

Volume 3, Number 1

Lucky Forward

Third Army Historical Society News Magazine

*How a "Home Touch"
Helped Win the War*

*Military Police in
Forward Areas*

*The Draft
September 16th, 1940*

*Glenn Miller in the
Army Now*

Fall 2014 Events

Rockford, Atterbury, Brushy Creek



www.pattonthirdarmy.com

A Word from the Commander



"Patton" and "Willie"

Collectively we have done quite a bit this year. Over the past year we have participated in several events we went to the Military History Fest in Pleasant Run Illinois. We have participated in the Battleship Texas event, Museum of Natural Science D Day movie Grand Opening, Memorial Day with the Commemorative Air Force. We did a public one day show at the VFW in Houston and had a wonderful time honoring the WWII veterans. We went

to several meetings of the 6th Cavalry Historical Association in Houston. We went to the Hearts Museum in Conroe and the Texas Military Forces Muster Day in Austin.

We participated in the Midway Village Museum event known as "Rockford" in Illinois, and participated in a show Battle at Gainesville Texas. We returned to 6th Cavalry Museum in Georgia in October. In December we put on a two tactical events, one at Camp Atterbury in Indiana and one in Texas at Camp Brushy Creek near Houston. There were several highlight events this year. At Rockford we put on the war room show for many thousands of the public at we taught history. We received our tax exempt status, and are formally known as the Third Army Historical Society. We produced a magnificent brochure that had helped us on many levels.

One of the most memorable event this year was the finished Patton's M20 Armored Car and entering it in the National Military Vehicle Association. We won First Place at the best Vehicle display and the gold in the Motor Pool class and the Display class. This was huge!

The internet is one of our very best tools for reaching out. Our web presence grew and we were a tad shy of one million hits on our site. www.pattonthirdarmy.com. We added several pages to it. Our Facebook page is growing with the number of participants. We had an article in Military Vehicle Magazine on the M-20 that is distributed worldwide. The 3rd army World of Tanks is growing. Our Lucky Forward newsletter is our voice and it is distributed worldwide. We need to have more articles in this as this will help us on all of our projects.

2015 will be a banner year! We obtained to MV's and one will be made into a Red Cross Clubmobile this next year. Our Webmaster is working on a huge project that will consolidate hundreds of WWII Field manuals on our web site. We have three major events we are looking at this next year. The Larimore public relation group will be working with us.

Let me challenge all of you to recruit, go to and hold events. Young People are the key to our hobby. They are the future of what we do! I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Denny Hair
(Patton)
CG, Patton Third Army Living Historians

www.pattonthirdarmy.com

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Lucky Forward News Magazine is 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



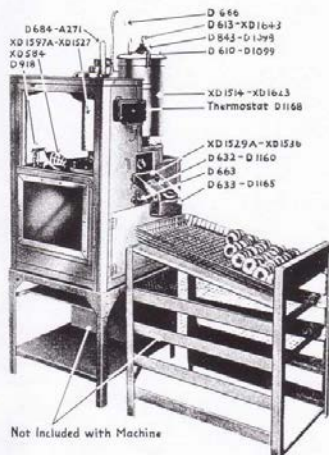


How a “Home Touch” Helped Win the War

By Col. Raymond Marino

American Soldiers have had a love affair with donuts since World War I, with the first donuts served to soldiers of the American Expeditionary Force. These first donuts served on the battlefield, were a welcome treat, but were extremely difficult to produce with consistency. Helen Purviance, a Salvation Army volunteer described the process of cooking the donuts where, “...the wood fire in the potbellied stove had to be closely monitored to keep it at an even heat for frying, and I was literally on my knees when those first doughnuts were fried, seven at a time, in a small fry pan...” This difficult labor was well received by the Doughboys, and Helen was truly moved by her work for soldiers and she remarked, “...there was also a prayer in my heart that somehow this home touch would do more for those who ate the doughnuts than satisfy a physical hunger...”

