



# The Burman News



Official publication of Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.

May, 1993

## Don't Miss Mass!

We will be meeting again this Labor Day at the Colonial Hilton Resort adjacent to Route 128 East of Route I-93, Exit 42. Share the fellowship of the men who served with you in the CBI. Let's talk about it!

The Colonial is a resort complex consisting of three buildings. The hotel proper is where our sleeping rooms and our registration and historical rooms will be located. Registration and the historical areas will be in two separate but adjoining rooms. We will be showing many video tapes in the historical section. This building has a fine restaurant, the Witherspoon Grill & Pub. The Health Club, a second large building features Cybex Equipment, weights, aerobic room, racquet hall, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, indoor pool. Finally, the Banquet Halls along with a second restaurant are located in the third building. There will be buses to transport guests between buildings.

Last October, Phil and Emma Piazza and we met with the management of the hotel to tour the entire facility which will host the Merrill's Marauders Association on this 48th consecutive reunion. We all came away with a feeling of confidence in an excellent staff who are concerned that we have a memorable occasion at their beautiful resort.

Package Rate: Sleeping rooms. \$225. single occupancy. \$141. per person with double occupancy. Package includes: 2 nights accommodations, Friday and Saturday nights, 1 breakfast/Saturday, 1 lunch/Saturday, 1 brunch/Sunday, 2 dinners. Includes all taxes and gratuities.

For those attending food

functions only and not requiring room accommodations, the rate is \$90. Children will get a 50% discount on all meal prices on group functions. On other meals during the day they will have a special discounted menu. Adults will receive a 25% discount on all hotel meals (no liquor discount) outside of the package meals.

Should member wish to arrive early or extend their stay, "Marauder Rate" is \$59. plus tax. CUT OFF DATE FOR RESERVATIONS IS AUGUST 3RD, 1993.

The resort boasts an 18 hole par 70 championship golf course. Budget Car rentals are available on the property. It may be desirable to rent at the airport because there are not too many cars stationed at the hotel. Budget phone # 1-800-527-0700. A complimentary newspaper will be at your door in the morning. At the Ladies Tea, Cecilia Keane, who conducts tours at the Rebecca Nurse House (Rebecca was one of the victims at the Witch Trials) will talk at that time. (Bring your own witch to have him or her tried)

It is important to get your reservations in early. We have 250 rooms reserved. Late arrivals may have to be housed elsewhere. The menus have not been decided as yet but if your choice is fish instead of meat, that choice must be indicated on the reservation card. The hotel is happy to take care of special dietary requests but only with advance notice.

The swimming pool, sauna, Jacuzzi and parking are free. The complete use of the Health Club has an eight dollar fee per day, tennis courts - six dollars - (\$3 per person), golf course three dollars per hole. Transportation from Logan Airport is \$16 per person and \$30 round trip. The hotel

recommends Granada Limousine at 1-800-633-6220 to make arrangements for pickup.

The Guest Speaker on Saturday Night will be Brig/Gen Wesley I Taylor Jr, Deputy Secretary of Defense for Policy and Missions. For our Friday Night speaker, we plan on having Col Frank "Bull" Dawson, USA Ret. He was the first man under the wire at Omaha Beach and at present is the Honorary Colonel of the Ranger Regiment. (ALSO FORMER CO OF JOHN ACKER)

Nick Cerra, 5307/1/C Co/Hq 475/1/C from Johnston RI has promised to bring his band, the PASTELS, to play for us on Saturday night. Never knew we had a band leader in the Marauders. Plan on staying up late to hear them play.

We have been trying to get discounts/group rates for the excellent attractions that many will pass on their way to our New England Reunion. Capt John's Whale Watch Boats will give you a discount if you have MM identification, or bring a copy of this paper to prove who you are. For those interested in deep sea fishing Capt John will discount trip, rods, bait, etc. STURBRIDGE VILLAGE requires that you send them a stamped self-addressed envelope. They will mail vouchers for the number of people in your party. Present the voucher at the gate to get your discount. Address: Barbara Hopkins, Old Sturbridge Village Marketing Dept., One Old Sturbridge Village Rd, Sturbridge MA 01566.

MYSTIC SEAPORT and HERITAGE PLANTATION OF SANDWICH MA. Show MM Membership Card.

PLIMOUTH PLANTATION, :

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must see, but no discounts. For \$18.50 for adults, \$11. children, under five free, you will tour the Pilgrim Village, the ship Mayflower, Indian Village. The museum in town is very good. The North Shore Music Theatre is having a performance of "Brigadoon" during the period of our Reunion. They are at Beverly MA.

There is so much to be seen and to visit within a few miles of our hotel, it just boggles the mind. We will have brochures and information at the reunion hotel. COME EARLY! STAY LATE!

For those with rec vehicles, who want to stay at a campground, we suggest the following: Winter Island Marine Rec Park, 50 Winter Island Rd, Salem MA 01970, Phone 1-508-745-9430. It is on the water at Salem. Overnight parking \$15. includes electric and water hookups. Obviously a desirable spot. Other locations nearby: Cape Ann Camp, Gloucester MA; Annisquam CG, Gloucester MA; Tuxbury Pond CA, Amesbury MA; Swam Pond Family Camping, Tyngsboro MA; KOA, Littleton MA; Crystal Springs, Bolton MA. These campgrounds range from 10 to 20 miles from the hotel. For those of you who are staying at the hotel, the parking area is large and flat and there is no charge for RV's as well as cars.

I will send Xerox's of our membership cards, the two page history of the unit, and a copy of the first page of the BURMAN NEWS to the above. They will know who you are.

For the present we are not setting up any bus tours. A tour to Boston, the USS Constitution and Concord and Lexington can be arranged. But you will have to express interest by writing to me - Dave Quaid, 282 Trotting Park Dr, East Falmouth MA 02936. If we fill a bus, we'll go!

DAVID L. QUAID, Chairman, Merrill's Marauders Association 1993 Reunion.

(See map on page 11)



North Burma - February-July 1944

Typical Marauder relaxing during break in march. Heat and humidity made removal of clothing during non-marching time a most desirable state for drying skin subject to fungus diseases and for being comfortable.

### SHARING THE STORY

CONTINUATION OF STORY OF I&R PLATOON, OCT, 5307TH

The following is an appreciation of the actions of Lieutenants Weston's and Smith's Platoons by David Quaid, Historian, Merrill's Marauders Association. During the course of this remarkable action, Lt Weston's Platoon lost 3 mules killed and one SCR 300 radio destroyed, but not one human casualty. The enemy battalion suffered 85 to 90 killed and an unknown number wounded in attempting to get past the I & R Platoon.

Results:

Without the brilliant holding actions by Weston's and Smith's Platoons, the reinforced Japanese Battalion, with four mountain cannon, would have surely interdicted the 2nd and 3rd Battalions as they withdrew from the successful road block at Inkangahtawng. The two battalions were under strength and the men were in poor physical condition from diseases, malnutrition and from the arduous campaigning in the forbidding, jungle covered mountains of North Burma.

