hypothesis. Subjects who underwent a severe initiation perceived the group as being significantly more attractive than did those who underwent a mild initiation and those who underwent no initiation.*<sup>5</sup>

The initiation described by Aronson and Mills lasted but a few hours. Contrast that with the three weeks of intensive training to make a paratrooper, and the binding effect of the initiation is magnified many times. The three weeks of jump school is a severe "rite of passage," and there is no "mild" initiation. "There are only two grades in this school: Superior or failure!"<sup>6</sup>

The rite of passage analogy as described by Melford Weiss has three stages:

*... separation from the former group or state; transition to the new; and, finally, incorporation. ... In the case of paratroopers training, the transitional phase is most important.*<sup>7</sup>

The transition is accomplished by physical stress and repetition through the first two weeks of the training. The trainee is subjected to all situations encountered in jumping, one at a time, and drilled to execute an automatic response to each of these situations. In the third week, he puts it all together.

*Before the last week is out, he jumps five times. Five times he is grabbed by apprehension, and five times he is exhilarated when his chute pops open and eases him down. ... He'll step out a little prouder, more confident, his head still dizzy from the experience which will live in his memories for the rest of his life.*<sup>8</sup>

The rite of passage is not completely over. Any airborne trooper joining a

(continued on next page)

unit is regarded with distrust until he has jumped with the unit. As a novice parachutist, Colonel A. S. Newman assumed command of a battle group of the 82d Airborne Division in the late 1950s. He arranged to jump with the battle group as soon after assuming command as possible. Until that jump took place, he could not feel that he belonged."

The cohesiveness of any unit is greatly enhanced by shared experiences of its members. A requirement of an elite group is that a new member demonstrate his credentials for joining the group. Says University of Chicago sociologist and former Israeli paratrooper Gideon Aran:

*The striking resemblance between the jump experience and 'rites of passage' suggests another aspect of the association between jumping and elite status. Jumping can be viewed as a test which allows those who pass it to join an exclusive club.*<sup>10</sup>

#### Reinforcement of Status

All US soldiers on jump status are required to jump at least once every three months. The majority jump more frequently than this. In no case does the act of jumping become routine. In every instance in which a paratrooper steps into space with the ground 1250 feet away, he risks his life. His main parachute, reserve parachute, or both, may malfunction; he may be dragged by the wind once he lands; or he may be blown into the trees or high-tension wires. Although the number of fatalities and serious injuries from parachuting is very small, the consequences of being part of a very small statistic keeps the paratrooper respectful of the act in which he is engaging.

The tensions involved in the continuous requirement for jumping ensure that there is no regression from the personality change which took place during the initiation. Gideon Aran states that there are two motifs which maintain the personality change which we may call "The Airborne Mystique." The first motif:

*... deals with the extremity and the type of emotional excitement involved in parachuting: the exhilarating enthusiasm on the one hand and the fear and stress on the other.*<sup>11</sup>

The second motif is the:

*... rich symbolic significance with which parachuting is charged... this motif obviously results from the intense emotions that accompany the act, especially fear.*<sup>12</sup>

The fear is always there, but is under control. The following thoughts were expressed by a young Specialist 4 in the 82d Airborne Division in 1969:

*You feel these thoughts—strong inside you. Fear! But fear mixed with the wild spirit, freedom and bravado that jumping gives you. These thoughts are dormant in your consciousness; the only thing that goes through your mind is—let's get out; let's jump; let's GO!!!*<sup>13</sup>

#### The Result

*Jumping encourages self confidence, determination, self reliance, masterful activity, aggression, courage, and other items symptomatic of the phallic-narcissistic type, all of which are very important in the military setting, especially in paratroop command units, which rely heavily on individual action and are aggressive in nature. In a way, even the illusion of omnipotence enhanced by jumping can make a better soldier.*<sup>14</sup>

Paratroopers live a life of uncertainty. Not only must they continually be tested in the air, but they are also subjected to frequent alerts for deployment. Some of the alerts are for training purposes. At least an equal number are due to actual conditions which may require their presence. In recent history, we can think of a sufficient number of actual deployments to know that the paratrooper must be ready.

Rapid deployments of airborne forces were made to Lebanon in 1958, to the Dominican Republic in 1965, to Vietnam in 1968 and to numerous

trouble spots within the United States during the past 18 years. Deployments were contemplated for Jordan in 1970 and the Sinai in 1973. The paratrooper knows that he may be on his way within 18 hours of any alert that he may receive.

Airborne forces can meet these requirements and can be counted on to perform in any role placed upon them. Says Major General A. S. Newman:

*Parachute jumping tests and hardens a soldier under stress in a way nothing short of battle can do. You never know about others. But paratroopers will fight.*

*You can bet on that. They repeatedly face danger while jumping and develop self discipline that conquers fear. Subconsciously every trooper knows this. That's why he has that extra cocky confidence.*<sup>15</sup>

Part of the World War II German paratroopers creed reads as follows:

*Be as nimble as a greyhound, as tough as leather, as hard as Krupp steel. . . . Never surrender. To you death or victory must be a point of honour.*<sup>16</sup>

German paratroopers performed acts of daring against great odds at Fort Eben Emael and on Crete. They often fulfilled the requirements of their creed. American paratroopers have performed similarly and will continue to do so in the future.



