



Third Army LH Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 10 – May 2013

A Word from the Commander



"Patton" and Willie"

I had an interesting visit at SHAEF HQ and met with General Eisenhower. (Dave Davis) In attendance were our G-2 Intelligence Officer, Col. Carlos Manning and Feldwebel Thomas Pacholas 167th Volksgrenadier Division and myself. If you have not been keeping up with all of this, let me catch you up to date. Dave Davis is the President of the Old

Soldiers Association and will be joining Third Army portraying General "Ike" Eisenhower. This is separate from the OSA, but all OSA are welcome to join in with us, if they wish. Thomas Pachalos is the division commander if the 167th Volksgrenadier Division. This was the first of a multiple scheduled planning session by the National Staff of Third Army and was but only the first phase of many about to come together.

This meeting was a two day outing. We traveled to Zephyr Texas and looked over the 340 acres we can use for a regional or national battle. Later we meet and Dave's home and were treated to a marvelous time and enjoyed the hospitality of his wife Maria. Helen Manning was able to attend and all of us had a great time socializing as friends and family, plus we got a lot done. We discussed the need to bring young people into the hobby and events that would appeal to all age levels. We also discussed the need to recruit on both sides of the battle participants. In addition we discussed having local and regional training secessions and events that would help us obtain those goals.

This meeting is but the prelude to the National Staff Meeting to be held on Towne Place Suites (Marriott), Collage Station for the dates of 12, 13, 14 July. This National meeting will consist of the National staff meeting and invited guests. We will not only discuss recruiting and long range planning but will also touch on Fund Raising, Promotion, New Media Relations, Web Site upgrade, Local, State, Regional and National Events. We will also discuss the possibilities of expanding the Third Army and the avenues open to us for such an expansion.

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Lucky Forward newsletter where we keep you informed and up to date on our current activities, and articles pertaining to our continued study of the Third Army. We want your contributions and experiences; send your stories to

patton@pattonthirdarmy.com



Clubmobile Group L

I am proud to announcing that I have, after consulting with the National Staff, approved the formation of the Red Cross Clubmobile and Donut Girl Group L, Third Army Headquarters. There is a separate article on this in the newsletter.



Denny Hair
(Patton)

CG, Patton Third Army Living Historians



(.30-06) and STG Thompson 1928(Wolf .45acp).

If you wish to shoot one of these you should bring your own ammo for one of these. Ammo must be pre-approve by gun owner

Attached images of Sniper Garand Live shoot a couple of years ago at same location



Old Soldier's Association Live Shoot – May 18, 2013

By Dave Davis
sgtmajorsattic@yahoo.com

3rd Army Living Historians - Texas Contingent

You are invited, so mark your calendars and let me know if you are interested

You asked for it at the last meeting and we are going to make it happen. This is being planned and all the details will be announced in a later email. The purpose for this email is so you can mark your calendar.

At our last meeting it was brought out that many of you would like to try your skills at shooting your military firearm at a live shoot. We found a way to combine our OSA fellowship and a live fire into a daylong event.

We are in the planning stages but we have a date and a place Date Saturday, May 18, 2013

Where Billy Pyle Ranch in Iola Texas, near Navasota Texas Tentative Arrangements

NRA Safety rules and shooting rules will be strictly enforced All firearms should be unloaded and made safe before you arrive. They will only be loaded when they are to be fired at the shooting site

1. 10 am gathering at Billy Pyle's or a tad later
2. Live Shoot later in the day to give those traveling some distance (we can work this out)
3. Bring your own military firearm and ammunition for your own firearm
4. Furnish you own picnic lunch, chairs and shooting supplies
5. We will provide ice and soft drinks at cost.
6. We may have to limit the number of guns if we have a lot of people.

Qualified Range Officers needed Please contact by reply email This is not a competition shoot but only an opportunity to shoot your vintage military firearm at a safe live shoot

Ken Rose said he would bring, and further stated Denny Hair will bring: 1861 US Navy Colt, M1895 Nagant revolver, PPS43c (7.62x25), US 1897 12 gauge, M1941 Johnson



Join the ARC Clubmobile Group L Third Army

By Gen. Denny Hair
patton@pattonthirdarmy.com

In an effort to expand our friends and family, we are expanding to include yet another level of fun. Many of you have wives, girl friends and daughters who would like to come when they can but do not have the time to come out all the time. Some of you have daughter with friend who have limited resources who want to come out and can not the funds to have a lot of uniforms and gear. Sometimes they can just come for the day.

Our command staff has looked into a way to open a few more doors into our hobby.

