

ledo WALAWBUM inkangawtaung nhpum-ga shaduzup MYITKYINA



The Burman News



Official publication of Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.

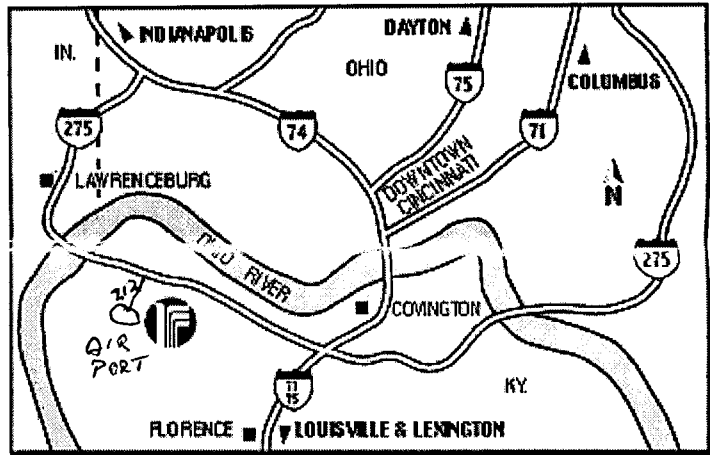
August 1998

ARE YOU COMING?

Who will be there besides me? Lots of men and wives and Honoraries are making their plans to attend. No word yet on the guest speakers but odds are that our President will come up with another interesting military person.

I wish to state that the Cincinnati Reunion will be held in Kentucky, if you haven't noticed. All of the KY men noticed and called it to my attention. In fact, some of the Florida retirees who came from KY also mentioned it.

Well, anyway, wherever it is, we will all come and have a good time. Be seeing you.



OFFICERS ROW

PRESIDENT: Philip Piazza

Doing as well as could be expected after my heart operation. Intend to be at the Ranger Hall of Fame Rendezvous in late August, 18th to 21st and also at our Annual Reunion.

We wish to advise that Col William L Osborne, Commanding Officer, 5307/1 Bn; 475th Inf.; 124th Cavalry has been nominated to the Ranger Hall of Fame. (See photo of Osborne on page 7) The ceremony will be at Fort Benning on August 20th. We expect his daughters and/or other family members to be present to accept the award. Any of his former men or associates who wish to attend, contact me to make arrangements for hotel, etc.

We have received word from Mrs. Merrill that she is planning on being at the Cincinnati Reunion.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Ray Lyons

We would like to remind the membership that in the event of a Marauder death, a member of the family can be kept on the rolls as an Honorary Member. Upon notification of a death, we send a copy of the BURMAN NEWS which contains the notice to the widow or surviving family member but need

to be advised of their interest to be kept in the computer. We have been getting a lot of computer e-mail lately from sons, daughters, nieces, nephews, etc., all expressing interest in the Marauders and our history.

Also we need to have a valid nine digit Zip Code for each member. We are now using bar-code addressing to keep down the postal costs but raising the cost of computer operation. To maximize that feature, we need the zip + four address. Currently we have about 90 pieces of mail that are not mailable with the bar-code. Mostly to the active Ranger units.

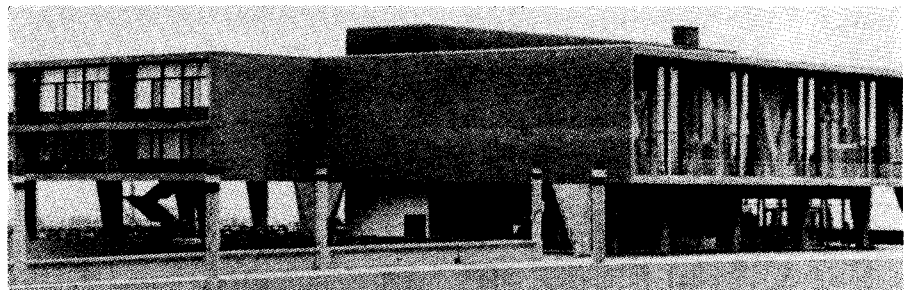
The showing of the photo exhibit at War Memorial Center, 750 North Lincoln Memorial Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53202, took place

May 21 to June 21, 1998. (See photo below of War Memorial Center.)

HISTORIAN: Bob Passanisi

We are making good progress with the installation of our Web Site. My son John is the expert and has been extremely helpful in making this work. We have a system to count the number of times someone accesses the web site. Not enough at the present time to encourage us to keep going. We are adding additional photos and other material on a regular basis and intend to change the photos on a frequent schedule to warrant continued interest. The address of the web site is:
<<http://home.sprynet.com/sprynet/bob.pass/>>

(Continued on page 2)



Present at the opening of the photo exhibit were: Dave Quaid, Ray Lyons, Ed Zaino, Philip Olson, James Gilbertson, Leo Espinosa, Lester McKie, Clarence Weber, Anthony Tagel, (new member, old Marauder), Greg Resch, Dick Gillette, Ken Dunham, Marvin Boyenga.

OFFICER'S ROW . . .

(Continued from page 1)

HISTORIAN EMERITUS:

Dave Quaid

The recent Photo Exhibition at Milwaukee was another success. Better in some respects than the Boston one. We made a contact with a Gary J Bjorge, of the Combat Studies Institute at Fort Leavenworth, who spoke at our Milwaukee Reception. Through this meeting, we received 200 copies of his pamphlet which will be made available to the members attending the Cincinnati Reunion.

