



The Burman News



Official publication of Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.

November 1991

We Did It Again! At El Paso That Is!

Had another great reunion. How do we do it?

We had fine support from the army at Fort Bliss. That helped us a lot. The tour of the post museums and equipment was a worthwhile event. There were 131 people that made it in time for the tour early Friday Morning.

The speakers for Friday and Saturday night were most interesting. The Honorable Pete Williams was just as solid a speaker as he comes across the TV screens. We had two Army Ranger Colonels Maher and Grange sharing the speaking duty on Saturday night. More about that later.

The weather was just extraordinary. Sunny and warm - ideal for us old folks with poor circulation.

But we did go down hill on the number attending. Lots of reasons for that, I presay. Illness, the number one problem. Either the MM or wife or other family member. We had a high of 258 at the Saturday Night Dinner and a low figure of 208 at the Saturday Breakfast. The difference largely because of local people attending the Dinner. Personally, I didn't miss any meals and enjoyed them all.

Last year at Savannah we had a high attendance of 438 at the Saturday Night Dinner.

**FUNCTION - FRIDAY NIGHT,
AUGUST 30, 1991**

Pete Williams, Asst Secretary of Defense - Public Affairs

This was the highlight of the Reunion. Pete Williams, son of Major Louis J Williams and May Louise, spoke at some length of his experiences during the Persian Gulf War at the Pentagon Briefings. Early on, Secretary Cheney and Gen Colin Powell made the decision that we would report only what we knew to be true. As a result, the credibility of the military went up. Every morning on arrival, Sec Cheney and Gen Powell would jointly go to the Current Situation Room to be briefed on the happenings of the previous 24 hours. The briefing was conducted by Gen Tom Kelly, Director Operations, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Admiral Mike O'Connell, Director Intelligence for the Joint Staff. Those two men were also selected to do the daily briefings at the Pentagon.

There was a myth that the reporters did not do a good job. The reporters asked



Left to right: Col. James Holland, Pete Williams, Asst. Sec. Defense - Public Relations; Phil Piazza, president MM Assn. Photo by Pokres

their tough questions, they challenged the assumptions, they exposed the mistakes, they held officials accountable. As a result the credibility of the military went up. There are some who believe that if the credibility of the government goes up, then the credibility of the press goes down. Thanks to the thorough job that the press did, the military gained respect. Thanks to reporters, the American people could see what our troops and our commanders and our weapons were doing. The Washington Post - ABC News Poll that came out after the operation showed that 88% of those surveyed thought that the military gained respect during the war, and ten years ago the military had only half that public confidence. The second myth is that we held the reporters back from doing their job. I also think that is not true. When the war started, we had reporters out in advance, on the aircraft carrier in the Red Sea that saw the first launching of the airstrikes, out on the Battleship in the Persian Gulf that saw the first cruise

missiles that were ever used in combat, out on the Air Force Bases where the fighter planes and bombers were taking off around the clock and out with ground units in the desert. By the time the ground war started, 131 reporters, editors and photographers were out with Army and Marine units in the field. There are men and women in uniform who are back with their families today safe and sound, because Dick Cheney made the decision that the United States would send enough people to get the job done right.

(Continued on page 2)

READERS RETREAT

We have published a book in three parts, the Father Stuart Notes, GO #3, and the Staff Sgt. Anderson Story. The book is called, "The Merrill's Marauders War in Burma, Volume I." Cost is \$12.00. Send check to Merrill's Marauders Association, %Ray Lyons, Executive Secretary.

And the President supported this decision. The world will be a safer place in the years ahead because of what our military did in the Persian Gulf in rolling back Saddam Hussein's aggression.

This job of mine has been a continuing education, about world history, about politics, about government and about the hard working professionals that make up the military. But since I took this job, there is something else I learned.

When I was growing up in Casper, Wyoming, I used to wonder about some of the things that were on the wall in our house. There was a shoulder patch with a lightning bolt on it, very colorful. There was a purple beret. In the book shelf, there was a tattered paperbound volume that had a picture of soldiers marching across the cover, what looked like a map, and at the bottom it said, "For Military Personnel Only." From them I learned that my Father had been in an outfit known as the 5307th, Merrill's Marauders.

When I showed up at the Pentagon to take on my new job as Secretary Cheney, Public Relations Man, I found that the Generals and Admirals all wanted to know about my background. I had no military service but when they found out that my Father had been in Merrill's Marauders, they then accepted me.



Left to right: Mrs. Fernandez (Trinidad), Ranger Col. Maher and Eliseo Fernandez at the ceremony and presentation of the Bronze Star to Eliseo. Photo by Hyden

We owe the Laurens House of Print for the New Directory - Not billed yet - Estimated \$1,000.00 A little less than last year due to computerization by printer.

(Actual Cost - \$958.00)

We have sold over 350 copies of the new book. "Merrill's Marauders War In Burma Vol I". We printed 500 copies.

Membership total as of August 1st 1991. Regular members 1459. Honoraries 239. Last year's count we had 1460 members + 220 Honoraries.

We also anticipate an increase in postal rates during the coming year for the Non-profit rates that we use for the B/N.

General Order #5 printed separately - seven pages - copies available for those who purchased a copy of MM Vol I. They had originally been mailed on August 20th and failed to arrive at reunion in time for handout.

We have under consideration a proposal to use an American Legion 900 phone number for passing out information to our membership. Costs MM Association nothing. Members calling that number will be charged \$1.00 per minute. Board of Directors discussion indicated that Secretary should proceed with proposal and make the 900 call to see if it does work and would only cost the one dollar. To use

(Continued on page 3)

General Business Meeting

Mail Ball Room, El Paso Marriott Hotel, 8/30/91. Called to order by President Piazza at 12:38 PM Invocation by Msgr Glavin.

Reading of Minutes of Last Meeting. Motion to dispense with reading since they had been published in BURMAN NEWS, by Larry Stephenson, Seconded by George Rose. Approved

Roll Call of Officers: All present.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT
Ray Lyons

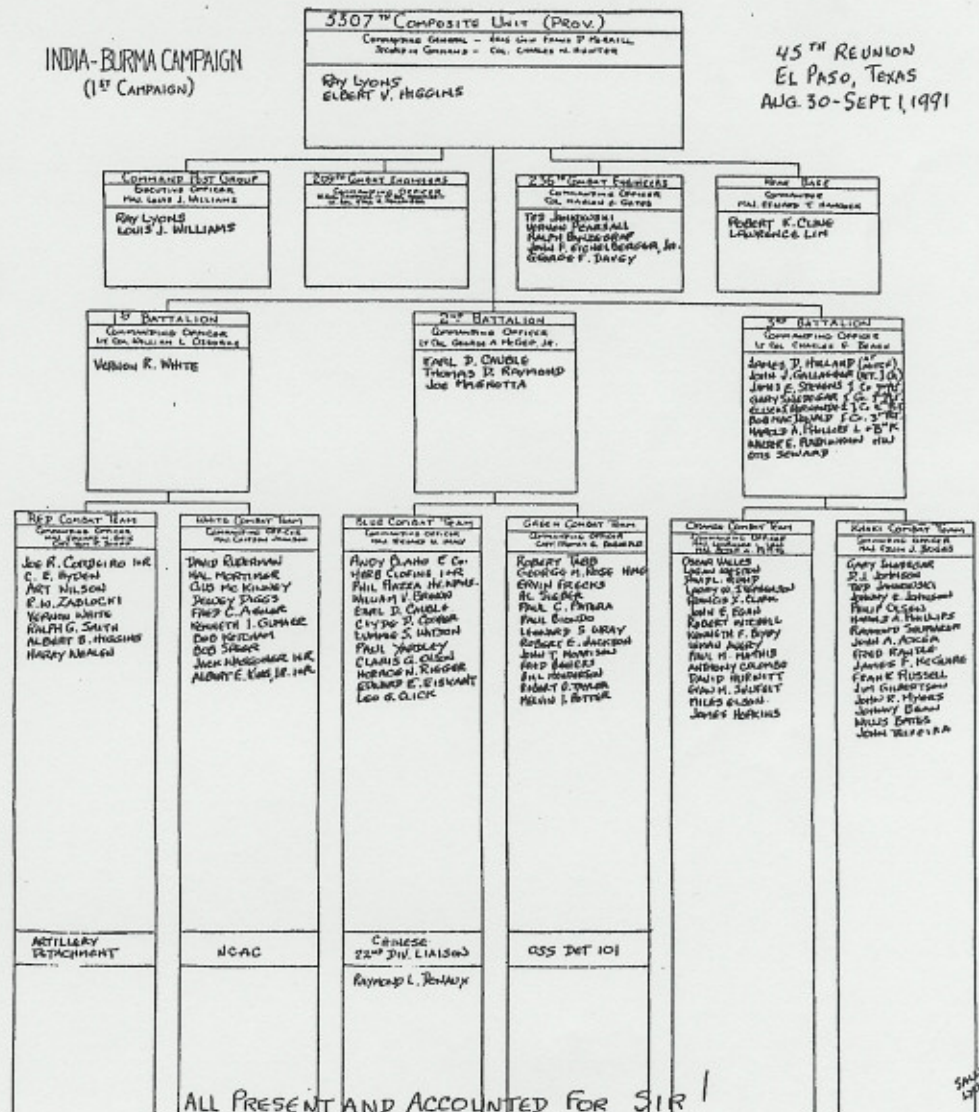
Donations received at this year's Reunion	\$2,770.00
Thursday: \$1235	
Friday: \$1335	
Saturday: \$200	
Last year donations at Reunion	\$4,068.00
Mail donations received during the year 179 Amount	\$3,790.00
Last year mail 201 donations	\$4,315.00

Expenses year to date:	
Postage, stationery,	
Burma News, etc.	\$1,776.58
Burma News Cost	\$3,730.30
TOTAL	\$5,506.88
Compared to last year	\$6,290.02

We have increased our membership in the Honorary Category. Sent out 370 pieces of mail plus 5,143 copies of B/N.