(Reprinted from Military Review, Nov. 1976)



REMEMBER THIS ONE?."

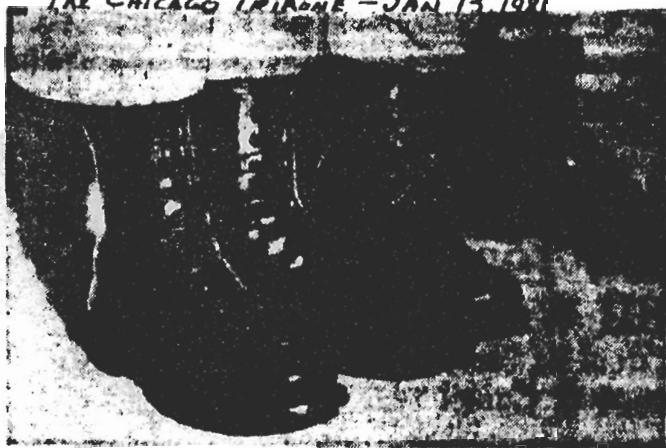
## UP FRONT

By Mauldin



*"It's best not to speak to paratroopers about saluting.  
They always ask where you got your boots."*

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE - JAN. 13, 1981



The highly polished "paratroop boot," long a mark of elitism, will soon be an unwelcome sight in Army units.

## Order stamps out shiny Army boots

NORFOLK, Va. [AP]—Split-shined boots are being kicked out of the military because American soldiers wearing them are too easily spotted by enemies using infrared lenses, the Defense Department says.

The split-shined boots produce a "signature" that can be detected by infrared lenses even from the air, the department contends.

By the mid-1980s, soldiers in most of the services will be sporting a new nonshiny, brown leather boot, which they won't be allowed to shine.

The new footgear will be similar to the old "clodhoppers" of yesteryear—rough, brown leather boots that carried soldiers into World War I.

SOME SERVICEMEN say they

can't imagine an unshined boot.

"I don't believe it," said Military Policeman George Huffman, 20, stationed at Atlantic Fleet Marine Force Headquarters in Norfolk.

"They might change the boot, but they'll still find a way for us to shine them," Huffman said.

The lackluster new footwear is an Army project, scheduled to be adopted by all services. The Marine Corps has set a July, 1983, target date for trying on the new boots.

The boots will have a steel plate toe, a fiberglass-protected sole, new high-traction tread, and a speed-lacing design to allow for fast changes.

And, it is hoped, the boots won't show up under infrared lenses searching for American soldiers.

HAPPINESS IS BEING AN  
**EX PA 2**  
... and ALIVE TO BRAG ABOUT IT!

THE TRADITIONAL SPIRIT of the airborne soldier lives on at Fort Bragg, N.C., home of the elite 82nd Airborne Division. There the story is told of an in-ranks inspection conducted by the Division's commanding general.

A freshly recruited paratrooper from West Virginia was standing proudly at attention, jump wings on his chest, awaiting the commander's careful scrutiny. The general paused in front of the soldier and, spotting a loose thread on his uniform, said, "Trooper, your fatigue jacket is frayed."

To the guarded amusement of all within earshot, the noticeably affronted young private replied, "Sir, beggin' your pardon, but this here airborne jacket ain't 'fraid a nothin'!"

—JIM RUSSELL (Makulu, Huesca)

Dear Don,

Having just read your beautiful magazine again, I came across the article on page 5 about the jeep called "The Red Baron" (Dec). Reminds me of when I was in France, 1945, with the motor pool of the 596th Parachute Engineers. As all of you know, we all put pet names on all of our jeeps. I got carried away and put "Wet Dream" on mine. Needless to say, on inspection day our Col. didn't like it, so I erased the "T" to comply. He thought it was an excellent revision ("WE DREAM").

ROY HERREN

(9th Dvn — 13th Abn Dvn)

596 Abn Eng — 78th Dvn

(326th Glider Inf.)

(reprinted from Static Line)



### OFFICER-ENLISTED INEQUITY

Army Times, OCTOBER 20, 1980

## Jump Pay Revision Considered

By a Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The greenest second lieutenant on jump status draws twice the monthly parachute incentive pay as the most seasoned airborne NCO, but that long standing inequity is getting a second look from DA.

Monthly incentive pay for parachute duty is \$110 for officers and \$55 for enlisted people, an amount that has been unchanged since 1955. Earlier, the monthly pay was \$100 for officers and \$50 for enlisted men.

Army Times has learned, how-

ever, that senior DA officials have recommended reevaluating the parachute pay structure during future reviews of compensation.