The next Exhibit will be at the Hoover Institute, Stanford University, California, beginning in October and ending December 31st. See you there, West Coasters.

RANGER COLUMN

PROGRAM FOR THE RANGER RENDEZVOUS AT FORT BENNING GA - 19 August 1998 to 21 August 98.

Wednesday, 19 Aug from 1000 to 1230 at Farnsworth Range, located at the intersection of Dixie Road and ?. Open house from 1330 to 1600 at Building 2834, Regimental Headquarters.

Thursday, 20 August. Distinguished Honorary Member of the Regiment Induction Ceremony. From 1330 to 1430 at the Fort Benning Officers Club.

0700 to 0830, LRRP Fallen Comrade Remembrance Ceremony at the Ranger Memorial located adjacent to Infantry Hall.

1600 to 1800, Ranger Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, at the Ranger Memorial adjacent to Infantry Hall.

1800 till ended, Ranger No Host Banquet at the Range Rigging Facility located next to McCarthy Hall on Lawson Army Airfield.

Friday, 21 Aug 98, 0800 to 1200, Ranger Golf Tournament. Fort Benning Golf Course. Interested Rangers should contact 1 Sgt Greenway at 706-545-2358 for more information.

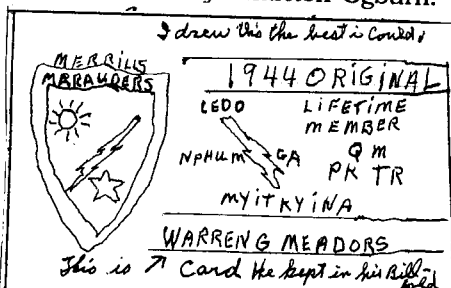
0900 till completion. Ranger Fishing Tournament. On the Chattahooche River. Interested Rangers should contact Sgt Greenway above. Limited pairings are available with active duty Rangers with boats who are willing to provide gear and tackle.

Information provided by Terry Roderick, 75th Rgr Asso.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

EDITOR

I wrote to you earlier about Warren Meadors having Alzheimers Disease and had broken his hip. Well, he never came through the pain and miseries that he went through. He passed away on March 28, 1998. In WW II, he served with the 33rd QM PK TROOP, in the Battles of India-Burma and Central Burma Campaigns. He had this book and has read it many times - THE MARAUDERS, by Charlton Ogburn.



I tried to trace the card he always carried in his billfold. (See attached). Edna Meadors, 263 S Hague Av, Columbus OH 43204

EDITOR

Appreciate your letter. I have received more info from the copies of the BURMAN NEWS than any of the C.B.I. newsletters. I was with the 475th Infantry and a Company Medic with Co C, 1st Bn. Joined in

Myitkyina and took plane to some airfield in the jungles to guard supplies and Christmas gifts mail. Surrounded by Japs but didn't know it until rest of Battalion caught up with us and we moved out and found encampment where they had been about 1,000 yards up the trail. Soon afterwards a medic passed away with malaria and I was picked to take his place. Never had experience in medicine. You might say I got my training on the job. Records were lost, received wound, finally got Purple Heart and two other medals from the services of Congressman Ralph Hall of Texas in November of '97. You asked me if I knew Charles Rodriguez. Not that I know of. There are many people that I can't remember their names or where I was most of the time. George E Moore, PO Box 541, Leonard TX 75452-0541.

EDITOR

I was in the 475th, Company K along with Joe Subich and a bunch of swell guys. After Kunming, I went to Shanghai. Then home in 1946. Clarence E Carter, 12 Camelot Rd, Poughkeepsie NY 12601-5915

IN MEMORIAM

A generous donation has been made by John M Jones in memory of Dr Melvin Schudmak, recently deceased.

**HOTEL RESERVATION FORM
MERRILL'S MARAUDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
September 4-6, 1998**

Please Print

1. Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, St., Zip _____ Ph: _____

2. (1) Person _____ (2) People _____

3. Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

4. Bed Preference _____ King (1 bed) _____ Double (2 beds) _____ Queen (1 bed)

5. Smoking _____ Non Smoking _____
(Special requests such as room type, smoking, connecting/adjoining rooms, are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed.)

To guarantee reservation:

_____ \$150 Enclosed (Check or Money Order Only)

_____ Credit Card Guarantee. Number _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration Date _____

RADISSON INN CINCINNATI AIRPORT

ATTN: Dianna Kelly

P.O. Box 75108 • Cincinnati, Ohio 45275-0108

Sharing the Story

RECORD OF EVENTS - 1944 - COMPANY B/1ST
BATTALION/475TH INFANTRY - MARS TASK FORCE
CHINA BURMA INDIA THEATER

1944

November 18. Left Camp Landis, reached Waingmaw. Total 13 1/2 miles.

Nov. 19. Crossed Irrawaddy River, men and animals crossed in 30 minutes. Rested all day.

Nov. 20. Covered 7 1/2 miles. Destination Namlumsakan.

Nov. 21. Kasu, 13 miles. Very easy.

Nov. 22. Reached an unnamed village. Today 13 miles from Kasu.

Nov. 23. Covered 19 miles. Biv. at Dumbalying, was a hard day.

Nov. 24. Marched 17 miles. Reached Nalong. Received our 1st Mission.

Nov. 25. A welcomed day of rest. Covered 82 miles, so far, so good. Men and animals in good shape.

Nov. 26. Marched 14 miles. Biv. at Dawhpumyang.

