

Iedo WALAWBUM Inkangawtaung nhpum-ga shaduzup MYITKYINA



The Burman News



Official publication of Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.

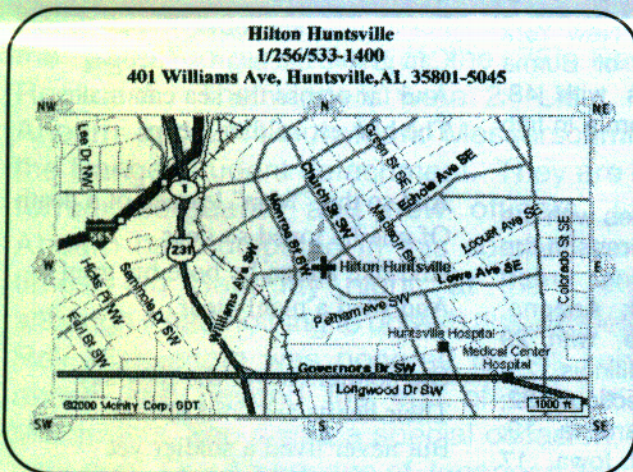
August 2000

54TH ANNUAL REUNION COMING UP FAST

The 54th Annual Reunion will be held Labor Day weekend, September 1-3, at the **Huntsville Hilton**, 401 Williams Av, Huntsville, AL 35801-5045; Telephone Reservations 1-800-445-8667 or 1-256-533-1400 FAX 1-256-534-4581, WEB-site WWW.HILTON.COM/hotels/HSVHIHF/index.html?show+all.

Package rate for a couple for two nights, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 1 and 2, is \$294.20, including lodging, Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday evening cocktail party and Banquet, Sunday morning brunch, including all taxes & gratuities. For one person, the package rate is \$220.70. Extra night's lodging is \$66, plus 10 per cent tax. Telephone your reservation to 1-256-533-1400, saying you are part of the Merrill's Marauders Association group and want the package rate. Fax 256-534-7787.

Hotel Location - In the heart of Huntsville at 401 Williams Avenue, at the center of the city's Historical Twickenham District, adjacent to the Von Braun Center, which includes the Tourist Information Center.



Transportation - Free shuttle to and from the Huntsville Airport, 14 miles away. If entering the city by car on Route 565,

turn on Church Street, then right on Williams. Trolley service to the rest of the inner city at 50 cents apiece (Not operating on Saturdays and Sundays).

Hotel Facilities - 277 rooms, 145 of which are non-smoking, 6 corner suites, 3 junior suites. Free parking for registered guests. Lofton's Restaurant, for Southern regional dining. Lobby bar with piano entertainment, offering sandwiches, snacks and hot appetizers. Room service, 6 AM to 11 PM. Concierge services. Same day laundry and valet service. Business center including fax capabilities, copier, computer with printer and dataport for personal computer. Fitness center and membership in Gold's Gym. Outdoor swimming pool and Jacuzzi.

In-Room Amenities - Iron/ironing board. Hair dryer. Two phones with dataport. AM/FM clock radio. Coffeemaker. *USA Today* delivered free, Monday through Friday. 36-channel cable TV with Showtime pay-per-view capability.

Outside Eating - Trolley service, which runs Monday through Friday, passes some fast-food places.

Hotel van also available for local trips. Hotel concierge can recommend good restaurants downtown or, using the road, on "restaurant rows" along U.S. 72 West or Airport Road.

Attractions & Landmarks

- Main attraction is the NASA Space & Rocket Center, five miles away but reachable by shuttle bus, where one could spend a day exploring such highlights as an actual-sized space shuttle, the Space Imax Theater, the tug-of-gravity Centrifuge, the virtual motion-based Mission to Mars, and the Space Shot

Simulator that lifts visitors 150 feet into the air. Huntsville Botanical Garden, east of the Space & Rocket Center, including a butterfly house and nature walks. Earlyworks collection of history museums including Constitution Village with costumed guides, a restored 1860 train depot with period locomotives and Civil War exhibits. Historic districts, some a walk from the hotel, that contain Alabama's largest collection of ante-bellum houses, many dating from the 1820's. Theater 'Round the Corner. Huntsville Museum of Art. Up Monte Sano Mountain beside the city there are stunning vistas, mountain trails, picnic grounds, a Japanese garden and teahouse.