Here is a little history

Red Cross Clubmobile Program and Donut Girls

On April 13, 1844, General Bradley took part in the American Red Cross Clubmobiles official dedication. Mr. Harvey D. Gibson, American Red Cross Commissioner in Great Britain made the presentation to Lt. General Bradley, who was there to represent the U.S. Army. Ground forces in Europe. The new Clubmobiles were converted US army 2 ½ ton, 6 wheeled trucks capable of crossing rough terrain. The trucks were to be manned by female Red Cross "donut" girls who would take, free of charge, doughnuts, hot coffee, cigarettes and candy near the front lines as military situation. In addition they will carry newspapers, a phonograph with an assortment of records, a radio receiving set and an amplifying unit with arrange of a quarter mile. (Headquarters, European Theater of Operations, United States Army, Number 1912 Press release, 13, April 1944, Authors personal collection)

Unknown to General Patton at the time of this release, this program would be a part of his Third Army and even his headquarters in the near future. The Associated Press and wireless transmissions were sent to the United States. A story about this appeared in the New York times and throughout

most of the newspapers in circulation at the time.

This program was highly organized and employed women who received some pay, uniforms and were trained in the states and again in England. They had the assumed rank of Captain so if they were captured, they would be treated as such according to the Geneva conventions. The Red Cross was world wide so these lines of authority were respected, or at least, hoped to be. The Clubmobile Program was not new and had operated successfully in North African and Pacific theater. These women were not “camp follows” nor prostitutes. They were to maintain the highest standards and were highly supervised.

Clubmobile veteran Mary Redford said, “The standard for attractiveness in those days was not Rita Hayworth or Betty Grable, but the look was well scrubbed wholesome “girl next door.” We were somewhere between dowdy and glamorous. We had to look friendly not seductive. In those days, before the sexual revolution, it was assumed that single young women took sexual morality seriously. And most of us did..if any soldier stepped out of line with his remarks was usually chastised by his buddies, not by us, We the Red cross girls- and USO girls, too-were respected. Even though we were surrounded by men, men who had been separated from their wives and sweethearts for months and years, we felt perfectly safe.”

“Make no mistake,” as Julia Ramsey put in here thesis, “these were not —girls! in anything but name. Rather, these were intelligent, tough, and educated women who were often fiercely independent and in most cases fit the traditional female roles of the time much less closely than their —on paper qualifications would indicate.”

(Ramsey, Julia A. “Girls” in Name Only: A Study of American Red Cross Volunteers on the Frontlines of World War II by Julia A. Ramsey A thesis submitted to the Graduate Faculty of Auburn University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts in History Auburn, Alabama August 6, 2011 Pages 55-56)

There were three women assigned to each clubmobile and 8 Clubmobiles to a Group and one Cinemobile run by two. They had dress uniforms in the evening, which were cut in the still of the uniforms of the period, were of a blue green color, complete with a service overseas cap, and purse. They had white gloves and were encourage to dress up and remind the young enlisted men why they were fighting. Their job was to entertain the enlisted men and not cater to the officers. This they did very well.

However, because they did cook donuts in the field, they wore a multitude of different field uniforms. The one most used in the field was the 1piece coveralls in HBT material.

The Red Cross women, who did this job, were every bit as important to the war effort as those who supported the troops back home on the home front. There are very few books on the subject and that it is a shame as they did a great job supporting the troops. In addition the women were subject to



ARC Girls in coveralls

combat conditions and several were highly decorated. These would include bronze, and silver stars and wounds resulting in awards of purple hearts. Some were in combat zone long enough to earn battle stars on the overseas ribbon. Some were killed in combat and some by car accidents. They were in the army and had "Army Service Forces Certificate of Identity of Non-combatant" issued to them. They were subject following and carrying out orders.

There will be much more as we get this program underway. In Texas, when the Third Army Medical unit comes out, they will be under their supervision and part of the able M/Sgt. Chuck Toney. We plan to develop this to eventually include a clubmobile. We can have a lot of fun with this and we hope to see it developed in as many ways as we can into a viable



Clubmobile model conversion kit

program introduced nationwide by our National Headquarters.

For you modelers, this will add one level to your collection of models. There is a conversion kit available to convert 1 /35 scale GMC CCKW .



Third Army Hero M/Sgt. Joseph D. Rosevich

Third Army Hero is a recurring biography series of individuals who served with Third Army

Date and place of birth: 12 April 1915, Delaware

Date and place of death: 5 May 2007, New York, New York

M/Sgt. Rosevich' enlisted in the Army on 15 September 1941, and was assigned to Fort Benning, Georgia. On 15 February 1942 he began his work with General Patton. M/Sgt. Rosevich was assigned at General Patton's personal secretary a role he would fill until 15 June 1945. M/Sgt. Rosevich continued his service in Europe helping refugees from Nazi death camps. After his discharge M/Sgt. Rosevich returned to teaching high school English.

M/Sgt. Rosevich's close relationship as General Patton's personal secretary was documented in his article from Saga Magazine titled, *The Patton Nobody Knew*.

Patton's Third Army Living Historians is proud to recognize M/Sgt. Rosevich as the Third Army Hero for May 2013.