Nov. 27. 8 1/2 miles today. Reached Tali. Also received our air drop.

Nov. 28. Day of rest. Received our canned turkey, cherries, flour, rice, etc. Received orders to move out. Didn't eat our Thanksgiving dinner. Had a K-ration - cheese.

Nov. 29. Covered 9 miles. Crossed Tapina River on rafts at Myothis. Seen soldiers of 22 Div. (Chinese) at Tinghkam.

Nov. 30. Marched 16 1/2 miles on hard paved road. Reached Momark. Damned tired today.

Dec. 1. Covered 19 miles. Went around Bhamo. Chinese still fighting. Left main road at Hwangabhtawng. Biv. at Yikhusahtawng.

Dec. 2. Covered 22 miles today. Now on Government trail. Went through Mantha. Biv. in a teak wood lumber yard.

Dec. 3. Hiked 11 miles. Took air drop at Taungui. Moved on for 14 1/2 hours. Bivouacked in place.

Dec. 4. Covered 17 miles. Climbed a hill, 1800 feet. Lunch break at Zinbon. Heard an elephant while moving down stream. Moved under cover of dark, very hard. Biv. at unknown village across Irrawaddy.

Dec. 5. Marched 12 miles. Followed bank of Irrawaddy up and down hills. Reached our destination around Shwegue.

Dec. 6. Big day. Promoted to Captain. Received air drop. 2nd

Plat. went out to guard warehouse in Shwegue.

Dec. 7. Company CP moved to a Temple area at west end of Shwegue. 3rd Plat went to patrol base at Shweguagah. 1st Plat moved to Thayibin their patrol base.

Dec. 8. Dave went with pack train to 1st Plat. Had some ripe bananas today. 3rd Plat started a 2-day patrol to Thayibin.

Dec. 9. Patrols still out. No report. 2nd Plat moved to C.P. except river MP guard.

Dec. 10. Went to 1st Plat with a contact patrol. 2nd Plat sent to reinforce 1st Plat. Haven't any radio contact with 1st.

Dec. 11. 1st Sgt Norris has a 300 unit. Try to get contact from a relay station between Shwegagah and Thazi. It worked.

Dec. 12. Nips in area around Indayan. Moved 1st Plat. Then 2nd Plat found 284 left by Chinks. Tubes all shot we think.]

Dec. 13. Went out to 1st Plat with Tom and 284 to have contact. Laid over a day with 2nd Plat, covered 14 miles. 1st Plat now at Yini.

Dec. 14. Covered 17 miles to Yini with Tom and 284 on a mule. Had good luck with radio.

Dec. 15. Burr and I and 7 Kachins went down Irrawaddy River to a point across from Katha. British 36 Div. in there. Went across and contact them. Got 20 rounds of .38 ammo for my pistol. Returned to Yini, there to Niveni, covered 18 miles.

Dec. 16. Went to Thayabin. There to Thayagan. Back to Niveni 28 miles in one day. Received orders to return to Company patrol base.

Dec. 17. Laid over at Niveni for a day of rest.

Dec. 18. Returned to Company patrol base at Shwegue. 32 miles

we covered. A long hike, believe me.

Dec. 19. Issued combat loads of ammo. Had a couple pair of shorts made from a silk chile. Cost 1 K-ration biscuits. Had my fatigues washed for same thing. Company joined Battalion again. Covered 12 miles and Bn at Sithaung.

Dec. 20. Covered 9 miles. Bn at bench mark 616.

Dec. 21. Day of rest. Received air drop.

Dec. 22. Covered 12 miles. Biv. at coordinate Sugar Nan - 5.83 - 6.83.

Dec. 23. Marched 9 miles. Biv. at Saga.

Dec. 24. Day of rest. Had a wee drop of Christmas Cheer. (Schenley's).

Dec. 25. Covered 8 miles. Biv. at Sn 5.15 - 4.8. Had a can of cheese for Christmas lunch. May have better luck next year.

Dec. 26. Started from Sitho. Covered 11 miles mostly by azimuth on various games trails. Elephant tracks through bogs. Seen deer, elephant and big cat tracks. Bivouacked at a site about 2 miles from destination. Natives seen from village. Local security patrols sent out.

Dec. 27. March 1 mile. Bivouacked. Had an air drop on Nanlic C. Had Christmas dinner all smashed by air drop. Pretty good though.

Dec. 28. Laid over to finish Xmas dinner. Moved out at 1300. Bivouacked at river crossing Sugar Nan 7.15 - 4.5. Fog slowed us down a lot. Arrived Biv. 1800.

Dec. 29. Hiked 8 miles. Maing Naung. Rentzel was killed by a British grenade. Exploded in his belt. Yelled grenade, fell to left of trail and fell on grenade. Was wounded at 1000. Was given 8 plasma units. Built a cub strip 900' long. Damn Cub would not land. At 1500 moved boy by stretcher for a mile. Got an ox cart from natives. Rentzel died at 1610. A good brave lad. Biv. behind battalion.

Dec. 30. Covered 5 miles to Nansin. Joined Regt. Seen Lane and Campbell. Lane outranks me
(Continued on page 4)

CARRYING THE TORCH!

Torch Carriers, some new and some old. Honorary members that are in touch.

PATRICIA AVERETT, Widow/Tom, 336 Oregon Way #22, Longview WA 98632-1448

LINDA THOMAS, Dtr/Roger Pruitt, 40121 Pleasant Valley Rd, Lane KS 66042

KENNETH WOOD JR, Son/Ken, 6312 Barrs Ln, Lanham MD 20706-2842

SHARING THE STORY . . .