Balance in Sec'y S&L Acct	
8/26/91	\$1,671.03
Compared to last year	\$2,911.05

INDIA-BURMA CAMPAIGN
(1st Campaign)



VETNET call 1-900-773-VETS and when asked for outfit code number, enter 15476. When message is over, HANG UP!

Addition to Report. The first VETNET message is as follows: ("This is the Merrill's Marauders Association on the VETNET. Today is September 5th. Your Secretary Ray Lyons speaking.

Our next reunion will be at the Marriott Richmond Hotel in Richmond VA. Dates will be Labor Day Weekend September 4th through 6th. Package Rate \$288 for two people, 216 for one, two nights lodging - four meals. More details in November issue of Burman News.

Same old officers re-elected. Good time was had by all who attended. Weather was great. Shopping was interesting. No problems with hotel this year.

New members write to me at 11244 No 33rd St, Phoenix AZ 85028. Your Sgt - Ray Lyons, signing off for now."

Stephenson - Motion to accept Secretary's report. Seconded **Quaid**. Approved.

HISTORIAN REPORT: Dave Quaid

Have been very busy on many projects. Have started on a new video tape. It will include everything we own. National Archives interested in our pictures and films. Particularly the 145 negatives from the Lubin Collection. They handled them with cotton gloves. When the Director of the Kennedy Museum from Boston goes to Washington, he will hand carry the Lubin material to the National Archives. Planning on stories - Holding action of the



...and you get a lot and your eyes are ... and are in a mile ... that was just begun...

Weston and Smith Platoons at Warong Trail Block. Working on a major documentary similar to the PBS series, covering all of the MM films and photos. The Poster of the Merrill's Marauders film does not exist except for the one we have in our possession. We have made a photo of it on Ektard Film. 33mm copies of photo. We



Left to right: Dr. Louis J. Williams, Pete Williams and Col. Logan Weston.

Photo by Hyden

have made 30 copies of the negative. If you buy one from us, you can take it to your Kodak dealer and they will get you a Poster print 20" x 30". Motion to accept report by Stephenson. Seconded by Rose.

TREASURER REPORT
Clofine

Report on previous reunion, 44th at Savannah, GA, 1990.

Receipts	
Registration	\$4,068.00
Sales	3,965.25
Logan Weston donation from sales	100.00
Pilfered Shipment	292.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$8,425.25
Expenses	
Hotel Charges	\$728.80
Gratuities	180.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$908.80
PROCEEDS FROM REUNION	\$7,516.45

Additional Reunion Expenses

Entertainment	\$450.00
Postage	23.61
Phil Piazza, President	154.75
Audio & Video	197.48
TOTAL	\$825.84
NET INCOME	\$6,690.61

ANNUAL REPORT

Balance as of 8/26/90	\$21,823.84
Deposits	8,026.45
Interest	1,304.58
TOTAL	\$31,154.87
Checks and Charges	4,999.67
Balance as of 8/25/91	\$26,155.20
Executive Secretary Account	1,671.03
TOTAL	\$27,826.23
Accounts Payable	1,109.86

Piazza - Note that some of the money is in escrow for the Monument Memorial at Ft Benning.

Motion to accept report by **Passanisi**. Seconded by **Rose** to accept the Treasurer's report. Accepted as read.

LIAISON OFFICER REPORT: Dave Hurwitz. Comments about supporting Ranger program. Motion to accept report by **Stephenson**. Seconded by **Rose**.

CHAPLAIN; Magr Glavin. We should prize our friendships. Keep in touch with one another. Write or call. The years are passing.

PRESIDENT REPORT: Piazza. The CBIVA is having a 50th Anniversary Reunion at Atlanta. They suggested a Joint Reunion. We do not think it is feasible. The Audit Committee consisting of **Hal Mortimer, Ervin Frecks, Phil Piazza** checked out the records of the Treasurer and Executive Secretary. Good report. During the past year, I attended 15 affairs of the Rangers. Military Balls, Changes of Command, Four meetings of the Ranger Associations.

We must keep the Elite Forces growing. Shortly there will be a wall there at Ft Benning adjacent to the Hall of Fame and the MM's will be there. We have donated money to the Ranger Activities Fund - 1st Bn, Hq, 3rd Bn. We donated money along with each of the Ranger Associations to a wall which will have the names of deceased Rangers from Grenada and Panama. We will be meeting in June at Ft Benning, all former Rangers, including Merrill's Marauders. It will be a big affair. Expect to have the President, Colin Powell, Secretary of the Army, etc. Our Secretary will put the precise information on arrangements, reservations, etc., in the BURMAN NEWS when we get it. Lt Gen Brian Downey has been promoted to Commanding Officer, Special Forces. We are still presenting engraved silver compasses to Best Officer & Enlisted Man in each graduating class of Rangers. NCO & EM of year in the Regiment. They cost us \$25. + \$11 engraving for each knife. They have two sharpening knives on the scabbard. The Rangers are very much interested in us providing them with names and addresses of our living Senior NCO's.

NEW BUSINESS - Dave Quaid. I believe it is time to reassess the time and date of our Reunion. Labor Day is sometimes an expensive date for hotels. It would be better to have the option of having the reunion at some other date in September in addition to the Labor Day Weekend. Motion to amend the By-Laws of the Merrill's Marauders Association.

Article V, Section 3 - Annual Meeting. Members. to read, "The regular annual meeting of the members shall be held on any weekend during the month of September that does not conflict with religious holidays, at such time and place as may be designated by the members of the association and at least ten (10) days notice thereof given to the members. Special Meetings of the members may be called at any time by the Board of Directors upon ten (10) days notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting." Motion by **David Quaid**. Seconded by **Pokress**.

(Continued on page 4)

Standing vote taken. Big majority indicated in favor.

OLD BUSINESS - Tom Raymond. What happened to the proposed China Tour. Answer, Hurwitz - Canceled due to lack of interest.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Motion by Joe Magnotta to re-elect all existing officers. Seconded by Passanisi. Motion carried.

REUNION SITES FOR 1992 - Piazza, San Francisco will be the number one presented and vote number. Richmond will be number #2 and Seattle #3. The site will be picked based on the most votes in first election.

The San Francisco presentation made by Col Jim Holland & John Egan. Meridian Hotel, a Four star luxury hotel. Package Rate for two persons, two nights, four meals - \$356. Package Rate for one person, \$263. Rate includes taxes and service charges. Charge for extra nights lodging will be \$75. Garage charge across street \$11 per night. San Francisco is a Hub City and Airline, Bus and Train Fares will tend to be cheaper. Shuttle from airport charge

will be \$10 for round trip.

Seattle WA presentation made by Bob Mac Donald. Committee will consist of Ed Briggs, Art Wilson, Don West, Frank Ashby, Tom Bogardus, Red Lion Seatac Hotel. A three minute ride from Airport. Package rate for two persons, two nights, four meals, \$357. Rate for one person - \$271. Taxes and gratuities included. Free parking. Extra night rate - \$83. Near Second Battalion, 75th Rangers at Ft Lewis.

Richmond VA presentation made by George Rose. Committee to be chaired by Jim Sanford. Includes Rose and Marvin Chester. Marriott Richmond Hotel. Near Interstate Routes 95 & 64. Limousine service from airport \$5.50 per person. Package rate for two persons, two nights, four meals, \$288. Rate for one person - two nights, four meals, \$216. Those rates include taxes and gratuities. Extra nights lodging \$59 + 9.5% tax. Freeparking. Near famous Civil War Battlegrounds, Williamsburg VA Colonial Town, George Washington's Birthplace, State Capital and Civil War Museum.

Vote results: For #1 San Francisco -

seven. For #2 Richmond VA - sixty nine. For #3 Seattle - twenty nine.

Richmond VA will be the reunion site for Labor Day weekend, 1992. Chairman will be Jim Sanford, 6435 Eastleigh Ct, Springfield VA 22152.

Motion to adjourn 2:40 PM.