They lacked artillery and their wounded were still with them. Had the Kamaing Battalion of the 114th Regiment reached the North Parallel Trail unopposed, Galahad's battalions would have been caught, stretched out in a narrow valley, in an area where to make any progress at all a shallow

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LOST, STRAYED OR WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THESE GUYS?  
MARTIN R SMITH PO BOX 63, LAS CRUCES NM 88008-0063  
HAROLD A PHILLIPS, 900 CORONADO ST, SP 20, NEEDLES CA 92363,  
5307/3/OCT/L CO

river had to be forded over 100 times. The bulk of the enemy forces on the main supply route (Kamaing Road) would have quickly followed the withdrawing battalions; which would have then been engaged from front and rear. Whatever the outcome of this scenario, the Marauders would never have had the strength or numbers remaining to embark on the third mission, the capture of the Japanese airfield at Myitkyina. The 22nd and 38th Chinese Divisions would quite possibly have been flanked in the vicinity of Jambu Bum Pass.

#### Conclusions:

The holding action orchestrated by Lt. Weston and his I & R Platoon, lasted four days against three days at Thermopylae. Leonidas lost all of his men, Weston lost none. Athens was burned by the Persians. The 55 men of the I & R Platoon of Orange Combat Team, and about the same number in Lt. Smith's Platoon saved the Regiment and the campaign. With the monsoon season approaching, had Galahad been mauled west of Manpin, and no longer been a viable force, the North Burma Campaign would have stalled in the flooded Mogaung Valley until another dry season.

## WALAWBUM WARRIORS

Lt Thomas Chamales, Co L, Orange CT, was in charge of a squad to form a skirmish line for Lt Weston's relief. I believe we had 3 or 4 B.A.R. men including me. There were markers put out so we could form the base of fire across the river. I thought everything worked perfect. The Mortars, skirmish line, the withdrawal - all without casualties.

Robert Cole left the line to go down to the river bank to cover the crossing. They could write a book about him. He may have the distinction of jumping ship twice in Australia. Once with the 164th Infantry at Melbourne and Brisbane with us. He went AWOL and took over an Indian train. Spent the night alone in Guadalcanal in a tree (sniper) surrounded by Japs. He bootlegged Fighter Brand Whiskey at the 14th Evacuation Hospital. Later he was a Los Angeles policeman.

Back to Weston. Someone told me that he cried because he lost a

man. When we got back, there he was reading his Bible under a tree. He was the most respected officer in our platoon. Another officer, later killed, Lt Johnson was also highly respected.

Here is a little trivia item relating to the Hopkins Report. Item #138 B. Pfc Albert Mahmood told me he used bad judgment crossing an open field. But he didn't think any Jap could kill him. He was shot thru the stomach - bullet coming out near his ass. He walked back from the patrol to the Aid Station. He said that while waiting to be evacuated, someone asked him what was wrong and he said he was shot thru the stomach. They couldn't believe he was just sitting and talking. Later I gave him Xmas candy in the hospital in July.

Item #140. Willard C Dills was a real nice person. I took his death hard.

Item #142. Thomas Matlock, KIA, I was relieved on that OP. by him. Another good person and well liked.

Some of these new Rangers probably don't know how bad our communications were - depending on OP's listening posts - runners - verbal orders, passed down man to man.

Item #25. I was a witness to the

death when an enlisted man was killed by a box of Mortar ammunition. It didn't separate from the parachute. It did not open and overshot the field. The chute covered the man after he was hit.

Item #53. Major Lew wasn't in an open area when he was hit. There was an opening between the trees, where a sniper could aim if someone crossed thru there. I sprayed the trees thru the opening with my B.A.R. I carried some A.P. ammo for trees.

More trivia: The Third Battalion called Col Beach, the Lone Ranger when he had his horse. I asked Col Beach when are we going home and he said, "We aren't going home till we kill every Goddam Jap in Burma." At Walawbum, a patrol told him there were Japs across the river. He said, "There were no Japs." He crossed the river with his runner and came back when he was shot at. He then said, "You're right. There are Japs over there."

I remember that Dr. Jamie (Hoppy) Hopkins, Great Uncle was the founder of John Hopkins Hospital and Medical School. We all liked Capt Hopkins. We had a volunteer medic named Daniel Hardinger who was a conscientious objector. He never carried a weapon and served

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## PASS IN REVIEW

Deaths reported recently

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

RAY C BRADEN, 5125 SE 31st, Ocala FL 32671, 904-624-2490, 5307/3/OCT/K Co, December 31, 1992

HAROLD L CHRISTIANSON, 1414 Abrams st, Whitehall WI 54773, 5307/2/Hq, December 10, 1979

FRANCIS X CLARK, 2401 Brighton Av, Croydon PA 19020, 5307/3/OCT, December 24, 1992

VICTOR DE ANGELO, 85 Windsor St, Bridgeport CT 06606, 5307/2/BCT, December 22, 1992

WILLIAM G FIELDS, 214 S Bunker Hill Rd, Colfax NC 27235, 5307/1/RCT, 475/1/B Co, February 13, 1993

HENRY H GOSHO, 2828 Wakefield Dr, Belmont CA 94002, 415-595-2828, 307/3/OCT/INTRPTR; CBI THEATER HQ, December 28, 1992. He served 17 years with the US Information Agency in Tokyo. He retired from the State Dept in 1976 with Ministerial Rank. During the visit of Emperor Hirohito to the United States, Henry was in charge of Liaison between the US & Japanese media.

ROBERT PREWITT, 1069 Russ Haven, Moberly MO 65220, 475th, JAMES K SANFORD, 6435 Eastleigh Ct, Springfield VA 22152,

5307/2/GCT, February 14, 1993

RAYMOND D STANLEY, 8863 Werner, Redford MI 48239, 5307, December 26, 1992

RAYMOND UPSHAW, 316 N 3rd St, Fredonia KS 66736, 5307, December 29 1978



Tawang Hka, Burma, about February 28, 1944  
Troops of 3rd Battalion, 5307th cross the Tawang Hka river near Tanja Ga enroute to Walawbum. Rivers were at a low level during the dry season, and it was frequently necessary to ford them as the trails crossed them constantly. At times, the same river was crossed 40-50 times in one day.

with Dr Hopkins in the Pacific and in Burma.

He was strong, heroic, dedicated and a wonderful person. The 164th Infantry had no promises made to them when they volunteered.

I don't know if it is recorded in our records but Robert Cole was bitten by a poisonous snake and it should have killed him. His wife later told me that it affected his nervous system, the rest of his life.

Lt Chamales platoon occupied the 1st road block before the Japanese did, until Orange CT

moved up the next morning. That would have changed the whole battle for Nhpum Ga. Orange CT was ready to attack and break thru the morning that Khaki CT did.

