

# *The* **UB** *of the* **GOLDEN LION**

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

Vol 50 — No. 2

JAN - FEB - MAR 1994



See you at Rapid City, South Dakota, September 1994  
for the 48th Annual Reunion of the  
106th Infantry Division Association

(see pages 12 -13)

# The CUB

*The official publication  
of the  
106th Infantry Division  
Association, Inc*

**1993 – 1994**

Membership fees include CUB subscription.

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Memorial matters and inquiries to:

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1380 Democracy Ave., Melbourne, FL 32940  
407-255-6671

**HONORARY Board Member**

**Col. Joseph Matthews 422/HQ** (Life)  
4706 Western Blvd. Raleigh, NC 27606  
919-851-4851



The picture accompanying this issue was of a young 17 year old taken at Monterey, California CMTC (Citizens Military Training Corps) the Summer of 1939. World War I uniforms, eight man squads, Front and Rear Ranks, Springfield and Enfield rifles, old style Drill and Manual of Arms – hard to believe that we were so far behind at that late date.

About 40 years ago I sort of read Dupuy's *St. Vith - Lion in the Way*. Found it to be very detailed and difficult to read. Since that time we have attended many reunions and made a few trips to battle areas. We have met and visited with those that were involved. So, after all these years I decided to tackle the book again. Much to my surprise it was no longer too detailed or difficult follow. It is well worth reading. I urge you to dust off your copy and read it again.

For some time I've been concerned about our *Order of the Golden Lion*. Specifically about the Silver Medal. When should the Silver be awarded versus the Gold? Since it is not practical to convert all the Silver to Gold, then get out the polish and shine up the Silver.

*The Order of the Golden Lion* honors those faithful friends and those who have rendered outstanding service to the Division Association in peace time. There are three classes:

**Commander Class:** 100% approval of the Directors. One award per year but accumulative. Golden medal, Red, White and Blue ribbon.

**Officer Class:** 75% approval of the Directors. Two awards per year, non-accumulative. Silver medal, Infantry Blue ribbon.

**Companion Class:** 50% approval of the Directors. Five awards per year non-accumulative. Bronze medal, Artillery Red ribbon. **Members of the Association so honored:**

## Gold (COGL):

1948 Davis S. Price  
1962 Douglas S. Coffey  
1964 Richard DeHeer  
1966 John T. Loveless, Jr.  
1972 Leo T. McMahon  
1973 Sherod Collins  
1973 John I. Gallagher  
1975 James E. Wells  
1987 Russell Villwock  
1987 Robert Gilder

## Silver (OCGL):

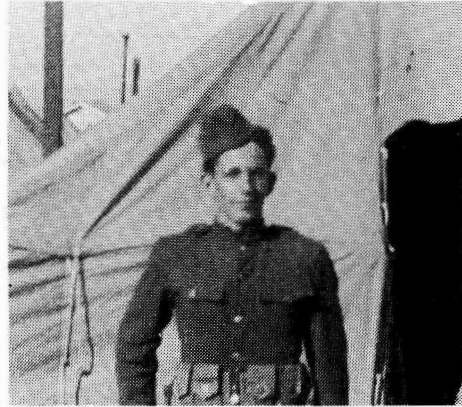
1978 Robert L. Scranton  
1986 Walter Bandurak  
1990 Samuel P. Cariano  
1991 John P. Kline  
1993 Boyd A. Rutledge  
1993 Gilbert Helwig

## Bronze (COMGL):

1947 Herbert B. Livesey, Jr.  
1964 Marge DeHeer  
1966 Kay Loveless  
1972 Wilda McMahon  
1973 Stella Gallagher  
1975 Maydean Wells  
1987 Jackie Villwock  
1987 Jean Gilder

If you examine the list you become aware that the Gold honors the old timers who kept the Association together through good times and bad. No one today can match their contribution. Those recently honored have made outstanding contributions currently. It is interesting to see that Silver is the metal for the '90's.

Wear your *Order the Golden Lion* with justified pride!