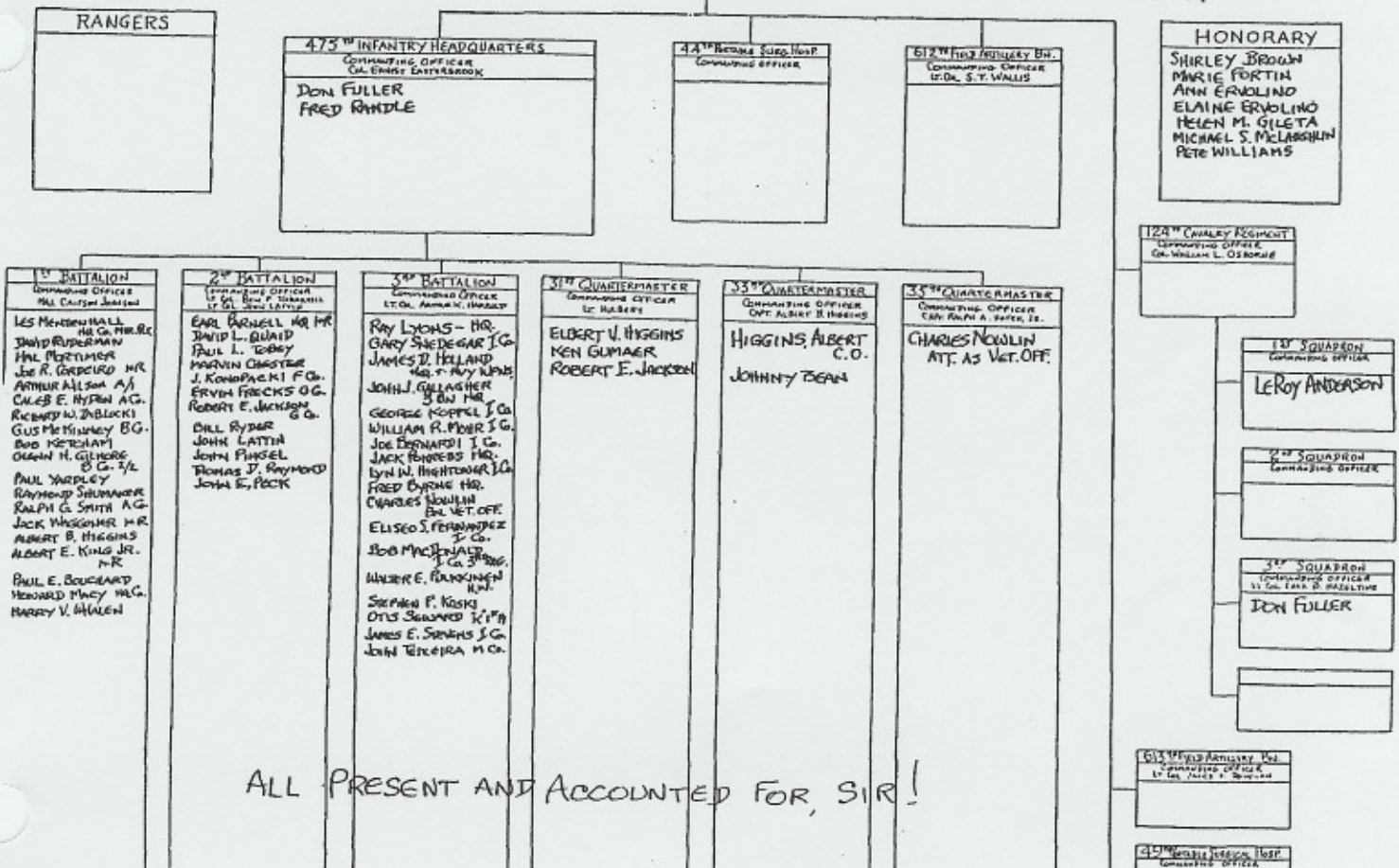
LOST, STRAYED

- or got away from us, somehow!
- MRS HANNAH WAIBLE, 1102 HAMPTON DR #1, NEW PORT RICHEY FL 34652, HONOR.
- JAMES CLINTON, 3348 HULL AV, BRONX NY 10467, 5307/MED
- CHARLES E LUTZ, 6042 NEWTOWN AV, PHILADELPHIA PA 19111.
- PATRICK HART, P O BOX M, JACKSONVILLE FL 32203,
- MATT JONES, 28 TIMBERLANE, MARY ESTHER FL 32569, 5307/2/BCT, 939-3673
- JOHN GOODEBODY, 123 WORRILOW ST, LINWOOD PA 19061, 5307/209/C/3

CENTRAL BURMA CAMPAIGN
(2nd CAMPAIGN)

MARS TASK FORCE
3356 BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS
Commanding Officer
Brig. Gen. JOHN P. WILLEY

45th REUNION
EL PASO, TEXAS
AUG. 30 - SEPT. 1, 1991



ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR, SIR!



Ranger Colonel speaker at Saturday night dinner.

Magazine Slip Case for Burman News

While we were waiting for plane connection in Denver Airport, we chatted with **Claris Olson**, a MM from Miles City MT. He mentioned that he would be interested in an album cover to hold safe his copies of the BURMAN NEWS. Anyone who saves his copies of the B/N is a friend of mine, so we explored the matter. We found a company that will make us a supply of boxes that will hold our copies. They call it a magazine slip case. It will have the Merrill's Marauders Association name on the cover. Maybe the patch. We must order a minimum of 100 cases. It will be 12 1/2" x 9 1/2" x 3". Big enough to hold all of our existing outstanding issues and probable future ones. They will be a great idea to hold these copies for your purpose and for your family history purpose. Increasingly we find sons and daughters who are anxious to find out what kind of outfit we were. This is one way to collect and save the copies rather than thrown into an underwear drawer. We will charge \$10 each for them to cover the purchase of the box, the mailing wrapper and the postage. Please send us your order along with a \$10 check made out to the Merrill's Marauders Association by December 1st. If it does not work out we will return your check.

CORRECTION: **Charlton Ogburn** advises that the poem "Merrill's Marauders", printed in the February '91 issue which was submitted by **Greg Resch**, was his handiwork, originally submitted to **Ben Merrill**, who in turn passed it on to the **B.I. Roundup**. After that printing, it was sent on home by others and in turn it was sent to the **NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE**, in which it was reprinted in the issue of 29 October 1944. (Ed.)

5307th Composite Unit (Provisional) Dr. James E. Hopkins Report

(Continued from May 1991 Issue)

Third Battalion - Action along trail to Nhpum Ga, Burma. April 1st to 6th

No. 54 **BOWEN**, Charles R, PVT, 21031923 Co L, Orange CT

(b)Defensive, prone in hole, 50 caliber machine gun bullet from U.S. P-51 during strafing attack. Range 300 yards. Japs were being strafed 200 yards in front of our positions. 0930 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 55 **SCOTT**, William W, PFC, 20609921 Co L, Orange CT

(b) Defensive, sitting in shallow hole with thorax and abdomen above ground surface, when struck by 50 caliber bullet from US P-51 strafing Jap position 200 yards in front of Orange CT. Perimeter, 0930 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 56 **WALSH**, Carroll D, PFC, 20710750 Co L, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, prone, 0.25 caliber bullet, ricochet, 1000 hours, 5 April 1944. Crawled into attack with platoon which was advancing by fire and movement.

No. 57 **AVERY**, Inman N, T/5, 14081840 Co K, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, prone, 0.25 caliber sniper's bullet, 1400 hours, 5 April 1944. 40 yards range. Advance had stopped and was told to crawl back a few feet to old Jap hole preparatory to mortar barrage. Hit as crawled into hole.

No. 58 **PRICE**, Wayne M, PFC, 18116969 Hq Co, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, prone, no cover, 0.25 caliber from Japanese light machine gun at 30 yards, 1400 hours, 5 April 1944. Was advancing with flame thrower.

No. 59 **GOMEZ**, Joseph N, T/5, 18016224 Med Det, I & R Platoon, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, prone, in shallow hole waiting for mortar barrage to lift, fragment from 60 mm U.S. fired mortar shell which was short bursting in a tree 15 yards distant, 1500 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 60 **WESTON**, Logan E, 1st Lt, O-1795021 I & R Platoon, Orange CT.

(b)Offensive, prone, in shallow hole, with case 59, fragment from 60 mm U.S. fired mortar shell which was short, bursting in tree 15 yards, 1500 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 61 **DAVIS**, Claude L, PFC, 36320357 Co L, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, walking, struck by ricochet, range 30-100 yards at 1400 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 62 **CHOPP**, John D, PFC, Med Det, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, sitting in shallow hole in aid station when Jap knee mortar got a tree burst directly overhead at 1000 hours, 6 April 1944.

No. 63 **SCOTT**, Jess W, PFC, 6988926, Co L, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, sitting in hole near aid station when Jap knee mortar got a tree burst directly overhead at 1000 hours, 6 April 1944. Same shell as Case 62

No. 64 **FORTY**, Peter (NMI), PFC, 12182121 Co L, Orange CT

(b)Offensive, prone in hole two feet deep during U.S. mortar barrage. Short 60 mm exploded three feet from edge of hole. 0900 hours, 6 April 1944.

No. 65 **RAPISARDA**, Salvadore Felix, S/SGT, 35009154 Hq Co, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, prone on ground, no cover, Japanese hand grenade exploded at 2-3 yards. This man had advanced beyond the Orange CT perimeter. 1515 hours, 6 April 1944, and flushed six Japs which he killed with a Thomson Sub-machine gun.

No. 66 **SANDERS**, Robert H, 1st Sgt, 20649662 I Co, Khaki CT

(b)Defensive, standing on trail in known previous line of fire near front perimeter when hit by 0.25 caliber bullet. Sgt Voltz was sitting on nearby log. Bullet hit his rifle. Range probably 200 yards. This man was sightseeing. 1515 hours, 6 April 1944. See Burman News Feb 1990 Ed A Wade.

No. 67 **NICHOLS**, Thomas P, PFC, 35686178 Co K, Orange CT

(b)Defensive, sat up in hole at night when changing guard, battalion veterinarian thought he was a Jap and shot him with a 45 pistol.

1 April - 6 April 1944

Forces Involved: U.S. - Never more than 100 men actually in combat. Japanese - One battalion reinforced by a heavy weapons company had surrounded the 2nd Bn and blocked the trail over which we advanced. Never more than 100 Japs engaged at any one time.

Casualties: U.S. - KIA 6, DOW 2, WIA 14 (DUTY), WIA 14 (EVAC). Japanese - Estimated 200. Very few bodies were actually seen. The Japs had adequate time to bury or remove dead and wounded. At least 150 of these from artillery dive bombing, strafing, and mortar fire.

p. Activity of Third Battalion - Attempt of Khaki CT to enter Nhpum Ga by traveling through jungle to right flank of village. 4 April 1944 to 5 April 1944.