My platoon had about four scrub typhus cases. Three of them died from it. I heard that the soldiers that slept in empty village bashas caught it. I was angry because one was all filled up and I had to set up in the rain all night at Manpin.

Charles E Beck, 5307/3/OCT/L  
CO, 4642 Monroe St, Riverside CA  
92504, 714-689-7238.



### REMEMBRANCES OF TONKWA

Story begins about mid-morning around Christmas time. Some of the boys had decorated a giant tree with all kinds of color. At least I hope it was Tonkwa. I know that a tree was decorated some place where we spent some time.

Then in came that damned 77 banging away and causing tree bursts. I dove in a hole and very quickly in jumped a non-helmeted skinny fellow, who gave me what for about not having my helmet with me. That of course, was Co Osborne.

He never wore one but by jeepers, I'd better. First time I ever met the man. When the firing died down, a rumor floated back to the Command Post that there was a dead redheaded Jap out in front of F Company. Maxon's Company. The morning attack (about 4:30 AM) WAS A "BANZAI" charge and F Company beat them up real bad. So Major Lattin and Lt Col Thraikill decided to go up and look just for the fun of it. I asked to go and was told, "OK but you are on your own, no need to go." So the three of us and "Heavy", Co Thraikill's personal "everybody" moved up to take a look.

Getting to F Company was easy

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### 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. Send check to Merrill's Marauders Association % Ray Lyons, Executive Secretary.

We have available the Mike Gabbett Book, "The Bastards of Burma". \$10 per copy. Mike was one of the Original Marauders and the book covers in Regular Army Top Sgt style his observations of what went on in the 1st and 2nd Campaigns in Burma.

We had sold out of all copies of "The Marauders" by Charlton Ogburn. We recently received our back order. \$8. per copy.

Woody Woodruff is working on a re-print (again) of "Marsmen in Burma". Price appears to be going up but that is not news.



Tonkwa, Burma, 17 December 1944

Major John H. Lattin, New Orleans, LA, C.O. of the 2nd Battalion, accompanied his troops on the attack on a Jap road block.

except for a rumor that a sniper had infiltrated into some bashas inside our perimeter. None found.

When we got to the perimeter of F Company, we could see many, many dead Japs in front of the machine guns and other dug in riflemen. There was some brush to my right and both Maj Lattin and I were using it as camouflage behind us. He, Lattin crept further out in front of the brush than I did, about 5 - 8 yards. Me, I was under some with a clear view of the dead Japs.

Some banter began; something like this, "Hey you, Captain there, get down". "Don't use rank around here you schmuck." "OK General!" At that point up jumped at least three, maybe many more, "dead" Japs, throwing grenades. Just before I dove into a garbage pit, I saw Lattin shoot from his left shoulder. I had never seen anyone shoot left handed before. He kneeled and fired only one shot as a grenade landed nearby. The boys in the trenches cut the rest of them down, I guess, because it was all over damn fast. (I do think I saw a red headed Jap lying out there before this shooting started.) I talked to Bob Maxon in late May of '92 and he said he saw one. But I wondered if the one I saw was bloodied and bandaged. Anyway.

When we got back to the Command Post and I was bandaging John Lattin, (He had a flesh wound on his back right side,

couple of inches maybe in the fat above the hip bone.) He said, "Jim, I shot that guy between the eyes." "Bull shit", I said. He replied, "I'll show you." So later within the next hour, he sent our interpreter, Paul, a Nisei lad from Minneapolis, out to search the body and he brought back a helmet with a carbine bullet hole about 1/2 inch above and 1/2 inch left, as you look at the helmet, of that star on it.

Paul also brought back the Japs attack order for the mornings activity. This started another incident. Does anyone remember this? In translating this order, it was felt that the order was for an attack at 4:30 PM. We began furiously preparing and the tension built up the rest of the day. The tension was palpable. I believe at this time, the Chinese Major who was liaison from the Chinese Army got in front of another company and shot by our troopers. This could be verified by someone else.

James L Harps, Lt Col USA (Ret)  
PO Box 152 Hot Springs AR 71902-0153, 475/2/HQ/ALO

## MYITKYINA SOUTH TO THE BURMA ROAD

I served in the 475/1 Bn/A Co/1st Platoon as Assistant Platoon Ldr under 1st Lt James A Wheatly. Capt Mereness was the Company CO and Lt Stanley Dumsha was the Ex Off.

We had a rotation system with the battalion, to make heavy action and death as fair as possible. Companies within the Bn, platoons within the company and squads within the platoon rotated assignments.

For that long march described by Helmut Fichtler in the May issue of the B/N, my platoon had rotated to the last on the march, to act as security for the artillery. The time for that move was 2230 hours. As we neared our destination, we heard the long burst of machine gun fire that (unknown to us at the time), killed Lt O'Brien, another young man named "Shittle" (shi-tal) and severely wounded another soldier.

As we approached the end of the march, we could hear the heavy action that the Head of the Column was involved in. We "thought" we were tired and would have hoped to enter the perimeter and get some much needed rest.

That was not to be. The Bn Commander - Col Catson Johnson was running in our direction with a map in his hands. He indicated a spot on the map and said that Lt O'Brien and his men were trapped and we would have to go get them out. I do not believe that at that time, he knew that Lt O'Brien was dead.

Lt Rudolph S Willamaa and his platoon joined Lt James A Wheatly and myself for a rapid turn around - bypassing the 12 mules and then On The Run, descended the hill. We did cross a valley before climbing the hill that Lt O'Brien was on. At the base of that hill mass was the third soldier, severely wounded in the abdomen. Multiple wounds (I was told that he

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## FALL IN

Here are the latest additions to our assembly. Remember them?  
JAMES E FOWLER, RT 2 BOX 42A, Bridgeport TX 76426, 5307/2/E Co;  
SOLOMON WILSON, RT 2 Box 491-2, Jerome MO 65529, 762-2472,  
5307/3/HQ/1&R; 1/B; 475/1/HQ/P&D Plat

had 52 gut penetrations) - later told that he did survive.

We climbed the ridge expecting to fight for O'Brien and his men. Fortunately, Sgt Olsen had been able to withdraw his men to safety. There we received the true details of how the boys died; from Sgt Olsen. We proceeded on, taking one minor casualty - a Sgt who luckily made a left turn with his body to signal. He received a short burst from a light Nambu machine gun. The rounds striking a grenade hanging from his left breast pocket, igniting the powder charge and burning his left breast. He refused evacuation.

This second burst enabled us to locate the enemy and to get a visual on Lt O'Brien's and "Shittell's" bodies.

It was a "trap" set up. Lt O'Brien was in the middle of the trail with the one and only Jap casualty. Lt O'Brien was laid out as if in a coffin. Arms folded, on his chest, legs straight. However, the Jap trooper was laid out in a similar fashion with the big difference that his feet were up on Lt O'Brien's chest.