For Kids - In addition to the Space & Rocket center, there's the Earlyworks history museum where youngsters may hear stories from a "talking tree," play a tune on giant instruments at the bandstand, walk the gangplank, build a house. At the Historic Huntsville Depot, kids may climb aboard locomotives, watch a working model railroad, try on costumes, see graffiti written by Civil War soldiers. Limestone zoological park with live wild animals.

Sports & Recreation - Hotel's outdoor pool & Jacuzzi. Walking tours in historic districts. Golfing at nine different public courses, including one par 3 layout, at times that can be arranged by hotel concierge. Indoor ice skating at Ice Complex

Reunion speaker - The guest speaker at the Huntsville reunion of Merrill's Marauders Association on Saturday evening, September 2, will be Brig. Gen. Joseph S. Stringham (USA-Ret). A Ranger from the start of his career in 1961, then a commander in Special Forces, Stringham served in Korea, Vietnam and El Salvador. He ended active duty as commanding officer of the 75th Ranger Regiment.

STILWELL COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

John Easterbrook advises that the Postal Service has finally agreed to issue a Stilwell stamp under the Great American series. It will be a ten cent stamp and the first day of issue will be August 24th. The place for the First Day Covers will be Providence RI because there will be a Convention of the American Philatelic Society. An attempt is being made to have another First Day Post Office in the California area where the General lived most of his life and died.



MOUNTAIN ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

The Reunion of the **Mars Task Force Artillery Association**, will be held in Boise, Idaho, on 14 September and running through 17 September 2000. The Reunion will be held at the **DoubleTree Hotel Downtown**, at 1800 Fairview Av, Boise ID 83702. Don Beck, 421 S Curtis Rd - #10, Boise ID 83705-1070, 208-345-8978.

FALL IN

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

LAURENCE A. SOLOMON,
0014, 5307/, NCAC, 3185
ARLENE ST, PORTAGE IN
48368-3939

WHERE MARAUDERS LIVE STATE-BY-STATE

The State of Pennsylvania is the place of residence of more Burma combat veterans listed in the 1999 annual directory of Merrill's Marauders Association than any other State in the Union.

The directory shows that 86 of these combat veterans, including those from Mars Task Force, live in Pennsylvania. In second place is Florida with 70, in third is Ohio with 68.

Overall, the directory lists more Burma combat veterans from the Midwest, 279, than from any other region of the United States, followed by the South with 251, the Northeast with 242 and the West with 131 including Hawaii and Alaska.

Among individual states, New York ranks fourth in number of Burma ground combat veterans with 48, closely followed by California in fifth with 43.

Rounding out the 26 States with the most Burma combat veterans in the Directory, in descending order: Indiana, 33; Texas, 30; Arizona, Missouri and Tennessee, with 29 apiece; Wisconsin, 28; Illinois, 25; New Jersey, 24; Connecticut, 22; Minnesota, 20; North Carolina, 19; Georgia, 18; Idaho and Iowa, 17 piece; Maryland, 16; Virginia, 15; Oregon, 14; South Carolina, 12; Wyoming, 11; Louisiana and New Hampshire, with 10 apiece. DBR

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN

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

JOSEPH MC CAFFREY, 1074
South St, Roslindale MA 02131-
2317, ATTEMPTED NOT
KNOWN

MAURICE PRITCHETT,
475/1/HQ, PO Box 366,
Watervliet MI 49098-0366,
ELEANOR, NO FWD ORDER
ON FILE May2000BN

TO "TINY"

Old soldiers never die. They say
Their hearts are void of fear -
But never lived a soldier yet
Who didn't shed a tear.

I know a man - a man of worth
A soldier through and through;
Whose outward show of manliness
Dissolved like morning dew.

No - soldiers never die, that's true.
But they are heir to grief -
And though the heart is stout within,
It often hits a reef.

For loved ones home who go to rest
Can grieve the heart so deep -
And far across the sea can make
The bravest soldier weep.

And so that "Man" learned of a death
Of one he loved so dear -
And like a man he bore his grief
And shed a manly tear.

Old soldiers never die they say
Their hearts are void of fear.
But never lived a soldier yet
Who didn't shed a tear.

By S/Sgt Palatnick, Liaison Pilot
Whereabouts unknown.