On 4 April, Khaki CT was ordered to bypass the Japanese resistance on the Nhpum Ga trail and make a right flank attack on the Japanese at the northeast sector of the village where another trail led into the area.

After considerable difficulty in passing through the jungle the CT arrived in the

(Continued on page 6)

MEMORIAL

In memory of **GEORGE F AHLFORS**, 5307/2/HQ. Donation from his widow, Mary T Ahlfors, 112 Adams Av, Eveleth MN 55734, 744-3811

vicinity of the village at 1600 hours, 4 April. Three scouts were moving up the trail in front of the first platoon of I Company. Nichols, the first scout, a few minutes before he was killed by the first burst of Jap machine gun fire, had turned to his platoon leader and said, "We should not be doing this." The second scout was wounded by the first burst of fire. The third scout died from wounds which he received when he tried to reach the second. One other man was wounded. The men had felt that they were advancing into an ambush without proper preparation or organization. All other American attacks this day were repulsed. However, they had no more casualties and bivouaced for the night in this area.

No. 68 NICHOLS, Edward, PVT, 20609310 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Patrol, walking up trail, struck by Jap 0.25 from machine gun, 1600 hours, 4 April.

No. 69 FIELDS, Paul (NMI), PVT, 20609097 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Patrol, walking, when struck by light Jap machine gun bullet, fell into ditch with fair protection, when hit. Range 50 yards, 1600 hours, 4 April.

No. 70 SUTTERFIELD, Luther E, T/5, 38022721 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, tried to reach Fields, and was hit as he jumped into the ditch with him. 0.25 caliber light machine gun, 50 yards range, 1630 hours, 4 April.

No. 71 RASMUSSEN, Roland W, PVT, 12179998 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Patrol, walking, hit by same burst of 0.25 caliber Jap machine gun which got Nichols and Fields.

On 5 April 1944 at 0915 hours, after a quiet night without attack from the Japs, Khaki C T, sent two squads of the Fourth Platoon, I Company, up the trail where they had been stopped 4 April. One squad advanced on each side of the trail. Opening

fire from light machine gun hit Bushur. A base line of fire was soon established. The squad on the right had advanced 30 yards on a flanking movement when they were pinned down by Japanese machine gun and rifle fire. Sander was wounded in a fire lane and was consequently not removed for fifteen minutes. The hill was apparently considered too heavily defended for the fire power available and the C T retired with their wounded of 4 April and 5 April 1944.

No. 72 BUSHUR, Kermit A, PVT 36742815 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, BAR man advancing through thick jungle in low crouch, 0.25 caliber light machine gun bullet, 40 yards range, made way back to surgeon after aid dressing, 0915 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 73 SANDER, Heinz H, PVT, Co I Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, advancing in crouch, thick (Continued on page 7)

FALL IN

Here are the latest additions to our assembly. Remember them?

FRANK ANGOLANO, 26 Linda Av, Swanton VT 05488, 5307/2/HQ; 475/2/HQ Co

ANDREW BATEMAN, Rt 4 Box 1061, Eufaula OK 74432, 5307/2/M CO/HW/HMG; 475/2/HW

JACK L BECK, 21270 Winchester, Southfield MI 48076, 5307; 124/3/K TR

HAROLD BIGELOW, 18 Morton St, Needham MA 02194, 5307/236/B Co; 236th Engrs (c)

JOHN H DOING, 7 Edward Pl, Washington MO 63090, 475/3/L Co

CHARLES E DONNELL, 320 Woodrow St #2, Fort Walton Beach FL 32547, 904-862-7372, 5307/3 Bn

ALBERT FREDERICK, 6930 Coronation Ct, Rio Linda CA 95673, 5307/1/C/2; 475/1/C/2

DON FULLER, 32 E Santa Rebecca Dr, Green Valley AZ 85614, 602-625-7424, 5307; 475/HQ

EDGAR M GETHING, 9263 Sharrott, Poland OH 44514, 5307; 475

MORGAN F HELMS, 6800 Pleasant Oaks Cir, Charlotte NC 28216, 5307; 475

JOSEPH P HENRY, 146-47 59th Av, Flushing NY 11355, 5307/2/BCT

JOHN E HICKEY, 167 North St, Worcester MA 01605, 5307/209/A; 475/1/A

LAWRENCE D JACKSON, 7712 Helen Rd NW 33922, 283-4928, 5307/2/E Co; 475/2/E

JEROLD V LAURENT, Rt 2 Box 45A, Minneapolis KS 67467, 5307/1/WCT; 475/1

BERNARD D LEASURE, MD Hwy Rt 68, St James MD 21781, 301-582-2368, 5307/209/A; 209/A

CLIFF H LINN, 1621 E 24th St, Des Moines IA 50317, 475/2/F Co

JACK NICHOLS, 44 Colonial Terr, Knoxville IA 50138, 475

THOMAS E PICKARD, Rt 7 Box 182, Murray KY 42071, 753-8864, 613/B Batt

JOHN B PINGEL, 35 Lyndale Rd, Edgewood KY 41017, 475/2/HQ

RAYMOND L SHUMAKER, PO Box 13156, Edwardsville KS 66113, 913-441-4271, 5307/3/KCT/I&R Platoon

ELVA L TEDFORD, RT 1 BOX 216, Royal, AR 71968, 5307/3/KCT/HQ CO.

PAUL R THOMPSON, 5751 Mona Ln, Dallas TX 75236, 475/2/HQ

LUMMIE S WATSON, PO Box 187, Chouteau OK 74337, 5307/2/BCT/E/1

LEO B WILDMAN, 1836 Wild River Rd, Roseburg OR 97470, 5307/3/OCT/RADIO OPERATOR

LEONARD S WRAY, Rt 4 Box 380, Starkville MO 39759, 5307/2/GCT



Presentation (long delayed) of Bronze Star to Eliseo S. Fernandez 5307/3/1 Co.; 475/3/1 Co., 4 Plt, by Ranger Col. Maher. Photo by Hyden

Jungle cover, 0.25 caliber light machine gun, immediate incapacity, 1135 hours, 5 April 1944.

No. 74 CURTIN, Alfred J, T/SGT, 201150 Co I, Khaki CT
(b)Offensive, advancing in crouch, thick jungle cover, 25 caliber light machine gun, no disability, 1135 hours, 5 April 1944.

Forces Involved: American - 400. Japs - Probably no more than one rifle platoon.
Casualties: American - KIA 1, DOW 2, WIA 1 (DUTY), WIA 3 (EVAC), Total 7. Japs - Probably no more than 10.

q. **Activity of Third Battalion - Khaki CT** on Nhpum-Ga Trail 7-8-9 April 1944. With patrols until 25 April 1944.

Khaki CT took over the perimeter of Orange CT at position (C) on map, 0700 hours, 7 April 1944. Orange CT in the meantime was sent on a wide flanking movement to the left of the trail. Their mission was to cut the Japanese supply line south of Nhpum-Ga. This maneuver was not successful because of terrain and supply difficulties. No Japanese were contacted. A similar flanking movement on the right was carried out by a combat team from the 1st Battalion.

Khaki CT pushed several attacks against the Japanese. They had good mortar and artillery support, about 200 artillery and 200 mortar shells were used.

The First Platoon of I Company

A TRAIL SHOOTOUT IN BURMA

Reference is made to the two dead Japanese soldiers on Page 7, of the May issue of the BURMAN NEWS. There is a similar picture on Page 54 of the paperback book entitled, "MERRILL'S MARAUDERS" by Alan Baker, published by Ballantine Books, Inc., in 1972.

In neither publication is there an explanation of the circumstances leading up to the event. I would like to elaborate on what happened.

These two Japanese were members of a five or six man patrol which, when rounding a turn in the trail, came face to face with the I & R Platoon of Blue Combat Team, Second Battalion, 5307. Philip Morrissey was the lead scout whose prompt action resulted in the instant death of one and the serious wounding of the other.

The wounded soldier beckoned to us by arm movements to approach him. Had we done so, we would have come under fire of a machine gun that the surviving members of the patrol had set behind the next bend of the trail. This we determined later as we continued on the trail. We also found evidence that a third Japanese soldier had been seriously wounded. He left a bloody foot print with every step he took. After a short distance, the foot prints disappeared into the tall grass beside the trail. We continued on our mission.

I hope this information will be of interest to those who desire further details. Incidentally, I went thru the pockets of both soldiers, but found nothing of military value. Phil Christner, 499 Darwin Dr, Cheektowaga NY 14225, 5307/2/3CT/I&R Platoon Sgt



Left to right: Colonel, Ranger Training Brigade: Col. David Grange, CO, 75th Ranger Regt; Pete Williams, Asst Sec Def - Public Affairs; Major Louis J. Williams, Ex Off, Command Post Group, 5307th; Phil Piazza, President, MMA; Col. John Maher III, Cmdr, Ranger Training Brigade.

advancing on the left side of trail had three casualties in the A.M.

No. 75 ARIAS, Eladio A, PFC, 32509474 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, while prone, crawled into a known 0.25 caliber Japanese machine gun lane at 60 yards range. 0900 hours, 7 April 1944.

No. 76 TINSWORTH, Phillip H, SGT, 35160436 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, crawling on hands and knees, in known 0.25 caliber Japanese machine gun lane at 60 yards range, 0900 hours, 7 April. Hit by same burst of fire as Case 75.

No. 77 MYERS, John R, PFC, 20509123 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, crawling on hands and knees, in known 0.25 caliber Japanese machine gun lane at 60 yards. 0900 hours, 7 April. Same burst as No 75 & 76. Probably a ricochet.

The 4th Platoon of I Company, Khaki CT during its advance up the right side of the steep bamboo covered terrain lost Bokelman and Hervoyavich to enemy fire between 1400-1430 hours.