**“By perseverance, study, and eternal desire,
any man can become great”**

GSP



Saying Goodbye

By Capt. Karie Hubnik
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There are a variety of reasons each of us became interested in reenacting or participating as WWII living historians, yet at the very core it really comes down to making sure that the stories, history, facts, and sacrifices are never forgotten. Non-reenactors may consider this just a hobby, but I consider somewhat of a necessity so that future generations know about and can glean from the lives of the men and women who lived what is in our history books during the second world war. As much as I enjoy being a living historian reenactor, words cannot express what an honor and privilege it is and has been to associate with those of the greatest generation who are still living. After all, the most important stories are the ones that can be heard first hand, and we all know that the WWII veterans are fading fast.



Capt. Hubnik with Dave Hughes in 2010

I have had the opportunity to associate in some form or fashion with up to 300 - 400 WWII veterans, maybe more. In the process I've acquired countless friends, some of which have become like family, endless grandparents who look out for me on a regular basis. With the majority of my close friends being almost a century old, all too often time is cut short and they pass on too quickly.

Last month the very first WWII veteran I interviewed, and consequently one of the veterans I was closest to, passed away unexpectedly. It was a shock to all of us, which is ironic because at the age of 89 we know time is limited. But Dave Hughes was full of life, and energy, and everyone who knew him thought he would outlive us all. Dave was an integral part of our history, serving in the United States Navy during WWII. Although his ship was docked outside the harbor on the morning of December 7, 1941, Dave, at the young age of 17, was out in the open inside the harbor in a motor whale boat transporting his superior officer to another ship when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Dave would survive to tell the story. By 1942 he would find himself in the task force alongside the Hornet for the Doolittle Raid, and by November of 1942 during the Battle of Tassafaronga off of Guadalcanal, Dave's ship, the USS Northampton would be sunk after being hit by two torpedoes. Now if that's not living history, I don't know what is. Like many of these great men and women, WWII was just a portion of their lives. As in Dave's case, he never wanted to talk about Pearl Harbor until his Dad forced him to speak to school students at the request from a neighbor. Since that time



Roy Hughes (no relation) salutes his friend Dave Hughes for the last time

Dave spent countless hours reaching out to people, involving himself in the community and touching the lives of countless others, including myself. This was evident with over 150+ veterans, teachers, school administrators, students, even the county commissioner, and law enforcement, and many others gathered to pay their final respects.

In just a blink of an eye Dave, who told his story as a testimony for those who never made it home, now rests on our shoulders. May we always remember the real reason we are living historians - to help those we teach understand that the reenacting we do represents the real people and the real sacrifices that were paid in our behalf.



Dave Hughes with his brothers during WWII



Researching Patton and His Third Army

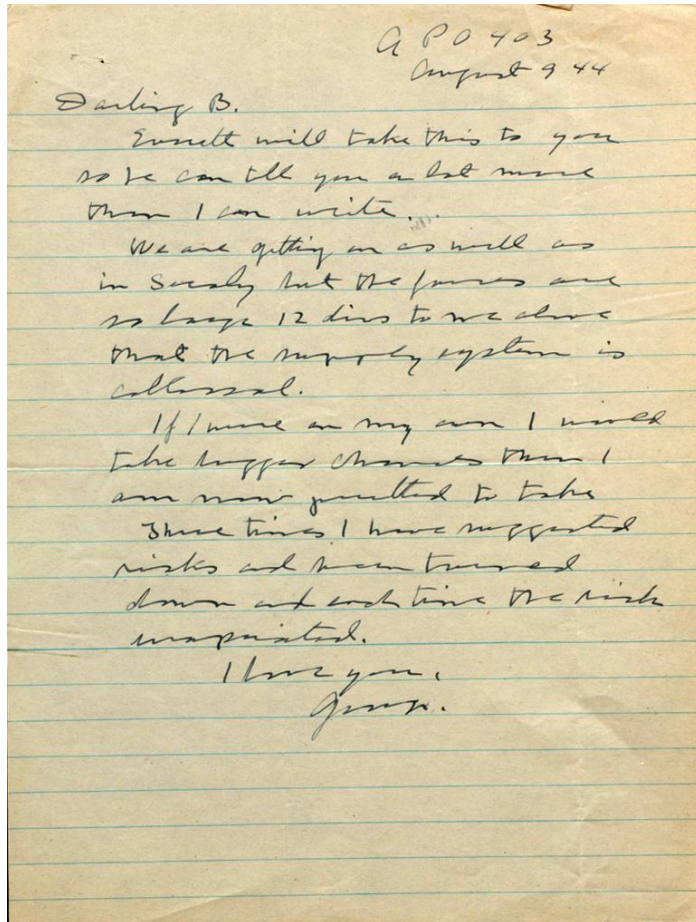
By Gen. Denny Hair
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Most of you know I am writing a book on General Patton and his Third Army. I am indebted beyond words to a researcher in Washington DC named Pascale Craan. She has really worked hard and has uncovered a huge treasure trove of Patton information. One of the reasons you find a lot of the same information from one book to the next is that the information is self-perpetuating from a pile of books. In 1945, when the first books started coming out about Patton and WWII, they were written from first hand reports as they were understood by the people who were there. They kept diaries and wrote from memories. The next set of books was by researchers who wrote from the diaries and unpublished manuscripts. The story began to expand as more information was gleaned from these letters and accounts. After the Movie Patton and the publishing of the Patton Papers by Martin Blumenson, Patton came alive in history. More and more books came out. Finally the Patton family, who had remained quiet through it all decided that it was better to share their family heritage and history to the public. They began to talk and allow research into the massive amount of documents, files, diaries and military history books that General Patton, through his wife Beatrice accumulated. The family began to deposit files and documents in various institutions. So too did the staff and friends of Patton.