This was, I supposed, to make us charge out to change the situation. We did not fall for it and proceeded to make them move further along the ridge. "Shittell's" body was rolled near a fence. When the situation became static - from out of nowhere - a Chaplain appeared. I do not recall if the Chaplain was with us all the way or not, nor do I know what faith he represented.

Having a personal reason to do so - I asked permission to bring O'Brien off the ridge. This noble Chaplain and I, just before it became too dark, began preparations to move him. The blast of three machine gun bullets made a mess of his head. And on our attempt to lift him on to a poncho, his brains fell to the ground. The Chaplain desired to bury them on the spot. After prayer, we placed him in a poncho and started down the ridge with him.

Darkness closed in shortly. The Chaplain and I spent the night on the down grade run. At daybreak, we moved him to the temporary collection point.

I returned to the unit on the ridge and with Lt Wheatly working the platoon on the left side of the

ridge and I moving slightly to the rear, but down the middle of the road, with our so-called "Heavy Weapons Section", succeeded in locating and destroying a well dug in Platoon of Japs. I threw on them 80 rounds of white phosphorus. When the smoke cleared and we over ran the position, they were gone. But 19 field packs did not leave. We knew that 19 Japs were in trouble.

To close this narrative, I do not recognize the name "Chaplain Davis". Was he the man that I helped? I did not hobnob higher than company. Therefore you are not familiar to me. I assume that your narrative begins when I left the collecting point. I am sending this to the B/N with the hope that survivors (especially Lt. Wheatly and Lt. Williamd) of this action might see fit to contact me and renew old ties.

Lloyd A Pye, 5307/1/WCT/A; 475/1/A/1 Plat, PO Box 757, Amite LA 70422, 504-748-8096

(To be continued next issue)

## Letters

### EDITOR

The Mountain Artillery Association is having their Annual Reunion this year at Gettysburg PA after the Merrill's Marauders Association reunion. Anyone interested contact W B Woodruff Jr, PO BOX 515, Decatur TX 76234.

### EDITOR

We are making slow progress on our book to be about the Mule packers. We would like some more stories from the mule leaders of the Mars Task Force and the ones that took the mules to China. Harold Bengtson, 114 Tenth Av, Camanche IA 52730, 5307/3/KCT; 33 QM PK TR

### EDITOR

It could only happen in a GI Army and dry wit humor. Our unit marched all day in the hill country

and was about to settle in when we saw a large column of smoke rising above the village we just walked thru. The Kachins were at it again as they apparently didn't like the Village Elder.

No more surprises and orders came down for an all night forced march to hit the Burma Road at day break. It was pitch dark and we had to keep our hand on the fellow in front of us. During the march we could hear fallen mules thrashing in the undergrowth at the bottom of the hill, barking deer letting the world know where we were, and yes we had a couple of fallen men catching up and giving us verbal (extra loud) abuse so leaving them and not stopping to pull them back to the trail.

All night long the tail end of the column would pass the word to slow down "there is a gap in the column". Tension was mounting and fear of the unknown was in our hearts. Finally some smart GI passed the word up, "there is a JAI in the column" and the head of the column passed the word back. "throw the son-of-a-bitch out". You could feel the laughter in the column, the tension was broken. The unit was ready to do its job that morning and they threw the SOB off the road. Thanks for sending the B/N. Harold "Chicken" Stringer, 475/1/B Co, PO Box 4601 Dowling Park FL 32060-1535, 904-65-1183.

### EDITOR

I would like to learn anything I can about my brother Johnnie Smith life in WW II and especially with the Marauders. He was serving as a First Scout with the Third Bn, Company I, Khaki Co when he was hit in the head by a sniper, a few yards from where PFC William Toomey was killed by a sniper. He died about 23 hours later on the trail to Myitkyina as he was being carried by Chinese litter bearers. He was buried along the trail. Dr Hopkins and Dave Quate provided this information. I would

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### IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAM LILLIEN, 4301 46TH ST, Long Island City NY 11104, 33rd Inf, Honorary from Widow

OSCAR VALLES, Santa Barbara CA, 5307/3/OCT/MED from Raymond L Denaux.

very much like to hear from anyone who knew of my brother and also another Marauder, John T. Spurgeon, a friend of his. I would like to hear from anyone who may have orders of any kind containing my brothers name. I have been unable to obtain any documentation showing he was awarded any decorations, etc., after two years in the South Pacific fighting the Japanese and five months in Burma, he must have earned a C.I.B. or other high award. L D Smith, 1413 Sopló Rd SE, Albuquerque NM 87123

#### EDITOR

I received my training at Camp Swift TX, 97th Div, 212th FA, Battery B. I was truck driver for communications. We went to Ft Leonard Wood MO where I signed up for overseas duty, without knowing what I was getting into.

Upon arriving in Burma, I was put into H Co Heavy Weapons. To start with we had only 81 mm mortars, I don't remember when we got the 4.2's. I spent most of my time on the front line, with I believe was Co E. I was wireman and telephone operator for the observer. There were times when we were ahead of the line and also off to the flank. During the heavy monsoon rains, I would go back to the mortar emplacement where I had a foxhole all my own. I damn near drowned. That and the snakes were a problem.

After the line broke and the push toward town started, I was too ill to keep up. An officer, of unknown rank, picked me up and placed me in a clump of bamboo, and told me to stay there. My next conscious moment came aboard an ox cart headed for the 44th Field Hospital. I have no idea what the elapsed time was. Spent thirty some days in the hospital and then sent to Camp Landis where I was in HQ Co and assigned to the Motor Pool. I stayed there till we headed south. I was given a mule with the wheels and breech block to the old French 75. I have no knowledge as to what my duties were during actual engagement with the enemy. After several weeks below Bhamo, I became ill to the point where I could not hold down a swallow of water.

I rode a horse for three days to where the troops built an air strip. Upon completion, two L-5s landed

and picked up a sergeant and myself and flew us back to the 44th Field Hospital. I did not know the sergeant nor what his problems were. After discharge from the hospital, I was put on special duty given two men and flew to Wanting China to pick up three jeeps and return them to HQ at Myitkyina. One hell of a trip. I was returned to my unit down by Lashio. From there was flown to Kunming where I wound up in the motor pool at Hostel 9. VIRGIL V ROE, PO Box 1967, Oak Harbor WA 98277, 5307/3/ H Co; Pack Arty.

#### EDITOR

When I first wrote to you, I wasn't sure which unit I was with - until now. After reading Dr James Hopkins Report, February issue, B/N, I now know I was in the 3rd Bn, OCT. I found two names that were familiar.

I treated ALBERT MAHMOOD (#138) on patrol and I was on outpost with "MATTY" MATLOCK (#142), the night he was killed. Ferrol V Meats, 2051 Harbor Dr, Springfield OR 97477, 746-0653.