This tradition of providing soldiers a “home touch” was to be repeated during World War II; however during this new conflict the soldiers would have donuts made using the latest technology to manufacture donuts consistently and on a large scale. On the outset of World War II the American Red Cross (ARC) established an overseas presence, and the War Department determined that the ARC would be the select agent in providing the morale services as it related to the “piece of home,” most notably through the Clubmobile program. A Clubmobile was to be mobile platform where ARC volunteers would serve donuts and coffee to soldiers. The first purpose built vehicles for the program were converted “Green Line” buses, with civilian drivers and staffed by ARC volunteers. The ARC volunteers working on Clubmobiles were all women, and were subject to very strict requirements for selection to the Clubmobile service.



As Allied forces gathered in the United Kingdom for the eventual invasion of the Continent, the ARC had special designed kitchens which would be placed on a CCKW 535 chassis. This kitchen included a Lincoln Model “D” donut machine and would be ready for use upon initial deployment to the Continent. The donut machines, at a cost of \$170 (approximately \$2300 today) were

donated to the ARC by the Doughnut Corporation of America (DCA), with a stipulation that the DCA be the sole provider of the donut making materials. The specifications for the Lincoln Model “D” Doughnut Machine were:

Capacity: 40 dozen per hour, Frying Kettle Capacity: 30 lbs. Auxiliary Tank Capacity: 6 lbs.

Dough Tank Capacity: 10-20 lbs. dry mix Reload – 15 lbs.

Dimensions: 22” X 22” X 36” Floor area 3.4 sq. ft.

Net Weight: 490 lbs.

Motor: ¾ Horsepower

Electrical Consumption: Rate maximum 4.4 Kilowatts
Operating average 2.5 Kilowatts

Electrical Requirements: Main line night or protection switch. AC current, single phase, or DC Voltage either 110 or 220. Note kind of current, voltage and cycles must be specified. (220 volts AC recommended)

The ability by the ARC to provide the “home touch” was noted in a report from March 1944; an ARC Clubmobile unit landed at the Anzio beachhead, and was attached to the 3rd Infantry Division. Upon their landing on the 18th of February, they were continuously exposed to German artillery fire and by the 21st they had established operations and served more than 700 cups of coffee and 2,000 donuts. This ability to produce consistent donuts was due to the Lincoln Model “D” donut machine.

Eventually, the speed of advance by the Allied Forces and the sheer number of soldiers serving required the Clubmobile service to abandon the approach where the donut machine would remain in the Clubmobile. The ARC would establish kitchens where the donut machines would remain and would use local contract employees or in some cases POWs to cook the donuts. Again the Lincoln Model “D” donut machine came through, as the productivity was increased through the fact that the kitchens were able to operate continuously.

After the war, the Doughnut Corporation of America began an aggressive marketing campaign to recently released soldiers to start their own donut business. The pamphlet “So you want to go into the Donut Business?,” was provided to soldiers and with an initial investment of \$2500, the former soldier could start their business where they might realize \$150 to \$200 per week, all through the use of these Lincoln Model “D” donut machines.

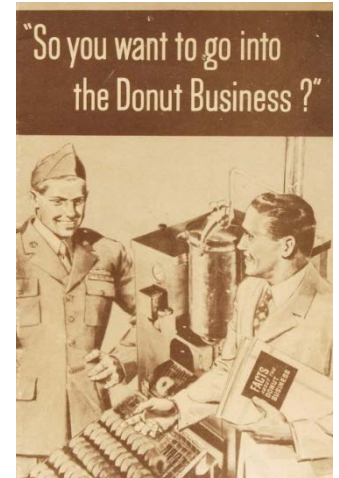
Resources:

<http://www.worldwar1.com/dbc/doughnut.htm>

<http://thedoughnuthole-doughnut503.blogspot.com/2010/09/visiting-donut-machine.html>

<http://www.collectorsweekly.com/stories/10149-post-wwii-donut-machine-and-display>

<http://restaurant-ingthroughhistory.com/tag/1930s/>





Glenn Miller in the Army Now

By Capt. Dan Hermann
dhermann4@yahoo.com

Secretly, on 20 Jun 1942 Glenn submitted his application/resume to the Commandant of the Ninth Naval District for a commission in the U.S. Naval Reserve. One of the letters of reference he sent in was written by his friend Bing Crosby.