106th Infantry Division Association President  
Edward A. Prewett – 1993-1994  
"B" Company, 424 Combat Infantry Regiment  
1939 photo - see article



Reverend Ewell C. Black Jr., Chaplain  
422/A – 106th Inf. Div. Assoc.  
212 Ridge St., Bishopville, SC 29010

Weatherwise, 1993 was a strange year. As it closed out we were told about and shown pictures of the flooding in Germany, France and other places in Europe. It was said to be the worst since 1926. Seeing and hearing these stories about all of the bad weather in Europe took me back some forty-nine years to a time when Europe experienced its coldest winter in about forty years. Just in case you may not remember—that was the winter of 1944-45. A time which had a great impact on my life and many of your's.

As I read and heard and thought the ravages of the winter weather, I could not help but think about the events which the winter of 1944-45 had forced upon so many of us and the changes which were made in our lives because of it. Of course, the greatest change was in the lives of those who did not survive the combat and/or prison camp(s). For those of us who did survive, I suspect that our lives were changed forever in ways which we may still be experiencing.

In those long-ago days we were faced with decisions which could result in life or death. This was particularly true for those who finished the war as POWs. Experiencing the hardships of long, cold marches and boxcar rides, little or no food, sickness without medical attention, etc., it was often easy to feel like giving up—and many did. But every one who gave up, hundreds made the decision—with God's help—to continue the fight to survive. In no way do I mean to cast a shadow on those who did not survive. It was just that some hung tougher than others were able to. But I believe that almost everyone who survived combat and the POW experience will credit a power beyond self.

God in speaking to the Hebrew nation in Deuteronomy gives them the choice to choose between life and death and urges them to choose life.

***“I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse; therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice, and cleaving to him; for that means life to you and length of days, that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, ...” Deuteronomy 30:19,20***

Having chosen life at that point in ours, many of us have continued to be blessed with good lives even though the journey has not been made without some further “potholes.” Certainly we have experienced our times of illness, sorrow, etc. But we have continued to choose to fight for life in these situations as we did then. May each of us continue to choose life and seek God's blessing on ourselves, family and friends in 1994.

***May God continue to bless and use each of you in the future as he has in the past.***

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## NOTICE OF BY-LAW AMENDMENT

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### **Long Range Planning Committee Report and BY-LAW Amendment Proposal:**

The **Long Range Planning Committee** presents the following background and an amendment to our existing BY-LAWS

#### **BACKGROUND**

Unlike the American Legion or the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the 106th Infantry Division Association does not have PERPETUITY.

Most of us are 69-70 years of age and our life expectancy is 81 years. By the year 2005, it is estimated that there will be less than 400 of us scattered throughout the 48 contiguous states. A insufficient number to organize or physically attend a reunion or continue the affairs of the Association.

Financially, 1994 and succeeding years receipts will be approximately \$12,000 while our normal expenses are \$16,000, assuming four issues of THE CUB annually and no grants for reunions. By the year 2005 we will have used up our present cash reserves.

#### **THEREFORE: We propose the following amendment to the BY-LAWS:**

The 106th Infantry Division Association will have its final GALA reunion in the year 2003, our 60th Anniversary. At that time the Board of Directors will direct dispersal of remaining general funds, assign a committee to disperse our memorial fund and send all records to the archival files previously assigned.

**A vote will be taken on this amendment at the Rapid City Reunion in accordance with Section XVI of our By-Laws which is re-printed as follows:**

#### **XVI- Amendments**

a. These by-laws may be amended

1. At any meetings of the Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of not less than a majority of all directors then in office and such amendment shall remain in effect unless altered or repealed at the next succeeding meeting of the members of the Association.

OR

2. At a meeting of the members of the Association by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those present in person or by proxy, provided that notice of such amendments is published in the preceding issue of THE CUB.

*Richard L. Rigatti, Chairman*

Long Range Planning Committee

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## NOTICE OF BY-LAW AMENDMENT

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## December 16th

### Commemoration Parties

Much of this issue is devoted to the December 16th Commemoration parties that are held throughout the United States.

Approximately 430 members, wives and friends attended the 1993 events

These events are a tribute to those members that, annually, get-to-gether and enjoy the company of their comrades. To refight the battles, walk back over the roads and remember those comrades that are no longer with us.