(Continued from page 3)

by two days. Damn it. Received 2 new officers and 16 EM replacements. Got our Xmas packages and mail. Rentzel buried in Regimental cemetery. All beards shaven.

Dec. 31. Day of rest. Drew equip for all men.
1945

Jan. 1. A New Year and a day of rest. Maybe we will be lucky and have a complete victory this year.

Jan. 2. Marched 10 miles. Bivouacked 1 mile east of Namyok. Trucked rations 1 mile from area.

Jan. 3. Covered 10 miles to bivouack. Climbed a 2142' hill. Had 2 mules added to our string. Crossed Shwell River at Sugar Nan 9.95 - 3.05.

Jan. 4. Covered 11 miles up two hills. Hit the ass end of 2nd Bn. Are now a 1/2 mile out of Mong Hkak.

Jan. 5. A welcomed day of rest. Mucho hills to go over.

Jan. 6. Rained today. Hills very slippery. Very slow going. Marched 9 miles. Bivouacked in place on hill 3642' high. 1/2 mile from Lungsong. 4th Platoon at Mong Hkak.

Jan. 7. Marched 5 miles. Bivouacked in paddy S O 2.96 - 3.65. All morning getting up hill. Slept in or under a hut, dammit leaked. Climbed 4200 ft. Biv 3 miles ahead.

Jan. 8. Covered 8 miles. Now in Mong Wi. Rejoined BN and Regt. Now have a mission again. We stay 2 and 3 patrol bases. Has stopped raining.

Jan. 9. Haven't done a damn thing. Played the 1st Sgt cribbage and Hearts. Took a bath in an ice cold stream. Feeling fine.

Jan. 10. Day of rest. Sent out two patrols.

Jan. 11. Day of rest. Regular patrols.

Jan. 12. Day of preparation prior to our new mission. Blocking the Burma Road. Might be good and maybe bad.

Jan. 13. Cover 5 1/2 miles. Bivouacked at 4.35 - 3.58. Getting close to Burma Road. About 17 air miles to the road.

Jan. 14. Marched 4 miles. Bivouacked at SO 4.83 - 3.72.

Jan. 15. Covered 9 miles. Bivouacked at Wong Ing.

Jan. 16. Covered 14 miles. On the trail 21 hours. Traveled on a slick narrow trail. Bn lost mucho animals. 400 yard short of Ho Pong.

Jan. 17. Marched 6 miles. After the 1st 4 miles, B Co engaged the Nips and took Nawhkam. Had 3 skirmishes today. All platoons were committed. Lt. O'Brien and 1 EM killed and 2 EM wounded. Marched 2 miles into valley. No est. of Nips killed.

Jan. 18. B Co plus attached HMG and bazookas moved to within 300 yards of East side of Ho Naw but withdrew pending mortar and artillery fire on ridge and valley to support A Co's attack on village. We dug in on a hill in the paddy at 1600. We secured the right flank of Regt. Two platoons of A Co plus 2nd platoon from B in support took Ho Naw. Tried to contact A Co. But darkness fell too soon - was impossible. Got Speedway (mule) back from I&R but had to shoot him. Grenaded and mortared 4 Nips in paddy. One Captain and 3 others.

Jan. 19. Still digging in. 2nd Platoon rejoined company. Water and bathing point now secure. 100% alert. Col Johnson came down to perimeter. Stanley and guides came to look our positions over prior to relieving us. Block and myself did the same in C Co's area.

Jan. 20. Still digging in. C-47 crash landed 1000 yards from us, loaded with mortar ammo. Blew up all night long.

Jan. 21. Nips put 2 rounds of 77 on our line today. Furnished litter bearers to take wounded and sick to strip for Evac. Sun. Don Delorey and Mike who were wounded. Both are in serious condition. Now in C Co area.

Jan. 22. Slept all night long with the aid of a red wine. A C-47 came. chute. Watched artillery fire and shaved. Had eggs (powdered) and bacon for breakfast. Really resting.

Jan. 23. Didn't do anything today. Lt Davoust and Pvt Marriel wounded by artillery fire on strip.

Jan. 24. Worked on drop field. In charge of Regimental drop. Nips shelled field all day, about 50 rounds. A Co had a fire fight in south block. Total killed - 1 native.

Jan. 25. Still working on strip. Mucho artillery on field. Higgins and I sniped at from ridge across from 1st objective. Didn't even come close. Lucky. Company moved to N.E. block.

Jan. 26. Still working on field. Had a detail bury 8 mules. Mucho stink. Dave moved C.P. to hill 500 yards N. Lucky he did. Nips counter

battered and had a direct hit on our B Battery. Some wounded. One killed.

Jan. 27. Off field now. Intermittent shelling Nip artillery. Set fire to two bashas in Nawkam. Probably thought they did a good job. Suckers.

Jan. 28. Had mountain rations. Pretty good. C Battery moved next to Bn C.P. Nips counter battery hit in Bn area. Very few wounded. Mucho scared.

Jan. 29. Cold night. Whiz bang at Bn C.P. short rounds.

Jan. 30. Moved to south block. Washed and shaved. Dammit the water is cold. Some grenades thrown and LMG let go a burst.

Jan. 31. Rumored we would relieve 2nd Bn. Really worried for a while. They are in a hot spot. Sure glad it is not the 1st Bn. Amer fighters overhead.

