

#### A Word from the Commander



"Patton" and "Willie"

Collectively have done a lot the first half of 2015. I will not list them. Our Facebook pages reflects the many events. I am exceeding proud of all we have done as I know you are too. We are truly friends and family. We do care about each other and we do support each other.

Logistics make or break you. Planning, Timing, Supplies, Attendance and Finances are all crucial factors in what we do. Let me address three of these.

Planning attendance and finances are at the top of most of our lists. We have a calendar that is kept up to date on our web site, go to: www.pattonthirdarmy.com/calendar.html.

Good planning makes for good attendance. If you want to do an event and you want high attendance you must plan it well in advance. Once planned it needs to be coordinated with those you want to attend it. Make sure they know the date, agree to be there and assign responsibilities long before the event occurs. Once you commit to be there...be there. Shortly, I will release a document to the general membership called "Operation Get There." It involves the planning and logistical support of four events in September and October. Once you commit to them, they will be planned around you. If you say you are going, you need to be there. You should be committed for all the fun and all the work around it. We are both a National and a local group. If you don't have to go but a couple of hundred miles, that's local. If you have to travel across country, that's a national event. We do both.

If you are on the board you direct things so they happen. You are a leader. You lead by example. You set the example. You are usually the first to get there and the last to leave. In the military, rank comes with responsibility, and it is up to you to see that things get done. You have those under you that you lead. With a volunteer organization, the Board of Directors ARE the one that gets things done. They make it happen so others can have fun, and have fun while they are making it happen. You lead by example.

Now back to logistics, by now you are beginning to understand I am making a point. Pay attention to dates, times, places and events. Get commitments and hold folks to them. If you commit, be there and lead by example. Now pay attention to this next paragraph.

If you have all the ducks in a row and something changes like dates and times. Get ahold of all concerned and get them to recommit. If you plan way in advance, tell people when you cannot commit and make sure they know you cannot commit. If you say you will be there ....be there. If you change a date, start over on the whole process.

I think you get my point. Look for "Operation Get There" in an email. I will lead by example by making sure you have an example of how to plan an event. Thank you for all you do!!!



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





## Glenn Miller in the Army Now, Part III

By Capt. Dan Hermann dhermann4@yahoo.com

Glenn Miller finished his training and reported to Maxwell Field for several weeks then was transferred to the Technical Training Command at Knollwood Field, North Carolina.

It was here that Miller thought that he could now make changes to the old standards and soup up the music for troop morale. Playing more modern music and helping the troops march better. He planned on a staff of 14 arrangers to crank out new music for the Air Force. Unfortunately he hit road block after road block from the old timers. They didn't want to hear new jazzy music when John Phillip Sousa was good enough. Finally after playing new versions of St. Louis Blues (March), Jersey Bounce and Blues in the Night, he was confronted by the Commandant of Cadets. His reply was "Are you still flying the same planes you flew in the last war, too?" Miller got his way and continued to play his new music. The Troops loved it.



Miller formed a large AAF Band and started filling it will some of his past band members. Some of them volunteered and joined him as military band members. Some adjusted fine and those that didn't were transferred out. One of the band members ran across a quiet young man that was a good musician and band arranger. He hoped the young man would get the call to join the Glenn Miller band. Too bad, because

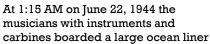
young Henry Mancini didn't get the call but he would have been a great addition to the staff. In 1943 the band started producing "I Sustain the Wings" Radio shows which became a big hit. The band now had a string section and singers.

Interestingly enough Miller's salary in the military was \$200 a month. He was making over \$60,000 from his record royalties over a 6 month period. The Glenn Miller Band started recording V records for the troops at a time when the musicians union stopped all recordings for commercial companies. So his name continued as others stopped.

Miller kept coming up with new ideas and suggested that the band's music could be used by the OWI, Office of War Information for propaganda purposes as well as recruiting shows, and war bond drives. One bond drive in New York netted \$2,300,000 in pledges. Several weeks later in other locations the band brought in more than \$4 million per night. The military was now seeing The Glenn Miller Band as a major tool in bringing in money for the war effort.