Today there are books written from books that were written from books. The unfortunate problem that arises from it is it gets information to the public that is simply not true, half true or just an educated guess. All of this is then sold as absolute truth. In writing this book, I have tried to start with a clean slate and accept nothing as fact till the fact had been looked at. That meant that I had to go back to the original sources. General Patton was a highly intelligent man and read and wrote more than any other General in the history of the US army, perhaps in history with no exceptions. He had a huge library. He wrote

home almost every day, all of his life. All of these papers still exist. They reside, for the most part in the Library of Congress and are archived on what is called the Patton Papers. There are many thousand documents.

It is not as simple as you might think to write from them. I have been accused, and justly so, of not spelling or at least not using spell check. Ok, I'll accept that. I have attached a letter home from General Patton, to Beatrice, his wife, written on August 9, 1944. He was in his mobile headquarters in the field, in France and it was late, after a day at the front. I thought I would have a little fun with this. You are now the researcher trying to write about Patton. Just what did he write home that day? Here is a copy of the original letter....Good Luck



"I always believe in being prepared, even when I'm dressed in white tie and tails"

GSP



Why Patton?

By Denny Hair and Pascal Craan, who is now an honorary member of our Third Army

"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather we should thank God that such men lived." - GSP

As many of you know, I continue to work on my book, which is as much a labor of love it is a literary project, I hope that Patton's Third Army Headquarters from the Ground up and the Top Down will honor the men and women as they should be remembered. In the process, I found myself in need of a researcher located in the Washington, DC Metro area that not only had access to the Library of Congress but, was familiar with researching there. After speaking with several candidates, I found a researcher I thought would fit the bill.

Ms. Pascale Craan

From our first conversation, I knew that this kid was one smart cookie; she not only asked a lot of questions, but the right questions to make sure that she was finding the materials I needed. As well, with her campaigning background, she often played devil's advocate to prepare me to respond with clarity to these sorts of questions from others and, in her words, "to avoid the media faux pas' of your alter ego."

After working together for a few weeks, she asked me "Why Patton?"; my answer was immediate. I had no idea she would remember what I said but she did and she wrote it back to me. Here is what she wrote.

I share it with you now:

"In today's world, we have a generation that "looks up" to "celebutantes" who are famous simply for being famous; a generation that calls sports players and entertainment stars "heroes". What truly qualifies someone as a hero?

A hero is obviously someone that is respected; a person to look up to, but, a hero is also someone who is truly generous of spirit. Those who "act" like heroes, those with a selfish intent to gain notoriety, or accolade, or to enhance their own reputations are not true heroes; they only play a part. Those who are true heroes act selflessly to protect others and this, by its nature, involves sacrifice.

The Greatest Generation knew and understood this. Resolved in their belief in democracy, and resolute in their beliefs in liberty, they all made sacrifices for the good of us all. From saving old tires, planting Victory gardens and forgoing sugar, to the ultimate sacrifice of loss of life on the battlefield, whatever the deprivation, they resolved to succeed, therefore, met the challenges before them and never surrendered.

This generation did not choose their illustrious title; there was no self-awareness of their exemplary achievements at the time; and though it was Tom Brokaw who prospectively bestowed them with this designation in recognition of their accomplishments, the values that they demonstrated have become synonymous with the values of America. The next generation has no examples of real heroes among them. Patton is a true hero among real heroes.

It doesn't have to be that the greatest generation is behind us.

Whether we know it or not, as Americans, we've all inherited their values, American Values. We've seen how these values, our values can be reawakened from dormancy in times of tragedy, and however, they need to be present on a daily basis.

The American dream is not just something that you believe in, but something that you have to work for. Our collective dream for America is based on the enduring values embodied by the Greatest Generation, and one of the greatest products of that time, General Patton.

Though Patton's story has, and will always endure, at a time when the world is wrought with turmoil, it is the perfect time to introduce/reintroduce a man that everyone and anyone can draw inspiration from. You don't have to be perfect to achieve great things, but, you have to try ... no, not just try, but, do your best. "

I think Pascale put it back to me better than I said it to begin with.

I want to tell you a little more about her. I have never met her face to face. She is a lawyer, researching at the Library of Congress to get the next set of letters behind her name.

She is professionally researching for others to help pay her way through graduate school. I wish she had the time to join in with us; she would be one hell of a soldier. It is rare you find someone like this. Col. Manning recognized before I did that our Lord had his hand in it. I have no doubt that he's right.

I am trying to get her to write an article for our next newsletter. She says she will. I am going to hold her to it.