OFFICERS ROW

PRESIDENT: PHILIP B PIAZZA



*L to R: Phil Piazza,
Roy Matsumoto and
Major Gen. John L.
Lemoynes, C.O. of Ft.
Benning (In
General's Office)*

Things are going along well for the coming reunion, and hopefully we will have a big turnout. I made another trip to Huntsville, AL, to finalize plans for our coming reunion, and anticipate another very successful one. The facilities are excellent, and the staff very cooperative. The trip to the Space Center is a "must do" and worthwhile the visit. There is also a free, exciting ride for the grand kids.

This month, as usual, has been a hectic time for meetings and ceremonies. The Open House at Camp Frank D. Merrill was a big success, and one of the best ever. I have also attended a couple of Ranger graduations, and the Best Ranger Competition was also a big success. Roy Matsumoto flew in here to South Carolina to spend some time with me, and we went to the Best Ranger Competition together. I wish that more of you could attend, as it was a wonderful four days, with all kinds of competition going on.

The conditioning of these young Rangers is extraordinary and really makes us proud to be the parent organization of the 75th Ranger Regiment. The winners were 2nd Lieut. Rick Ahearn and 2nd Lieut. Mark Messerschmitt of the Ranger student detachment. They are both former sergeants and new officers. Lieut. Ahearn has competed in this competition five times. On Saturday night, at the banquet, although it had nothing to do with the competition, Roy Matsumoto was honored for his service, above and beyond the call of duty, to the Marauders, and it was a special occasion, long past due. Our Americans of Japanese descent, who did so much for us without recognition, all 14 of them should be so recognized. They all did a yeoman job, under very adverse conditions.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: RAY LYONS

I have a request for information about George William De Bow, 2nd Bn. If anyone recalls him, please advise his son, Colonel Michael DeBow, 29 Meyer Dr, Fort Gordon GA 30905, 706-792-0384, <mdebow@chroniclenetworks.com>.

A reminder that we have a long time understanding that family members of Marauders are eligible to become Honorary Members. Just let me know you are interested and provide your postal address.

Note following from Stanley Yarulis.

"We visited the War College in Carlisle PA. We also went to the Military History Institute where I wrote about my activities with the Merrill's Marauders and the 475th Inf. Men who visit there can write their experiences and then place it in a packet and put in the drawer they have established for the purpose. Several men have taken advantage of the opportunity to do this."

LYRIC TO SPRING

I welcomed the Spring in romantic Chungking.
I walked in her beautiful bowers.
In the light of the moon, in the sunshine at noon,
I savored the fragrance of flowers.

(Not to speak of the slush or the muck and the mush
That covers the streets and alleys.
Or the reek of the swill, as it seeps down the hill, --
Or the odor of pig in the valleys.)

The sunset and dawn, and the dew on the lawn,
And the blossoms in color so rare.
The jasmine in bloom, the magnolia's perfume,
The magic of Spring's in the air.

(The garbage is rich, as it rots in the ditch,
And the honey-carts scatter pollution,
The effluvium ran, from the crap in the tank,
Is the stink of its scummy solution.)

Aromatic Chungking, where I welcomed the Spring,
In a mixture of beauty and stenches,
Of flowers and birds, with a sprinkling of turds,
And of low-legged Szechuan wenches.

Take me back to the Coast, to the place I love most,
Get me out of this odorous sewer.
I'm in _____ to my neck, but I'm quitting, by heck!
And I'll nevermore shovel manure.

JOSEPH W STILWELL.

SHARING THE STORY

I bought four copies of Doctor Hopkins book. It brought back the memories. **VERY VERY GOOD!**

I did notice three errors. They follow:

#1 He gave credit to a mule skinner for the remarks about Gen. Stilwell. The man's name who said it was George Kotch, a rifleman in Orange Combat Team, Co K, 3rd Platoon. I was his Platoon Sgt. Barney Wetzel was first in line, George Kotch was second and I, Paul Swogger was third in a column, three feet on the right side of the General's Jeep. Just as George came up to the Jeep, he turned to me and said, "Look at this s____, Duck Hunters way out here". The General laughed. I said to George, that was General Stilwell. George reply was, "I don't give a f_____."