While the memory of those dark days are still with us, meeting with others, sometimes for the first time in nearly five decades, seems to dull the pain. As we part you can hear, *"Good-by until the next time comrade, may God, and/or the Saints, look over you and allow us to meet again...."*

## Diez/Limburg Bombing,

### December 23, 1944

In the last issue I thanked Mike Kurzeja, 423/H for the "photo-copy" of the railyard bombing at Limburg, which hit the railyards and killed 63 U.S. officers in Stalag 12-A. Roy Bigger, 423/HQ also sent a copy. These were copies of a photo that hangs in the museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Columbus, Ohio.

Jim Ochiltree, 423/G responded to my plea to obtain a B&W photo print of this picture by sending me a 11x14 inch reproduction of the picture.

Then, Philip A. Hannon, 81st ENG/A and his wife, Jean, sent me an article about the bombing from the DIEZ/LIMBURG Lahn-Zeitung (German newspaper) dated 22/23 December 1984. This was the 40th Anniversary of the DIEZ/LIMBURG bombing. See article elsewhere, in this CUB

## Facts of Life

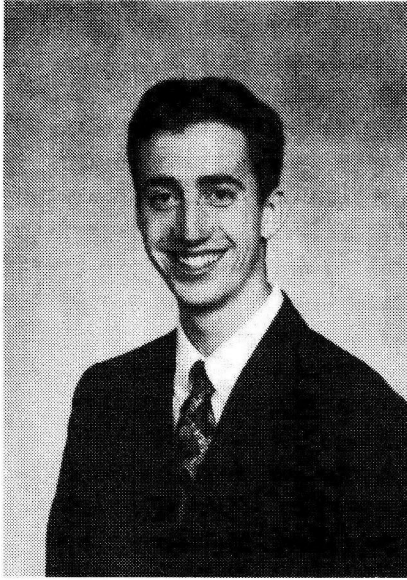
### for the Infantryman

by Dr. Richard Peterson, 423/I

1. If it is stupid, but works, it is not stupid.
2. Don't be conspicuous – it draws fire.
3. Never draw fire – it irritates everybody around you.
4. When in doubt, empty your clip on full automatic.
5. Never share a foxhole with someone braver than you.
6. Your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
7. If the attack is going well, it is probably an ambush.
8. If you can't remember which way the claymore is pointed, it is probably pointed towards you.
9. All five-second grenade fuses burn through in three seconds.
10. Try to look unimportant – the enemy may be low on ammo.
11. If you are forward of your position, your artillery will be short.
12. The enemy diversion you are ignoring is the main attack.
13. The easy way is *always* mined.
14. The important things are very simple. The simple things are very hard.
15. No operations plan ever survives first contact.
16. No combat ready unit ever passes inspection.
17. No inspection ready unit ever passes combat.
18. Teamwork is essential; – it gives the enemy others to shoot at.



## Scholarship recipient responds...



Joel Helms, grandson of Roger Rutland, 424/B, Marietta, Georgia writes,

"I want to thank the 106th Infantry Division Association for the honor of receiving one of the \$1,000 scholarships.

The money has been most useful and has eased the pressures of financial burdens at Georgia Tech. Thank you all.

signed *Joel Helms*

### MIA

CUBs mailed to the following men have been returned. Any Member knowing them, please notify me of the situation.. J. Kline

**William Darby, 422/D**

Wilkins Ave, Pittsburgh

**William Donovan, DIV/HQ**

71st Ave, Ridgewood, NY

**Edward Zabkar, 81st ENG/B**

Wecuwa Dr, Fort Myers FL

Post Office forwarding time has expired on the above, or they are unknown, or telephone has been disconnected....

## Photographs...

Once again:

When you send photos, please mark your name on the backside of the picture.

Use a marking pen that will not "smudge," for if you place two pictures together, one will leave a mark on the other. Best way is to write on a gummed label, let it dry then paste it on the backside of the photo.

**What's my point?** Simply, that I will not be responsible for unmarked pictures being separated from the correspondence that they come with. With the amount of correspondence I receive, some pictures do get separated from the original correspondence. Anybody out there want a job as "office girl" or "mail clerk?" I forgot the MOS on that one....J. Kline, editor

One example, not meant to be critical, is that I have two unidentified photos, I am sure that were sent to me by a member that I talked to at the Columbia Reunion. No I.D., and I can't tie it to a letter.