Please Welcome, Pascale Craan, War Correspondent at the Washington Research Bureau



503d MP Battalion Update

By Lt. Col. Alan Jones
atj53@att.net

We have a few upcoming events that we need to prepare for this year, a couple I'll address here but a couple of others, which are being worked on, will remain hush-hush.

First, Major O'Connor and I will be setting up our 3d Army display the weekend of 8-9 June, at the Trolley Museum in Elgin, Illinois. We would like a few of you to also attend to add to the display. Those of you interested in participating contact me. Second, we have a Camp Atterbury event scheduled for the weekend of 6-8 December. During the months between, those are the ones that are the hush-hush ones. Though, when we are able to announce them, you'll love them. In the meantime, I'd like for all of you to insure that you familiarize with the FM's that I sent you by email, especially the Drill and Ceremony section of FM 21-100, and the section in FM 29-5 on the duties of a Military Policeman. Also, work on your impression, and continue reading on 3d Army and General Patton.

One other topic is Recruiting; I will always address this topic as

it's very important. I challenge each of you to bring one qualified new member into 3d Army. If this can be done, we will have doubled in size and this is one aspect of having more fun. The quality of the recent new members that were interviewed and accepted at the History Fest is the proverbial 'cream of the crop'. It's my goal to keep it that way.

Of the Troops and for the Troops



Nancy France - The Seedy Side of War

By Denny Hair
patton@pattonthirdarmy.com

The Problems of leave in a liberated city - a view of the city by 301st Signal Operation Battalion, Company A
3rd Army Headquarters
October 13, 1944 Friday

Authors note: this was an eye witness account written in 1945 by a soldier. By today's standards it is not something that could be written and published. It would 301st Signal Operation Battalion, History of Company A be considered more than a little bit on the insensitive chauvinistic

The town of Nancy France had been liberated and was an open city in that it was a good place to go on leave. General Patton understood his soldiers and knew he could not stop the fraternization, though forbidden. What he did do was regulate the part of the population that his men were most likely to come in contact with on leave, namely the bars and whore houses. He knew that if left unregulated, his men would be fleeced, rolled, beat up and possibly killed. Nancy was a town also that still had collaborators in it and spies were and could cause serious breaches in security. What he did was innovative and worked. Venereal disease was a serious problem and it had spread though out all of the armies both axis and allies due to the brothels.

It was strictly business with Patton; a soldier who was sick or injured could not fight. That lowered the numbers of combat soldiers he could put in the field. That raised the number of casualties in battle because he could not attack with fully manned divisions. Replacements were very difficult to get. On the other side of the issue was fatigue and morale were serious concerns as well. Patton found a way to balance both concerns.

Some of Patton's headquarters' men described the town of Nancy in their unit histories. The following is an exact quote, written in 1945.

"Nancy was the first long stop ... made on the continent and here was its first close-up of life in a sizeable French city. The city was not damaged badly enough to interfere much with its normal functions, once the army had set about restoring its public utilities. For the townspeople it was a question of changing over their housing and entertainment facilities from their conquerors to their liberators.

This did not seem too much of a problem for these people who had had centuries of practice. And because of its borderline

tendencies, it is probably incorrect to say that Nancy is typical of all of France. Patton allowed passes to be issued from noon to eight in the evening and once more, after a long time on the leash, the men were on their own. In the town there were numerous cafes; some restaurants were operating, and a few hotels were serving guests in their grills. Anyone who patronized the restaurants did so mostly for the novelty of it rather than for the menu. GI food was far better than anything obtainable on the outside unless the restaurant was in on a black market deal, and then the prices would be prohibitive of frequent visits. The cafes sold thin beer and sometimes wine; Mirabelle, Schnapps, and poor quality Cognac were at times available but mostly in certain places and only to those in the know. The hotels sold wine of good quality but at prices that gradually crept up to a point that made the GI feel like a good old-fashioned night club sucker. But neither cost nor quality was any object to these men who had spent six long weeks in the field.

The women at Nancy were quite a novelty. After a long dose of the English women with their broad A's, flat chests, and red legs, and then a long interval with nothing to look at but the peasant variety in the fields and towns of France, these really feminine women were a treat. They were shapely, and their dress and make-up suggested some effort at being chic. There was that look in their eye that seemed to suggest soft lights, a bottle of wine and a chaise lounge. (The men had a name for it: *couchez avec*.) There was no dancing in Nancy and, for the enlisted men at least, it was difficult to mingle with the better class of women with the result that they often just sat in a place like the Hotel Thiers, ogling and drooling as the stuff went by. It was in the smaller side street cafes that the men were more likely to let down their hair. Here a little bribery with cigarettes or chocolate might induce the barmaid to produce the bottle of liquor that was cached on the top shelf in the back room. The Mademoiselles who frequented these places nearly all had the same story: husband Boche prisoner. They lived alone and didn't like it, and it didn't take much to induce them to join the singing and horseplay. It wasn't Montmartre atmosphere but it was the closest thing to it.