#2. It was about the elephant that charged out of the jungle at about six pitched tents. First and only time I ever saw anybody pitch tents in both campaigns. A BAR man (I don't recall his name) and I had just returned from a patrol when we heard the elephant trumpeting. He came out of the jungle charging toward the tents. I noticed that it had an iron band on its left front leg with a heavy log chain to an iron band on its right rear leg. We were about fifty feet from the elephant's left side. The men in the tents were trying to get out, running in all directions. I told the BAR man - that's a trained elephant. Fire behind his shoulder. He fired twenty rounds and I fired 30 shots from my Thompson. The elephant stopped about 10 feet from the tents, turned its head. looked right at us as we were frantically trying to reload. It turned around and went back into the jungle. I said to the BAR man, "fifty rounds into him - AP, Tracers and ball. It did slow him down."

#3. "Lt Smith was shot through the chest in his foxhole, answering a phone." Lt Smith was shot in the chest sleeping in his bedroll. I dragged him over to the foxhole

and half way buried him there in his sleeping bag. He was in the middle of the perimeter. We had Japs inside of our perimeter as the space between fox holes was twice as far apart as they should have been per the Lieutenants orders. I told him the Japs will walk right through our lines. They did. The village was much larger than the 20 year old map showed it to be. So we lost one killed. two wounded, because the Lt would not tell Capt Burch that we could not cover all of it properly. His carbine was missing when I found him. Capt Burch was always on the line in a foxhole with the troops.

I understand that Capt Burch became a Lt Col or Colonel in the Kentucky National Guard. The only other man that I remember is Barton D Houck, 422 Church Rd, Wernersville PA 19565. He was Orange Combat Team Medic, used to go on patrols with me. Doc Hopkins would probably remember him.

George Kotch, Barney Wetzel, Barton Houck and I went through both 5307th and Mars Task Force campaigns all the way from beginning to end, together. I retired with 25 years service.
*PAUL SWOGER, 5307/3/
Orange Combat Team, Co K, 3rd
Platoon, 704 WHISPERING
PALMS DR, LAS VEGAS NV
89123.*

RHADAPUR RECOLLECTIONS

I received and read Doc Hopkins book - SPEARHEAD. It really enlightened me as to problems the medics had, plus the scope of their work in taking care of us. No small job with the shortages they had to put up with. It is really a wonder that "We" Marauders did what we did with those and more problems that we had to contend with. Stilwell and his associates that he depended on.

I was at Rhadapur "Y" headquarters when the officer, a Captain was killed by a grain bag drop. I was in 'B'

Company, 1st Bn and after awhile there wasn't much left to our company while at Myitkyina. That is when we were brought back to Rhadapur. Those of us that were still able to do things were organized into a Headquarters and a Reconnaissance & Security Platoon. By day this platoon patrolled to the North, by night, occupied a defensive position on the perimeter of the Headquarters area. We also covered the drop field near HQ when the supplies came in. We also guarded the ox carts bringing the wounded to the air strip to be evacuated to hospitals back in India. At times we also did the burial details when our guys didn't make it.

Our Platoon Leader was Lt Hill and our Platoon Sgt was Sgt Bergeron, 18 year veteran and from the 1st Division. Both top notch people. All Marauder Sgts and officers were best of the lot as far as I was concerned.

Once in a while, we had to take Jap prisoners back to the strip. Once our guys came back within minutes and I asked what happened. They stated that the prisoner had attempted to escape and had to be shot. I really believe that the round trip to the strip and back, approximately ten miles was the real problem. We were just too tired and would fall asleep on watch at night if we were busy during the day. We had it. Hiking, monsoon rains, fighting and patrols - constantly; some times twice a day out and back.

I remember Sgt Doyer, Doc Zazama of the Portable Surgical Hospital unit, some of the Engineers from "A" Co, 209th Bn, who we relieved while on the line for awhile.

Some how or other, I got sent to 2nd Bn, Co E after Myitkyina was secured. I think they wanted to spread the people with experience around when organizing the 475th Inf Regiment.

I was trained on Heavy Weapons, 81 mm mortars and Heavy Machine Guns, so I fell right in, as each Rifle Company had an 81 mm in the Second Campaign. I became Squad Ldr and organized a crew that was very good during the march south.

Vito J Yazzo, 94 Wayne Av, White Plains NY 10606-2113.

NHPUM GA BOOM! BOOM!! BOOM !!!