#### EDITOR

I would like to tell you something. When Clark died, I had so many CBI's that would ask me questions as to his death. It was really getting to me, so suddenly I hit on an idea. When I received the next question and from then on, I would say, "He picked up the reins of his old mule and went on down the trail". No one ever says one more word. Ruth Peach, 7924 Bywater, West Bloomfield MI 48324-4705

#### EDITOR

From June 1, 1944 - arrived at Myitkyina, was assigned to 5307/3/L Co/3 Platoon, Was Company runner to platoon. I was there thru August 3rd. Soon after evacuated to Field Hospital for about ten days. Returned to duty with 475/3/L/HQ as clerk. Remained with the outfit till Jan 5, 1945 near Burma Rd, was evacuated to Evac Hosp at Myitkyina. Then on to 20th GH at Ledo. I was there until August of '45. I was one point short and reclassified and sent to an Ordnance Company at Chan Yi,

#### OFFICERS ROW

PRESIDENT - Phil Piazza

There is a schedule elsewhere in the B/N of the Ranger Rendezvous. Anyone planning on attending, please contact me so that I can make hotel arrangements as I did last year. The La Quinta is a reasonable hotel and close to inexpensive eating places.

From all the calls I have been getting we expect to have another big turnout for our Annual Reunion at Wakefield. The Merrill's Marauders painting by Jim Dietz was unveiled at Ft Benning last month. The painting was a big hit. I think the artist did a fine job with it. I hope some of the Marauders will be buying a copy.

#### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY -

Ray Lyons

Ted Zakotnik, 5307/1/RCT; 475/1, Silver Springs Md, reported in the local newspaper - Montgomery County Journal, 1/4/93 chased a bank robber out of the bank and down the street. Didn't catch the guy (as they say, the legs are the first to go) but did retrieve a lot of the money. When he returned to the bank to give it back, they did not want to let him in until he started waving the money around. (Money talks!)

Roy Matsumoto has left for a trip to Japan to be with his Mother, Tei, on the occasion of her 100th Birthday in Mid March. His two brothers who served in the Japanese Army in WW II will also be present.

Again a reminder to let us know if you move. We found Ernie Reid again. He lives in New Port Richey FL and when the town changed the names and numbers, he forgot us. How could he!

We went on a research trip to the Hoover Institution at Stanford. Was disappointing in some respects. They are going in a different direction than the Army Military Institute at Carlisle PA which seems more in line with our interests. We did find some photos of Merrill's Marauders in a Stilwell file. I will leave it to Quaid to decide if we want to spend the money to acquire copies.

China. Returned to USA Jan '46.  
Jim Angelos, 468 Forestview Dr,  
Atlantis FL 33462.

## EDITOR

As when I was in the Army, letters are a welcome part of my day. My active career was short lived, especially when you consider that I was Regular Army.

I transferred from the 32nd Division to the 5307th while they were in Australia licking their wounds. The February 1992 edition had a report of casualties starting with #85 which contained the fact that our machine gun group of four was accidentally hit by our own 60mm shell. The Sergeant died instantly, one man made it to the c-47 transfer station and one died next to me a few weeks later in the hospital. I was discharged in January of 1946 with a permanent disability of 80%. Cpl Joseph D Clement, Jr, 17 West Shore Dr, Nottingham NH 03290-5646, 5307/3/HQ/KCT.

## EDITOR

Everyone called me Sam but that is a nickname my people gave me as a child. Yes, I was in the 5307th and also in the 475th Infantry. I was in the 3rd Bn, Hq Co, I&R Platoon. Lt Brown interviewed me. While maneuvering against the British in Central India, I was ruptured. Capt Hopkins sent me to the hospital, where I underwent surgery. I was then sent to Assam, India. After Myitkyina airstrip was taken, I was then flown in. When I got there, I met two of my friends that were in the 2nd Bn. They were being flown out. Both had been wounded - that was Lummie Watson and James Tyler, both of Rolla MO (my home town).

I don't recall what day or month I landed there but there were a lot of shells landing close by. I started the next day running patrols. Several a week and I did not know what battalion I was with. Then I was told it was the 1st Bn, B Co. Then one day I was called to the CP. 1st Sgt Lagrange told me I was to help escort General Stilwell to the Chinese front. A few days later, we were filling in on the right flank of the Chinese. Still did not know my Company Commander. I knew one other Sgt, Staff Sgt Williamson. One day when we made an attack,

(Continued on page 9)

**GENERAL ORDER #8 - PURPLE HEART AWARDS - CONTINUED**  
Hq 475TH INF, APO 218, GO #8, Sec I, dtd 15 Oct 44 (Cont'd):

JOHNNIE E BELLAR, 35725396, Pfc - 11 July 1944  
ARTHUR J BENSON, 33559151, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
METRO BEREZANSKY, 33573372, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
ROBERT T BERTER, 35789635, Pfc - 29 July 1944  
DONALD F BETHEL, 35629248, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
RUSSELL K BETZ, 33429784, Pvt - 30 June 1944  
JOHN T BIEN, 35049934, Pfc - 12 June 1944  
CASIMER J BILAS, 32834224, Pfc - 5 August 1944 135  
BYRON C BISHOP, 39125137, Cpl - 16 June 1944  
GARLIE W BLEDSOE, 34096398, Pvt - 16 June 1944  
ARTHUR W BLOCK, 32766155, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
JOSEPH J BONFIGLIO, 35048357, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
RAYMOND J BONKOSKI, 35548351, Pfc - 28 July 1944  
MEARL L BORING, 35630083, Pfc - 2 August 1944 136  
DELBERT L BOWEN, 35629548, Pvt - 27 July 1944  
WARREN H BOWEN, 7082390, Pfc - 26 July 1944  
CHARLES R BOWER, 33501157, Pfc - 2 July 1944  
JOHN W BOWYER, 33585879, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
ARTHUR R BRACCIO, 32736179, Pfc - 2 July 1944  
LIVINGSTON E BRADSHAW, 34663690, Pvt - 30 June 1944  
ELLWOOD F BRALEY, 31317173, Pfc - 22 June 1944  
FRANK W BRAZEL, 36509355, Sgt - 16 June 1944  
NATHAN T BRENNAN, 32751376, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
FRANK J BRIGGS, 6899460, T/5 - 5 June 1944  
VERNON L BRIGHTSHUE, 33433218, Pfc - 16 June 1944  
DALLAS BROOK, 35684694, Pfc - 30 June 1944  
DONALD H BROOKSOPP, 32833606, Pvt - 2 July 1944  
HAROLD C BRONDSOON, O386721, Captain, Inf - 11 July 1944  
RAYMOND J BROWN, 13028884, Pfc - 12 June 1944  
VIRGIL E BROWN, 35725301, Pvt - 30 June 1944  
FRANK P BRYANT, 35651759, Pvt - 2 August 1944  
HARRY C BUMGARDNER, 6646301, 1st Sgt - 5 August 1944  
MALCOLM W BURKE, 11131699, Pvt - 29 July 1944  
CLIFFORD H BURTON, 35094988, Pvt - 28 July 1944  
CLIFFORD E BUSSE, 35789775, Pfc - 6 August 1944  
ARTHUR E BYARS, 34706321, Pfc - 16 June 1944  
THOMAS E CALDER, 32766597, Pfc - 5 June 1944  
CHARLES CAMERON, 6806411, Pfc - 19 June 1944  
GORDON W CAMPBELL, O13188760, 2nd Lt, Inf - 2 August 1944  
JAY D CAMPBELL, 36872574, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
THOMAS D CAMPBELL, 7000548, T/5 - 12 July 1944  
JAMES W CARAWAY, 6396133, T/Sgt - 28 July 1944  
JOSEPH T CARGO, 38106679, Pvt - 16 June 1944  
KENNETH A CARLETON, 39562513, Pvt - 9 June 1944  
ROY W CARLILE, 35549010, Pvt - 16 June 1944  
CLARENCE E CARLOW, 31260231, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
CARMELO A CARMONA, 32011865, T/5 - 5 June 1944  
HAROLD J CARROLL, 32795473, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
WILLIAM A CASEY, 39411075, Pfc - 12 June 1944  
JOHN F CASSIDY, 35554715, Pfc - 12 June 1944  
PHILIP R CA\_O, 19050323, Pfc - July 1944  
ALBERT CASTRULLI, 32807781, Pvt - 29 June 1944  
NICHOLAS CERRA, 31290806, Pfc - 11 July 1944  
ARTHUR CHASKES, 32095600, Cpl - 4 June 1944  
MAURICE E CAVEY, 33616921, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
JOHN CHAVEZ, 38351220, Pvt - 3 August 1944  
J.W. CHEATHAM, 38161186, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
OMER F CHRETIEN, 31296657, Cpl - 23 June 1944  
J E CHRISTOPHERH, 38028109, T/5 - 15 June 1944  
NICK CIRUZZI, 32806737, Pvt - 31 July 1944  
JACK R CLARK, 35603209, S/Sgt - 27 July 1944  
HOBART P CLARK, 34723302, Pfc - 28 June 1944

