

80th Division Veterans Association 97th Reunion

by: BILL BLACK



WOW, WHAT A fantastic 97th reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association we just wrapped in Alexandria! It was great to see many new—and familiar—faces this year, and we were sad to miss two of our former PNCs, Bob Murrell and Clarence Brockman, who both passed away prior to the reunion.

A great big thank you to our outgoing National Commander, Doug Knorr, and his wife, Sally. Doug and Sally have spent countless hours over the past couple of years, planning and organizing last year's reunion, along with being a tremendous help to me getting ready for this year. They have both served the Association extremely well. Thank you, Doug, for your outstanding leadership.

In addition, I would be remiss not to thank my wife, Tammy and our daughter, Rebekah, for helping out on many logistics behind the scenes and in the hospitality room. They really made my job much easier and put many worries to rest.

We had fantastic speakers this year with WWII genealogist and author, Jennifer Holik; our own WWI historian, Lee Anthony and our special friend from Saint Avold, France, Simon Petitot. Each of our speakers did a great job and added value to our reunion.

We definitely kept busy with two off site trips this year. We had over 55 attendees on both tours. A big thank you to the people at Mount Vernon, home of our first President, George Washington. We experienced a delightful lunch with actor presentation followed by two VIP walking tours of the home and grounds. We also had the opportunity for several of our veterans to participate in a wreath laying ceremony at President Washington's tomb.

Our second tour day was a full day, indeed! We started the day early with a visit to the Fort Myer Army Base adjacent to Arlington National Cemetery. We were guest of honor for a group of servicemen who were part of the Presidential Salute Battery. Following our time with the Battery, we enjoyed lunch at the Fort Myer Officer's Club then another tour of the Horse and Caisson stables for Arlington. Many attendees said this was their favorite part of the day. But, the day wasn't over yet!

The second half our day included a visit to the WWII Memorial where we were met by NBC News and had several of our veterans interviewed for a news story. The story ran on NBC News the following day. After our time at the Memorial we were treated to a quick visit to the National Archives

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IT'S FALL AND WINTER is knocking at our door!! Leaves are falling and no matter how hard you work at getting them up within hours the yard is covered again. Many of you like me live in a region that has all four seasons. It is a blessing to see Gods work as we go from one season to another.

Be careful while working in those leaves as no neck Mr Snake may be hiding out. I thought they were gone in their holes but a very large black snake kept me from crossing the damn at our pond last week. I had to wait him out to cross over from the pond side to the woods. My daughter, Margie, and I saw him the next couple of days hanging around in the rocks.

Many of us were able to attend Veterans Day Ceremonies. I went to the VA War Memorial here in Richmond and it was very moving. There were two students that read an essay they had written. One young lady wrote about her family members that had served and the young man wrote about Service Members in general entitled "Could You Walk In My Boots?"

Thanksgiving is soon and we have so much to be thankful for. Regardless of your political preference I'm sure everyone is glad that the elections are over and now maybe the phone will settle down from calls and some of the junk mail will stop

filling up our boxes.

Christmas is next month and we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Many churches have Cantatas performed by their choirs. If you have the opportunity please attend one. You will go home with a warm heart. Whatever your religious beliefs celebrate them with your family and friends.

Pray for our Soldiers especially those that are deployed and those getting ready to deploy. Some units leave home during the holidays and that means they are not with their family. The 80th continues to deploy Soldiers as individual fillers to other units. To my knowledge we do not have any large groups deployed together but ones and twos with all types of units. As I am typing this one 80th Soldier that I am close to is one step closer to home. Her unit departed Afghanistan and shortly will be back in the US!!

Keep your stories coming along with photos. It is great to share our lives with each other. Remember if you change your address, phone number, email address, etc. to let me know so I can update our roster. For our annual members you can send in 2017 dues any time now.

GOD bless each of you and remember the 80th "Only Moves Forward"!!

Reunion... continued

where we were able to view the "Articles of Freedom", including our Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Finally, after dinner, we boarded the bus and went back to the U.S. Marine Barracks where we were special guests of the Command Sergeant Major Friday night parade. It was a long day and we were all happy to get back to our hotel room for a great night's rest. I want to extend a big thank you to Tom Schultz, our tour guide for the day, and his tour company, D.C. Military Tours. Tom did a first class job on our tour.

I wanted to also thank the Fairfax American Legion for bringing their color guard to our annual memorial service. They did a fantastic job and really added to our service. Our chaplain, Doug Knorr, planned a wonderful memorial service this year and brought honor and dignity to those veterans from WWII and the GWOT who have passed from this earth over the past year.