The band couldn't wait for their chance to get overseas and play for the troops but Miller knew it would be a hard fight as the brass wanted them continuing what they were already doing. Miller traveled to Washington and talked to his friend

Col. Ed Kirby, and used Kirby's connections with General Eisenhower to have the band deployed overseas to Europe. The wheels started turning and Miller planned on who and what he would be taking to England to continue his radio shows and troop performances.





for their trip to England. The six day trip took its toll. Between playing for the 17,000 troops on board the heaving ship and trying to overcome sea sickness. Miller met them when the ship pulled into Firth of Clyde in Scotland.

Our next installment will be the bands adventures in England.

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





### **Living History**

By Capt. Karie Hubnik karie@keeping-history-alive.com

Living historians within the 3rd Army can attest to the fact that there are as many reasons why we participate in this organization as there are members. Regardless of what brought us to the 3rd Army, the basic motivation has been our deep veneration, not only for all service members who have served and fought throughout our nation's history, but specifically those who stormed the beaches of Normandy, fought through the sands of Iwo Jima, sailed in legions of ships and subs, and flew in bombardment groups. Our appreciation for the Greatest Generation propels us to keep the history alive through reenactments and teaching others about their sacrifice.

That history always starts somewhere, with someone's personal story. As a photographer who focuses primarily on our military and veterans, it is my pleasure to interact with living history as I interview WWII veterans for a project I'm currently working on. Each veteran who is willing to tell their story stands as a testimony for those who could not tell their story, whether they never made it home or, if they did, could not speak about it.



**Paul Shealy** 

Recently, I interviewed Paul Shealy. Shealy, a 93 year old veteran served in the Navy during WWII, Korea, and Vietnam. He would later retire as a Lieutenant Commander after thirty years of service. Most notable was his service during WWII.

Shealy joined the Navy in 1940, shortly before America entered the war. By December 7, 1941, he would find himself docked at the Cavite Navy Shipyard in Manila Bay on the USS Canopus (AS-9). On December 10 the Japanese bombed Cavite leaving the shipyard badly damaged. The Canopus was ordered to sail to Mariveles Bay, located at the tip of Bataan, on Christmas day. For most of the western world December is filled with Christmas celebrations, but for the men of the USS Canopus arriving at Mariveles Bay, this was no Christmas present. Between December 29 and January 1, Canopus received direct hits from two 500 pound bombs destroying the decks, propeller housing, and smokestack area. Miraculously still afloat, the ship was disguised as a bombed out ship during the day—which wasn't too far from the truth—but at night, the crew worked to repair other ships and submarines. The crew would eventually fight on Bataan, converting their guns to machine gun nests in the hills to fight off the Japanese.

Unknown to them, the troops on Bataan were just days away from the historic Bataan death march. As fate would have it the crew of Canopus escaped the march by being evacuated to Corregidor to serve with the Marine Regiments. However, while this evacuation may have saved them from the death march, it would not save them from being at the mercy of the Japanese. By April Bataan was surrendered, and the death march had commenced, but Corregidor was moments from being no better off. On May 5, Shealy who was attached to the 4th Marines Regiment 4th Battalion, was taken prisoner by what he called, "The biggest Jap Marine I ever saw."

For the next three and a half years Seaman Paul Shealy remained a prisoner of war. From Billibid prison and Cabanatuan and finally to Osaka, Japan, Shealy would exist on rice twice a day and perform constant hard labor. The prisoners worked at the shipyard, mills, mines, and rice farm, and his experience as a POW was no different than most. The POW's, laden with lice and rumors of help on its way, would stick together to maintain their morale. Shealy was liberated in 1945, weighing in at 98 lbs.