No. 78 BOKELMAN, Raymond J, PFC, 32306750 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, while crouching and crawling during advance of platoon hit by initial fire of Japanese 0.25 caliber light machine gun at 100 yards range. In a known fire lane, 1400 hours, 7 April.

No. 79 HERVOYAVICH, Peter L, PFC, 33405649 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, standing throwing grenades when fragment from enemy grenade struck him, range of burst 10 feet, 1500 hours, 7 April.

The 3rd Platoon of I Company, Khaki Column had one soldier killed, one died of wounds and two wounded in action 7 April in offensive action.

No. 80 WARLSTEAD, Leene R, PFC, 6937940 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, was carrying radio and slowly

walking beside platoon leader. Were 35 yards from suspected danger zone. Platoon Leader told him to get down and he was hit as he was assuming the prone position, 0.25 caliber Jap rifle, 40 yards range, 1700 hours, 7 April.

No. 81 DARLING, John B, PFC, 6980548 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, was armed with BAR, when struck by 0.25 caliber machine gun bullet, as walked just to left of trail toward enemy. In a known fire lane at 50 yards range. 1500 hours, 7 April.

No. 82 MURRAY, William V, 2nd Lt, O-1307736 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, walking in jungle a few feet from point where Darling (Case No. 81) was struck. Wounded by 0.25 caliber light machine gun when he put his arms out to help Darling who was still in the lane of fire. 1500 hours, 7 April.

No. 83 BIAS, Charles A, PFC, 35208149 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, platoon had just been relieved and was going into position for flank protection, was prone when struck by 0.25 caliber bullet at 75-100 yards. Immediate incapacity.

No. 84 TIBBS, Paul E, SGT, 36429160 Co I, Khaki CT

(b)Offensive, advancing in crouched position, when struck by a 0.25 caliber rifle bullet at 20 yards range, 1100 hours, 7 April.

(Continued next issue)

"Slow down and smell the roses on your busy, active day. Slow down and breathe their fragrance, where they grow along life's way. Take a minute of your lifetime to enjoy a pretty bloom, Pick a rose from nature's garden, it will brighten up your room. Be not hasty in all your doings as you hurry through the day, But enjoy what God gives freely: Smell the roses while you may"

Letters

EDITOR

Does anyone remember the thin red-headed guy and a sandy-headed fellow in the Red Combat Team? They were forever kidding each other. Once they passed through the WCT while going in the middle of a stream. There was a lot of 105 artillery falling on us. One shell burst close to one of these jokers and one of them said to the other who hit the prone position in the stream, "What's wrong with you, losing your nerve?" "Nah," said his buddy, "Just sweating out the monsoon!". I doubt that I'll get to Texas. My health is messed up worse than a Chinese Reveille. **WILLIAM T HAGANS**, BOX 125, Saraland AL 36571-0125, 5307/1/WCT/P&D, 475/1/C/1 PLATOON, 205/675-4177

EDITOR

I was in the 5307th Composite Unit, 3rd Bn, M Co and after Myitkyina I was in the 475/1/B Company. That was on my Discharge. I was in Panama from 1940 to 1943. When our regiment came back to the States, we were assigned to the 71st Light Division. We volunteered to the hazardous duty assignment from that outfit. **JED B FRANKLIN**, 233 E Cleveland, Delphos OH 45833.

EDITOR

I was an Infantry replacement for alahad. I arrived at Myitkyina on 2 June 1944, fought as a Hvy Weapons Machine Gunner, 2nd Bn, until 3 Aug 44. We were then re-designated the 475th Infantry. We then fought from Myitkyina, south to Bhamo, and to Loi Kang where I was wounded. Units of the Indian Army along with Chinese troops and us drove them back to Mandalay, and to Rangoon. We were then assigned to Hq Combat China Command, Kunming, China. Would like to be placed on the rolls as a current member. I was in GO #3. I was assigned as a Heavy Weapons Machine Gunner with the 5307th 2nd Bn. There are two different actions that I have written about, that will be following. First one with reference to an Ex-CBI Roundup, dated Oct '81 "The Sgt York of Myitkyina", Sgt Kenny Yasui. I was one of the other Marauders that helped take that island in the Irrawaddy that day. I would also appreciate it if I could obtain Col John H Lattin's address. He was one of my C.O.s I was with him on another mission after Myitkyina - X Force, to meet Y Force in China. **ARNOLD MICHELS**, 130 Hawkins Rd, Centerreach NY 11720, 5307/2 HQ/HW; 475/2/HQ HW

EDITOR

I was a member of the 475th Inf, Co K, 4th Platoon, commanded by 1st Lt Alexander McFadden, Pl S/Sgt Newman, Eldon S/Sgt Marden, Squad Ldr S/Sgt Kasmerat (?) from Pennsylvania. I stood guard at Camp Landis the night that the Earl of Mountbatten first entered Burma. Lt Walker from Amarillo TX (KIA-Lashlo) was Officer of the Day. I also walked Gen

Joseph Wainright out of jail in Sin-wa, China. **PAUL RAZIEN**, 215 Atlantic Av #403, Long Beach CA 90802-3216

EDITOR

I was a Lt Weapons Squad Leader #607. I went into Burma in May 1944 to take the airstrip. I think it was C Company. I was transferred to Co E, 2nd Platoon at Camp Landis on the Irrawaddy River. That is where I met Stanley Yarulis. He was in my squad. I went all thru Burma. I had the Distinguished Unit Badge, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with 3 Bronze Stars, World War II Victory Medal. **JOSEPH B YOHE**, 1450 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325, 5307th; 475/2/E/2/4

EDITOR

I was with the Merrill's Marauders though that was not the name when I joined. It was the 5307th. We had just come out of combat in the Pacific. I was with H Co, 103rd Infantry at the time and

was picked up by the SS LURLINE. I retired from the Air Force with 23 years service. I hope to hear from the best men I ever served with. **CHARLES E DONNELL**, 320 Woodrow St #2, Fort Walton Beach FL 32547, 904-862-7372, 5307/3 Bn.

EDITOR

Dr Hopkins tells me that my Wireman and Radio Operator was Leonard B Poroth, Khaki/Heavy Weapons. Does anyone have any information on his whereabouts. **WINSLOW B STEVENS**, 1145 So Oak Av, Bartow FL 33830, 533-6479, 5307/3/Khaki CT

EDITOR

I am doing a Memorial Work on a Military History Library, and would like to have any paper that tells of the Marauders History, mainly funny incidents that happened in their history. Also, I would

(Continued on page 9)

PASS IN REVIEW

Deaths reported recently

Name & Hometown (Where Known), Organization, Where, When Deceased

- GEORGE F AHLFORS**, 112 Adams Av, Eveleth MN 55734, 744-3811, 5307/2/HQ,February 13, 1965
- BEN ARREDONDO**, 403 North Oak St, Tomball TX 77375, 5307; 475/3/I Co, March 26, 1991
- EARNEST CARROL BANKS**, 1112 Locust St, Gainesville TX 76240, 5307/2/GCT, March 26, 1991
- HARRY M BONNER**, East Forrest Av, Shrewsbury PA 17361, 5307/2/HQ, 475/2/HQ CO, October 24, 1990
- AARON BROWN**, HC 40 BOX 1, Sackets Harbor NY 13685, 5307/2/BCT/1&R SGT,April 9, 1991
- WILLIAM B CLARK**, 972 East Spruce St, Sequim, WA 98382, 5307/3/KCT, May 27, 1991
- FURRIL R CORDER**, 148 Bucks Br Rd, Pikeville KY 41501, 606-432-4630, 5307/1/HQ/1&R; 475/HQ/1&R, February, 1991
- RICHARD J GRIMES**, 2158 Michigan Av A113, Astabula OH 44004-3119, 5307/3/KCT/I Co, April 12, 1991
- NORMAN L HEBA**, 4009 Fir St, Portsmouth Va 23703-2606, 475/HQ, April 26, 1991
- JOHN S HILSON**, 787 Seventh Av, New York, NY 10019-6016, 612/B Batt, May 26, 1991
- LARNCE HOPKINS, SR**, 7531 McWhorter Pl #T2, Annandale VA 22003-5269, 703-941-4732, 5307/2/BCT/E CoDecember 15, 1988
- RALPH S KLIMEK**, 216 Osseo Rd, Independence WI 54747, 5307/2/BCT,January 25, 1991
- CHARLES S MIKULSKI**, 34 So Read Av, Runnemede NJ 08078, 5307/2/BCT, May 30, 1991
- LEO PRZEBOROWSKI**, 5744 So Moody Av, Chicago IL 60638, 5307/3/KCT; 475/1/HQMay 9, 1991
- ARMAND A SPINELLI**, 1816 Linwood Av, Erie PA 16510, 5307/1/RCT; 475/1,May 16, 1991
- J B TALLEY**, RT 3 Box 288E, Yoakum TX 77995-9622, 5307/1/RCT; 475/1/C, June 20, 1991
- CHESTER E WILCOX**, HCR 1 BOX 260-1, Highlandville MO 65669, 5307/236/H&S, June 14, 1944

and any back copies of the "BOMBAY NEWS" that you may want to part with. I will pay all postage, and will answer all letters. CHARLES L FEAY, 2863 114th Ln, NW, Coon Rapids MN 55433.