Drinking in France had the same effect on the kidneys as did the drinking in England, and here too the question of relief presented a problem. Finding the men's room was not too difficult; it was plainly marked and the route was not too much of a maze. But once gained, the men's room did offer a few hazards.

First was its nearness to the ladies' room, granted of course that it was a separate room. If the visit wasn't too urgent there was always the temptation to peek or listen in the opposite direction. If the visit was urgent, then there was the imminent danger of intrusion, not only by the female customers but also, as sometimes happened in the better places, by the attendant from the women's lavatory who might pay periodic visits to the men's room in search of a handout of cigarettes. (This really amounted to a shakedown; the victim, in his efforts to be nonchalant, had no choice but to yield to the demands of this strange racketeer.) And finally, there was the "Morton Bomb Sight". Morton was a porcelain affair made somewhat like the bottom of a modern stall shower. Just a little to the rear of center was a five-inch hole and, placed at the correct interval to either side and slightly in front of it, were two foot treads. Its

use brought back unhappy memories of straddle trenches; it just wasn't designed for anything else than practicability.

The only problem involved in its use was in assuming the proper stance in respect to the hole. The treads were approximately the size of a size fifteen shoe and it required a little bit of experimenting to determine the relationship between the size of the shoe and the size of the tread and to determine whether the inference should be taken up in the forward or rear direction so as not to miss the target. It was amazing to think that here in France where the people were so concerned with anything that might contribute to their personal comfort or emotional satisfaction would be found an article of plumbing so utterly devoid of convenience.

Equal in notoriety with French plumbing are French post cards and their portrayal of the French concepts of the oldest profession in the world. Here in Nancy, just around the corner from one of the town's large cathedrals, was the sector in which this profession flourished. In a row of houses, each with its cafe on the first floor and rooms on the floors above, the madams and their girls carried on their business in a manner as casual as that of the corner grocer. Sightseeing in these places were a novelty. It was amusing to see the customers' affection rung up on the cash register in advance. The girls practiced their salesmanship in chorus-girl attire that was sometimes attractive and at all times convenient. Every race, creed and color was just part of a day's work. The shifts changed in midafternoon just as in any business that operated on a sixteen hour basis. Here was one business that didn't suffer as a result of the war and though, as a profession, it is common throughout the world, these women whose heart and soul were in their work lifted it above the ordinary class with the variety and effort they applied to it. These touches of city life and contacts with civilization were quick to lift the men from the rough and ready attitude of the field soldier to the more regimented life of the garrison. With billets came billet inspection and the usual chicken but at the same time the men were grooming themselves with the nattiness and sharpness that had always been typical of them." (301st Signal Operation Battalion, History of Company A, January 20, 1943 to September 15, 1945, Published US Army Signal Corps, Munich Germany 1945

Excerpts from Patton's Third Army Headquarters From the Ground up and the top down, day by day by Denny Hair ©



What It Was Like At Home

By Col. Carlos Manning
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We all know a lot of what the soldier went through, but what about the folks at home? What was war like for them? There are a few of us old enough to remember .

I was a little too young to remember a lot, but I remember shortage of food, milk, and butter and how different a lot of things were. My school friends were asked to gather up scrap metal. The local Boy Scouts were champions at this. Being my

friends I knew not all the scrap metal was given but sometimes apprehended by zealous scouts wanting to win the competition. The prize was a six, bottle carton of 6oz. Cokes. (A prize to kill for). The pennies changed color too. All of a sudden the color was no longer copper but a dull silver gray.(Zinc). The high school band had to use hand me down band instruments because the factories could no longer get brass to make new ones with. The factories of course started production of war material.

The makers of Juke Boxes(that played records for a nickel) like Wurlitzer started making compasses and deicers they also had made accordions (no loss there unless you were from the South). The typewriter, hubcap, lipstick companies started making .30 cal. And .45 cartridges. The final American car that was produced during the war rolled off the line February 10, 1942. Their production went to trucks, tanks and airplanes. Ford was even asked to help Willys make Jeeps because they could not make them fast enough to keep up with demand. The government formed the agency called W.P.A.(War Production Board). The shortages for the folks at home, really began then.

Rationing began, and everyone had to have a ration book. I remember even if we had stamps it did not mean we could get items like butter, sugar, meat or coffee. There were shortages of all things that we thought made life bearable. I remember to substitute for butter we had white lard and a small package of yellow colored powder that you mixed with it, while soft and it looked like butter to put on your toast.