(Continued on page 9)



we lost the only medic we had. Heat overtook him and three more sgts were wounded. We lost several men that day. When we flew back to India, I still did not know my C.O. But we came out on the 5th day of August 1944.

After 15 days of detached service in Calcutta we were flown back to Myitkyina, where the 475th was forming. I got in the P&D Platoon of Hq Co, 1st Bn. **Johnnie Holmes** was Platoon Sgt, Lt **Hestad** was my Platoon Ldr. **Capt Hill** was Co Commander. I took training for demolition man. There were 72 blocks of TNT discharged on the Burma Road. I helped carry part of the TNT. We were flown out at **Kutkal** about 72 miles from **Mandalay**. **Solomon Wilson**, General Delivery, **Jerome MO 65529, 762-2472, 5307/1/B Co; 475/1/B Co**

(Continued on page 10)

Hq 475TH INF, APO 218, GO #8, Sec I, dtd 15 Oct 44 (Cont'd):

**RONALD R CLARK**, 6082717, Cpl - 4 June 1944  
**ROBERT M CLEGG**, O1300275, 2nd Lt, Inf - 29 July 1944  
**RAY S COCHRAN**, 35659227, Pfc - 22 June 1944  
**THURMAN L COCHRAN**, 35380001, Pfc - 11 June 1944  
**WILLIAM COHEN**, 33586028, Pvt - 16 June 1944  
**VINCENT D COLLARD**, 31298402, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
**LUCIAN COLLINS**, 14011699, Pfc - 1 August 1944  
**DUANE B CONVERSE**, O1290209, 1st Lt, Inf - 23 July 1944  
**JESSIE J COOK**, 34585613, Pfc - 16 July 1944  
**JOSEPH A COOPER**, 37525821, Pfc - 17 July 1944  
**WILLIAM A CORBETT**, O523960, 1st Lt, Inf - 30 July 1944  
**THOMAS F CORR**, 12007773, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
**JOSEPH X CORRIGAN**, O1322524, 2nd Lt, Inf - 12 June 1944  
**MELLARD C CRIST**, 33501278, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
**WILLIAM E CHITCHER, JR.**, 34666783, Cpl - 14 June 1944  
**MICHAEL J CRYDERMAN**, 32849908, Pfc - 28 June 1944  
**LEO A CUCINETTA**, 31298548, Pfc - 2 August 1944  
**LONIE E CURRIE**, 14013929, Sgt - 3 August 1944  
  
**ANTHONY DEBASIO**, 32807913, Pfc - 13 July 1944  
**DEWEY M DEEVER**, 7085149, Sgt - 9 June 1944  
**JAMES DEES**, 34005580, Pfc - 30 June 1944  
**FRANCIS R DEGON**, 31284887, Pvt - 30 June 1944  
**SIMON DEHART**, 35787242, Pfc - 12 June 1944

(Continued on page 10)

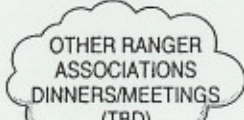
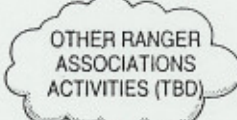

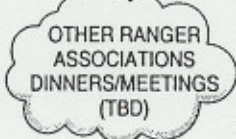
CHK DATES

140

# RANGER COLUMN

## 1993

### RANGER RENDEZVOUS ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

17 JULY 1993	18 JULY 1993	19 JULY 1993	20 JULY 1993	21 JULY 1993
Morning (0600 - 1200) Regimental Airborne Operations  Conduct Exercise "CAISSON WARRIOR"  Afternoon (1200 - 1800) Continuation of Exercise "CAISSON WARRIOR"  Consolidate Barracks  Preparation for Crew/Team Competitions  Evening (1800 - 2400)  Night Weapons Competition  Officer/NCO/Associations Representatives Social at Harmony Church Rec. Center	Regimental Endurance (0600-0900)  Day Weapons Competition  Sports Competitions  Regimental B-B-Q All Invited at SGM's Field 1200-UTC  Day Weapons Competitions Continue  Sports Competitions Continue  Regimental Open House 1200-1700  Ranger 50th Anniversary Book Display 1200-1700  RCO visits w/Ranger Battalions/Sections   OTHER RANGER ASSOCIATIONS DINNERS/MEETINGS (TBD)	Regiment Mass PT (0600-0730)  Ranger Memorial Dedication Ceremony (1000-1045)  Ranger Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Ranger Field (1100-1145)  Ranger Wives Luncheon O'Club, Ft. Benning (1200-1400)   OTHER RANGER ASSOCIATIONS ACTIVITIES (TBD)  Informal Regimental Awards Banquet for All Ranks, & Assoc. Guests (Lawson AAF Hangar) (1900-2300)	Change of Command Key Ldr's Rehearsal York Field (0900-1100)  Change of Command Full Rehearsal York Field (1300-UTC)   OTHER RANGER ASSOCIATIONS ACTIVITIES (TBD)  Hail & Farewell Dinner O'Club, Fort Benning (1800-UTC)   OTHER RANGER ASSOCIATIONS DINNERS/MEETINGS (TBD)  At Ft. Benning, GA	Regimental Change of Command York Field (0930-1030)  New RCO's Reception Gardner Field (1030-1130)

## EDITOR

When I joined the Merrill's Marauders Association, it was in early 1989. I had no idea that any of my buddies were still around. In June of 1989, Earl Nelson contacted me by letter - then I called and we talked. I told him where I thought that Weldon Faulkner lived. Later, Earl gave me Faulkner's phone number and I called and talked with him. Sure was great to hear from these two again after 45 years.