I hope you're already starting to plan to attend next year's reunion. It will be the 100th anniversary of the 80th Division and a big celebration is being planned in Richmond, Virginia for September 13 – 17, 2017. Paul Stutts, our Senior Vice Commander and Reunion Chairman, is planning a fantastic reunion. You won't want to miss this one!

Before I sign off, I wanted to thank our national secretary/treasurer, Doris Wollett. Many of you don't see all the work Doris puts into the Association. She does it with honor and never complains. We are so lucky to have her. I'm also proud to announce that the Executive Council approved the naming of Burt Marsh, longtime Sergeant of Arms, as an Honorary National Commander. Well deserved, Burt!

I look forward to seeing everyone in Richmond in September at the 98th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association. The 80th only moves forward!

Historian's Report

4th Quarter-2016

Lee S. Anthony, PNC & Historian

THINGS ARE STILL very active in the History area. First, a reminder that the book on the Iraqi war entitled 80th Division in Iraq: Iraqi Army Advisors in Action, 2005-06 is available. This was authored by Gen. McLaren and Maj. Schreckengost. In addition, Maj. Schreckengost has the four volume set of books on the 80th Division in WWI. Please see the website for details.

We continue to provide historic information to the families of deceased veterans. Many of these searches turn out to be very interesting and sometimes require much research.

As I prepare this report, I am moving forward with the acquisition of an appropriate plaque for Bruce and Cecelia Smith, who were appointed "Historians Emeritus" at the August meeting. I would like to get others to meet with me at the Smith home for a presentation. Let me know if you can participate.

I have had the unusual and pleasant experience of working with students from Liberty University recently. Miss Becky Barker and associates have actually made a film; reenactors from her group have shown 80th Division soldiers in the trenches and going "over the top" into battle. The shooting of the film has been concluded; I am anxiously awaiting the viewing of the completed film.

I am continuing to forward materials to Mr. Andy Adkins for placement on the 80th Division website. This is making much more material available to those computer capable family members for their research.

Commander's Message



BILL BLACK National Commander

I HOPE EVERYONE is having a wonderful autumn season wherever you are. Here in the Atlanta metro the colors are vibrant and

Tammy and I are gearing up for a busy Thanksgiving with each of our three children and their families visiting for the holiday. We pray each of you will have an enjoyable Thanksgiving and Christmas season and may 2017 be your greatest year ever.

Following the Alexandria reunion in August, Tammy and I, along with PNC Bob Burrows, his wife, Mable and his family attended a moving ceremony in Argentan, France in the Normandy region. We were guest of honor for a monument unveiling and memorial service to honor the men of the 80th Division that lost their lives liberating Argentan on August 20, 1944. This was the 80th's "baptism by fire" after arriving at Utah Beach just a few days prior. We lost 147 men that day and over 400 wounded. This was part of the famous closing of the Falaise Pocket.

I wanted to let everyone know we are working hard on putting together a fantastic reunion in Richmond, Virginia for 2017. Our reunion chairman, Paul Stutts, his lovely wife, Jane,

along with Tammy and I met on November 12 to review details of the reunion and brainstorm how to make it a meeting to remember. The 80th Division was activated in 1917 at Camp Lee, Virginia in preparation for WWI, so we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Division.

Paul and I are both committed to bringing all veteran elements of the 80th Division together this year. In addition to our WWII veterans, we have many treasured veterans from the Global War On Terror (GWOT), the 80th Training Command, MiTT, former Units of the 80th Division and Post 50. Currently, some of these groups are meeting independently from the veteran's association—which is terrific—however, for the 100th anniversary we would sure love to have everyone come together for a great celebration.

The future of the 80th Division Veteran's Association is dependent on the GWOT and current Training Command veterans to keep it alive for years to come. It will be a priority for me, as your National Commander, to help bring these veteran groups together. May the 80th continue to "only move forward"!

Please do not hesitate to call or email if you have any questions about the association, or ideas about how to make it better. You can find my contact information in the back of the newsletter.

Sincerely, Bill Black, 319-G Family

2nd Annual MiTT Reunion

THE 2ND ANNUAL MITT Reunion was held on Saturday 1 Oct 2016 at the James River State Park in Gladstone, VA. It was a beautiful day to get together and share memories of the 80th Divisions deployment to Iraq 2005-2006. There were about 20 Soldiers in attendance along with many family members. We had a great time of fellowship, catching up, and delicious food. MSG Carter Sensabaugh coordinated the event again this year and we cannot thank him enough for all his hard work. We had a few Soldiers travel from out of state to attend. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to meeting up next year. Please help us spread the word and send contact info to MSG Sensabaugh at charless20@aol.com.