Surprisingly, seventy years later, he holds no ill feelings towards the Japanese, and has even visited Japan several times since the war ended. While he felt what they did was wrong, he understood that they believed in what they were doing and knew no better. In the end though, Shealy believes that America, even with her follies, is still the greatest nation in the world. Now that, is living history.





## Fire Extinguishers in US Service – Part I

By Brig. Gen Mike Maloney chiefofstaff@pattonthirdarmy.com

Today's fire extinguishers have evolved quite a bit from their WW2 counterparts not just in shape but also in extinguishing agents. Now, we find such agents as Ammonium Polyphosphate [NH $_4$  PO $_3$ ], Carbon Dioxide [CO $_2$ ], and Halon in pressurized containers.



But during the 1935-58 years the base chemicals were very simple; CO<sub>2</sub>, Sodium Bicarbonate [NaHCO<sub>3</sub>] (wet and dry) and Tetrachloride base extinguishers with CO<sub>2</sub> being the main pressurized self-contained extinguisher while the others were in one form or another being a manually pressurized (pump) system.

Wheeled units that were normally found at air fields were either Sodium

Bicarbonate (wet and dry) with a separate charging cartridge of  $CO_2$  or Nitrogen [N]with some of these with a foaming agent mixed in and this form was also found on vehicle mounted tanks with a gas-powered generator for charging the system.

Several companies, many who are still in business today, produced these extinguishers such as General, La Fleur, American la France, Kidde and Fyr-Fyter.



1-Quart Portable Fire Extinguisher. This extinguisher was a portable, pump activated, manual fire extinguisher that was



commonly found in the driving compartments of vehicles. Measuring just over 12 inches long and weighing 6 pounds fully filled and the main body being constructed of either brass or copper with some units being Nickle plated, the unit was filled with Carbon-Tetrachloride (anti-freeze) and was a

B-C rated (liquid-electrical) extinguisher.

The user would grasp the extinguisher with one hand and with the other hand would grasp the Thandle located at the top, twist and pull up, un-locking the handle / pump and then depress or "pump" the handle forcing the extinguishing agent out thru the nozzle located at the base of the extinguisher.



Originally designed in the mid-1930's, this style of extinguisher remained in service until the late-1950's when new extinguishing agents were introduced in the form of dry chemical and was finally phased out of service by the National Fire Protection Agency in the early 1960's.

Servicing of this style of extinguisher is no longer available and this extinguisher is now considered as an antique collectable.

U.S. marked fire bucket made of leather. From the files of Springfield Armory – Courtesy of Billy Pyle.





# Third Army Hero Lieutenant Colonel George R. Pfann

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

Pfann was born on 6 October 1902 in Marion, Ohio. He graduated from Columbia Military Academy in Columbia, Tennessee, and entered Cornell University where he played football and was twice named an All American. After receiving his undergraduate degree, Pfann continued his studies at Cornell in law, and he was an assistant football coach. Selected as a Rhodes Scholar, Pfann, completed his law degree at Brasenose College of Oxford University. Upon completion of his studies he served as the football coach for Swarthmore College from 1931 to 1935, and was an United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York.

Pfann received a direct commission as a Captain on 8 May 1942 in the Corps of Military Police. After his commissioning, Pfann attended Investigator training at Fort Oglethorpe in Georgia and upon completion of training was sent for duty in North Africa. Upon his assignment to Seventh United States Army, Pfann assumed the duties as Secretary of the General Staff, and he participated in the planning and the assault landing of Sicily. Later, Pfann was assigned to Third United States Army where he was also assigned as the Secretary of the General Staff.

On 8 July 8 1943, Pfann was promoted to major, with his promotion to lieutenant colonel on 25 December 1944. Lieutenant Colonel Pfann was discharged from the Army on 2 Feb 1946. Pfann died on 17 December 1996 in Ithaca, New York

Lieutenant Colonel Pfann was a graduate of the Military Police Officers course, and Investigators Course. His decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the American Campaign medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with Arrowhead device and 7 campaign stars, the World War II Victory medal, and Defender of the Fatherland (USSR).