There were no tires for cars. I learned very young to patch a tire tube. I could hardly find room to put a patch, there were so many. The W.P.A. propaganda started on the radio. The word was "Bury a Jap with Scrap" posters were in Public places. "Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without" was heard on every radio station. My Mother and sisters were affected too. To save fifty tons of wool, the W.P.A. outlawed vests, patch pockets, cuffs, wide lapels, hemlines went up, pleats were abolished. They even required a ten percent reduction in the material for women's bathing suits.(no complaints by men here). No nylons either. My Mother would paint a line of black wax marking pen on the back of her leg to look like she had on nylons. She had no bobby pins either and found clever ways to use tooth picks instead. Color for fabrics were dictated by the W.P.A.'s Regulation L-85. The approved colors were red, gold and gallant blue. Toothpaste became rare. I remember using bicarbonate soda to brush my teeth with for a long time. Toothpaste tubes were made of tin and the W.P.A. said that 60 tubes contained enough tin to solder all the electrical connections on a B-17 Bomber. They had charts in the Post Office that showed what scrap would produce. It said that 10 old metal buckets would have sufficient steel to make a mortar. 10 old stoves equaled a Scout Car and 252 push lawn mowers would be enough to build a anti aircraft gun. The high way speed limit was 35mph. This was known as "Victory Speed". You had to have gas first and if your father did war work he could have a few gallons if there was any.

I could go on and on, but I think you are beginning to get the picture. The folks at home served in fighting the War too. They did without so the soldiers could have what it takes to win. Let us take a look at what some of things they did: thirty thousand tanks in 1943 almost three per hour around the clock. 6 million

rifles, 98,000 bazookas, 648,000 trucks, 33 million uniforms for soldiers, 61 million pairs of socks and on and on. We were at home but by no means did we feel that we not serving our country. "Keep them Flying", "Loose lips sink ships", "God bless our boys" were the by-words in my home town." Put your shoulder to the wheel or we will loose the war". I remember the star flags in the windows showing a son or husband was serving in the military. I remember telegrams being delivered and hearing crying and wailing coming from that house. I was a little too young to understand a lot of what was going on. I do know we tried to do our part as a family. That is why I display and reenact every chance I get. That is why I belong to Patton's Third Army. I do not want people to forget what my neighbors and friends did for this country. Especially my neighbors who did not come back. Some died in factory accidents building war material.



European Reflections

By Dave Davis
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Attention members of the Old Soldier's Association:

I hope all of you can attend the live fire shoot scheduled for this Saturday, the 18th of May. Denny has worked very hard to give us the chance to enjoy a bit of range time, to fire your weapons, as well as a chance to meet with our fellow members. The information as to where and when has been published and directions are available from Denny. Please come and remember family members are welcome. Soft drinks and bottled water are available at cost, and food is a bring your own meal deal.

I just returned from a 21 day trip to Europe where we visited several battle sites from both World Wars; saw many museums, while paying our respects at several American, French and German military cemeteries. The feeling that one gets walking the old fields of battle and among the rows of crosses is sobering. The horrible wastage of young lives is a damning testament to the absolute folly of war. At Verdun, I stood inside the massive stone Douaumont Ossuary that holds the skeletal remains of 130,000 unknown dead, found on the field of battle, after the guns fell silent in 1918. In that tiny part of France there are 43 French, 29 German, and 2 American cemeteries, exclusively from World War One, containing 153,969 graves of those soldiers whose remains could be identified. Every year more bones are found. To think after this tremendous loss of life, Europe could fall back into another war 22 years later, in 1939, is insane, but that is just what happened. World War Two came and left the fields of Europe again covered with cemeteries, full of young men. The American cemeteries are beautifully maintained, but they are silent and full of broken dreams. We visited several, to include Patton's final resting place. We must never forget the men who died to give us freedom. These men gave up all of their tomorrows for us. There is a certain passage in the Bible that came to mind as I surveyed the fields of white marble markers. "Greater love has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. Keeping these words in mind I

suggest to you that those lying there in repose represent America at its finest. This is the reason that those, who reenact, should do so to honor the memory of those who gave so much. It is never about you, it is always about those heroes who lie in silent rows, those men who sacrificed all for what we often take for granted today.

With what I have just written in mind, I have an announcement to make. I have been absent from the living history hobby since 1996, but I wish to announce that it is my intention to report for duty once more. Both Mr. Hair and Mr. Manning have at last prevailed upon me to do an impression of General Eisenhower. With their help, I intend to attempt to do just that. It will take a bit of time but I will do it.

Dave Davis
President OSA



Chaplain's Corner

By Rev. Kenneth Stewart

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Scripture for the Month of May 2013

Isaiah 22:22 English Standard Version (©2001)

And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

Revelation 3:8 English Standard Version (©2001)

I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

I love restoration! Maybe the reason I love restoring things so much is because the Lord restores us. Kind of like what he did with me. The Lord Jesus took a messed up person like me and completely changed me. It wasn't easy but I am so glad that he did now I can tell others that he will do it for them.

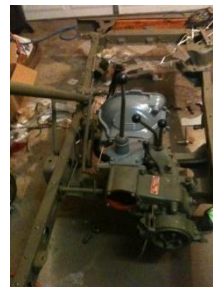
This article will be about my 1942 GPW that I am restoring. It has come a long way, but I still have a long way to go. As with the lords work in our lives there is always something that he can perfect in us. When the GPW is finished you will see what it looked like in WWII when it was new. And when the Lord is done with us we will be restored back to the beginning as well.