I found out there was a Merrill's Marauders Association in July 1999. Ray Lyons was very helpful. He sent me a lot of material that was in his computer. Names and addresses of men in the association.

I made a reservation to attend the reunion in Nashville. I met some men I haven't seen for over fifty years. The reunion was great, first class from start to finish. A week after I got home, I went to a small reunion in Laughlin NV. Most of the men were from the west and in the 3rd Battalion. I had a great time. I look forward to future reunions.

In the two videos shown at the 1992 reunion, in Dr Hopkins book, "Spearhead", Col Hunter's "Galahad", also the Burman News, I was listed as a "Mule-skinner", which is understandable. The men that manned the howitzers at Nhpunga came from the Pack Artillery in New Guinea. So did I.

When we organized in India, I volunteered for Khaki CT, I & R Platoon. I was in the I & R till we took the airstrip at Myitkyina. Three weeks later I was evacuated with typhus.

When I volunteered to be the artillery observer, first I climbed a tall tree on the perimeter but couldn't see up the hill. All it did was draw sniper fire. I got permission from Major Briggs to crawl up the hill beyond the perimeter, keeping the artillery fire in front of me. We knew that when the round's became effective that the Japs would know there was an observer behind the fire's effectiveness and would come looking for him. The plan was to fire narrow going up the hill about 100 yards wide with the B Bn perimeter on the left. The hill dropping straight down on the right.

We began firing on the right, then moving the fire to the left 75 feet. We did this over and over, till we got as close to B Bn as possible. Then we would jump ahead 75 feet and go to the right the same way. Then jump ahead again, this was we were saturating the whole area.

The first day we fired about 100 rounds. We had to keep some in reserve in case of a Jap counter attack. The next morning we got a big drop of ammo. Later that day, I started up the hill calling for fire the same way as the day before. I don't know how many rounds we fired, but we fired till the guns got too hot and had to stop.

The third day before I started up from the line, Col Beach told me not to worry about the gun's. If I burned them up, it had to be. He said the next day, the whole battalion was going to attack, cause B Bn couldn't hold on any longer. They had too many wounded that needed to be evacuated. When I started to crawl up the hill, we were firing hot and heavy and fast. I couldn't keep up so I would get up and run, then go prone when the shells hit.. We went all the way to the top of the hill.

Just a few Japs went over the top. The hill was covered with bodies and equipment. Some were blown up into the trees. The next morning, I went up with the advance on "Easter". We had no opposition. B Bn was relieved.

The gun's crew never got the recognition they deserved for their dedication and bravery. The first day we started firing, they got a lot of small arms return fire. They just ignored it, and kept firing.

A few days later, an Artillery Captain, George Gordon Bonnyman from TN, came in on an evacuation plane from India and took over my job, so I went back to the Khaki I & R. **ROBERT CARR, 4727 CARFAX AV, LAKEWOOD CA 90713-2416, 562-429-6559**

LETTERS TO EDITOR

EDITOR

About the picture in the last issue of the BURMAN NEWS. I know two of the fellows in the picture. Elmer Elliott, Covington KY and John Chippi, Weatherly PA. We were in the Message Center with the Bn in reserve. I am sending a copy of the original group. This picture was taken in August 1944. Tom Cataldi, 347 Union Av Belleville NJ sent me the original photo. He contracted Malaria. He is dead. I had Scrub Typhus. I was with the unit up until the last fight to open the Burma Road. Our Sergeant had Prostate problems. There were three of us in the 20th GH at the same time. The other three men in the picture were replacements. I never rejoined the outfit. I went into China, Signal Corps for a while, then Engineer Bn. Home via Shanghai. Been to one reunion at Louisville KY. Like to go but it is bad traveling on Labor Day Weekend and they raise the prices on everything.

Walter D Osman, 475/HQ/COMM SEC, 31 Coraopolis Rd, Coraopolis PA 151008-3701



Tent City - Ramgarh, India

Kneeling L to R: Conley White, Maurice Pritchett, Elmer Elliott.

Standing L to R: Tom Cataldi, John Chippi, Walt Osman, Glen Fuller.