"If we take the generally accepted definition of bravery as a quality which knows no fear, I have never seen a brave man. All men are frightened. The more intelligent they are, the more they are frightened"

**GSP** 



# Military Police Corps through the years

By 1st Sgt. Wayne Coulter coulterww@yahoo.com

As we look at the Army today, we can see that one of the most important branches is the Military Police Corps. Just as an Army travels on its stomach, as the saying goes, an Army also requires a Law Enforcement presence.

In the American Revolutionary War, General George Washington requested that the position of Provost Marshal General be established to deal with disciplinary issues within the Continental Army. At the time, desertion and straggling was rife within the Continental Army and Gen. Washington needed a force to mitigate those issues. In January of 1776, William Maroney was designated the first Provost Marshal General of the Continental Army. On 20 May of 1778 Congress established the Provost Corps which Gen. Washington called the Marechaussee, to be responsible for discipline in the Army, to aid in troop movements, and to remove prisoners from the battlefield. The Provost Corps was disbanded in 1783.

Moving forward to the American Civil War, in 1863, the position of Provost Marshal General was established, which oversaw the Veteran's Reserve Corps (VRC). The VRC maintained order and discipline at Army Garrisons within the Union Army and assisted in prisoner of war operations and guarding bridge locations. The position of Provost Marshal General was disbanded in 1865.

During World War I General Pershing established the Military Police Training Department at Artun, France in September of 1918 to assist the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) in conducting operations. After the war, a specific request was made to include Military Police Units in the organization of the Army on a permanent basis, but the request was not acted on. However, the establishment of permanent Military Police Unites was authorized under the National Defense Act Amendment of 1920.

In 1941, the United States saw the need to prepare for involvement in the growing war in Europe and established the Provost Marshal General School at Fort Meyer Virginia to train officers in Military Police operations. Two classes were conducted at Fort Meyer then due to the limited space for expansion, the school was moved to Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, then further to Fort Custer, Michigan as the scope and size of the school expanded. Air Corps MP units were trained in Air Corps specific tasks at Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Permanent School Garrisons were established at Fort Gordon Georgia and Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. Port Security operations were taught at Fort McHenry. The Military Police Corps was officially recognized and established in 1942.

During the Normandy Landings in June of 1944, Military Police were some of the first troops onto the beaches. They were tasked with unit support and traffic control, and unlike their Infantry brethren, MPs were unable to dive into the nearest foxhole to avoid enemy fire. Where an MP would fall, he was replaced with another MP and continued the mission. As the need for Military Police increased in the dash across France in

1944, ETO based MP schools were established. The first, in Oran, Algeria was tasked with re-training Infantry units as Military Police Companies. As the front extended across France and into Belgium and Germany, a severe shortage of Military Police was evidenced. Between October and December of 1944, an MP Training Center was established in Lemans, France trained 16 Battalions of Military Police, while a Criminal Investigation School (CID) was in operation outside of Paris. Similar steps were taken in the Pacific theater of operations.

MPs were tasked with everything from traffic control, route reconnaissance and survey, law enforcement, straggler control and prisoner of war internment and resettlement. Military Police also performed as Infantry, filling the lines and fighting alongside their Infantry counterparts. They investigated black marketing, murders, desertions, theft and confiscation of civilian property and provided port and convoy security

After the war ended, Military Police were utilized more in civilianized police style operations, performing Law Enforcement Operations, Traffic Control, Anti-black marketing and criminal investigative roles. The Military Police were an integral and important part of the occupation forces in both Europe and Japan. During the occupation era, MP units were briefly organized into a Constabulary Force which lasted through approximately 1949-1950.

Stateside MP training was moved several times, eventually settling at Fort McClellan, Alabama for a number of decades before being moved once again to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri during the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) era of the mid 1990's.