I have two pictures, one of the Italian Memorial at Camp Atterbury, the other. a 106er, in a green T-shirt, by the statute at the memorial wall at Camp Atterbury.

I also have an envelope post-dated 4 December from Johnstown, PA (Stroheim Airport)- no correspondence.

## Additional CUB or Book may be printed...

Our history should be preserved, in writing. I am contemplating printing an additional CUB, with stories only, to catch up with the many papers/photos that I have in file, some for several years.

Another idea might be another book entailing parts of the diaries, short personal experiences and photographs —

If you would like this done send me your thoughts and ideas on the subject.

### Thanks for the Old CUBS

Again, I was pleased to have received several of the old CUBs that Sherod and I were missing. We still have a few to go.

We have been collecting CUBs to build a set for the Carlisle Barracks Military Institute. (see next column for other info on Carlisle Barracks.)

I wish to thank the following and if I missed a name, please forgive me:

Alan W. Jones, Jr.

Adams Elliott

Gene Vance

Roland Martin

Bob Ringer

Waldo Pierce

Gilbert Fitzgerald

George Vance

and others over the years.

As of **January 28, 1994** we need.

Volume 11 no. 3

Volume 13 no. 5

Volume 14 no. 5

Volume 16 no. 2 - 3

Volume 18 no. 3 - 5

Contributors since the November 1993 CUB:

Laura Straub (Widow of Ted)

Sam Cariano

Manuel Silvia

John Schaffner

Robert de St. Aubin

Tony Anderson

Don Armington

We are getting close. As you see we need only 7 issues to make a complete set for the Carlisle Barracks Museum.

Dig around see what you can come up with... J. Kline, editor

### Department of the Army

U.S. Army Military History Institute  
Carlisle Barracks

Carlisle, PA 17013-5008

The U.S. Army Military History Institute is conducting a major survey to acquire source material on the Second World War. We invite you to join our effort.

The Military History Institute is the Army's official central repository for historical material. Holding are over 236,000 books, 50,201 periodicals, 5,100,000 pieces of personal papers and 730,000 photographs on military history. This makes it the finest military library in the United States and one of the best in the world.

They are requesting that veterans record their recollections using an 18 page questionnaire.

If you have not yet received this questionnaire, feel free to write to the above address and ask for the

**ARMY SERVICE EXPERIENCES QUESTIONNAIRE.**

Your recollections will live after you, if you record them now.

### Stalags 9A, 9B & 9C

**Association Reunion April 1994**

Write Pete House, 590th FAB, if you want to hear more about their annual reunions, which have been growing in attendance numbers tremendously..

**Pete House**

**5662 Clifton Ave.**

**Jacksonville, Florida 32211-6902**

He has passed along much information to The CUB, of which I can't seem to fit in at the right time. He will appreciate your interest and add you to his mailing list and keep you informed.



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## **50th Anniversary Tours to Europe**

### **A REPEAT FROM LAST CUB**

The Adjutant, Treasurer and Editor have been receiving numerous pamphlets and brochures advertising special trips to Europe in 1994. Aside from those that we have received, there are many more if you inquire with your favorite travel agent.

The present collection here at the editor's desk would take up many pages of The CUB. Rather than show preferences in quantity of advertising I have elected to not display brochures advertising for these trips.

The Association itself is **not sponsoring a trip**. It also is **not endorsing any certain travel agent**. Where you go and who you use is your business. The placement of the following travel agencies or tour organizers does not warrant an endorsement by the 106th Infantry Division Association, Inc. Names and addresses are given for reference only. Write to your choice and ask for brochures and details.

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### **MONROE C. DUKE**

Organizer/Host Monroe C. Duke, 422/Cannon Company with travel arrangements by **Giselle's Travel Bureau**, Sacramento, California. For information:

Sept. 13-26 1994 14 days/12 nights

**Giselle's Travel** 1-800-782-5545

or Monroe Duke

916-483-7738

3137 Chelsea Road

Sacramento, CA 95864

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### **Battlefield Tours, U.S.A. Inc.**

A Charles B. MacDonald Commemorative December Dawn Tour.