EDITOR

Speech given at the Merrill's Marauders Reunion at Laughlin NV SEPT 1999

I would like to take a moment of your time to let you know how very proud I am to be the daughter of an Original Merrill's Marauder. My Father has shared many funny stories of being in the Army and of the History of the Merrill's Marauders, but my Father has never burdened us with the tragedies and

the horrors of the war. That he keeps in his heart all to himself. My Dad has always been my hero. Dad, I love you very much. God Bless all the Merrill's Marauders. Thank you.
Vicki Carr Hupp, 44085 Palm Av, Hemet CA 92544, proud daughter of Robert L Carr, 5307, 3/Khaki CT/ I & R Platoon

EDITOR

Hello Friend: I thought I would drop you a line to inform you that the city has changed My House Number From 1135 to 1126. I was in Cpl E.E. Kissinger's Squad. 2nd Lt Woormer was the Platoon Leader. Master Sgt James E Ballard was My Buddy. I served with him at Chanute Field after we came home. He got married there in 1944 and was Discharged there also. He was waiting for his wife to be Discharged so they could go to New Jersey together.
Clifford D Payne, 1126 Regehr Av, Charlotte NC 28214.

EDITOR

On October 11, 1999, Dr James E.T.HOPKINS, the author of the book "Spearhead", A Complete History of the Merrill's Marauders Rangers, was interviewed by a Baltimore Radio Station. As part of the interview, any one who was listening in and was part of the 5307th and or part of the Burma Campaign, could join in via telephone. I did join in and in doing so, many of my experiences came to mind. For example: Stringing parachute cord around Col Hunter's CP, also known as Hunter's "Y", with hand grenades, pins half extracted to prevent Jap infiltration. Escorting Chinese wounded to Dr Seagraves Hospital. Also positioned behind a machine gun, awaiting a Jap attack. Dr Hopkins discussed many of his experiences in reference to his book. Dr Lewis Kolodny also was part of the interview, which was both very interesting and spine chilling - even after 55 years.

Ben Wenglin, 5307/2/E Co/3 Platoon; 475th/2/E Co/3, 6300 Red Cedar Pt, Unit 401, Baltimore MD 21209-5409, 764-0546.

EDITOR

I am looking for any information that I can find about my Uncle a Marauder. His name is Charles W Cole, ASN 14047497, 1st Bn, B Company, Red Combat Team. This is as much information as I have been able to obtain. I would like to talk or hear from someone who may have served with him and knew him or would know the circumstances when he was killed in late 1944.
Charles Talley, 607 Bert Garner Dr, Maryville TN 37803, e-mail <jatke@icx.net>, phone 865-982-3232 collect.

EDITOR

My name is Willard Zokosky. I am the older Brother of John Zokosky, a Sergeant that was in the 5307th Composite Unit Provisional, C Bn, Orange Combat Team. He was one of the first draftees in the early part of the year 1941. He was sent to the 37th Division, Hq Co, 2nd Bn, 147th Infantry.

While in the training camps he did some boxing. He was a 147 lb. Champion in the Cleveland Golden Gloves area. He won the 147 lb. Golden Gloves in Louisiana. He went to the National Golden Gloves of the USA and he finished 2nd in the Finals.

While in the service, he fought at Munda and Bougainvillea, where he was up for the Silver Star. He then volunteered for the Special Forces. He went from the 37th Div with Logan Weston, Mike Preston and others.

He went to India in the Fall, November 5, 1943. While in camp there he also did some boxing, and many of his military friends watched him boxing. This was their only entertainment.

John was killed during the Battle of Walawbum, March 17, 1944. From a diary of a soldier, there was a note that John was hit three times. He was buried at the bend of the river from Walawbum. There was an Army Magazine picture showing John leading a mule while crossing a river.

Willard Zokosky, Sgt, 5th Air Force, 380 Bomber Group, 529th Squadron, USA, 3205 Starlite Dr NW, Warren OH 44485-1621.

EDITOR

We received the book, SPEARHEAD, and have greatly enjoyed reading it. It brought back memories of the stories Ermil (Large) would tell us.

As some of your readers are aware, combat soldiers were used in Yucca Flats, Nevada for operation "Tumbler Snapper". In 1952, while Ermil was 1st Sgt of Company C, 135th Inf Regt, 47th Division (after the completion of Longhorn Maneuvers in Texas), he was sent with the rest of the Division to watch the testing of an atomic bomb. As a result of this, Ermil suffered for years with health problems related to the "test". We would love to hear from any or all that were also present during these operations. We understand they were given no follow-up medical and that the records of this era were destroyed. We have found some of Ermil's papers and enclose copies for your use. We would also like to let you and others know the Ermil's family donated his medals, decorations and memorabilia to the 2/75th Rangers at Fort Lewis WA. There is a nice museum there and they have displayed this collection nicely.