98th Annual Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association

I AM PLEASED to announce that our 2017 Reunion of the 80th Division Veterans Association will take place September 13 –17 in Richmond, Virginia. Mark your calendars and plan to attend our 98th Reunion as it will mark the 100th anniversary of the 80th Division's commission. Our host hotel will be the Double Tree by Hilton, 1021 Koger Center Blvd. in the Midlothian area of Richmond, VA. We are planning another great reunion including a trip to Ft. Lee where historians are reconstructing part of the WW1 training area including trenches staffed by reenactors. Look for more details in the next Blue Ridge magazine.

To get an early start on hotel reservations call 800-222-TREE or 804-379-3800 and mention the 80th Division reunion or reserve on line <http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/R/RICKSDT-VAR-20170909/index.jhtml>. If you have any questions, please contact me at 803-507-5599 or by email, paulstutts@bellsouth.net.

See you in September!

Paul Stutts, Senior Vice Commander and Reunion Chairman



72 Years Later, Argentan, France Honors Its Liberators: US Soldiers of the 80th Infantry Division

By: Bill Black, National Commander

ON AUGUST 27, 2016 the people of Argentan, France, for the first time, celebrated their American liberators, those of the 80th Infantry Division. Until then, the city had celebrated the 2nd Armored Division of General Leclerc, but after an extensive research project by French history student, Tristan Rondeau, it became obvious that the real liberators were the soldiers from the 317th and 318th Infantry Regiments of the 80th Infantry Division. It was the 80th that followed Leclerc and fought so valiantly between August 18-21, 1944 to dislodge the Germans from their hold on Argentan.

The current mayor of Argentan, France, Mr. Pierre Parvis, formally invited representatives from the 80th Division Veterans Association to attend the ceremonies on August 27, 2016. PNC Bob Burrows (317-HQ) and current National Commander, Bill Black (319-G Family) flew to France and participated in ceremony. PNC Burrows was in the area of Argentan during the battle that freed the people of Nazi tyranny in August, 1944.

Thousand of residents were in attendance at a monument dedication to honor those 80th Division men who gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of Argentan (August 18-21, 1944); and thousands lined the streets of Argentan for a parade of WWII era vehicles, with PNC Burrows as honorary Master of Ceremonies. The welcome that was given to PNC Burrows and NC Black was second to none. The people of Argentan were so appreciative, even after 72 years; many stood in tears during the unveiling of a monument that listed every name of the 80th Division men who lost their life at Argentan. Total casualties for the battle included 147 killed and over 400 wounded.

The battle at Argentan has often been referred to as the 80th's "baptism by fire" as they had only been in France barely two weeks after landing at Utah Beach on August 6, 1944.

During the ceremony on August 27, 2016, Mayor Pavis presented many gifts and citations to the 80th Division, including official flags of the liberation ceremony, keys to the city and honorary citizenship to both PNC Burrows and NC Black. Many dignitaries from the Normandy region were in attendance and all expressed their appreciation to the American visitors for the sacrifice of the 80th Division and coming to France to be part of the celebration. PNC Burrows, a veteran of the 80th, expressed appreciation to the people of Argentan and spoke of the fallen men; he humbly represented his comrades in arms proudly and graciously.

PNC Burrows presented Mayor Pavis with a book containing the Morning Reports of each Company from both the 317th and 318th regiments for the dates of August 17 – 21, 1944. Many 80th veterans who had attended the national reunion the week prior in Alexandria, Virginia signed the book.

Many thanks to Argentan resident and history student, Tristan Rondeau, who had researched this event in great depth and made several visits to the United States to help lift the veil on this episode of Argentan's liberation. Mr. Rondeau



ABOVE LEFT: Mayor Parvis presents Cdr Black with an official flag of the Argentan Liberation Ceremony

ABOVE RIGHT: PNC Burrows presents Mayor Parvis with Book of Morning Reports



stated, "This was their (the 80th Division) first battle that they fought. The 80th had landed only two weeks earlier at Utah Beach. They were given the order to branch off to Argentan, while heading towards Angers. They arrived at Argentan, and from August 17 to 21, 1944, engaged several days of fierce fighting until the liberation of the city on August 20th. This experience has become known as the 80th's, "Baptism of fire".

Often, those of us in the United States hear that the people of Europe don't like Americans, but rest assured, their love for Americans and the appreciation for what the 80th Division did for them 72 years ago, is still very strong. They hope that more veterans and families of veterans will return to Argentan to visit the monument in their city square, and remember the men who paid a dear price for their freedom.