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Glenn Miller advises me that there's a possibility of his being selected for training, with the ultimate result a commission in the United States Navy, and that he is desirous of securing letters of recommendation from friends of his that might be of some value.

It is a great privilege for me to make this recommendation for whatever it is worth, as in the many years I've known Mr. Miller I've found him to be a very high type young man, full of resourcefulness, adequately intelligent and a suitable type to command men or assist in organization.

*/signed/
Bing Crosby*

The reply from the Navy was in the negative. He was not needed by the U.S. Navy. Deeply disappointed, Glenn wrote a new letter to a friend. That friend was Brigadier General Charles Young.

Glenn told the general his thoughts on improving military music and providing shows for the troops and USO broadcasts. With enthusiastic approval of General Young, Glenn traveled to Washington to file his application for the Army.



Later he made the announcement to his band: "Gentlemen, I am now a Captain in the United States Army". Many musicians volunteered to come play in his military band if possible. Miller's Army training was not a happy experience for someone that was totally in charge, now a lowly trainee. But, Glenn made it through and traveled to Omaha and found to his surprise that he had been transferred to the Army Air Corps at Maxwell Field, Alabama.

It seems that a very observant AAC officer put in a request for an Alton G. Miller thru regular channels. No one noticed that Glenn, first name Alton was "the" Glenn Miller of Big Band fame. And that is how Glenn Miller of the Army Air Corps Band started his rise to fame in the Military.

Reference: *Glenn Miller and his Orchestra* by George T. Simon

The Draft – September 16th, 1940

By Billy Pyle
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On this day in 1940, the Burke-Wadsworth Act is passed by Congress, by wide margins in both houses, and the first peacetime draft in the history of the United States <<http://www.history.com/topics/states>> is imposed and the Selective Service was born.

The registration of men between the ages of 21 and 36 began exactly one month later, as Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, who had been a key player in moving the Roosevelt administration away from a foreign policy of strict neutrality, began drawing draft numbers out of a glass bowl. The numbers were handed to the president, who read them aloud for public announcement. There were some 20 million eligible young men—50 percent were rejected the very first year, either for health reasons or illiteracy (20 percent of those who registered were illiterate).

In November 1942, with the United States now a participant in the war, and not merely a neutral bystander, the draft ages expanded; men 18 to 37 were now eligible. Blacks were passed over for the draft because of racist assumptions about their abilities and the viability of a mixed-race military. But this changed in 1943, when a "quota" was imposed, meant to limit the numbers of blacks drafted to reflect their numbers in the overall population, roughly 10.6 percent of the whole. Initially, blacks were restricted to "labor units," but this too ended as the war progressed, when they were finally used in combat.

"Conscientious objector" status was granted to those who could demonstrate "sincerity of belief in religious teachings combined with a profound moral aversion to war." Quakers made up most of the COs, but 75 percent of those Quakers who were drafted fought. COs had to perform alternate service in Civilian Public Service Camps, which entailed long hours of hazardous work for no compensation. About 5,000 to 6,000 men were imprisoned for failing to register or serve the nation in any form; these numbers were comprised mostly of Jehovah's Witnesses.

By war's end, approximately 34 million men had registered, and 10 million served with the military.

**"Accept the challenges so that you can feel
the exhilaration of victory"**

GSP

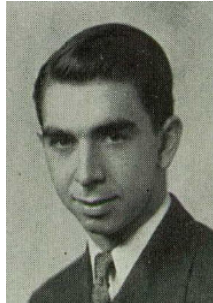


Third Army Hero CWO Fred Homer Hose

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

Chief Warrant Officer Fred Homer Hose, G-2 Administration

CWO Hose was born on 9 March 1920 in Massillon, Ohio. Hose enlisted in the Army on 22 November 1941 at Columbus, Ohio. His basic training was conducted at Camp Wolters, Texas. In March, 1942, he was reassigned to Fort Sam Houston, Texas as a clerk, and in August 1942, Hose was a Corporal assigned to Third Army headquarters. By November, 1942, Hose had been promoted to Master Sergeant.