Feb. 1. Will not relieve 2nd Bn. B & C to attack at dawn. Feb. 3. Loi Kang will have mucho artillery and mortar support. American fighter bombing and strafing Nips.

Feb. 2. All quiet. Prepared to move at 0100 (Feb. 3).

Feb. 3. Moved out of South Block at 0130. Co C there. B plus BN HQ + I&R + Kachins. Moved across paddy then crossed the river. Started up hill. Barrage started at 0545. Bn 2, made a feint attack to draw Nips. C Co followed barrage. It went from S-N, then N-S followed by C Co. 4th Platoon blocked trail leading to Mak Sak. B pushed through C at Loi-Kang. 1st Plat leading. Hit a strong fortified Nip position followed by 2nd Plat. 1 EM KIA, 5 wounded. Lost a radio. C O called for artillery. 4.2 and 81 Mortars. Really something to watch.

Feb. 3 Cont'd. Didn't attack. Dug in for night. Had LMG and 81 fire all night every 15 minutes. Harassing fire no stop. No est. of Nips.

Feb. 4. Used 3rd Plat as assault platoon followed by 2nd, then command group, then 1st Platoon. 3rd Plat moved very slowly taking ridge. 2nd secured ridge. Followed by 1st, 3rd Plat. Contacted 2nd Bn about 0930 hours. Company engaged in 2-day skirmish. Did a bang up job all around. 1st Bn is Ding How with 2nd Bn. Est. Nips killed 50.

Feb. 5. Day of rest. Regular alert. Some grenades thrown and a little small arms fire.

(Continued on page 5)

SHARING THE STORY . . .

(Continued from page 4)

Feb. 6. Mazzarella now has 3rd Plat. Al is EX. Slight shelling. Took over command of company at 1200 hours. Sure proud of Co. American fighters bombing and strafing N. of us. Some artillery, not very much going out. 2 grenades thrown all night.

Feb. 7. Flight of 33 - B-25s and fighters overhead at 1100. Fighters very early about 0640. Very quiet during the evening. O.P. spotted 2 unidentified men in sun tans across our South block.

Feb. 8. Relieved of South Block by Co A. Moved back to Nawkam. 4th Plat on S trail block. 2nd Plat on E trail block. 1st and 3rd on hill! Heard some firing. Guess it is our slope headed friends.

Feb. 8. Cont'd. Received orders to be prepared to move on a min. notice. Also to move down to paddy in a few days for rest and recreation. We sure can use it.

Feb. 9. Ael. All platoon guides and 3rd Plat moving down to paddy to prepare corrals and company positions. Wrote mother a long letter. Had Memorial Services for our 82 dead at 1400 hours. Nice cemetery. Seen 4 headlights near road. Really looked good. No activity.

Feb. 10. Bn and Regt moved into paddy at foot of hill. Lt General Sultan and staff presented Silver Stars to Col Johnson, S/Sgt Smith and Reed. Meet all junior officers. Have our company area set up. Should be some rest. Lt Nickell and 24 EM from 4th Plat on guard at Supply dump. So far no activity.

Feb. 11. Should be 11th. We moved but I am one day behind myself. Nothing of importance happened on 10th. We moved.

Feb. 12. Seen Frank Provost. Drew 3 rations. 15 mules to haul ammo from hill to dump. Washed my fatigues. Wrote 1 letter. Nothing important so far. Time is now 1455 hours. No new developments.

Feb. 13. Had a physical exam. All Men. Sgt Norris intends to go out due to a bad foot.

Feb. 13 Cont'd. Question is now who will be plat sergeant. Nothing important so far. Time 1731 hours.

Feb. 14. At 0745, Bn moved out to look over 2 + 3 Bn area. Was very interesting. 2nd Bn really had rugged terrain to defend. Had officers meeting at 1800 hours. Also received 4 replacements. One from Field Artillery. Nothing im-

portant. Sgt Norris evac.

Feb. 15. Having a Brig ordinance inspection today. 4 and 2 Platoons moving out to S Block and Newkam. Also having 2 classes today. Officers and NCO's on the snoper scope and snipers rifle.

Feb. 16. Garrison duties. Training new men on crew served weapons.

Feb. 17. Same as above.

Feb. 18. Sunday. Day off. Supreme Commander made an inspection.

Feb. 19. Garrison duty.

Feb. 20. Garrison duty. Fired MG's.

Feb. 21. Same as above.

Feb. 22. Platoon Ambushes.

Feb. 23. Hike to Loi Kang Man Sak, Hosi, Namphaka - 9 miles.

Feb. 24. Garrison duties. C.O. made an insp. Also muster.

Feb. 25. Sunday. Day of rest.

Feb. 26. Garrison duties. Squad problems.

Feb. 27. Garrison duties. C & C Equipment.

Feb. 28. Hike - 5 miles.

Mar. 1. Platoon firing problem class - firing of snoper and sniper scopes.

Mar. 2. Ray made 1st Lt. Company is on a tactical march.

Mar. 3. Turned in excess food and equipment prior to our move to our next objective.

Mar. 4. On move again. South to Pangnim, S.O. 7.34 - 2.93. Covered 11 miles.

Mar. 5. Covered 5 miles today. biv at S.O. 7.62 - 2.46.

Mar. 6. Hiked 13 miles and really rough too. bivouacked at Tongshim. 8.3 - 1.4.

