



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2233

September 21, 2014

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

Website
Send MailCall news to
MailCall Archives
2013 Roster (updated!)
Thunderbolt (Winter 2014)

www.517prct.org
MailCall@517prct.org
www.517prct.org/archives
www.517prct.org/roster.pdf
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MailCall News



You carried a photo of "I" Company in MailCall 2232 dated 9/14/14. I would like to confirm your assumption that the Guidon was one and the same. Any formations required like Reveille or Retreat, he was the person that established where the formation would begin. As you mentioned he ran behind the formation as soon as the camera passed him, and got on the other end. Our Guidon C Battery was **Cameron Gauthier** and he thought he should receive double pay for that month.



I had three panoramic photos; C Battery, 460th and the 517th. I sent them to the Museum in Le Muy and I think they were lost in the big flood they had there a few years back.

Merle W. Mc Morrow

That reminds me that I do have a whole box of photos from **Cameron Gauthier** that I need to scan. If only everyone would stop sending me news for MailCall so I could find the time. Just kidding – Please send your current news as well as memories for the 517th when you can. There are a lot of "listeners" out there who read MailCalls but don't send in any news. Let's hear from the non-regulars. – BB



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From Wikipedia:

The significance of the guidon is that it represents the unit and its [commanding officer](#). When the commander is in, his or her guidon is displayed for everyone to see. When he leaves for the day, the guidon is taken down. It is an honor, although sometimes a dubious one, to be the guidon carrier for a unit, known as a "guidon bearer" or "guide". He or she stands in front of the unit alongside of the commander (or the commander's representative), and is the rallying point for troops to fall into [formation](#) when the order is given. In [drill and ceremonies](#), the guidon and commander are always in front of the formation.

The guidon is a great source of pride for the unit, and several [military traditions](#) have developed around it, stemming back from ancient times. Any sort of disgrace toward the guidon is considered a dishonor of the unit as a whole, and punishment is typical. For example, should the guidon bearer drop the guidon, he must fall with it and perform punishment, often in the form of [push-ups](#). Other units may attempt to steal the guidon to demoralize or antagonize the unit. Veteran soldiers know not to give up the guidon to anyone outside their unit, but new recruits may be tempted into relinquishing it by a superior, especially during a [unit run](#).

I received a message on Facebook from **Brenda Carlan** at Camp Toccoa, Toccoa, GA. She has posted a message to all the children of Currahees. Please see the below message from her and then if you have Facebook you can post your pictures.

Lory Curtis



"This page is dedicated to the Children of Currahees, the men that trained at Camp Toccoa during WWII. We ask you to help us get the word out to the children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren of these men. We welcome anyone that trained at Camp Toccoa with any of the regiments. We would like for you to please post your favorite photograph of you and your dad, or grandparent on the page If yo...u have a photo of him in uniform would be great to post as well.

If you would like to be added to our "Children of Currahees" data base for future events and updates, please email your

name and contact information to toccoahistory@windstream.net.

Please share this information with others that may not have email. Remember send your photos!!!!"

<https://www.facebook.com/childrenofcurrahees>



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Like so many, I was saddened to hear of the passing of **Darrell Egner**. He was a joyous presence and a great behind the scenes helper at the Kissimmee reunions, and he was a very kind man. When Jim was in hospice care, Darrell came to spend several hours with us. Not an easy thing to do, and it was much appreciated. This photo is one I took **Darrell, Dick Seitz** and **Jim** at the Salt Lake City reunion.

Brenda Verbeck Mortensen



Subject: **Jesse O Goswick** 517 PIR 3rd Div, Company G (KIA)

Can you please add this photo next to his others.

Thanks bill

[Done -- http://www.517prct.org/photos/jesse_o_goswick/jesse_o_goswick.htm]

Hi Bill,

I will add that picture to his page soon. That's from the Company G photo at Camp Mackall, I think.

Also, I have attached a scan of a page from **Jean-Loup Gassend's** new book, *Operation Dragoon - Autopsy of a Battle*. This is a great book about the invasion of southern France, which is now my primary reference for any questions about the battles in southern France and also the stories about many of the soldiers who were killed on both sides.

This page includes a little about the battle of St. Cézaire, and pictures of some of the KIA's including **Jesse Goswick**.

Bob Barrett



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From: Alison Quinn
To: "HOWARD E HENSLEIGH, Attorney at Law"
Subject: Sospel photos!

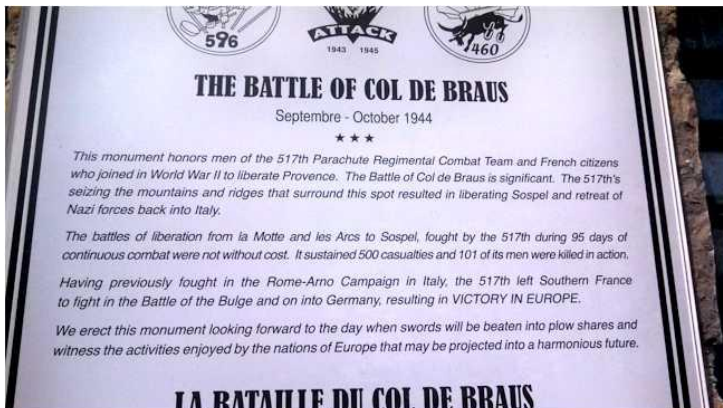
Hi Poppy,

I finally have my photos from Sospel, France for you to look it. I hope you can download them from this email.

I had a wonderful time in Sospel, enjoying the impeccable hospitality of **Roland and Patricia Orengo**. The man in some of these photos is Roland who took me around Sospel to visit all the battle sites. I also wanted to tell you that I signed the US Airborne book they had as your granddaughter where many other veterans/veterans' children signed.

Enjoy the photos, and I hope all is well!

Love,
Alison





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From <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAirborneTaskForceTheForgottenFront?fref=nf>



Heavy Mortar Platoon of the 2/517 near Hill 1098. Standing from left to right: **Collins, Leonard, Butler, Fritz, Knee, Wold. Tunstall** squatting:, **Kane, McDaniel, and Dodd.**

70 years ago today [Sept. 18], at 0900, 3/517 and F Company of the 2/517, launched their attacks on the tops of Ventabren (Hill 1098) and the head of the Lavina.

The assault is violent, the stunned Germans see their shelters clubbed to the bazooka, or burned by the phosphorus grenades.

The two hills are finally taken, without any losses, aside from **1st Lt. Hillard B. Thomas** of Company H who is killed by mortar fire during the German counterattack.

After the complete the pass, it lacks more than the making and release of Sospel that comes only much later...

<http://1stabtf.com/champagne-campaign/Le-col-de-braus2.htm>



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Administrivia

- If you miss any MailCalls, they are all available online at <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/>
- At any time, if you want to be added or removed from the MailCall list, just let me know, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: MailCall@517prct.org
- If you send me email that you do not want included in MailCall, just label it as FYEO.
- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn't. If I miss something, please just send it again.
- Donations for any programs involving the 517th should be sent to our new Association Treasurer: Identify the purpose of any donation (Annual Donations, In Memory of... etc.) and make all checks payable to:

517 PRCT Association, Inc.
c/o Miriam Boyle Kelly
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Saratoga Springs, NY 12866