I finally completed painting the frame and began the assembly of the T-84 transmission and Spicer transfer case. After that was completed, I installed both as one unit. The brake and clutch pedals are back to working order again. I also started installing the fuel and brake lines. The lord blessed me with finding NOS fuel and brake line clips. I still need to finish the differentials as I am gathering parts slowly. I did make a tool to install the inner oil seals on both the front and rear differentials.

I did find that in the box of junk that I received was a nugget of gold, not literally. The speedometer that was sitting in the bottom of the bin was rusted so badly you couldn't read the

face. The glass shattered and must have sat in the jeep through countless seasons of weather and took its toll on the old speedo. After running across an article on the G503 forums and sending pictures and conversing with experts in the GPW restoration business I learned that this little speedo is an early Waltham long needle speedometer. I will have it restored sometime in the near future. All in all the build is coming along nicely, trying at times but nicely. I can't wait to get it finished and take you guys for a spin. This jeep will look like a trailer queen but this queen will not just be a looker, she will get her shoes muddy. I am building it to use and enjoy. After all what's the use in having something if you can't enjoy it. The Lord blessed us with things here to enjoy. We came into the world with nothing and you can count on not taking anything with you, except for Jesus.

Chaplain's Jeep Restoration Photos





Chief of Staff Update

By Brig. Gen Mike Maloney
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A nearly a year has passed for the newsletter! Boy, does time fly! Just a recap on what has been going on; My daughter Brandi has joined our ranks and will be doing a Red Cross Donut Girl impression, My son Zack as part of the photography section of Signal Corps, and I am working with both of them on their impressions. Speaking of the Donut Girls, please welcome Miss Erica Rodriguez as our newest member to the Third Army family, her interest will be the donut girls and she will be a great asset to us.

The "Ride with Patton's Third Army Tank Simulator" is coming along quite nicely, the main sections will be started on shortly, and two of the main components have been acquired through the efforts of Third Army personnel, Bill White has offered the use of a spare portable DVD player and Dan Vreeland located an ORIGINAL M6 tank periscope in mint condition dirt cheap, and I do MEAN dirt cheap!

Another project that has been in the works, (albeit a little over a year though) has been a 1/35 scale model of the Generals Command Van. This is a conversion kit for a CCKW workshop van, and just like the original, is being converted into the command version. Look for more of this in the near future. At this time, I would like to welcome to our Third Army family the 167th VolksGrenadier Division commanded by Tom Patchalos. Tom and his unit will be the official Axis contingent of our show and they hold the highest standard of authenticity. Dan Vreeland and I have even offered our services to assist the 167th in their efforts and recruiting, and I was honored that the unit bestowed the rank of "unteroffizier" (Sergeant) upon me. Dan and I will be working closely with the unit in local show battles and in the construction of a German transceiver that will play the counter-part of our radio sounds that we have in our radio tent. If you get the chance, go to their Facebook page and welcome them into our family.

Sgt. Dan Soza and his wife Rayne are expecting their first child any day now, from reports, it should be a girl, so wish them well.

"An incessant change of means to attain unalterable ends is always going on; we must take care not to let these sundry means undo eminence in the perspective of our minds; for, since the beginning, there has been an unending cycle of them, and for each its advocates have claimed adoption as the sole solution of successful war"

GSP

Upcoming events

18 May 2013 - Old Soldiers Association meeting and live shoot. Billy Pyle Ranch in Iola, Texas near Navasota. Gathering begins at 10:00am. Bring your own military firearms, chairs and lunch and you will get a chance to see how you fair in a live shoot.

19 – 22 September 2013 – World War II Days at Midway Village, Rockford, Illinois. Battle and displays with over 1,000 uniformed participants representing soldiers from the United States, Great Britain, France, Poland, Ukraine, Russia, Japan, Italy and Germany along 1940s era military vehicles.
<http://www.ww2rockfordevent.com/>

Headquarters Notes

G-3 Operations

By Maj. Dave Weakley
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I spent a day at Camp Atterbury scheduling the next 2 events for the 3rd Army HQ Staff. There will be a December battle on Dec 6-8 which will be a pre Battle of the Bulge event, and I have scheduled the annual National Battle for April 11-13, with the scenario being Normandy 1944 with parachute drops and glider landings. Keep your eyes peeled for more information on these events will be coming soon.

I also had the privilege along with Wayne Coulter to participate in a 90th Birthday party for Fred Schooler, a WWII Vet, who served as a Combat Engineer and he landed on Omaha 6 June 1944. As requested by the Schooler family, Wayne and I went as 82nd Airborne Infantry, and Wayne had his demolition display which was well received. I also met Wayne's brother Vic, an 82nd Airborne veteran with a total of 39 jumps and some combat jumps.

G-4 Supply

Third Army Mugs. If you want one with your name on it, contact Mike Maloney at moonshadow5739@sbcglobal.net. It is \$10 with your name and \$8 without, plus shipping.



Wanted

Dave Davis is looking for a restored WWII Jeep. He wants to be able to get in it, hit the starter and go. If you know of one like that for sale, please contact him at sgtmajorsattic@yahoo.com



Lucky Forward
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