EDITOR

My units with the MM were New Galahad, 5307/2/E Co; 475/2 E Co. I was a Rifleman and BAR man. I got my training in L Co, 387th Inf, 97th Div. Shipped out of Newport News on the USS Butner to Bombay. Went to Camp Ramgarh in India. Flew into Myitkyina about June 6th. I was wounded somewhere near the railroad tracks (Hand Grenade). I ended up back in Ledo and got malaria. I returned to Myitkyina and the 475th at Camp Landis. We moved out of Landis in November and headed for Bhamo. We were supposed to fill a gap in the lines but when we got there the Chinese had it closed so we moved on down to Tonkwa. We thought the march from Myitkyina to Tonkwa was tough but the best was yet to come. Over the mountains to the Burma Road. Our 2nd Battalion took Loi Kang Hill or should I say - half of it. The Japs wanted half too, and kept it for some time. After the battle for the road was over, we moved on down toward Lashio and were flown over the Hump to China from Kutkai. LARRY JACKSON, 7712 Helen Rd NW, Bockelia FL 33922, 283-4928.

EDITOR

I was in the 475th, Second Bn, Hq Co as the Radioman for Col John Lattin. After combat ended, I was Company Clerk for the Hq Co. In China I was the Army Clerk for the 71st Chinese Army. JOHN B PINGEL, 35 Lyndale Rd, Edgewood KY 41017, 606-341-8127

EDITOR

In answer to your query, the two other guys who wanted the book were Ellis and Gladkowski, who were with me in the 151st Med Bn. Over night at Namgol, we changed into a Field Hospital. During Nov '43, after dark, we received approximately 19 Marauders from a truck accident at Tagap. We were at Shingbwiyang. One was dead on arrival. I applied traction on a fellow named Ermil, that had a double compound fracture on the same leg. LOUIS J KENDER, 2524 East 86th St, Cleveland OH 44104, 151st Med Bn.

EDITOR

While with the Marauders, I was assigned to the Blue Combat Team - Major Healey, Company E - Captain Ashby, 1st or 3rd Platoon - 2nd Lt Shearer, Platoon Sgt - Zozhel, Squad Leader - Davis, Asst Sqd Ldr - Cpl Norman Rice. LUMMIE S WATSON, PO Box 187, Choteau OK 74337.

EDITOR

I would like to be in touch with the men who knew my husband, Ben Arredondo. He served in the 5307th at Myitkyina and afterwards with the 475th, 3rd Bn, 1 Company. Mrs AGNES ARREDONDO, 403 No Oak St, Tomball TX 77375

HEADQUARTERS 475TH INFANTRY

APO #218

15 September 1944

GENERAL ORDER)
:
NUMBER 5)

AWARDS OF COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

1. Under the provisions of WD Circular No. 186, dated 11 May 1944 Combat Infantryman's Badge is awarded the following officers and enlisted men of this organization effective as of 20 February 1944, for exemplary conduct in action against the enemy during the North Burma Campaign. All officers and enlisted men indicated by an asterisk (*) hereon are authorized this award effective as of 1 June 1944.

Apicerno, Peter P, 31290362 Pvt
Arbogast, Paul D, 20619428 Sgt
Armour, Charles Jr, 34084361 T/5
Atwood, Robert E, O-11179009 1st Lt
Baker, Walter E, 34077104 Pfc
Ball, George M, 35369390 Pfc
Baner, Martin, 33586009 Pfc
Barbeaux, Dill, 36249317 Pvt *
Barelas, Marcos M, 38246353 Pfc
Barranco, John J, 6719358 T/Sgt
Bates, Richard D, 20151358 Pvt
Bauer, Albert J, 33579847 Pvt
Bea, John E, 37083477 Pvt
Belnap, Chester A, 39904414 Pfc
Bengtson, Harold L, 11968134 Pvt
Benton, Charles C, 13044821 Pvt
Berezansky, Metro 33573372 Pfc *
Betz, Russel K, 33429784 Pvt *
Bleker, Bernard C, 37390342 Pfc
Bligham, Maxde D, 38000703 Cpl
Binton, James H, 35666519 Pvt
Bodge, George H, 18103622 Pvt
Boucher, Harold F, 6143580 1st Sgt
Boviall, Howard M, 36271765 T/5
Bradlosky, Charles, 33669896 Pvt
Branthafer, Floyd B, 33756842 Pvt
Brock, Dallas, 35684694 Pfc *
Brockett, William F, 34185173 Pfc
Brosios, Kermil E, 33270357 T/5
Brown, Albert E, 39710789 Pvt
Brown, Edward P, 13108463 Pvt
Brown, Laverne F, 36428386 Pvt
Brown, Walter G, 34276706 Pfc
Burns, Samuel P, 31174458 Pfc
Bursewitz, Stephen, 32297199 Pvt
Bush, Alvin B, 35723321 Pvt
Bushyr, Kermil A, 36742895 Pvt
Byars, Arthur E, 34706321 Pfc
Byers, Peter C, 1313299930 Pvt
Cameron, Charles, 15334952, Pvt
Caroza, William, 31224957 Pvt
Carpenter, Don G, 19134259 Pfc
Carpenter, Leland A, 32854099 Pfc
Carr, Robert L, 6592336 T/4
Carroll, Emory, 34491779 Sgt
Caruso, Vincent J, 35027242 Pfc
Casey, Edward F, 32189945 Pvt
Casto, Orville G, 35005330 Pfc
Cavanary, Oliver E, 20630991 Pvt
Cervenka, Edward, 18226893 Pfc
Chaffins, Richard Jr, 35636573 Cpl
Clark, David U, 6843897 T/Sgt
Clark, John L, 33410143 Pfc
Clark, Ralph L, 16096182 Pfc
Clayton, Ivan R,
Codamo, Vincent J, 6941653 M/Sgt
Cogle, Alvin L, 20845078 Sgt
Collins, William C, 7085194 M/Sgt
Contess, David, 12032115 Pfc
Corbett, James W, 34663249 Pvt

Corrigan, Joseph X, O-1322524 2nd Lt
Cosme, William E, 12009486 S/Sgt *
Coyle, William F, 33029949 T/5
Cumbie, Bernie A, 38341771 Pvt
Cunningham, Paul J, O-577267 2nd Lt
Curl, John W, 20101301 Pvt
Curtl, Sebastine, 32246275 T/5
Damron, Boyd, 35636838 Pvt
Darling, John B, 6980548 Pfc
Day, Rodney L, 34635918 Pvt
Dayton, Ivan R, 32375242 T/4
DeLoach, George R, 34096324 Pvt
DeNigro, Dominick P, 32668121 Pfc
Desharnals, Leo J, 11024454 Pfc
DeVoe, David W, 35094861 Pfc *
DeZarn, Homer, 35790147 Pvt *
Doans, Raymond A, 31230684 Pfc
Domanski, Walter, 12008416 Pfc
Donovan, Dennis R, 32194693 Pfc
Doyer, Joseph, W-2133078 WOJG
Draper, Ben, 20429117 Cpl
Drugotch, George, 33460786 T/5
Duncan, Harry L, O-1290049 Capt
Dunleavy, Joseph, 13027170 T/Sgt
Egan, John E, 18014759 Pvt
Eichorn, Emil H, 32419568 T/5
Elcher, Harry R, 33429751 Pfc *
Eldredge, Clifford L, 20131648 Sgt
Elswick, Howard, 6922907 T/5
Emerick, William J, O-284760 Capt
Ervolino, Alexander, 12007510 Sgt
Eshilbashian, Mibran, 39687571 Pvt
Estenda, Crisento A, 32437815 Pfc
Fallon, Eugene D, 12203264 Pvt
Farmer, Carlos L, 6255962 S/Sgt
Farris, John I, O-389829 Capt
Faulk, Don F, 20844696 Pvt
Faulkner, Frederick H, 31194005 T/5
Ferguson, Robert A, 38060978 Pfc
Ferguson, Tony E, 19071061 Pfc
Frinze, Anthony S, 32838594 Pfc *
Fesselmeier, Frederick F, O577539 1 Lt
Fielder, Leonard E, O-13077214 2nd Lt
Figman, Maxmillian, 20251719 M/Sgt
Fillak, William B, O-1642858 2nd Lt
Finlayson, Robert V, O-889764 2nd Lt
Fisher, Ford D, 39238727 Pfc
Foley, Arthur, 32247526, Pfc
Formolo, Elvio P, 36450814 Pfc
Foutz, William L, 35394721 T/5
Fox, August P, 35008914 Pfc
Fox, Norman V, 33405372 Pvt
Fragen, Lester M, 17074836 T/4
Furlan, Lawrence, 33512301 Pvt *
Gallant, Edward F, 32428002 S/Sgt
Galloway, Arnold A, 38109970 S/Sgt
Gardener, Lawrence W, 33219159 T/Sgt
Garrett, Denton M, 34428795 Pfc
Garrett, Henry O, 35492255 Pfc

(Continued on page 10)