Will (Buff) Devine

Wagoner 318th Field Hospital, 305th Sanitary Train, 80th Division, First Army of the American Expeditionary Force
by: William G. Devine (Son)

AFTER DISEMBARKING IN the port of Bordeaux, France in June 1918, the 317th and 318th Field Hospitals separated from the Division and moved to an area near the Swiss border for training.

Both Field Hospitals then moved to Chauvirey-le-Chantel. This is where the 80th Division began to assemble for the planned St Mihiel and Meuse Argonne Offensives. The 80th Division was in reserve during the St Mihiel Offensive.

The 317th and 318th Field Hospitals arrived in Fromerville on September 17, 1918. On September 24, 1918 the 317th and 318th Field Hospitals were advised they would see action shortly. Most of the town was in ruins. The building selected for the hospital was an old roadside inn and by the next morning the building was put in order to receive wounded—the 317th as a Gas Hospital and the 318th as a Triage Hospital. The enemy front line was about one half mile away. Whistling artillery shells overhead were directed at American Field Artillery located in woods behind the 318th Hospital. A few days later the 318th came under artillery fire for one hour. The Company moved to a dugout (bunker). Soon after the AEF artillery barrage began. By mid-day the wounded began to arrive. They continued to come—all available floor space filled with stretchers. A barn received the overflow. Men remained on duty around the clock. American, French, Prussian, German wounded treated equally.



No other single battle in American Military History even approaches the Meuse Argonne in size and cost. In a six week period more than 120,000 Soldiers and Marines would fall wounded: 26,277 would die. Nearly all the casualties—about half of those sustained by the United States during the war—occurred within a three week period. Some 2,400 artillery pieces fired 4 million shells within a three week period—more than the Union Army had fired during the entire Civil War. More than 14,000 American Doughboys lie in the Meuse Argonne American Memorial Cemetery.

The 318th Field Hospital departed from the Port of Brest aboard the ROTTERDAM with a stopover at Plymouth, England where Elsie Janis and her mother boarded the ship. Elsie was one of the most popular entertainers who ever appeared before American troops. Elsie sang and danced for the troops in the second cabin dining room

The ROTTERDAM docked in Hoboken, NJ and once ashore the troops were given refreshments by the welfare organizations. The 318th then proceeded to Jersey City by ferry and then took passenger coaches to Camp Dix where they were discharged.



US Victory Medal Awarded to Will Devine – Front and back



318th Field Hospital near the Swiss Border

“Down on the Farm”

By: Burt Marsh



AFTER A TUESDAY night telephone conversation with Walton, daughter Tina and I paid a visit to the Spanglers on Thursday afternoon. It was a hot 90 degree day, but it was so comfortable inside their beautiful home.

We chatted for a couple of hours about world events, family, the upcoming reunion and of course, WWII experiences, since we both were 319th regt. vets, Walt in A company and I in M company. After finishing our chat, Walt asked if I would like a tour of the farm in his John Deere, I said sure, off we went in his John Deere round-a-bout through the fields, a patch of woods on his 82 acres farm, of which he has 67 acres of it planted into soybeans. All the neighboring farms have planted soybeans and corn, and that was the scenery for as far as you could see.

Walton retired from the Board of Directors of the Saving Bank of Circleville, OH this year after serving 40 years. The board decided to have a little party for him to send him on his way. During their activities, they coaxed Walton to go outside because they had something to show him. To his surprise, there sit the John Deere Round-A-Bout, needless to say, he has really enjoyed it, so did I as we ended my tour of the Spangler Farm in Ashville OH. So fellas, keep in touch with your vets, it's enjoyable and fun...

Robert O. Wilkinson Returns to Saint Avold, France

By Simon Petitot, Student and Resident of Saint Avold

ON OCTOBER 21-22, 2016, Robert O. Wilkinson, 318th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Battalion, Company I, 80th Infantry Division returned to the scene where he fought with his company, 72 years ago. I had the chance to meet Bob at the annual meeting of the Association in Alexandria, Virginia, August 17 – 20, 2016. PNC Jeff Wignall told me that Bob wanted to come to Europe and France. I then offered to host Bob if he wanted to visit the area of Saint-Avold, where he fought in November 1944. Bob also visited Luxembourg and the Metz, France area before coming to Saint-Avold on October 21-22, 2016.