While the Military Police is a Corps sized element in order to oversee the needs of the MP branch, the basic Military Police Element has always been the Battalion. An MP Battalion consists of as many as three MP Companies, a Law Enforcement Detachment and a Headquarters Company. The MP Company provides the personnel for Patrol or guard duties. The MP Detachment usually consists of the more specific sections such as K-9, Traffic and Military Police Investigations. The Headquarters Company provides the personnel for the administrative operations of the Battalion.

On today's battlefield, the Military Police is known as the "Force of Choice" for the battlefield commander. Through all their iterations throughout the past 238 years of our nation's history, the Military Police missions and responsibilities have remained basically the same: Maneuver and Mobility Support Operations, Area Security Operations, Law Enforcement Operations, Internment and resettlement Operations (EPW) and Police Intelligence Operations. Through all of this, the mission remained the same. Assist, Protect and Defend!

"Better to fight for something than live for nothing."

GSP

### **Into the Heart of Germany**

By Robert Collins, Sr.

Some time ago, my son Robert and I travelled to Belgium and Germany to follow in the footsteps of the 394th Infantry Regiment of the 99th Division. This was my Dad's Regiment. He was Personnel Officer in Supply Company. This is our report.

The last time I saw Germany was from the US Army Signal Corps films during the last days of WWII. We flew over southern England and I watched the coast fade away to the Channel and finally making it to the continent. You can imagine my surprise when we landed in Frankfurt. What a difference sixty years make! Robert and I landed on the same day the 394th Infantry Regiment (Dad's regiment) had taken their positions on the line. We had the identical weather that dad had - cold and snowing throughout the month. This was the first time in 33 years I was not home for Thanksgiving. It is a strange feeling to be so far away from home during this time. I'm sure dad would have preferred to see Germany the way we did - he was dressed in woolens that typically were either frozen from sweat, or wet from the thawing due to body temperature or dirty. The living conditions were as one could find them - houses, tents, lucky to get heat. Robert and I traveled first class on the trains, had great food, met wonderful people, and had lightweight winter clothes. We also had the pleasure of the German Christmas Season - a true delight.

In the six months the 99th Division was in combat, Dad was both a participant and witness to some of the most significant events of World War II. I am not sure he (or any other person for that matter) would have sought this distinction but he did what was asked of him. Of any ten men that dad knew, nearly six were either killed or wounded in combat And another three were injured or killed as a result of accidents or mishaps. (This probably explains his Christmas visits to the VA hospital to help with the infirm).

First, it is arguably agreed that the opening artillery and rocket barrage the Germans conducted for three hours on the morning of December 16, 1944 was the largest of the war (the 99th went on the line November 14, 1944).

Second, the subsequent northern shoulder of the Battle of the Bulge (where the 99th blocked the German advance for two days until the 1st and 2nd Infantry Divisions could join them on Else born Ridge) was the largest defensive position ever held by the US Army consisting of three combat divisions of about 40 thousand soldiers. History credits two primary factors that caused the strategic defeat of the Germans – the terrain and the 99th Division blocking move.

Third, crossing the Rhine on the bridge at Remagen - the 394th crossed while the Germans were shelling the bridge approximately every 30 seconds. The 1st and 2nd battalions of the 394th were followed closely by Service Company (dad's company) trucks carrying gas, ammo, and rations for one week of combat in order to establish and widen the bridgehead.

Fourth, the fight in the Ruhr Pocket after crossing the Rhine. The 99th fought on the eastern and southern sides of the pocket were German Army Group B consisting of 300 thousand troops surrendered. This surrender was larger than the German surrender at Stalingrad. Approximately 36 thousand Germans surrendered to the 99th and the 99th was responsible for freeing Russian and Polish prisoner-of-war camps.

On January 30, 1945 the 99th Division went on the offensive recapturing ("de-Krauting" in division parlance) the towns of Rocherrath-Krinkelt, Bullingen, Butgenbach (former 99th division HQ and supply depot) and Losheim where they relieved the 82nd Airborne Division. With a rest for about 12 days in February, 1945 (which dad spent on the Riviera (?) (Officers in Caan, enlisted men in Nice)), the division moved east towards the Rhine.