Mar. 7. Marched 7 1/2 miles, which were very easy. Reached our new area at S.O. 8.8 - 0.4.

Mar. 8. Garrison duties plus building our shacks.

Mar. 9. Garrison duties.

Mar. 10. Garrison duties. Lt Nickell made 1st Lt effective 1 Mar.

Mar. 11. Sunday. Day of rest.

Mar. 12. Held muster 0900. All present.

Mar. 13, Mar. 14, Mar. 15, Mar. 16. Garrison duties.

Mar. 17. Received 27 new men.

Garrison duties.

Mar. 18. Garrison duties. Alert for move to China. Time of departure uncertain.

Mar. 19. Received Combat Infantry Awards. Garrison duties. Lt Bradley joined company.

Mar. 20. Garrison duties.

End of daily diary entries.

Remembering Myitkyina

After landing at the airfield and taking cover while the Japs shelled the field, we then organized into squads. I was a Squad Leader. With pencil and paper, I wrote down the names of the other eleven men in the squad — didn't know any of them. Some of their names were: Kaylor, Kecham, Hunt, Stirgell, McCarthy - Asst. Squad Leader. We came from the Infantry, Artillery, Quartermaster, OSS. McCarthy was an OSS Officer, attached to the SS Butner only as transportation to India. They didn't catch up with him until we were at Myitkyina for a week. When Mac was leaving, the Captain emotionally asked him to do anything he could to get rid of General Gestring. Shortly after Mac went to Southeast Asia Command Headquarters at Kandi, Ceylon, the General was relieved of his command. The General did visit our company once while we were at the front. He foolishly removed his side arm. It disappeared. He never saw it again or found out who stole it.

There were 220 enlisted men and 6 officers in our company when we landed at Myitkyina. Two weeks later, we got 6 more officers. Two weeks after that we were 33 enlisted men and 2 officers. At Company Headquarters, my mail had been marked KIA.

A book on CBI, prepared by the staff of Good Housekeeping Magazine, reports that there were more casualties - Killed or wounded at Myitkyina than any other Battle in World War II. (2300 Americans, 3400 Japanese, 4200 Chinese.)

See you in Cincinnati. Joseph Subich, 5307, 475, Chinese Combat Command, 1037 Yorkwood Rd., Mansfield, OH 44907-2434.

LOST, STRAYED, STOLEN

Burman News copies returned by Postal Service for some reason to these men at addresses shown:

WILLIAM SRESCHER, 17 Bontecou View Dr, New Paltz NY 12561-1004
- UNKNOWN

WM C BENNETT, PSC BOX 1647, APO MIAMI FL 34003 - NO RECORD

J T TIDWELL, RR 7 BOX 132, MAYFIELD KY 42066-9810 - NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDR.

Medics! Medics!

The story about the 80th British Hospital at Deogarh and reference to treatment for malaria interests me, not because I was treated there, but because I was not! My experience was decidedly different. My treatment on the trail consisted of swallowing as many as 10 quinine tablets a day plus the usual atabrine. For some damn reason, my temperature never got over 103°. The standard for evacuation was a temperature of 104° and I never quite made it. It was a miserable feeling. The chills were just as bad. Fortunately, those came mostly during the day when putting one foot in front of the other and the crease in my shoulder blades from the weight of

my pack kept me preoccupied.

I had returned to Dinjan from that lovely 14 day DS in Calcutta - been back perhaps 10 days or less when malaria hit again. This time,

no problem, temperature was 105° - had to happen when we were on 3 squares a day and light duty! Anyway, I was off to the 48th?, 46th?,
(Continued on page 7)

FALL IN

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

CARLO A ETTIPIO, 5307/3/E/1/1; 475/3/E/1/1, 26 DUTCHESS ST, WEST SENECA NY 14224

EARL A HIGGINS, 645TH AAA MG BTRY, RANGER, 1145 Alcliff Ln, Cincinnati OH 4538

ERNEST HUBACKER, 475/ / /3 PLAT, 524 2ND ST NE, JAMESTOWN ND 58401-3600

GEORGE E MOORE, 475/1/C/MEDIC, PO BOX 541, LEONARD TX 75452

GEORGE SEATE, 5307/2/F CO; 475/2/F CO, PO BOX 1643, ROXBORO NC 27573-1643, 336-599-9394, Survivor of the Myitkyina Ambush.

KENNETH R TIMMONS, 5307/2/E Co; 475/2/E/4 Platoon, 24 WILLOW ST, MECHANICSBURG OH 43044-1035

Headquarters 475th Infantry (Cont'd)

GENERAL ORDERS)

NUMBER

9)

APO 218

16 October 1944

AWARD OF COMBAT INFANTRY 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.