Friday afternoon, October 21, we visited the village of Chermery, captured by his company at 2:00 pm on November 16, 1944, and held for four days, until November 20, the day of the capture of the town of Faulquemont by the 3rd battalion of the 318th Infantry Regiment.

We then went to the village of Seingbouse (West of Saint-Avold, captured by 3rd Battalion, 317th on November 28, 1944), where his company was stationed from November 29,

1944 to December 4, 1944, the day his company moved into the town of Farebersviller. At Seingbouse, we stopped in front of a monument honoring the 80th Infantry Division, erected in 2014 for the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation in 1944. The insignia of the division is set in stone, and it says:

“In memory of the American soldiers of the 80th Infantry Division who restored freedom to our village.”

Then, we drove to the town of Farebersviller, where the mayor, Mr. Kleinhentz, welcomed us and awarded Bob the medal of the city plus a diploma. Mr. Kleinhentz is a good friend of PNC Wignall. On Saturday, October 22, aboard an original Jeep to the color of the 80th Infantry Division—driven by a friend, Jeremy—and dressed as American soldiers in 1944, we passed first through the city of Faulquemont then through the small village of Redlach. On November 21, 1944, at 3:30 pm, Bob’s company left the town of Faulquemont to attack the village of Redlach. The mission is accomplished at 5:30 pm.

We then went into the wood of Steinbesch, south of my village (Bambiderstroff, east of Saint-Avold) to observe fox-holes (still present after 72 years) dug by men of his company plus Company L on November 22, 1944. Early afternoon, a small reception at the town hall of Bambiderstroff was organized, and the mayor and the first deputy handed Bob a gift, after thanking him for coming to liberate France, my area and my village.

Then, I quickly explained the operations that led to the release of my village and those of the 318th Infantry Regiment in the attack against the Maginot Line. On November 25, 1944, the 3rd battalion of the 318th release my village at 09:00 am, and capture two bunkers of the Maginot Line located just near my village. During the fighting, five men of Company I were killed (including the captain, Lourn C. Doan) and 13 were wounded, including a friend of Bob, Pvt. Milton B. Wiker.

Continued on page 7



ABOVE: Simon and Robert in front of monument to the 80th at Seingbouse, France. **BELOW:** Simon Petitot and friend, Jeremy, along with Robert O. Wilkinson (318th IR, Co. I), center, just outside of Saint Avold, France



BELOW: Robert O. Wilkinson and Simon Peitiot visit the grave of Pfc. William Wise, 80th Division, 318-I, at the Lorraine Cemetery in Saint Avold, France



Living History Day Niederzimmern, Germany – October 8, 2017

By Andy Adkins and Bernd Schmidt

I STILL FIND it fascinating that the people of France, Luxembourg, and Germany still continue to celebrate their liberations during World War II. I have witnessed firsthand several of these celebrations, dedications, and memorials to the 80th Infantry Division during my two trips to visit France, Luxembourg, and Germany. Even after all this time, all generations greatly appreciate the 80th Division veterans.

A few months ago, Bernd Schmidt, a close friend of the 80th Division who lives in the Weimar, Germany area contacted me about an upcoming celebration in Niederzimmern, Germany. For those of you who don't know Bernd, he is an active historian for the Weimar area and works with many veterans groups to help keep the memories alive.

The older citizens remember the liberation because they lived through it; the younger generations want to know about these incredible men, some of whom gave their lives to free Niederzimmern from terror.

As the 80th Division pushed through Germany and around the time of they came upon the Buchenwald Concentration

Camp, part of the 80th marched through. As Bernd stated, "on the 12th and 13th of April, 1945, many Americans from the 80th Division passed through Niederzimmern. They rushed through, convoy after convoy, truck after truck, with many soldiers. During these days, the streets were filled with soldiers. While the Americans were in the area for a couple of months, only a few remained in and around Niederzimmern. There is only one main street on the way to Weimar."

Bernd and I corresponded several times, gathering as much information as we could find about the 80th Division's activities during that time. Bob Murrell's "80th Division Operational History" [also available on Amazon.com] provided some clues that the 2d Bn, 317th Infantry Regiment passed through Niederzimmern on those days.

Bernd was a featured speaker at the event and recently send me a few photos. I am humbled by his continued support of the 80th Division Veterans. If you'd like more information, contact Bernd Schmidt directly at: schmbernd@aol.com. The 80th Always Moves Forward!