Any change would require the approval of Congress, officials said, noting that many items of incentive pay have remained virtually unchanged for decades.

If that happens in the future, exactly how the parachute pay would be restructured to make it more equitable is uncertain. One major command recently suggested, however, that the pay be based

on experience and responsibilities, not rank alone.

The command suggested that the monthly incentive rate would be fairer if the amount would depend on whether the soldier had earned the Parachutist Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge or Master Parachutist Badge. That also would motivate soldiers to earn the senior and master badges.

To earn the Master Parachutist Badge, for example, a paratrooper needs at least 65 jumps, including 25 with field equipment, four night jumps and five mass tactical

jumps that are followed by a field exercise involving at least a battalion. Other requirements for that badge include having jump-master experience and serving for at least 36 months on jump status in an airborne unit.

Enlisted soldiers and officers now earn the same monthly jump pay — \$55 or \$110, respectively — regardless of the type of badge held.

Several active or former paratroopers — both officer and enlisted — told Army Times they would agree with such a switch.



### PARATROOPER

I was that which others did not want to be.  
I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do.  
I asked nothing from those who gave nothing, and reluctantly  
accepted the thought of eternal loneliness... should I fail.  
I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear;  
and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.  
I have cried, pained, and hoped... but most of all,  
I have lived times others would say were best forgotten.  
At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of  
what I was... a PARATROOPER!

Reprinted from Paraglide--Spring 1980  
(one word changed by Editor with apologies to author, George L. Skypeck)

• OPERATION ORLANDO  
13-15 August 1981  
The 596 will be there  
in Force.

## The Airborne Family

The Airborne STATIC LINE spans the entire Airborne family and covers the entire time-frame from the date of inception of the Airborne in 1940 up to the present day Trooper.

The purpose of the Airborne STATIC LINE is to hold together the members of the Airborne family by providing a means of maintaining communications between and among its many varied and scattered members.

The Airborne family is huge, diverse and far-flung. The STATIC LINE does not try to answer everyone's prayers, but merely to provide the tie that binds. Whether or not you wish to remain in contact with your Airborne associates is your decision to make.

A total somewhere around a million men have been Airborne qualified in the United States Armed Forces. Not all of them wish to maintain or to retain the ties with those with whom they served.

But the Airborne STATIC LINE reaches some 10,000 Airborne families, and it's the warmest communication that you'll ever get into your home because everyone of the people whose name and address you read within the covers of this publication are there because they want to be there.

The STATIC LINE is your link with common sense and sanity. These are the people that have been there and they know what it's all about. Any man who has been willing to offer his life in battle for this grand country of ours is a man who knows that there are some things in this world that are worth fighting for.

Airborne men are not

only men of great dedication, they are men of great faith. They are robust, strong, faithful and devout. In the maelstrom of war you are reminded more than ever of the supremacy of God and of the futility of mankind.

To the Airborne fraternity is given the knowledge to appreciate that saying, "greater love hath no man than that he give his life for his fellow man." Every Airborne man who has been subjected to the vagaries of armed conflict is alive today because of this great love.

As our members slowly yield to the wiles of time and old-age, and our numbers become smaller, it behooves us to move ever closer together in spirit so that we may share the fellowship that all of us understand. And the surviving widows of the departed Troopers are encouraged to remain within the STATIC LINE circle.

From time to time, as fellow Troopers pass on, I hear from their widows. Many request merely to drop them from the roles. But many more fervently request to remain on the STATIC LINE roster as long as they can. And we are happy to retain the widows on our roster because they, too, are part of the close-knit Airborne family.

Our Airborne affiliation is more than the result of our military service. Airborne is a philosophy, a way of life, a belief and a faith. No description fits all Airborne men. But every Airborne man has the seeds of promise necessary for the salvation and the preservation of our society, the American way of life.

• DON LASSEN

## 82nd Abn. Dons Berets

Members of the 82nd Airborne Division can now be identified by their maroon beret. After a two year struggle for satisfaction, the Chief of Staff caught everyone off guard the day after Thanksgiving by issuing permission for Airborne qualified personnel on Airborne assignments to wear a beret. Inasmuch as it has not yet become an item of

issue, the maroon beret will not be worn in formation. The Airborne beret will not become a compulsory item of wear until it has been provided to all personnel by the normal supply channels.

In the meantime, every Trooper at Ft. Bragg has managed to secure at least one maroon beret for his personal use. You can now distinguish the Paratroopers in the U. S. Army, they are the guys with the rakish maroon berets and the toothy grin.

The esprit in the Airborne has just been elevated 1,000 percent. It is a noticeable, visible and positive improvement. The Chief of Staff of the Army, GEN. EDWARD C. MEYER, can stand tall this day, his Airborne troops are with him.

Reprinted from

Jan 1981 Static Line

Reprinted from Static Line

**May the blessing  
of blue skies and  
gentle landings  
be with us all...**