PIRRE, Salvatore J., 31324473 Pfc*

RASMUSSEN, Roland W., 12179998 Pvt

RIEGER, Horace N., 37513560 Pvt

REHDER, Raymond M., 37465617 Pfc

ROSALES, Pedro V., 38214737 T/5

RUSH, Ivan, 20504456 Pfc

SCHAFFER, Thomas B., 36444464 Pvt*

SCHELL, William R., 0-1321336 1st Lt*

SCHEIDT, Richard P., 7025941 T/Sgt

SHERWIN, Joseph R., 15084501 T/5

SIEBER, Albert, 12015363 Pvt*

SILVERMAN, Morton A., 33777428 Pvt

SIMPSON, Richard E., 32026718 T/Sgt

SUNNIER, Claude, 14042577 S/Sgt

STIETZLER, Edward L., 12014174 Pfc

SULLIVAN, Timothy, 31296410 Pfc*

SUSJNER, Milton, 13131539 Pfc

SYSKA, Chester L., 32810564 Pfc*

THIBEDEAUX, Theodore P., 38380449 Pfc

TRAVIS, Walter V., 36453877 Pvt*

TRIMNER, Frank J., 37273752 T/5

WATERS, Martin J., Jr., 0-454133 1st Lt

WEENINK, Virgil A., 0-1321722 1st Lt*

WILDON, Harold J., 31019484 Pvt

WELSH, Philip E., 0-1321456 1st Lt*

WHITE, William C., 15041417 Pvt

WILLINGS, Oliver E., 36456437 T/5

AWARD OF EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

2. Under the provisions of WD Circular No. 186, dated 11 May 1944, Expert Infantryman's Badge is awarded the following officers and enlisted men of this organization effective as of 20 February 1944, for satisfactory 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.

CLARK, Earl H., 0-1322521 1st Lt*

JENKINS, William H., 38516582 Pvt *

NELSON, Willard C., 0-1289783 Capt

3. So much of Paragraph 1, General Orders Number 3, this headquarters, dated 25 August 1944, as pertains to WOJG Harold W. YOUNG, W-2109358 is rescinded.

4. So much of paragraph 4, General Orders Number 5, this headquarters, dated 15 September 1944 as pertains to Pvt Max M. Bookner 6908112 is rescinded and the following substituted therefore:

AWARD OF COMBAT INFANTRYMAN BADGE

Under the provisions of WD Circular No. 186, dated 11 May 1944 Combat Infantryman's Badge is awarded the following named enlisted man of this organization effective 20 February 1944, for exemplary conduct in action against the enemy during the North Burma Campaign.

BOOKNER, Max M., 6908112 Sgt

OFFICIAL:
T J DALTON,
WOJG, USA
Asst Adjutant

By order of Colonel EASTERBROOK

EDWIN A. ROTHSCHILD,
1st Lt., Infantry,
Adjutant

MEDICS . . .

(Continued from page 6)

44th?, Station (was it Evac.) Hospital. They quinned me, rested me and fed me well, but my temperature stayed about 101/102. Finally, took a bunch of tests and it was determined that I had hepatitis. Boy, that was a blast! Hepatitis or yellow jaundice, turns a person as yellow as a gourd, but with all the atabrine in my system, my yellow color was initially attributed to atabrine. I was then moved to a separate tent, the only other occupant was a poor bastard from one of the Combat Engineer outfits that played a stellar role at Myitkyina in June and July. His lower jaw had been cut off. They were trying to get him healed up enough to travel back to the States. Anyway, he had come down with pneumonia - in September. He couldn't cough to get up the phlegm. He had been fitted up with a tube down his throat into his upper lungs I guess - and a little pump that whirred day and night. I got so I could sleep in spite of it, but mostly I just held his hand after they moved my cot closer to his. He finally got better and was taken away before I left the tent. I sure hope he got a new jaw when he got home. I have long forgotten his name and have wondered and hoped many times over the years that he had a good plastic surgeon.

Up until then I had been rather enjoying my hospital stay. Didn't feel too bad, a lot better than I had while on the trail with malaria giving me the hots and the shakes. The chow was excellent and no duty. All I had to do was relax and read while I looked out on my cot. Think I read about all those Armed Forces paperback books in the hospital. Then disaster hit. Moving me to the tent with the Engineer guy was so they could keep a 24 hour watch. Put me on a special diet which damned near starved me. Don't remember what it was, but I had to suck on a lot of sugar candy. The only bright spot was that they fed me Jello, several times daily, which came right out of the only refrigerator in that part of Burma or India, wherever it was. Cold and mighty tasty in that heat. After a couple of weeks I got better and the Jello went to someone more deserving. Then for the next couple of weeks until discharge they really did "starve" me on a special diet which was supposed to

ease the load on my liver, if I remember the explanation correctly after all these years. I made it back to Camp Landis on or about the 11th of November, just a few days before we took off on the 2nd campaign.

The hepatitis stayed cured, but the malaria reoccurred intermittently on the second campaign. By then I learned at the first sign to take 10 quinine tablets for at least two days in a row. Our platoon medic, "Rocky" Corvelli, always seemed to have a plentiful supply. I was his best customer. After discharge in November 1945, I went on a cure taking quinine supplemented with a bicarbonate of soda tablets to ease the stomach cramps. The cure consisted of being on quinine with heavy dosage for the first couple of weeks, then gradually diminishing over the next six weeks. Have never had a recurrence of malaria since

that time. Arthur W. Wilson, 8335 SW Fairway Dr., Portland, OR 97225, 503-297-2045, 5307/1/RCT /A Co; 475/1/A Co.