Wilkinson... CONTINUED

After the reception, we drove him directly on the battlefield, to see the two Maginot Line bunkers near my village that his company (plus Company L) captured on November 25, 1944. At 4:00 pm, we went to the Lorraine American Cemetery of Saint-Avold, where the superintendent greeted Bob, in presence members of the France-US partnership. After the reception, Bob went to visit the grave of Jeff Wignall's father, killed at Farevesbiller on December 4, 1944, and the grave of Pfc. William H. Wise and Pvt. Charlie R. Trend, two members of his company killed during the attack against Maginot Line on November 25, 1944. Bob remembers Pfc. Wise. He also remembers Pvt. Vernon O. Wieland, with whom he had his training, also killed on November 25, 1944, near my town.

The landscapes have changed, the town and villages too, so Bob did not remember exactly the place where his company passed through in November 1944. It was two exceptional days with a lot of memories!

We recently received the following information request from MICK HANOU:

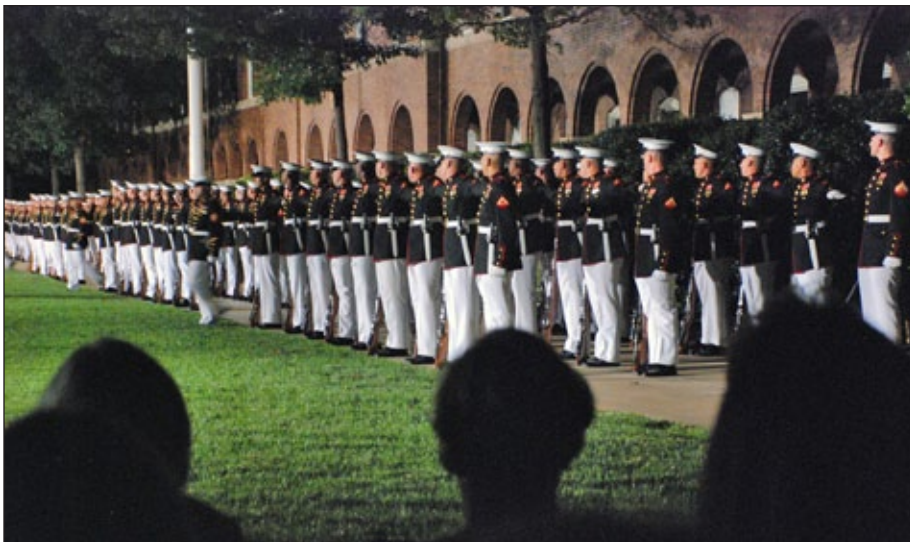
MY DAD, BERT HANOU, was a Dutchman forced to work in the Zeiss Optical factory in Jena, Germany. When the US Army arrived on April 13, 1945, he went out to greet them (speaking excellent English). He obtained water for a number of infantry and then advised them of an ambush the Germans had set up on the other side of a bridge over the Saale River. Dad was taken to a major. He was then asked to announce to the Germans to surrender (he spoke excellent German after two years there). I think there was a bit of shelling or mortars and then they did. I understand the 4th Armored was there as well. My dad is 94 this year and still doing well. If anyone with the 319th or 317th Infantry Regiments recalls going into Jena that day, I would appreciate hearing more details from you. Thank you. Mick Hanou, mhanou@comcast.net, 925-425-3220.

BELOW:

Presidential Salute Battery Rehearsal, WWII Monument, and Marine Silent Platoon



Burt Marsh with Old Guard Members



Veterans watching Old Guard Rehearse



Ben Rupp at WWII Monument being interviewed by local TV



Burt Marsh, Walt Spangler & Bob Burrows laying wreath at Mount Vernon



Bill (Mac) McKenzie at WWII Monument being interviewed by local TV



Mount Vernon



Bill Black and Doug Knorr



Doug Knorr, Louise & Charles Faulconer, and Bill Black



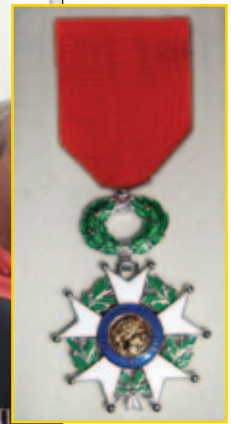
Veterans and family members gather for a photo before dinner.



Walt Spangler and Burt Marsh placing Memorial Service Wreath



Old friends: Bob Burrows and Bill McKenzie



Eric Reilinger Receives the French Legion of Honor

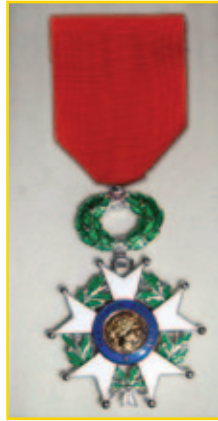
ON JULY 6, 2016 Eric Reilinger was knighted into the Legion of Honor by the Consul General of France, Miami Office, and presented the French Legion of Honor with much pomp and circumstance. Eric accepted the award on behalf of my platoon, my company and every soldier that crawled along side of me, but most humbly I accepted this medal on behalf of those we left behind.