December 8 - 18, 1993

If you want to see it in the same weather as 1944:

Call 1-800-635-5018

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## **GALAXY TOURS**

Many of you have toured with Douglas S. Coffey in past years.

This tour is being advertised as a 106th Infantry Division Tour. Please note, our Association is not sponsoring a tour.

Contact Alison Dodge

1-800-523-7287

**Galaxy Tours**

PO Box 234

Wayne, PA 19087-0234

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Turner Publications**

PO Box 3101

Paducah Kentucky 42002-3101

(502) 443-0121 or 443-0128

Are accumulating information for a 50th Anniversary Battle of the Bulge history book (second edition). You may have seen the first edition. If you want to submit your information, contact them.

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### **Ohio University Press**

*Seven Years Among Prisoners of War*

by Chris Christiansen of Viborg, Denmark. To be published in English, spring of 1994. Already in Danish and German editions.

Clifford Doxsee. 423/HQ 3Bn, 1 Canterbury Dr., Athens, OH 45701 and his wife met Chris and his wife Inger over a decade ago. They hosted the Christiansens in their home in 1982 and then were hosted in the Christiansen's home in Viborg in '83 and '88. More about this book later.

Contact Sharon Arnold

Swallow Press

Scott Quadrangle

Athens, Ohio 45710

614-593-1155



In der Galmers Straße in Limburg sah es nach Bombardierungen 1944 so aus. Die Umgebung des Limburger Bahnhofes war - je fast jedem Luftangriff betroffen. Von 146 Toten, die in Limburg umkamen, wachte ein Teil in diesem Bereich.

### Vor 40 Jahren: Stadtrand von Diez und Limburg lag in Trümmern

Zufall bestimmte Bombenziele - „Christbäume“ trieben im Sturm westwärts

VON KLAUS-PETER HARTMANN

Credits for this story go to **Philip Hannon, 81st ENG/A**, and his wife **Jean** for the copy of the DIEZ/LIMBURG newspaper article that noted the 40th anniversary of DIEZ/LIMBURG railway bombing that appeared in the (German news) Lahn-Zietung 22/23 December 1984 edition.

Credits for the photo of the railyards on the back cover of this CUB, goes to **Jim Ochiltree, 423/G**. He responding to my November CUB request asking for some person to obtain a copy of the photo which appeared in the Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Columbus, Ohio. There were also copies of this photo being circulated at the Columbia Reunion, Sept 1993.

I recognize that a more comprehensive account of this incident should include some personal comments by those that participated (you men of the 106th). While many of you have mentioned being in the Diez/Limburg bombing, to give credit to all would take up much space.

I devoted one section to the bombing in *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in REVIEW*. Somewhere I have an account by an officer that was responsible for

identifying the remains of the 63 officers that were killed as a single bomb (probably a 500 pounder) hit a concrete block building in which they were housed, in Stalag 12-A, Limburg a.d. Lahn.

I quote from Jean Harris' letter and the parts of the DIEZ/LIMBURG Lahn-Zietung article as follows. ... John Kline, CUB editor...

"You have a copy of Phil's *'One Man's Story'*," where Mr. Astor immortalized him in *'Blood Dammed Tide'*." I was waiting for him to return from the German prison camps, wondering if I would ever be able to add