CWO Hose, prior to WWII

In May 1943, CWO Hose was promoted to Warrant Officer and was assigned as the G-3 Administrative Officer of Third Army headquarters. Prior to the departure of Third Army to overseas, CWO Hose had been reassigned to the G-2 section as the Administrative Officer. Hose's duties within the G-2 section consisted of managing administrative functions of over 1,500 soldiers attached to Third Army for intelligence duties. Hose continued to serve with Third Army until November 1945, at which time he had been hospitalized due to contracting tuberculosis, he was returned to the United States in December 1945 and in June 1946 time he was medically retired.

After his active service, CWO Hose returned to work with the Union Drawn Division of Republic Steel Corporation, retiring after 41 years of service. Hose passed away on 9 March 2013, in Charlotte, North Carolina, and was buried in Rose Hill Memorial Park Cemetery, Massillon, Ohio. In 2002, Hose's experiences with General Patton and Third Army were published in *Lucky Forward: The History of Patton's Third Army*, and in 2012, *Growing Up Patton: Reflections on Heroes, History, and Family Wisdom*, Hose shared some additional experiences with Third Army.

CWO Hose's decorations include the Bronze Star, the American Campaign medal, the European-African-Middle, the Good Conduct medal.

**"Take calculated risks. That is quite different
from being rash"**

GSP



Military Police in Forward Areas

*By 1st Sgt. Wayne Coulter
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One of the unsung heroes of the dash across France after the breakout from the Normandy Beachhead was the Military Police Corps. Certainly, the Military Police (MP) landed with the first waves on the Normandy beaches and were involved in combat operations, traffic control and Prisoner of War (PW) handling from the early hours of the Normandy invasion, providing beachhead security, route reconnaissance, traffic control, PW handling and even sniper hunting services to the combat commander.

Military Police are responsible for some of the toughest tasks for any combat unit. Granted, they are not tasked with direct combat with the enemy, they do not "capture ground" and are not equipped to do so, however the services they provide the combat commander up to and including Army level are absolutely vital to the success of the Army's mission.

The main function of the Military Police is law and regulation enforcement. They enforce military regulations and the directives of the commanders they serve. They conduct patrols within proscribed areas and enforce the directives of the local military commander. Such regulations and directives may include, but are not limited to, town patrols, prevention of black marketing and pilfering of fuel and supplies.

A secondary and extremely important job of the Military Police is route reconnaissance and security. It is the job of the Military Police to scout intended routes for suitable roadways and bridges able to support the traffic destined to travel over them. For example, an armor column would need fairly wide roads, free of obstacles and choke points with bridges capable of supporting the heaviest vehicle in the column. A truck column on the other hand would need a fairly good roadway allowing for higher speed transit while allowing for traffic to flow in both directions. They are often the first elements to travel the intended routes to ensure they are suitable.

This leads to one of the most important jobs of the MP. Traffic control. MPs must be knowledgeable of the areas in which they support. In any movement forward, it is not surprising to see MPs already staged along the route of advance, providing battlefield circulation and control. They will be armed with the commander's intent, a listing of the units expected to be in the column and the authority of the commander which they serve. MPs are accountable only to the headquarters which serves their area and are accountable to no lesser authority. In a situation where a column commander countermands the authority of the MP, the MP will take the name, rank and serial number of the column commander, inform the column commander of the orders the MP is to enforce, and inform the commander of the column the likely consequences in terms of traffic disruption. If the commander still insists on deviating from the planned movement, the MP will not interfere further and will direct traffic with the least amount of disruption and relay a report through his chain of command to the Provost Marshal.

MPs were also responsible for escorting and guarding enemy prisoners of war. Almost as soon as the beachheads were secured on the Normandy coast, prisoner of war enclosures were to become a fixture as thousands, then hundreds of thousands of enemy prisoners of war were captured and evacuated from the continent. Enclosures ranged from fields with single strands of barbed wire, to large 20,000 man enclosures surrounded by concertina on ten foot poles with guard towers and flood lights. Early on, rations of one guard to ten PWs were expected. Later in the war, one guard to fifty PWs were commonplace, with ratios of one guard to 150 PWs not unheard of.