Col. William L. Osborne - 1998
Ranger Hall of Fame Nominee

PASS IN REVIEW

Deaths Reported Recently

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

- JOHN E DEVINE**, 5307/3/KCT, 6360 Day St., Tujunga, CA 91042-2901, 352-5290, May 1998, Board of Directors
- LT COL WILLIAM A LOCKE**, 124/1/TROOP A, OR 97478-7131, 541-747-8270, Yuma, AZ, October 18, 1987
- THOMAS M LYNCH**, Mars Task Force, Falmouth, MA, (C/o Ostrom, Waquoit, MA), April 25, 1998
- LOUIS J McAFEE**, 475, PO Box 413, Baxter Springs, KS 66713-0413, 316-856-3580, March 16, 1998
- WARREN G MEADORS**, 5307/QM PK TR, 263 S Hague Ave., Columbus, OH 43204-3004, March 28, 1998
- EDWARD H MELLINGER**, 5307/209 CMDG; 209 ENGRS, 25809 S Beech Creed Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248-6807, April 27, 1998
- ALBERT W MOSHER**, 5307; 124 CAV, RR 2, Box 324-1, Pleasant Hope, MO 65725-9219, March 29, 1998
- RALPH J MYSZEWSKI**, 5307; 475, 3216 S 26th St., Milwaukee, WI, September 26, 1995
- FRANK F PAULIN, JR.**, 124/3/L/60 MM MRT, 634 Ervay Ave., Louisville, KY 42017-1928, PO May 1998 B/N
- THOMAS E PICKARD**, 613/B, RR 7, Box 182, Murray, KY 42071-9807, 753-8864, April 28, 1998
- DR MELVIN SCHUDMAK**, 5307/HQ/SURG, 1237 Longwood Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70806-7049, 504-344-1328, April 28, 1998. Few of us realized that after the War, Lt. Col. Schudmak changed his career from a Field Surgeon with us, to be an Obstetrician and Gynecologist for more than fifty years. From 1945 to 1947, he served his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Chicago. He was a partner in the Baton Rouge Clinic from 1948 till his retirement in 1984. One of our recently joined members, Stephen Harmon, got to know him through his wife's childbirth.
- RUDOLPH S SCHITTER**, 5307/2/33 QM PK, 475/3/K CO, 5943 W State Road 56, Jasper, IN 47546-8316, February 21, 1998
- LESTER SHERRY**, 5307/3/KCT, 9375 Road 177, Oakwood, OH 45873-9450, 419-594-2246, June 23, 1997
- ROBERT E SPEER**, 5307/1/WCT; 475/1, PO Box 58, Haubstadt, IN 47639-0058, March 12, 1998

More About Company B/475th

About Captain Bill Holmes original jottings. All I can do is add my own remembrances of the Campaign. I joined the 475th Infantry, Mars Task Force some time before New Year's 1945. We were a group of replacement officers. We were greeted by Capt. Rothschild, the Regimental Adjutant and he made the assignments to the various Battalions. I was assigned to 1st Bn and on to B Company, 3rd Platoon. There was a Lt Nickell as Platoon Leader. So I was a replacement. When it became time for him to be rotated back to the States, I would become the Platoon Leader.

I remember Rentzel being killed by a grenade after he fell on it to protect anyone else from being hit.

January 16, 1945, we did march 14 miles in 21 hours and laid down for a rest, sometime before dawn but were up and moving again before it was light. We were supposed to throw a physical block on the Burma Road but it had been changed to a Fire Block. Also remember Lt O'Brien being killed and one E.M. At that time, we pulled a double envelopment with a Company and it worked. The book always said you do not do this maneuver with anything less than a Division.

January 23rd, the day Lt Davoust was hit. I was to relieve him at the strip, on my way there I met him coming back and he told

me to return to the Company because it had been called off. The incoming fire was so intense and nothing was being done.

January 30th, moved to south block to protect Bn from the south and dug in on two knolls, with a stream running through it, so we had drinking and washing water. Cold as all get out.

The Nips did not let up on incoming. We had fog and they lobbed some shells into our positions. No damage. When the fog lifted, they pulled back into the hills.

Remember going out on recon patrol one night to find out where the Nips were located. But on the return forgot the password and counter sign, so remained outside our perimeter until daylight so we would not be challenged.

February 5th, going into the attack, I had some reservation because it was my birthday and I thought this was the day I would get hit. But luck was on my side.

I remember Lord Louis Mountbatten coming to our area and speaking to the troops. He wished to commend us for the job we did and also said, we were there because he had asked President Roosevelt for some tough guys from the U.S. to perform a hazardous mission and F.D.R. obliged and sent us to Asia.

After the campaign, we went from Kutkai to China. I believe we were assigned to train the Chinese in our tactics. But eventually, the unit was deactivated in China and

all the members of "Mars Task Force" were reassigned or sent home.

As for me, I was assigned to the "Chinese Combat Command" (CCC). I was also assigned the mission of dispensing with the company's organizational equipment.

Last, but not least, I volunteered for a mission to be parachuted into Indo-China along with Capt Finley Hester. But my luck still held and the war ended.

How the original notebook of Captain Holmes got into the hands of Karl Place and into a Japanese Barracks, I do not understand. I can only assume that it was lost in combat and picked up by a Japanese soldier. Albert Mazzarella, 475/1/B Co, 26636 Snead Dr., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248-6939.

DATE OF RANK

HOLMES, Wm. F., Capt,

O-1300487, 30 Nov. 44

DAVOUST, Albert M., 1st Lt

O-115802, 11 Nov. 43

BURR, Othello V., 2nd Lt

O-889230, 11 Apr. 44

NICKELL, Buell, 2nd Lt

O-889282, 9 Apr. 44

MAZZARELLA, Albert D., 2nd Lt

O-1326056, 16 Mar. 44

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After the man waited four hours for his doctor's appointment, he went home. "Did you find out what your ailment was?" his wife asked him. "Nope," replied the man, "but I found out where the word 'Patient' comes from."

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Editor

RAYMOND V. LYONS

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MERRILL'S MARAUDERS