After crossing the Rhine, the division suffered most of its casualties from mines, booby traps and snipers. The move towards Berlin was one of extremes. In the push to the Rhine, towns either surrendered or were defended by the neighborhood guard. After crossing the Rhine the 394th engaged Regular German Army and SS units.

The 394th moved south down the eastern bank of the Rhine: "Honningen was no walkaway. It was a methodical, bloody battle for the (GI's) of C Company who gnawed away at the hard outer crust of the Nazi defenses. ... The high ground that rimmed Honnigen was bitterly contested..." After winning it, the battalions sat tight while the artillery combed the town and factory district."

On March 25, 1945 the 394th crossed the Wied River and moved eastward. Resistance was "feeble" and in the area of Dierdorf, they freed French, Polish, Dutch and Russian slave laborers. In late March the 394th was in Giessen the largest town to surrender to them (prewar population of 18,000).

On April 1, 1945 the Regiment was trucked northwards to the Ruhr Pocket. On April 5,, 1945 after resting several days in Rosehthal the 394th cleared 150 square miles of the Pocket netting 7,103 German POW's.

"The blind fanaticism that the GI's were up against is shown in the words of a Commanding Officer of the notorious (SS) Panzer Lehr Division who calmly related, "No good Nazi (soldier) retreats. At Wormbach I shot several officers and men who attempted to pull back. Court-martials are much too slow . . . We are proud of our outfit. (The Panzer Lehr Division's) presence on the line boosts the morale of the men near it." ... It was at Iserlohn that the crack 139th Panzer Lehr Division gave up.

After the Ruhr Pocket, the 99th was trucked 300 miles south to Nuremburg and on April 22, 1945 the pushed southeast with Patton's Third Army towards Munich. The 394th engaged the Germans on the march at the Altmuhl River, Dietfurt and the Ludwig Canal.

At Moosburg (northeast of Munich) they freed a US POW camp with many 394th soldiers captured in the Bulge. "The tales of the 80 freed men were not pleasant."

"On the 28th and 29th of April, the Regiment crossed the storied Danube. Moving steadily onward, they bridged the Isar on May 1. Then from May 2 to 8, the 394th sat tight around (towns), within sight of the Bavarian Alps sweating out the final Nazi unconditional surrender."

Reference: Battlefield Detectives: The Battle of the Bulge; Battle Babies; The Story of the 394th Infantry



# **Separating Fact from Fiction**

By Gen. Denny Hair patton@pattonthirdarmy.com



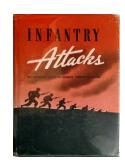
Field Marshall Rommel

The Movie "Patton," Patton to Rommel, "I read your book you magnificent bastard," said George C. Scott, portraying General Patton in the movie. While in North Africa after defeating Rommel 's plan on the battlefield. Well, did the real General Patton really read his book? Not in North Africa and not in Sicily did he read his book.

The book was called Infantry Attacks and it was written and published in Germany, in German in 1937. The true

tittle was Infanterie Greift an:Erlrbnisse und Erfahrungen. The books was written by Erwin Rommel when he was a Lieutenant Colonel.

The original was smuggled out of German and translated by the under the Alien Property Law custodian "in the public interest" in Washington by the Infantry Journal in June of 1944. The forward says the book was translated with the authors permission. In plain words, the US Government published the book without any permissions to give to its generals so they would know their enemy. General Patton most likely got his copy soon after it was released in



**Infantry Attacks** 

1944. So, did he really read it and did it have anything to do with anything Patton did in Europe?

Here is what really happened. It was November 8, 1944, the battle was called Operation Madison, and itt had been raining very hard. Two of his commanders has pleaded with him to postpone the battle as they felt they were not ready. He told them the battle would go on as scheduled, and if they could not attack to name their replacements as it would go as he had ordered. There would be no air cover if the heavy rain continued. This was the opening battle of a series of battles that was planned to bring them to the Siegfried line. It was going to be the hinge to open the door to clear the way to Germany.