Before the Kentucky reunion, I made contact, by letter, with Robert Rose and George Wolwark - two more from Co E. At the reunion, I met Nelson Faulkner, Rose and Wolwark for the first time since 1945. Also I met John O'Brien, Vito Yazzo and Richard Swenson - three more from Co E. Bobbie Fricks was there - but I didn't get to meet him.

In the following two years, I made contact with Samuel Stamey, Stanley Yarulis, Joseph Yohe, Robert Nestor, Arthur Benson, William Brader, John Lukpetin, Benjamin Wenglin, Lonnie Dills, Larry Jackson, Walter Repitsky, Moran Helms, Jeremiah Conway, Robert Emmett, Frank Bellavia and James Kryeakakis, all of Co E. Some of the above have now passed away.

So whatever happened to Samuel Stamey, Arthur Benson, John Lupetin, Benjamin Wenglin, Robert Emmett? They just stopped writing. Same with Vito Yazzo, Richard Swanson and Robert Rose. Come on you guys! Where are you? Denver E Newsom, 573-SE Floresta Dr, Port St Lucie FL 34983-2240, 5307/2/E - 475/2/E - 475/3

## EDITOR

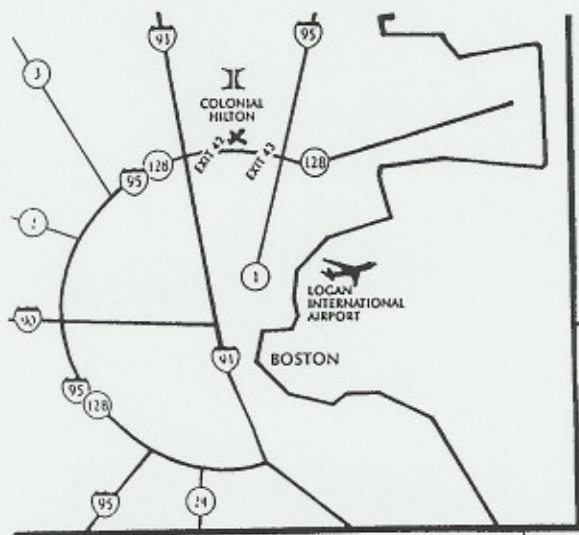
My father-in-law, the late Edward C Stagg was a decorated member of Merrill's Marauders, New Galahad, GO #3. I am interested in contacting a unit member, if possible, who might have remembered Edward Stagg. John Carothers, 5905 Colony Dr, Mays Landing NJ 08330.

**Don't  
Miss  
Mass!**

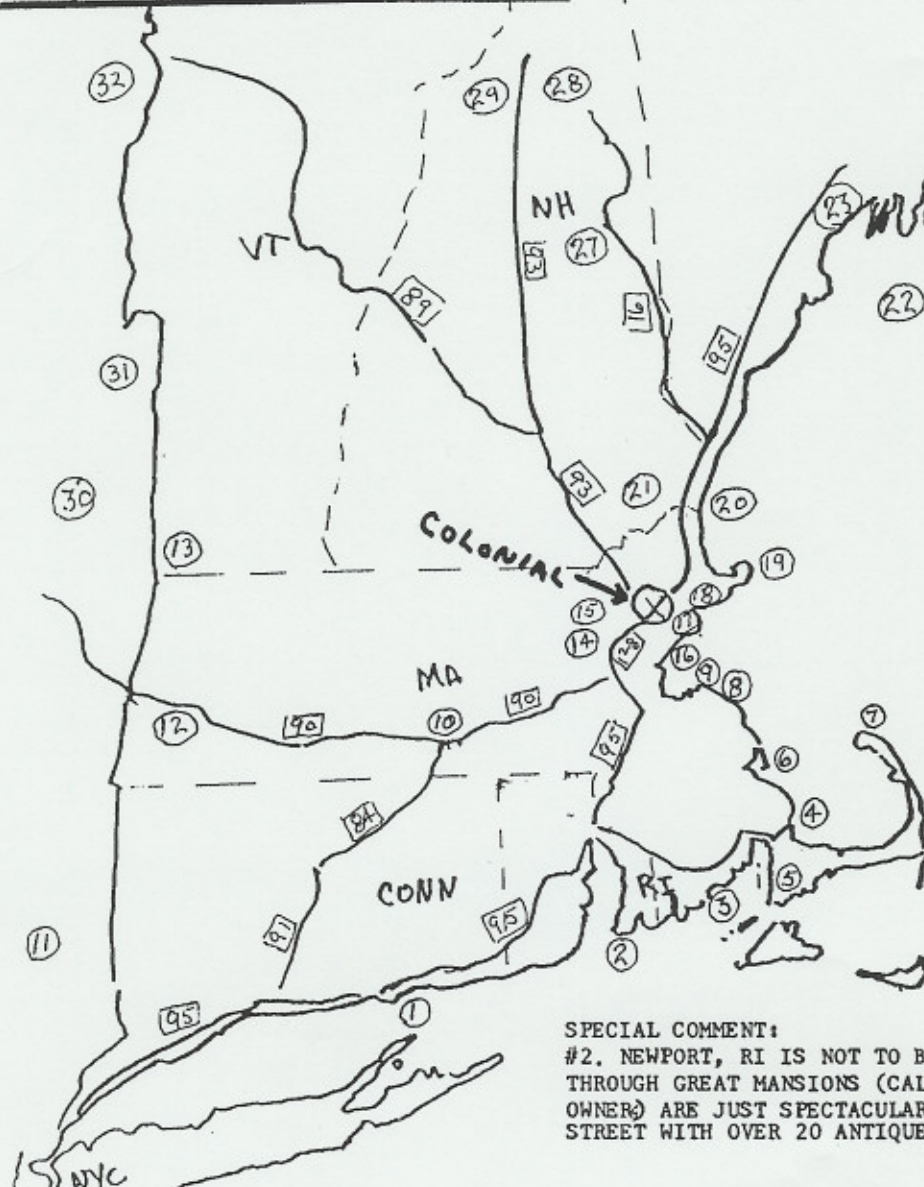
Hq 475TH INF, APO 218, GO #8, Sec I, dtd 15 Oct 44 (Cont'd):