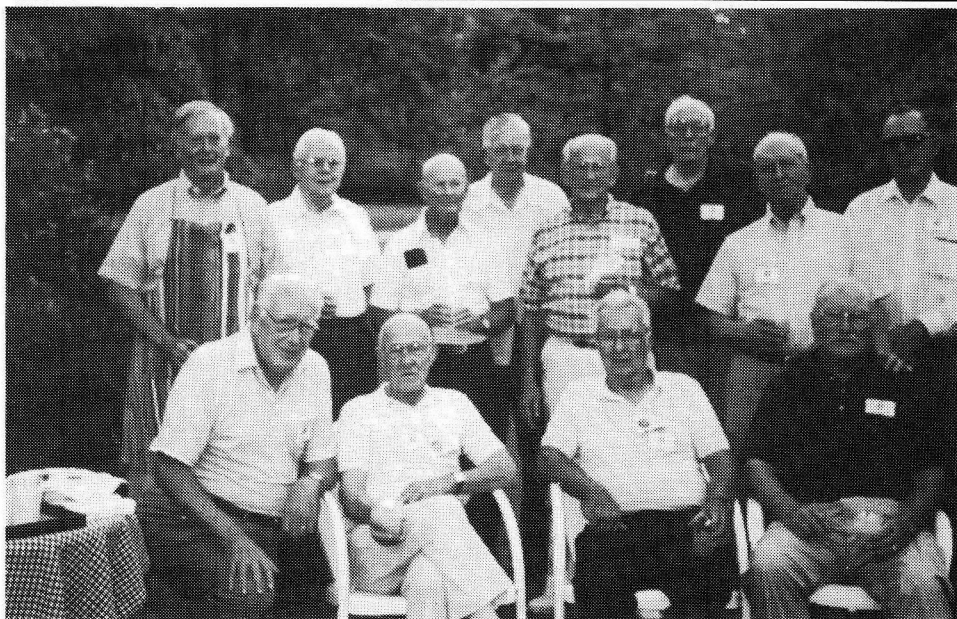
a wedding band to my engagement ring. Fortunately, all went well and we have had 46 years together and look forward to more.

"During the last 15 years I had an apartment in Germany with German friends and ended up just a few kilometers from Diez-Limburg, where Phil and many POWs were bombed on December 23, 1944, as they were parked in the railyards. I have enclosed a copy of the Diez/Limburg Lahn-Zietung describing the bombings. The paper is dated on the 40th Anniversary of the bombing, 23 December 1984. It shows pictures of the damage to the railyard and to the surrounding villages and towns, with personal accounts by Germans who were in the "drop zone." The tremendous damage done to the area has, of course, been totally restored."

A translation of the article which was included in her letter came from her good friend **Elisabeth**, who lives near Diez.

"I found a whole page in our paper about today, 40 years ago, when bombs fell on Limburg and Diez, and especially killed American officers in the prison camp at Diez.

(Continued next page)



**FROM RICHARDS SPARKS, 423/I&R:** The 423rd I&R Platoon got-to-gether during the 1993 Columbia Reunion. A special evening was held at Jahn Califf's home in Columbia during the reunion. Ivan Long missed the picture - he was late. We have accounted for all of the twenty-four men who went overseas with us. Seven are deceased and seventeen alive. Twelve were at Columbia, South Carolina in 1993. Gordon Zicker and Charles Sartori were members of the original platoon and both of them were present.

Left/right: **BACK ROW:** John Califf, Doug Prater, Bob Hirst, John Johnson, Ted Slaby, Bob Brendlinger, Gordon Zicker, Al Shofitt. **FRONT ROW:** Dick Sparks, Bob Casenhiser, Bob Jones and John Sheehan. A pretty good turn-out after all these years.

Members of this platoon were authorized to wear the Presidential Unit Citation on an individual basis, that was awarded the 7th Armored for the fight in St. Vith on the 20-21st of December 1944.

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### **DIEZ/LIMBURG Bombing 23 December 1944 continued:**

There were 60 Americans killed, but also French, Poles and Belgians who were still in a train. One German guard was killed in the building with the officers.

"Shortly after, a Swiss Red Cross delegation came to inspect and control the site. They demanded that to have a "Red Cross" installed on the barracks of the prison camp.

"There was also a cemetery for all the prisoners between Diez and Limburg. But,

after the war most of the dead were moved to cemeteries of the Allied Forces. Yet, there are still bones found in the forest.

"Near Limburg Station, 146 people were killed and 162 homes were destroyed. But, they were German civilians.

"The air-raid had been meant for Limburg-Station, but heavy winds from a storm moved the "pathfinder markers" (ironically called, "Christmas Trees") toward Diez. So the bombers hit the wrong target. So 162 families lost their homes in that night before Christmas Eve. This is a day of common mourning for Germans and Americans." signed Elisabeth.....