PNC James Phillips Receives the French Legion of Honor

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016 at the French Embassy in Washington, DC PNC James Phillips was named Chevalier of the Legion of Honor presented the award by Mr Charbonnier, France's Consul General in Washington, DC. In addition the PNC Phillips 16 other WWII Veterans from various units also received the award.

Benjamin Rupp Presented the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor



PHYSICALLY UNABLE AT the time to make the trek to the French Embassy in Washington, DC on April 15, 2016, Benjamin G. Rupp was presented the Chevalier of the Legion of Honor in a private ceremony at his home on April 30, 2016. Arrangements were made for Jean Dominique Le Garrec, Honorary Consul of France, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to personally visit Ben, 80th Division, 318th Infantry, Company M, ETO.

Mr. Le Garrec made an honorary speech and presented Ben the award followed by a specially decorated cake, refreshments, and fellowship enjoyed by 16 family members and friends also in attendance.

Mr. Rupp also received a surprise card sent on the Fourth of July from Mr. LeGarrec thanking him for his attitude, sacrifices, and courage during WWII and telling him how well deserved his Legion d' Honneur medal was.



THE
80TH DIVISION
VETERANS ASSOCIATION

Needs Your **HELP!**



We find that we are in a financial crisis and need financial support to remain viable for the future. Please consider a gift for Veterans Day in the name of a loved one or a friend.

YOUR DONATION WILL BE APPRECIATED!

\$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Make Check Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association
5101 Hurop Rd. Sandston, VA 23150

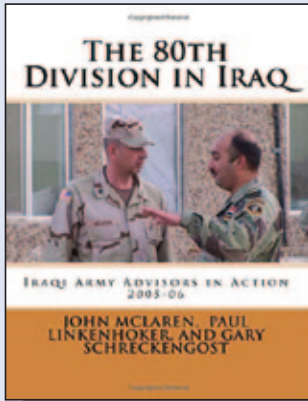
**IN THE
NAME OF:** _____

Name of your loved one or friend

**FROM
UNIT:** _____

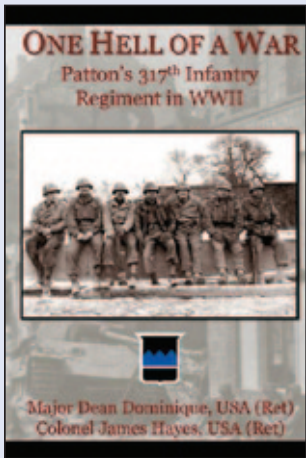
Unit of your loved one or friend





**80th Division in Iraq:
Iraqi Army Advisors in Action, 2005-06**
by Gary Schreckengost and John McLaren
ISBN-10: 1523733640

Read about the 80th Division In Iraq 2005-06. Available on Amazon.Com for \$20 or if you have a Kindle you can get it electronically.



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HELL
of a
WAR**

NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

The authors MAJ Dean Dominique, USA (Ret) and COL James Hayes, USA (Ret), have given a special 30% discount for members of the 80th Division Veterans Association if you buy the book directly from the printer. Simply go to wwwcreatespace.com/4789517 and apply Discount Code XPC47KYZ to receive 30% off of the cover price.

The book can also be purchased online from Amazon at

www.tinyurl.com/317WWII

More information about the book can be found at www.WoundedWarriorPublications.com.

TAPS

Barrett, Jr Olander J. L-319
2133 Peach Orchard Rd, Augusta, GA 30906
DOD: Oct 20, 2016, Rptd by: Wife Marian

Conley, Keith 80th Div G3 Test
Midlothian, VA
DOD: Oct 30, 2016, Rptd by: Newspaper

Ingles, John 313th FA
Columbus, NC
DOD: Jul 6, 2016, Rptd by: PNC James Phillips

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The last date I have entered a name is October 31, 2016

- LTC Tony Atlas, HQ 80th TC
- Tina Barton, Annual to Life
- Dan Christian, Annual to Life
- Judy Luthman, Annual to Life
- Edward Poletti, 313 FA Family
- Joan Poletti, 313 FA Family
- Charles Russell, Annual to Life