In the US 3rd Army context, the 503rd MP Battalion was tasked with the security of the 3rd Army Headquarters. They provided route reconnaissance and traffic control for 3rd Army units entering the continent across the beaches, guarded vital road junctions, and provided Command Post Security and personal Security for the 3rd Army HQ and the 3rd Army Commander, General George S. Patton.

There was almost no job that the Military Police didn't do during WWII. The fact was that MP didn't just stand for Military Police, but Multi-Purpose as well. MPs performed as Criminal Investigators, Traffic police, Railway Police, Airfield Police, Prisoner of War guards, combat soldiers and even engineers when performing route reconnaissance and route marking duties as well as standing toe to toe with the Germans and fighting as front line combat soldiers.

When General Patton had his Third Army Chaplain, Col. Charles O'Neil. The General had several things on his mind. Foremost was his concern that prayers were needed to sustain the Third Army. He conferred with his chaplain on this matter and from his conference he issued Training Letter Number 5 to all of his Chaplain and his division commanders.

Training Letter Number 5

"Our Glorious march from the Normandy Beach across France to where we stand, before and beyond the Siegfried line, with the wreckage of German Army behind us, should convince the most skeptical soldier that God has ridden with our banner. Pestilence and Famine have not touched us. We have continued in unity of purpose. We have had no quitters, and our leadership has been masterful. The Third Army has no roster of Retreats. None of Defeats. We have no memory of a lost battle to hand to our children from this great campaign.

"But we are not stopping at the Siegfried Line. Tough days may be ahead of us before we eat our rations at the Chancellory of the Deutsches Reich.

"As chaplains it is out business to pray. We preach it's importance. We urge its practice. But the time is now to intensify our faith in prayer, not alone with ourselves but with every believing man, Protestant, Catholic, Jew or Christian, in the ranks of the Third United States Army.

"those who pray do more for the world than those who fight; and if the world goes from bad to worse, it is because there are more battles than prayers." "Hands lifted up" said Boussuet, "smash more battalions than hands that strike." Gideon of the Bible fame was least in his father's house. He came from Israel's smallest tribe. But he was a mighty man of valor. His

strength lay not in his military might, but in his recognition of God's proper claims upon his life. He reduced his army from Thirty-two thousand to three hundred men lest the people of Israel would think their valor had saved them. We have no intention to reduce our vast attacking force. But we must urge, instruct, and indoctrinate every fighting man to pray as well as fight. In Gideon's day, and in our own, spiritually alert minorities carry the burdens and bring the victories.

Urge all of our men to pray, not alone in the church, but everywhere. Pray when driving. Pray when fighting. Pray alone. Pray with others. Pray by night and pray by day. Pray for the cessation of immoderate rains, for good weather for Battle. Pray for the defeat of our wicked enemies whose banner is injustice and whose god is oppression. Pray for Victory. Pray for our Army, and pray for peace.

We must march together, all out for God. The soldier who "cracks up" does not need sympathy or comfort as much as he needs strength. We are not trying to make the best of these days. It is our job to make the most of them.

Now is not the time to follow God from afar off." This army needs the assurance and the faith that God is with us. With prayer we can not fail.

"Be assured that this message on prayer has the approval, the encouragement, and the enthusiastic support of the Third Army United States army Commander.

With every good wish to each of you for a Happy Christmas and my personal congratulations for your splendid and courageous work since landing on the beach. I am., General George S. Patton.



Breakout the Pursuit 2014

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

This event was two years in the planning and organizing. The host unit, 2nd Armored Division in Europe, did it all. To attend this event, you had to be invited as 2nd Armored wanted guys that not only looked the part of WWII Soldiers, but those that had the fortitude to endure a twelve day total immersion event. And, that is was. This event was held in France over some of the same ground that some of the actual combat units of 2nd Armored actually fought over. The entire area was part of the World War I Somme Battlefield.