Dan Bied, "A" Co., 422nd Combat Inf. Reg.  
180 Leffler Street, West Burlington, Iowa 52655

## ***Reminiscing...***

I wonder if the guys who served in the Pentagon during WW-2 all have sore butts?

Most, if not all, of us who slogged in the infantry have sore feet. That's the impression I get, at any rate, from the phone calls and mail I've gotten since writing this column the past several years.

It's probably too late to get a Purple Heart for frozen feet, as I managed to do around 1946. But if a guy has some lingering effects of "trench foot" from our winter in the Ardennes he might be able to get some help.

I use foam pads in my shoes during my daily health walks, the kind Dr. Scholl's has on sale in all the drug stores. Foot powder can help, or at least it seems to. I'm sure there are various ointments. Bud Halladay phoned late last year from Brattleboro, Vt., and mentioned he's using some kind of salve that has given him some relief.

I've sent out about three dozen of the VA letters dealing with "Late Effects of Cold Injury" that acknowledge the problems many GIs from our era have due to

frostbite, etc., which can be linked to permanent damage. This letter can, if nothing else, serve as a way to remind people at a VA hospital of their own organization's awareness of what is a problem for some vets of the 106th.

On a more cheerful note, Jim Gardner wrote from Shelbyville, Ind., to reminisce about the beer garden we both enjoyed at Camp Wolters, near Fort Worth, in ye good olde days before "the Bulge."

Jim was at Wolters in 1943, while I didn't get there until early 1944. There was still some beer left at the camp and Jim reminded me, "it was a refresher after those long marches." He'd buy six of them at a time for 75 cents. Sounds like my kind of guy. Jim was captured Dec. 19, 1944, as I was. He wound up in a camp near the Baltic Sea. He remembers the Aquitania, as I do, for being "quite a ship" but not large enough to prevent it from rolling in the North Atlantic waves.

Harold Allen wrote from Trumansburg, Ark., to ask if I was present when a photo was taken of Company "A" guys at Camp Atterbury in the summer of 1944. I got there around July 6 but wasn't in the picture. I was usually on KP the first several weeks at Atterbury and was probably too important for Bob Richardson, our mess sergeant, to release me for anything so frivolous. I was a whirling dervish in the kitchen.

I've mentioned before, I think, that I pulled so much KP a lot of the guys thought I was a cook. "I'm a rifleman," I'd insist as I scrubbed pots, slung hash, and cleaned tables..

Harold said he enjoys "The Cub." I think John Kline deserves a prize of some kind for the great job he keeps doing on our publication. The longer I read it the better it gets. Am I getting old and sentimental?

Some of you might be interested in something I read about 1,800 Iowans being captured or killed at Faid Pass in February, 1943. "One Iowa battalion virtually disappeared when it was surrounded and captured by encircling Nazi troops" the Des Moines newspaper reported a while back. Sound familiar? "For a while we didn't think we'd make it," one of the Iowa vets, now 83, recalled. "We lived off Red Cross packages in the POW camp and that's what saved us. The Germans only fed us cabbage and sawdust bread."

### Mini-Reunion...

Twelve vets of Company A and their wives were at our group's fourth annual reunion last spring at the Hotel Blackhawk in Davenport, Ia.

We got in and out before the flood hit Davenport, enjoying the SS President and a tour of the Rock Island Arsenal.

We plan to meet this spring at West Point with Gene and Neva Powell making arrangements. Wonder if they have a beer garden at the Point? *Dan Bied...*



Col. (Ret), John Miller formerly 423/E (right) was appointed President of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, as well as Chairman of their 48th Annual Reunion (1992) in San Antonio.

**JOHN W. MILLER**, a former resident of Roscoe, New York, was drafted in the Army in 1941 serving with Company F, 60th Infantry, 9th Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He made the initial invasion of North Africa landing in Port Lyautey and participated in six major campaigns with a frontline infantry company. His decorations include Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantry Badge and Unit Citation. In 1944 John as a 1st Sargeant was the first enlisted man to receive a battlefield commission in the U.S. as a result of his combat with the 9th Division.

A second combat service in World War II was with the 423rd Inf. Regt, 106th Division in which he was captured in the Battle of the Bulge. John was a prisoner of war the last five months of the war.