Patton and Eddy during battle on 9 Nov 44

Patton wrote, "The operation was dubbed Operation Madison. The weather started off bad and air cover was not possible if or until it lifted. Woke up at 0300 and it was raining like hell. I actually got nervous and got up and read Rommel's book, "Infantry Attacks." It was most helpful, as he described all the rains he had in September, 1914, and also the fact that, in spite of the heavy rains, the Germans got along. Went to bed and to sleep at 0345. At 0515, the artillery preparation woke me. The rain had stopped and the stars were out. The discharge of over 400 guns sounded like the slamming of doors in an

empty house - very many doors all slamming at once. All the eastern sky glowed and trembled with the flashes of guns, and I thought how the enemy must feel, knowing that at last the attack he has dreaded has come.

I also remembered that I had always demanded the impossible, "Had dared extreme occasion and never am betrayed." How I had never taken counsel of my fears, and I thanked God for his goodness to me. So what did Patton read? He read the following passage that Rommel wrote on September 9, 1914.

"In the pouring rain and in pitch darkness, the battalion got ready for the attack on the left of the former sector. Bayonets were fixed, rifles unlocked. The password was "Victory of Death." ... Our men waited anxiously for H hour. By this time they had been soaked to the skin for hours and frozen with cold. Hours passed. Finally at 0300 we got the attack order. In mass formation the battalion plunged down the slope onto the enemy along the railway, over ran him, seized the cuts on the Sommaisne-Rembercourt highway, and stormed Hill 287. Whenever the enemy resisted he was dispatched by bayonet, the rest of the battalion by-passing the local point of resistance...both our flanks were refused. Dawn began to break and the rain started to let up... And now the gray morning light, the shape of the hills around Rembercourt became plainly discernible; they dominated our new position ... our fighting spirit was unbroken."

The rain stopped, the weather cleared and the sun came out. The XIX Tactical command aircraft were in the air by 10 am, hit their targets and Patton won a great victory on that day.

Someday I hope that my book will spur another Patton movie and this time they'll tell it as it was. It would make for a much better story.

"Do your damnedest in an ostentatious manner all the time"

GSP



### **Dispatches from the Front**

Updates from Third Army in the field

The following events are maximum participation at the events is expected to permit us to present to the public our best show. Mark your calendar, plan your schedule, and notify Alan Jones (atj53@att.net) with your status for these events.

**Rockford** – World War II Days, Midway Village Museum (MVM) and WWII Historical Re-enactment Society (HRS), Rockford, IL, 24 – 27 Sep 15.

Shelbyville – Shelby County Remembers: A World War II Experience, Shelby County Fairgrounds (SCF), Shelbyville, IN, 8-10 Oct 15.

Special Event – 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division Association Reunion, Fort Hood – 60th Annual 2nd Armored Division Reunion. Select individuals will represent General Patton and his immediate staff at this event.

**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

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

**Event Calendar** – Keep yourself informed of our events visit our calendar at www.pattonthirdarmy.com/calendar.html.



## **Headquarters Notes**

#### **G-1** Personnel

By CWO. Brian Hart balls2n@yahoo.com

We portray soldiers from our past. Veterans, and some civilians know what should be on our uniforms and the correct placement of these items on the uniform. Respect the past by doing it right.

#### G-3 Operations

By Maj. Dave Weakley dwweakley@yahoo.com

Our Fund Raiser is just getting started, we are doing a 10 gun drawing to raise funds to buy a trailer to store and move our Midwest display set. We are selling 350 tickets on 10 guns the drawing will be held when all the tickets are sold, contact me for tickets.

#### **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.



# Be on the lookout for upcoming events



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Meet and greet General Patton at the VFW Post 4999 from 1PM to 4PM

Send comments and story ideas to the editor via email at patton@pattonthirdarmy.com.