Six of us from 3rd Army were accepted after applying, and went through the process of preparing. These members were myself, Major Aaron Johnston, 2Lt, Louis Steinhaus, T/4 Larry Cooper, Cpl Clint Vaughn, and T/5 Travis Smith. None of us had ever attended an event like this before as here in the US, WWII reenactments are normally a weekend event, nothing like this. The 2nd Armored coordinators sent out by email, lists of the uniforms and equipment needed, and the Rules for the event. We paid our Event Fee by payments as these funds went for fuel and food for us while tactical. We also rented blank firing weapons, and bought blank ammunition for this event from a movie company out of Holland which we picked up at our assembly area in France. For this event, all of us were

assigned to the 2nd Platoon, Company B, 41st Armored Infantry, 2nd Armored Division. I became the Platoon Sergeant, Aaron was appointed a Staff Sergeant, and Squad Leader for 2nd Squad, Louis was appointed as a Sergeant, assistant Squad Leader for 2nd Squad, Larry, Clint, and Travis were Privates, and riflemen. Clint and Travis became a BAR team for 2nd Squad. The coordination was immense. We all had questions and concerns, and were on the phone to each other every day. That's not to mention emails also. We finally got everything together, got our duffle bags packed and weighed, then, just like the real Army, waited to leave.

We all traveled by air to Brussels, Belgium, on Sunday 23 August or Monday 24 August, where we were billeted at the Belgian Military Academy until Wednesday, 27 August, when we boarded a touring bus for our trip to the assembly area in Lihons, France. At Lihons, a small farming village, we got off the bus, and our Platoon Leader, 2Lt Brian Denny, and I located the Commanding Officer of Company B already there, and were directed to our Platoon bivouac area. There we set up our pup tents by squads, and began our integration into Company B. We meet members of the 1st Platoon, also the 41st AIR Intelligence & Recon Platoon, and Company C, 82nd Recon Battalion. Overall there were close to 200 within our 'Task Force'. We were also assigned to our squad Halftracks, and met the drivers. We also received briefings on how, when our meals were to be served, plus an overall operations briefing by the Company Commander. The citizens of Lihons were very nice to us. On the evening we arrived, they served us Champaign, Wine, Beer, and 'finger' food. Before we left Lihons, we all participated in a ceremony to honor their village citizens that were killed in action during World War I. They appreciated that.

On Friday morning, the 29th of August, in a light rain, we loaded our equipment, and mounted up in our squad halftracks, and prepared to move to Bray-sur-Somme where we were to spend 3 nights. On the way there, we had a couple of brief encounters, ambushes, by our German unit, but the actions were brief as we needed to proceed to Bray-sur-Somme.

Upon arrival just outside Bray-sur-Somme we set our Company bivouac just off the road alongside a pasture. There we set up our camp for the night, and prepared for our move into the city of Bray-sur-Somme. The next afternoon, we moved dismounted about half a mile down the road, and across a bridge over the Somme River locks. We ran into brief opposition by enemy forces, and engaged them. We then moved forward, crossed the locks, and prepared to attack across an open field toward the remains of a farm. The 1st Platoon moved first across the field, and the 2nd Platoon moved up a small road on the 1st Platoon's left. Lt. Denny led off with our 1st Squad and the Headquarters Squad. I followed with the 2nd and Machine Gun Squads. The leading element became heavily engaged up around the farm remains while our trailing element supported with fire. At this time, I moved the MG Squad up with the 1st Squad, and sent the 2nd Squad around to the right of the farm buildings remains. There the 2nd Squad flushed about a dozen Germans, with an armored car, out of their positions there. These Germans then moved around the building directly into the fire of the remainder of the 2nd Platoon. Needless to say they were surprised. At that time, another group of German Infantry, with a 222 Scout Car, attacked us from the front, and

were repulsed. Upon completion of this action we received orders from the Company Commander to regroup, and move back to our bivouac site. There we received hot chow, and proceeded to prepare for our assault on the city of Bray-sur-Somme itself the next day.