Posted from
MM Mail

Gates, Richard C, 37115208 T/5
 Gatlin, High V, 34428772 Pfc
 Gautreaux, Pershing J, 33461159 Pvt
 George, Herbert V, 32810294 Sgt *
 German, Sidney, 32297096 Pfc
 Gerzen, Frank A, 36620294 Pvt
 Gibson, Frank E, 33302781 S/Sgt
 Gibson, Hatler, 35636713 Pfc
 Gillespie, John A, 6386955 S/Sgt
 Glasburgh, Kenneth H, 12143650 T/5
 Grieve, Richard O, 35629745 Pvt *
 Grochowsky, William H, 37226184 Pvt
 Gumaer, Kenneth I, O-1716248 1st Lt
 Guthrie, Lenard, 38321471 Pvt
 Gutierrez, Manuel, 38253467 Pvt
 Hahn, Edward A, 32751209 Pvt *
 Haley, Woodrow L, 38230412 *
 Hall, Marvin H Jr, 18192925 Pfc
 Hall, Robert S, 33461213 Pfc
 Halsey, Gerald E, 35115728 T/4
 Hames, Pleasant E, 33492882 Pfc
 Hamilton, Ray, 39037507 Sgt
 Hamler, Russell, 13087229 Pvt
 Hancock, Jasen T, 37330149 T/5
 Hanney, William L, 17057599 Sgt
 Hansen, James A, 35048578 Pvt *
 Hanson, Ira V, 17156472 Pvt
 Hanson, Kermit J, 37310556 Pfc
 Hardesty, Paul A, 13103485 Pfc
 Harris, Cecil B, 38294363 Pvt
 Hart, William M, 36188614 Pfc
 Hatzel, Richard F, 32808627 Pfc *
 Heiks, Don C, 20503572 Pfc
 Hennington, Loy F, 38011488 T/5
 Herbert, Arthur O, 31266972 Pfc *
 Hergenhan, Joseph J, 33558803 Pvt *
 Hernandez, Arnold, 38252002 Pvt
 Hernandez, Isabel, 38244315 Pfc
 Higgins, Albert V, O-4920091 1st Lt
 Higgins, Harold F, 36279776 Pfc

(Continued next issue)

Sharing the Story

PERSONALITY OF A US ARMY MULE

Who ever heard of such a subject? The idea came to mind sometime ago while writing Personality Profiles on Characters in the 98th Field Artillery Battalion (Pack). That word - Pack, is one of the key words here. The 98th was an Artillery Battalion that used Pack MULES to carry the howltzers from place to place. Another World War II Veteran was making a study of the 98th along with the other Battalions. He could find very little information or anyone that had been connected with the 98th. Just by Chance, Fate, or whatever you may want to call it, he came across my name and address, associated with the 98th. He appealed to me for information on the 98th, if I could or would be generous enough to answer a few of his questions. That appeal was such that we have been corresponding regularly now for 4 years. In my second letter to him, I wrote some

KEEP IN TOUCH

Some of the men who have asked that we all, visit or write to them for the sake of comradeship: FRANK WONSOWICZ, has been hospitalized for some time with lung problems. His home address is 4314 Kentucky St, Gary IN 46409. 219-884-6279

Personality Profiles on some of the men in the 98th. As our correspondence grew, and the history of MULES deepened, an idea came to mind. That just possibly, there might have been one MULE out of all those thousands the Army bought, that was worthy of, or possessed a personality that warranted such a pursuit. It is MORE THAN LIKELY, staggering the imagination, to conjure up the possibility of a member of the Army to meet just such a MULE, that would bring about this paper 49 years later.

I had worked MULES on the farm, but I was not quite prepared to anticipate just what the Army's program entailed in playing Nurse Maid to their MULES. On the morning of the 1st day at the stables, we walked along the manger to see all the 13 MULES in our gun section. The MULES all looked alike except we noticed a variation of color, and size, but any further that that, A MULE WAS A MULE, WAS A MULE, WAS A MULE, and the Army had a rigid regimen on handling them.

We didn't necessarily groom or lead the same MULE all the time and gradually we began to notice the Actions, and Mannerisms of particular MULES. But personality was not a subject to entertain much thought upon. A MULE wasn't people. He wasn't supposed to think or act like people, but it wasn't long before we found out they could think, or else it was an involuntary reflex to protect themselves against an endangering fear of harm.

PLUG was his name, and he carried the PRESTON Brand of 188B on his neck just behind the left ear. I didn't meet PLUG right off. He was just one of the MULES in the 10th or 11th spot in the line of 13 MULES.

I guess I was just as dumb as the MULE, because at the time I didn't consider that they might have a Service Record like the men did. If I had known about it, there is a scant possibility I would have had access to it. How far into his Army Career before he got the name, "PLUG" is anybody's guess. PLUG was just one of the many that was rounded up by a MULE buyer-seller and PLUG was soon a "HOBBOLED VOLUNTEER", just like the draftees, "A HAND-CUFFED VOLUNTEER". PLUG'S fate was to be Fort Lewis, Washington, the 98th Field Artillery, "C" Battery, 1st Gun Section and PLUGGED in to stall 10 or 11.

It has been said by many that animals do not have the ability to reason, contemplate, and all those other good things like common sense. But I think he was a half a gene ahead of the other MULES. Some of the old time MULESKINNERS (Not the Army), claimed that in order to get along with MULES, you have to give them KINDNESS, AFFECTION, AND CARESSES, not necessarily in that order, but a generous amount of each. Some of the MULES, would solicit such attention, especially if they could smell an apple in your pocket. But PLUG was not going to get on very close terms with Homo Sapiens. He would accept the required grooming and such amenities as the Army provided at Watering and Feeding time, but just stay clear and out of range of his heels at all

times.

Maybe he had developed a sense of animosity toward authority during his Basic days at a Remount Station, same as the G.I.'s did in Basic Training. He was a MULE, 4 to 7 years old, with dubious ancestry, and as a Gelding, the prospect of posterity was nil. Perhaps his attitude and behavior toward Homo Sapiens justified some of the names he was called that reflected toward his ancestors, or to him because of them. A MULESKINNER with back ground such as that might have been hard to live with also.

He would accept the usual standard load of feed or ammunition, but put a strange load on him, and if he got just a little inkling of an excuse he would run away. The first time I seen this happen, I thought it was very funny. He was going all out, but didn't get very far when the pack saddle slipped and got under his belly and between his front and rear legs. He couldn't move and the cinches were cutting into his back and he was bawling for help.

Sometimes I have wondered if he and the Sergeant, Chief of Section were in cahoots. As I have written elsewhere about the Sgt - that if he didn't have a grudge against you, he could very easily work up one, with or without a good excuse. I didn't want to disappoint the Sgt and make him feel guilty by not having an excuse, so I would supply him with one quite often. One of the fastest and easiest ways to antagonize him was to pull my coverall legs out of my lagoons and roll them up a couple of turns. The coverall legs had buttons on the legs and that hurt my legs as we marched along. I'd pull them out and he just delighted in heaping wrath upon my head. You've probably seen those symbols of a happy face where the mouth is turned up into a smile <^>. His was just the opposite <^>. It was just made that way and didn't come about just from sulking, pouting, or just a bad mood. He couldn't have smiled if he wanted to, and I don't think he ever wanted to. PLUG was just the opposite, it seemed like he always had his upper lip curled like he wanted to smile and would if he could have. I've often wondered if he wasn't smiling in anticipation of some sort of devilry, or if he had a sand burr under his lip.

On 16 July 1942, at Fort Lewis, WA, they both had their day and done a number on me that was all wrapped up in one incident. It was a damp sultry, rainy morning and we were scheduled for a road march. Our Front Trail MULE had to have new shoes, so we substituted a Cargo MULE and changed the adapters. This substitute MULE was 188B (PLUG). At the time I wasn't assigned a regular MULE, so as soon as we got them groomed and rigged out, I slipped over to the gun shed. Everybody else knew what to expect. So PLUG was left standing alone in the stable. The Sgt came to the gun shed and yelled, "Wade, go back and get that MULE!" Quick as a flash I answered, "What MULE is that, Sarge?" "You know what MULE I mean, get PLUG and bring him over." I was in front of PLUG facing him with Daniel H Watson, just to the side and partly behind me, helping.

(Continued on page 11)

When they started up with the front trail, his ears were straight up with the tips almost together. When a MULE gets his ears PERKED in that manner, you had better come to the conclusion that he is right against the ragged edge of unmitigated fury - ready to explode. In less time than it takes to read this sentence, someone slacked off on a lifting bar and it rattled and that was the igniter PLUG was waiting for. He lunged forward, and Watson was in the way and I couldn't move. The last I saw before I went down was both his knees just under my chin. He ran over me and when he started the guys with the front trail had a four way stampede. I went down on my back and PLUG over me and the front trail hit the ground by my leg. I jumped right back up and saw PLUG under a manger in the nearby stable. By then I felt a little woozy and tilted my head forward a little bit and I saw blood come down the front of my rain coat. One of the guys saw the back of my head cut where I fell on a smooth river rock in the yard. He grabbed me by the shoulder so I wouldn't fall. Then reached in my pocket and got my handkerchief out and used it as a compress while we walked to the dispensary. I was in the Post Hospital 4 days. Then on Quarters for a few days. The Sgt was sure miffed that I couldn't put on my gas mask, because of the bandage. That MULE walked on me from my knees up to my chin, and in a few days I had little blue spots the size of the head of the horse hoe nails all over me.

We had a big logger from Minnesota or Wisconsin in the gun section and he had been assigned to the kitchen crew not long before this incident and if he had been present, it may have never happened. There was seldom a chance to use any physical abuse or applied psychology to redirect a MULE's errant behavior toward a more cooperative attitude. The Logger had lucked out and got a chance when he had PLUG out of sight of Authorities. He got him started backwards and made him trip over a log and fall down. The Logger jumped on his head and nearly stomped his head into the ground. After that when PLUG got contrary about being loaded, they would get that Logger and all he needed to do was take hold of the reins and PLUG would stand and tremble while they loaded him, but he would not run.

After that I would lead PLUG once in awhile, and during break time if you laid on the ground to rest a little, he would start grazing, or pretend to graze, but he had his eyes on you. His aim was to gradually graze toward you and if he got close enough to where he thought he could, he would jump on you with both front feet. He almost got a number on me with that trick once. Don't gamble on a MULE being a dummy. It may take some time but in the end he intends to be the winner.