DONALD W DELOREY, O1308314, 1st Lt, Inf - 27 July 1944  
 JAMES M DEMPSEY, 32806038, Pvt - 28 June 1944  
 ARTHUR A DESJARDINS, 31296762, Sgt - 2 August 1944  
 HENRY J DE VITA, 32786040, Pvt - 12 June 1944  
 HARRY C DE VITO, 33616688, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
 EUGENE DIANETTI, 32755883, Pfc - 22 June 1944  
 EMILIO B DIAZ, 39694508, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
 RAYMOND D DIAZ, 39562317, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
 WALTER E DICKINSON, 34750350, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
 HENRY D DILLON, 11132700, Pvt - 13 June 1944  
 NICHOLAS J DI PAOLO, 32751173, Pfc - 2 July 1944  
 JOHN DI TUCCI, 32736103, Sgt - 27 July 1944  
 LAMARR H DODGE, 39910289, Pvt - 1 August 1944  
 GEORGE DOLMAS, 35603593, Pvt - 28 July 1944  
 JOHN A DORUNDA, 31285084, Pvt - 12 July 1944  
 WILLARD R DOWNEY, 35719916, Pfc - 11 June 1944  
 VINCENT DRAGONE, 33316763, Sgt - 3 July 1944 148  
 WLADYSLAW DREZESO, 6148751, Cpl - 20 June 1944 149  
 ROY A DRUMM, 33501546, Pfc - 2 July 1944  
 DEAN N DUNKIN, 37478898, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
 FLOYD S DYE, 33214197, Pfc - 23 June 1944  
 ARMOUR L EAGERBLADE, 39407640, Pvt - 5 June 1944  
 DONALD E EDDLEMAN, 35604101, Pvt - 16 June 1944  
 ALBERT O EHRKE, 35917558, Pvt - 1 August 1944  
 CLARENCE F ELMORE, 15046575, Cpl - 13 June 1944  
 WILLIAM A ENDICOTT, 16015179, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
 WALLACE R ERICSON, 36824667, Pvt - 12 June 1944  
 LEON L FASOLO, 33501505, Pfc - 31 July 1944  
 EGIDIO FEDERIGHI, 39125323, Pvt - 5 June 1944  
 WILFRED E FEHER, 35050077, Pfc - 30 June 1944  
 CLIFFORD H FENNELL, 38043156, Pfc - 1 July 1944  
 ELISIO A FERNANDEZ, 39130202, Pvt - 14 June 1944  
 NICHOLAS P FERRARI, 33707377, Pvt - 28 July 1944  
 EDWARD D FINLAYSON, 7007839, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
 MICHAEL J FINNEFROCK, 33500640, Pfc - 5 June 1944  
 FRANCIS FINSTERBUSCH, 33586189, Pfc - 3 June 1944  
 ANTHONY S FIRENZE, 32838594, Pfc - 2 July 1944  
 PRIMO V FISCELLA, 32810867, Pfc - 27 July 1944  
 ANTHONY F FONTANA, 32839734, Cpl - 28 July 1944  
 NEAL F FORD, 33573446, Pfc - 6 July 1944  
 ELMER R FORSYTHE, 32838569, Pfc - 4 August 1944 150  
 JAMES E FOWLER, 38534291, Pvt - 13 July 1944  
 WILLIAM H FREELS, 35725925, Pfc - 12 June 1944  
 B F FURTICK, 34384760, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
 MARIO J GAGGINI, 32951519, Pvt - 2 July 1944  
 DONALD H GALE, 39411127, Pvt - 3 August 1944  
 JOHN J GALLAGHER, 33585880, Pfc - 31 July 1944  
 FRANCIS H GARBE, 32751393, Pfc - 31 July 1944  
 FERNANDO GARCIA, 39704580, Pvt - 1 July 1944  
 HERBERT D GARDNER, 38157326, Pfc - 2 August 1944  
 THOMAS M GARLAND, 38347578, Pvt - 2 August 1944  
 BING H GEE, 39694597, Pvt - 1 August 1944  
 LAWRENCE H GEMME, 31285081, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
 SANFORD G GENTER, 32749541, Pvt - 27 July 1944  
 LUTHER C GILBERT, 34810514, Pvt - 30 July 1944  
 STANLEY F GILETA, 6976679, S/Sgt - 31 July 1944  
 ALEXANDER B GILL, 32806196, Pfc - 16 June 1944  
 CHARLES E GILLINGHAM, 6889905, Pfc - 14 June 1944  
 LEO A GIROUARD, 31297637, Pfc - 10 August 1944 151  
 WALLACE H GIST, 39124890, Cpl - 13 July 1944  
 SAMUEL GLASS, 32035174, Pvt - 30 June 1944  
 WILLIAM J GLEASON, 32838548, Pfc - 5 June 1944

ERNEST F EASTERBROOK,  
 Colonel, Infantry,  
 Commanding.



1. MYSTIC SEAPORT  
NEW LONDON SUB BASE
2. NEWPORT, RI
3. BATTLE SHIP COVE
4. CAPE COD CANAL  
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5. WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC  
FERRIES TO NANTUCKET AND  
MARTHA'S VINEYARD
6. PLIMOUTH PLANTATION  
MAYFLOWER, WHALE TRIPS
7. PROVINCETOWN, MA
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9. JQ ADAMS HISTORICAL SITE
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12. NORMAN ROCKWELL STUDIO
13. BENNINGTON BATTLE FIELD
14. WALDEN POND
15. CONCORD/LEXINGTON
16. BOSTON, US CONSTITUTION
17. SAUGUS IRON WORKS
18. SALEM, MA. WITCH TRIALS
19. MOTIF #1, ROCKPORT, MA
20. STRAWBERRY BANKE
21. MYSTERY HILL
22. PORTLAND HEAD LIGHT
23. LL BEAN, FREEPORT, ME
24. ACADIA NATIONAL PARK
25. ALLAGASH CANOE TRIPS
26. BOOTHBAY HBR SCHOONER  
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30. SARATOGA BATTLEFIELD
31. FORT TICONDEROGA
32. VALCOUR IS. BATTLE SITE

SPECIAL COMMENT:  
#2. NEWPORT, RI IS NOT TO BE MISSED. THE TOURS THROUGH GREAT MANSIONS (CALLED COTTAGES BY THEIR OWNER) ARE JUST SPECTACULAR. THE OLD TOWN HAS ONE STREET WITH OVER 20 ANTIQUE SHOPS. MORE.



The picture at left of Merrill's Marauders was made from a painting by James Dietz. The Marauders were part of a coordinated offensive in the Allied reconquest of North Burma and operated behind the Japanese lines from 24 February to 28 May, 1944. During this period they marched over rugged mountains and through dense jungles from the Hukawng Valley to Myitkyina. After the capture of Myitkyina they ceased to exist as a fighting force. Of the 2,750 men who started the campaign only 356 were left at the end. The enemy, the mountains, and the jungles had taken their toll of these brave men.

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