The morning that day was overcast with a light rain as we moved to our assault positions. We were to assault the city using the exact same bridges over the Somme River locks as the 2nd Armored Division elements actually used in September 1944. Once everything was in place, we moved across the bridges and up the street toward our objective, the city square. We attacked up the same street as was initially used during the war, and of course, as what occurred then, occurred again, we ran into German resistance. Our Recon guys were up front, and caught the initial enemy fire which they dismounted their jeeps and returned. Our 1st Platoon was right behind them and became heavily engaged. The Germans had machine guns in buildings and riflemen scattered around them. They also had a small Tank at the intersection we needed to use. During this time, our 2nd Platoon moved forward to assist the 1st Platoon to break through this roadblock, and continue into the city square. As we moved along the sidewalks, hugging the walls of the buildings, we had to step or jump over bodies of 'casualties' laying on the sidewalks or in the street. As the fight moved up, and rounded the corner into the city square, the 2nd Squads' BAR team, Privates Vaughn and Smith, following Lt. Owens of the Recon Platoon, moved up to a building where a German MG 42 team with a few riflemen were firing down from 2nd floor windows on our Company. These three Soldiers, worked their way into the building, silenced the German MG and riflemen, and then opened fire on the remaining Germans around the square from that vantage point. Their action greatly assisted and enhanced our Company in securing our objective. By then, it had stopped raining. As everything was secured, and all troops accounted for, we formed up and moved by foot to our next bivouac site along the Somme River. The next day, we enjoyed the city of Bray-sur-Somme.

After three days at Bray, we mounted our halftracks and moved to the city of Peronne. Upon arrival, we dismounted from the 'tracks', and conducted an assault up through two city blocks in downtown Peronne, and into the city square where Germans were holding the city hall. After a brief fight, the Germans were evicted, and the remaining ones rounded up. We then moved into the city square with our halftracks, and displayed them for the populace. We later participated in a parade for a wreath laying ceremony at a local monument. We then bivouacked in a city park near the downtown area. Our stay in Peronne was very enjoying as there is a 16th Century Castle that has been remodeled into a very unique and interesting World War One museum. Our stay in Peronne was only for two days, but we enjoyed the hot showers we had there. Upon our departure, we mounted up in our halftracks, and headed toward the town of Flers.

Arriving in Flers we visited the town, and a barn in which a WWI tank, and some other artifacts that were on display. Some of our Company went to visit a British Army WWI cemetery where one of our participants had a relative buried. Upon leaving the town, we moved into a field where we were to set up dismounted tactical night positions. Our 2nd Platoon moved into our assigned area along a row of small trees and

shrubbery facing another about 150 yards away across an open field. We had our MG Squad on our left, the HQ Squad, and then the 1st and 2nd Squads spaced out to the right. On our right flank, the 1st Platoon dug in. We actually dug in using our small e-tools, though some brought larger shovels and picks from the halftracks. As one of our Platoon members was digging, he found a unique item, turns out that he dug up a buried WW1 Artillery shell. This shell was moved a safe distance away by one of our French unit members. That night, we were 'probed' by enemy forces with small arms fire, mortar shelling (pyro techniques), and numerous flares overhead. This was a great learning experience for a lot of our unit members who've never experienced anything like this previously. The night was very cool, and the ground muddy where we were dug in. Sleeping in a foxhole for some was difficult.

The next morning, we had breakfast, then mounted our halftracks and headed to the city of Cambrai. There, we again were bivouacked along the Somme River in a city park but were also able to enjoy the hot showers that were available to us. While in Cambrai, we again positioned our halftracks in the city square on display, and participated in a parade to a World War 1 monument. We also turned in the rental weapons, cleaned some equipment, and helped repack the vehicles we had used for their return to England.

This was the end of the trip, but what a trip. To me, it was worth the time, trouble, and cost. To be able to hold an event like this in the United States would be impossible. So, travelling to Europe to participate in one of their events should be a priority of all in our hobby, as it will change your outlook on how we do things here. It will really put you in the frame of mind of what was faced 70 years ago. The French people that we encountered on our trip were very kind, and many, very grateful for what we were doing to remember, and honor the men who actually did it. Believe it or not, the French people, HAVE NOT forgotten.

Recently, I have received information that another 70th Anniversary trip is being conducted next spring. This trip is to the Czech Republic to honor the 3rd Army's 4th and 16th Armored Divisions in late April, early May 1945. The 4th Armored Division that moved into the Czech Republic, then the 16th Armored Division who liberated the city of Pilsen.