Later when we went overseas, our MULES were sent to the Port at San Francisco. The first shipment had about 600 MULES, but the gun section didn't get the same MULES. So I have no idea what ever happened to him. MULESKINNER ED, Edward A Wade, 112 Reece Av, Nyssa OR 97419

OFFICERS ROW

PRESIDENT - PHILIP PIAZZA.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - RAY LYONS

We have a note from Charlton Ogburn expressing regrets that he has not been able to attend recent reunions due to bad health. He also claims authorship of the recent poem sent in by Gregory Resch. Ogburn says it was originally printed in a copy of the EX CBI ROUNDUP overseas. Then re-printed in the NY Times.

At this point in our lives, we seem to be constantly running into problems. We mailed two boxes to the Marriott Hotel at El Paso. They arrived after we left for home. One was a supply of GO #5 to be made available to people who purchased "The Merrill's Marauders War in Burma, Volume I" as a supplement to GO #3. If you have previously purchased a copy of Vol I, write me for the supplement.

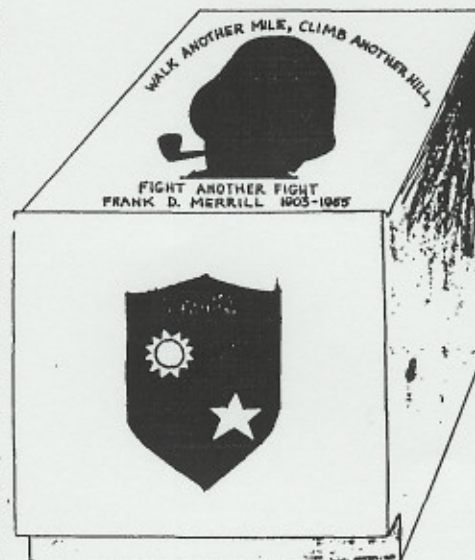
Historian - DAVE GUAID

During the past reunion we made available a poster negative which can be used to have the Kodak people print up a color poster, size 30" x 20". This is from the original poster of the movie "Merrill's Marauders". It is about the only item we have which is in color and will be a collector's item in years to come. The negative can be ordered from Herb Clofine for \$6. and the poster print will cost about \$20 from Kodak.

Military Liaison - DAVE HURWITT

As per request of Board of Directors, I am enclosing a tentative sketch of the proposed Monument Memorial to be placed at Fort Benning GA. Design is subject to change as may be required. I think the general idea that I have shown

PROPOSED DESIGN FOR MARAUDER MEMORIAL AT FT. BENNING, GA.



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
David Hurwitz 2107 Lucama Park Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407 • (407) 433-0300

covers what we would like to say and would make for a distinctively unique Marauder commemoration.

RANGER COLUMN

At Merrill's Marauders Association Annual Banquet, August 31, 1991 COL JOHN H MAHER - The things I want to talk about are the 40th Anniversary of Ranger School, the Best Ranger Competition, the Ranger Hall of Fame and an update about the Ranger Training Brigade. This year is the 41st year of the Ranger Training Command. The first year was spent training Ranger Infantry Company's Airborne on the way to Korea. But it is the 40th year of Ranger School as we know it now as a TAD producing school and we will celebrate that this year on the 20th of March. We will have our Graduation Ceremony the same month that we did our first graduation 40 years ago. We plan to invite some of the original graduates of the school and the original cadre. The Best Ranger Competition this year will be 27 April to 4 May at Ft Benning GA. Col Dave Grange and I are working on three projects. The Ranger Hall of Fame, The Ranger Museum, and the Ranger Memorial. It appears that we will induct the First Rangers into the Hall of Fame at our Ranger Training Brigade Headquarters where we will sponsor and maintain the Hall of Fame. We will do that this summer in conjunction with the activities this summer at the 50th Anniversary. Ranger Museum - This project is a share project We will attempt to have a separate wing established for both Airborne and Ranger troops and those of Ranger lineage. In the meantime, there is a small portion of the museum on the first floor which has been set aside and we are going to attempt to get it properly decorated in time for the June, 50th Anniversary. Throughout all three floors, the Ranger Memorabilia is representing Marauders and Rangers of the past

COL DAVE GRANGE, Commander 75th Ranger Regiment- Just the other day we had the Best Ranger and the Best Range NCO competition and Phil Piazza was there when Sgt Nesbit and Ranger Russell won it for this year. We appreciate your personal effort and also Merrill's Marauder Association's to honor those Rangers ever year. The Ranger Regiment is as ready now as it was in Grenada and Panama. Right now a lot of the stuff is still classified but once the information comes out on what the Rangers did, even though a small force in Desert Storm, you will see that they carried on the traditions you started in your day, and nothing has changed. We still do deep infiltration operations, raids harassment behind the lines. We still do airfields like you are familiar with. We still build rafts and cross strange rivers. Sometimes they still sink. And the search and rescue that you did for the C-47 aircraft, we still do that. We would like to have participation on the 50th Anniversary, on the weekend of 17-19 June 1992. We plan to have a Regimental Mass Attack. All three Battalions will jump in at Ft Benning and they will conduct :

(Continued on page 12)

battalion operations, short operations in the local area, and then move into the Cantonment at Ft Benning. On the next day, we plan to run team competition, the best machine gun crew, mortar crew, sniper team, all those type of teams - to pick the Best Ranger Teams from the whole regiment of about 2200 men. We would like you to eat dinner with them that night and present awards and honor them that night. We are going to have a boxing smoker and have the battalion commanders out there as judges and you can see the best fighters of the regiment. There will be military track and a few other things. On the 19th we plan to go on to the Ranger Memorial. We would like to break ground for the Memorial on the 19th of June. We are going to commission Jim Deitz, the artist to paint, "The Rangers Lead the Way" painting. We are probably going to take the scene from the 5th Bn at Normandy on Omaha Beach, where we got the motto, "Rangers Lead the Way". We are going to have 1942 copies of that print ready for that day. Signed by Merrill's Marauders representatives, and other WW II representatives for those Rangers who have ordered it.

COL MAHER - In our organization, the Ranger Training Brigade, part of the Training and Doctrine Command is growing. We run three courses, the Ranger Course, the Long Range Surveillance Leader Course, and the Infantry Leader Course. We are moving our outfit, the 7th Ranger Training Battalion, the Desert Training Battalion from Dugway Utah to Ft Bliss, here at El Paso TX. I command four battalions. One is at Benning where we kind of weed out those that are not meant to be Rangers and teach them the basics of patrolling. We will make a change so that we will have them come here for desert training. Then we go up to the mountains and at Camp Merrill, see if they can do it on the sides of the hills. Then take them to the swamps to see if they can make it happen in terrain that you are used to. We have had quite a washout rate. We have been

losing about one third of the men in the first day or two, of those that are left, we are losing about half of them. I guess the point I am trying to get across is that only a select group of men that are prepared to lead their units walk out of Ranger School with a Ranger Tab. As we restructured our course, I started to think about what a Ranger should be. We pulled out a study that some Rangers had done several years ago when they studied Ranger Like Units of the Past, including the Marauders. We looked at their campaigns, their exploits, their leadership and what appeared to make them successful, what values and what traits were there. One of the enigmas that faced us, is even though we taught people in a tactical environment and we put them in charge of units, we knew that what we were trying to measure was their leadership potential. So we really wondered what traits we should measure. What we decided was that we came up with a list of characteristics so that regardless of whether a Ranger failed his mission, whether he showed tactical competence or not (that was important), whether he showed leadership ability (that was important), more importantly we wanted to make sure that he showed us promise of being able to possess and use traits that you all set for us as an example. What we found out about you all is that you are competent and confident. You always displayed courage and great integrity. You were committed and goodness knows you were motivated. You were self-disciplined and you were mentally and physically hard, toughened. You were decisive and yes, you performed under stress. You were aggressive. You were selfless and you were loyal to your men, your unit and your nation. We took all those values and that is what is on our grade sheet. When we grade a Ranger today, despite how he performs, we assess whether or not a Ranger does or does not possess those attributes. These values and traits and our freedom are what you all have passed on to us. I would now like to ask Hal Mortimer to

come up and help me with a special presentation tonight.

HAL MORTIMER, Reunion Chairman. Will PFC Eliseo Fernandez please come forward? Col Maher on behalf of the Merrill's Marauders Association would you at this time do me the honor, 47 years late, and present to PFC Eliseo Fernandez, his well deserved Bronze Star Medal?

COL MAHER. Here is a Marauder who stepped into the arena and a man who exemplifies that which I have tried to express to you. "United States of America, To All Who Shall See these Presents Greetings, This is to Certify That The President of the United States of America, authorized by Executive Order, 24 August 1962, Has Awarded The Bronze Star Medal To Private First Class Eliseo S Fernandez, U.S. Army, For Meritorious Achievement In Ground Combat Against The Armed Enemy During World War II, in the Asiatic Pacific Theatre of Operation, given under my hand in the City of Washington, this 10th day of May 1991. Signed the Secretary of the Army".

I would like to close with two stanzas of the Ranger Creed that mean a lot to me but I think represent you. I think you are very much a part of their wording and I want to thank you for it. It is the first and last stanzas. The first stanza goes and recognize your performance in this "Recognizing that I volunteered as a Ranger, fully knowing the hazards of my chosen profession, I will always endeavor to uphold the prestige, honor and high Esprit de Corps of the Rangers." Thank you Marauders for establishing that high Esprit de Corps. The last stanza which surely you showed on the way to Myitkyina from Ledo and other places is: "Readily will I display the intestinal fortitude required to fight onto the Ranger objective and complete the mission, will I be the lone survivor." Thank you for what you have given to us. God Bless you Marauders. Go Bless the USA. Rangers Lead the Way.



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

RAYMOND V. LYONS

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