After his discharge, Ermil worked for the Post Office in Minneapolis, MN from 1965 to 1972, at which time his health failing, he took an early retirement.

Norene Large Goodman, (Sister), 907 51st St, SE, Auburn WA 98092.

EDITOR

I would like information, if possible on a soldier named - Fred Marchetti, who served with Merrill's Marauders. He was killed in Burma and his body was returned to Memphis, TN for final burial. He was my uncle on my Mother's side. I served with the 29th Infantry Division in WW II as a Scout - (S/2), Intelligence. As you probably know our Division made D-Day on June 6th, 1944, Omaha Beach, France.

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

Albert Bartelloni, Sr, 1829 N Turquoise St, Wichita KS 67212-1461, 316-722-9485.

PASS IN REVIEW

Deaths reported recently. Name and Hometown (Where Known), Organization, Where, When Deceased.

JOHN P CASSIDY, 5307/3/1010 SIG, **P O W**, PO Box 672, Sierra Vista AZ 85636-0672, 520-458-3217, HELEN, March 16, 2000 @ Widow Helen

AUBREY HERMAN CLARK, 5307/1/WCT/B CO/PLAT LDR, 1940 BERNICE DR, CUMMING GA 30041-8516, 770-887-1225(?), <pstrickland@datasys.net>, June 16, 2000@Niece Patricia Strickland.

HANK CROWELL, 5307/3/OCT/I&R, RR 1 Box 4B, Calumet MI 49913-9702, MAY 1, 2000 @ WIDOW ALICE

HISKEL ALTON DANIEL, 5307; 475/3/L CO, CENTERVILLE TN, November 11, 1987 @ Albert Thomasson

JOHN GARY, 5307, Minneapolis MN, December 19, 1999, @ CBIVA SOUND-OFF

MICHAEL HANCEWICZ, 475/3, Easton PA, September 29, 1992, @Son Michael <michael.hancewicz@dix.army.mil>

MATTHEW JONES, 5307/2/BCT, 9655 Navarre Pkwy Apt D, Navarre FL 32566-2903, 904-939-3673, Died several years ago @ Calvin Mason

JAMES E MILLER, 5307; 475/3/L CO, NASHVILLE TN, 2000@ ALBERT THOMASSON

DONALD MUENCH, 5307/3/KCT/MORTAR, 2850 Highway 512, Converse LA 71419-3515, 318-872-3770, MAY 8, 2000 @ JACK AVANT

LOUIS W OLIVER, 5307/3/OCT/ CO K/3RD PLATOON; 475, 207 Ironwood Dr, Murray KY 42071-4629, 502-759-4748, December 15, 1999 @ Widow/Jackie

EDWARD SEAGRAVES, 0409, 5307/HQ/ARTY, 613/B BATT, 7761 Ashley Rd, Powell TN 37849-3722, 865-947-8809, LOIS, APRIL 9, 2000

JOSEPH SUBICH, 5307/3/K Co; 475/3/K Co, 1037 Yorkwood Rd, Mansfield OH 44907-2434 419-756-2729, RUTH, January 1, 2000 @widow

JOSEPH TULMAN, 124/3/MED, 9789 Troon Ct # 7, Cincinnati OH 45241-3349, 984-1658, FAY, March 12, 2000

HORACE B WEBB, 124th Cavalry, 76 Trevino Ln, Conroe TX , May 28, 1996 @ Son Steve <Swebb123@aol.com>

HESEL D WITTEN, 5307/2/GCT, 3701 International Dr Apt 219, Silver Spring MD 20906-1570, MAY 12, 2000 @ HERB CLOFINE

JOSEPH B YOHE, 5307/2/E; 475/2/E/4/LT WPNS, 1450 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg PA 17325-7227, 717-334-3324, JUNE 22, 2000 @ YARULIS

Application for Membership to

National Infantryman's Association

Send to: P.O. Box 52087, Fort Benning, GA 31995-2087

Please Check One: () Change of Address
() New Membership
() Membership Renewal

I wish to join the National Infantryman's Association. My past or current duties affiliate me with the United States Army Infantry, or I supported it, and I wish to further the aims and purposes of the Association. I understand that my membership will start on the subsequent first of the month. Contributions or gifts to the Association are tax deductible.