Third Army Member Highlight – Brent Dudgeon



Group: Third Army (Midwest)
Impression: Military Police Sergeant –
Co. A. 503d MP Bn

Group: Third Army (Midwest)
Impression: Military Police Corporal –
Co. A. 503d MP Bn

Brent has, "...been with Third Army for about two years now, plus one event (Oglethorpe, my first 3rd Army event...the full HQ setup is pretty amazing)." But he has been in the living history hobby for about 6 years with his Civil War impression with Co. A, 7th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry. Brent has enjoyed the hobby, learning about all sorts of things. As Brent describes it, "...why things we don't really use any more and seem entirely superfluous (like drawers) were really useful back then, and generally roughing it (who needs a tent!)..." Brent was introduced to the WWII side of the hobby by his Civil War unit commander, and he decided to try it out. His first exposure to Third Army was through Alan Jones', 36th Armored Infantry unit.

Brent's personal life is as interesting as his living history life. He is a Trainer with UPS within the UPS Customs Brokerage business, which takes care of imports for customers, making sure all of the duties/taxes/fees are paid. As for his home life, he is married to Linda (also a member of Third Army – in the G1 section), in his own words, "...she is amazing. No really, guys, she actually WANTS me to get a jeep!" Rounding out the Dudgeon household are two dogs (Gus and Molly), two cats (Ragnar and Strider), and two rabbits (Hagrid and Dobby).

As you can see Brent is a fun loving gent, who enjoys many things but is grateful with everything in his life, as he put it, "...I've been absolutely blessed in both family and love/marriage, and I am so thankful to God for being so good to me."



Dispatches from the Front

Updates from Third Army in the field

Social Media – We have a Facebook page. Please join it and upload the images of what we do and you do as part of Third Army. The page is at:

<https://www.facebook.com/PattonsThirdArmyLH>

"Prepare for the unknown by studying how others in the past have coped with the unforeseeable and the unpredictable"

GSP

Headquarters Notes

G-1 Personnel

By CWO. Brian Hart
balls2n@yahoo.com

The following Commendation is awarded to the members of Third Army: The Meritorious Unit Commendation. As for the placement of this citation, it is on the right sleeve, four inches from the bottom, centered.

A reminder pertaining to campaign stars, also known as battle stars on the ETO ribbon, members of Third Army are awarded these based on participation at Third Army events. The maximum number of campaign stars an individual can be awarded is 5. As the G1 Technician, I will be questioning you as to why you are wearing such awards. Remember, this is not to embarrass you; this is done for the purpose of educating the staff members on what was possibly worn by a soldier, in that period of time, that you portray. With that being the case, we need to strive to be the best at all times. It is not beneath you to ask questions on uniform appearance. Therefore, it will educate you and enable you to answer any questions visitors may have on you uniform.

As a final point, I just want to say that we portray soldiers from our past. These veterans, and some civilians, know what is right on our uniforms and the correct placement of these items on the uniform.

USO Tribute Celebration, Terre Haute, Indiana



G-3 Operations

By Maj. Dave Weakley
dwweakley@yahoo.com

We recently had our School of the Soldier in November, We had some Germans, Russians and GI's in attendance. There was a field portion in which the Germans and Russians went at it and fought through the wooded trail to the horse barns. Classes held were on weapons capabilities, drill and ceremony, German and French Language class, squad tactics followed by a dinner at the Garrison then the Dance at the Fort Harrison State Park Inn. I had the Honor to escort a WWII Vet in his 90's to his seat. He was a Turret Gunner on a B-17 and was also in Glenn Miller's Band, he played the trombone.

The next event we had was at Camp Atterbury, we used Range 62 and the IED Village. Those in attendance had a good time and liked the area, Weather hurt attendance a little but we had 2 Jeeps and a 42 Studebaker 2 1/2 ton come to play. See the attached photos, we had Barracks this time to stay in and a mess hall to use for registration they were a change from past events due to changes on post. This will most likely be the last Event held in Dec on post.

Watch for Info TBA on Upcoming Events this next Year!

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.

World War II Days, Rockford, Illinois



Camp Atterbury, Indiana



Camp Brushy Creek, Texas



Be on the lookout for upcoming events

The Breakout – France, 2014



Lucky Forward
Volume 3, Number 1

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