ANNUAL MEMBERS

- Marian Barrett, L-319 Family
- Charles Campbell, B-318 Family
- Rev Deborah Murrell, M-318 Family
- LTC Roy Ramey, HQ 80th TC

DONATIONS

- Dominick Abruzzese – In Memory of LT John Engles
- Mary Brinker – In Memory of LT John Engles
- Dewayne Brown – In Memory of Uncle Marvin Lamb A-317
KIA Jan 10, 1945
- William Devine – General Fund
- Ann Hatcher – In Memory of LT John Engles
- Hilda Latusek – In Memory of LT John Engles
- Vic Muller – In Memory of PFC Joseph Muller A-317
- Alice Noxon – In Memory of LT John Engles
- PNC James Phillips – In Memory of LT John Engles
- Charles Russell – In Memory of Alexander Russell E-317
- George Siwicke – General Fund

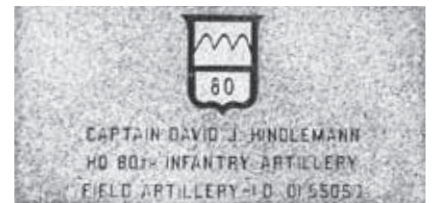
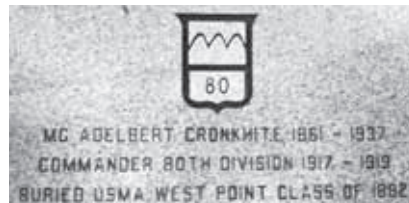
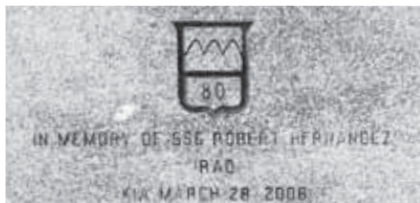
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<p>Doris M. Wollett 5101 Hurop Road Sandston, VA 23150-5406</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PAID 2017</p> <p><i>Membership Expiration Date</i> <i>You have paid through Dec of the year indicated.</i></p>
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Check your name and address
(Apt., Bldg., Lot No.). Notify the Secretary if you find an error.

80TH DIVISION MEMORIAL BRICKS

HONOR OUR VETERANS AND HELP THE ASSOCIATION RAISE NEEDED FUNDS!



80th Division Veterans Association Memorial Brick Paver Program

The purpose of the brick program is to help the overall financial status of our organization and help it to remain viable for the future. It is a fantastic way to honor our veterans. The bricks (also called "pavers") are approximately 5" tall x 11" wide x 4" thick. The bricks will be placed at the 80th Training Command Headquarters in Richmond, Virginia, adjacent to our 80th Division monument.

There are two types of bricks to choose from:

1. Standard Granite \$195 Quantity: _____
2. Virginia "Hokie" Stone \$295 Quantity: _____ (Hokie Stone has metal colored 80th Patch)

Prices include brick cutting, surface smoothing, three lines of inscription, shipping and installation.

You may inscribe whatever you wish as it can fit on the three lines. If you're interested, please fill in the following information:

NAME (FIRST / LAST) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

Three lines of inscription: _____

If you would prefer to have your brick shipped to an alternate address, please provide: _____

Please Make Check Payable to: 80th Division Veterans Association. You can mail check and completed information to:
Bill Black / 80th Division Veterans Association • 4111 Copper Creek Way, Buford, GA 30519
Phone: 404-493-6601 • E-mail: williamrblack@gmail.com



Only Moves Forward

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

80th Division Veterans Association
Doris M. Wollett
5101 Hurop Road
Sandston, VA 23150-5406

*Desiring to maintain liaison and comradeship with
Veterans and soldiers of the 80th Division, and receive
the Blue Ridge Service Magazine.*

DATE: _____

SERVICE PERIOD: WWII POST WWII CURRENT ACTIVE

PLEASE SPECIFY BATTLE / CAMPAIGN: _____

NAME: _____ UNIT: _____
IF FAMILY MEMBER, PLEASE ALSO PROVIDE THE NAME AND UNIT OF VETERAN

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP + 4: _____

PHONE(s): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please make checks payable to the 80th Division Veterans Association. PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX:

CURRENT MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING (Dues paid to date)

80TH DIVISION WWII VETERAN

- NEW/ANNUAL DUES: \$20/YEAR
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$50

80TH DIVISION FAMILY / FRIEND / ASSOCIATE

- NEW/ANNUAL DUES: \$20/YEAR
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$150

**POST #50 80TH BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
DO NOT USE THIS FORM
CONTACT POST SECRETARY**

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80TH DIV VETERANS ASSN

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