RANK/GRADE	FIRST NAME	MI	LAST NAME	SEX
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MAILING ADDRESS

CITY	STATE	ZIP + 4 CODE
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Active Duty or Civilian Job Title	Unit, Firm or Company
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Office Phone	Home Phone
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SSN	Member Number - Office Use
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Nickname	DOB
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Spouse's Name	DOB
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Annual Dues: Applicants other than those listed below:

() 1 yr. - \$20.00 () 2 yrs. - \$38.00 () 3 yrs. - \$55.00

Trainees, Enlisted E-2/E-6; Officer Candidates; 2LT in IOBC, GS-8 DACS and below, Wage Board 12 DAC and below:

() OSUT 1yr.-\$2.00 () 1yr.-\$14.00 () 2yrs.-\$25.00 () 3yrs.-\$36.00

Corporate Membership - Annual Dues

() Corporation - \$300.00 () Small Business - \$100.00

Life Membership: (Payable in \$25.00 Monthly Installments)

() Up to Age 65 - \$300.00 () 65 & Older - \$100.00

JUST A COMMON SOLDIER

He was getting old and paunchy, and his hair was falling fast,
And he sat around the Legion telling stories of the past,
Of a war that he had fought in and the deeds that he had done,
In his exploits with his buddies, they were heroes, every one.

And tho' sometimes to his neighbors, his tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened, for they knew whereof he spoke.
But we'll hear his tales no longer, for old Tom has passed away;
And the world's a little poorer, for a Soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife,
For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life.
He had a job and raised a family, quietly going on his way,
And the world won't note his passing, though a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
And thousands note their passing and proclaim that they were great,
Newspapers tell of their life stories, from the time that they were young,
But the passing of a common Soldier goes un-noticed and un-sung.

Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land,
A person who breaks promises and cons his fellow man
Or the ordinary fellow, who in time of war and strife,
Goes off to serve his Country, and offers up his life?

The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives,
Are sometimes disproportionate, to the service that he gives.
While the ordinary Soldier, who has offered up his all,
Is paid off with a medal, and sometimes a pension small.

It's so easy to forget them, for it was so long ago,
That the old "Toms" of our Country went to battle, but we know,
It was not the politicians, with their compromises and ploys,
Who won for us the Freedom that our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, with your enemies at hand,
Would you want a politician, with his ever shifting stand?
Or would you prefer a Soldier, who has sworn to defend,
His home, his kin, his Country, and will fight until the end?

He was just a common Soldier, and his ranks are growing thin,
But his presence should remind us, we may need his like again,
For when Countries are in conflict, then we find the Soldier's part,
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

If we can not give him honor, while he's here to hear the praise,
Then at least let's give him homage, at the ending of his days.
Perhaps a simple Headline in the Papers that would say,

OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING...FOR A SOLDIER
DIED TODAY.

DEDICATED TO ALL VETERANS Author Unknown
Copied from the BURMA CONTACT, Newsletter of the First
Canadian Branch of the Burma Star Association, Toronto
Canada

YOU LIVED ON THIS DIET FOR FIVE MONTHS
K-RATION

Breakfast unit

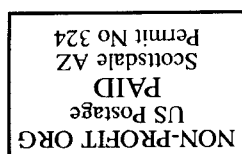
- 4 Chelsea Cigarettes
- 1 Fruit Bar
- 1 Stick of chewing gum
- 1 Can of scrambled eggs
- 3 cubes sugar
- 1 Foil pack coffee product
- 2 pkgs. biscuits

Dinner Unit

- 4 Chelsea cigarettes
- 1 Foil pack lemon juice powder (synthetic)
- 1 Can processed cheese
- 3 cubes sugar
- 1 Foil pack coffee product
- 2 pkgs. biscuits
- 1 pkg.. Malted milk/Dextrose tablets
- 1 stick Chewing Gum

Supper Unit

- 4 Chelsea Cigarettes
- 1 packet bouillon powder
- 1 Can corned pork loaf
- 1 Stick chewing gum
- 2 pkgs. biscuits
- 1 D ration bar



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