In 1946 John returned to the Army and was assigned to the 2nd Cavalry Regiment as Company commander in the occupation army in Augsburg, Germany. Other overseas tours of duty were Panama, Vietnam and Paris, France.

John graduated from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois with a BA in Business Management. While in the service he attended Advanced Course of the Armored School in Fort Knox, Kentucky, Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas as well as many staff and executive study courses and Army Language School, Monterrey, California.

Interesting assignments were Military District of Washington, D.C. where he was the Logistical officer for the Inaugural Parade for Dwight D. Eisenhower, Reception for Queen Elizabeth, Army Representative for 50th Boy Scouts of America Jamboree in Colorado springs, U.S. Embassy, Paris, France and Logistical Officer, U.S. Army Post, Paris, France.

His wife, Jean, accompanied him living in Panama, Saigon, Vietnam, Augsburg, Germany and Paris, France. Their travels have taken them to over sixty countries. Their son and his wife and two children live in Arlington, Texas.

John retired from the U. S. Army in 1967 as a Lieutenant Colonel with twenty six years service. His second career was with Champion International Corporation as Plant Manager of Nationwide Papers, Arlington, Texas. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, Great Southwest Rotary Club, Retired Officers Association, Nuclear Radiation Survivors and the National POW Association.

## **From the 1994 Reunion Committee...**

**By now you have received your registration packets for the 48th Annual Reunion in Rapid City, South Dakota, Sept 3 - 6, 1994.**

# **P L E A S E   N O T E I M P O R T A N T ! !**

We have to inform you that the "Howard Johnson National Reservation Center Toll Free Service" – does not have the 200 rooms that were assigned to the 106th Infantry Division Association in its computer. It is therefore possible, if you call through the Toll Free Service line (1-800-654-2000) that they could say, "Sorry, we are sold out." When in fact there could be many rooms available, because they were blocked out for the 106th, but do not show up in the National Reservation System's allocated rooms.

**The answer??** Please call the local Rapid City Howard Johnson reservation desk (605) 343- 8550 to make your 106th Association Reunion room reservations, or use the reservation card that was included in your registration packet.

Our guaranteed rates will be honored, regardless of whether you used the 800 number, the local number or the reservation cards. Nobody (reserving rooms at the Howard Johnson Lodge) will pay more than the quoted price of \$50.00 single/\$58.00 double. We apologize for this, we did not realize that the block of 200 rooms assigned to us, would not be listed on the National Reservation System. *The 1994 Reunion Committee*

### **Howard Johnson Lodge**

Box 1795, Rapid City, South Dakota 57709

September 3, 4, 5, and 6th, 1994

Local Reservations, (605) 343-8550

(200 rooms reserved for 106th. 200 more rooms available at a near-by Holiday Inn.)

Registration fees for the reunion - \$79.00 per person.

Registration may be canceled, with full refund, prior to August 15, 1994.

(Motel cancellation criteria will be indicated on your personal registration confirmation.)

Registration fees, for the reunion, include Saturday Continental Breakfast, Men's Luncheon, Women's Luncheon, Reception and Buffet, Sunday sit-down Breakfast, Memorial Transportation, Monday Evening Banquet & Dance, and Tuesday's Continental Breakfast.

**See following page for "AGENDA," which was also included in packet.**



**106th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
48th ANNUAL REUNION  
SEPTEMBER 3, 4, 5 & 6 1994  
HOWARD JOHNSON LODGE - RAPID CITY, S.D.  
(TENTATIVE PROGRAM)**

***FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1994 (for early sign-ins)***

8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m .....Pre -registration-Sign in-Snacks  
10:00 a.m.....(optional Tours) Badlands-5 hours  
10:00 a.m.....Deadwood-5 hours +/-  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m .....Hospitality Suites Open

***SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3, 1994 (Reunion Officially Starts)***

7:30-9:00 a.m .....Continental Breakfast and Past President's Breakfast  
8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m .....Registration  
9:00 a.m.-Noon.....(optional Tour) City Circle Tour  
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m .....Board Meeting  
Noon-3:00 p.m.....Men's Luncheon & Business Meeting  
Noon-3:00 p.m.....Women's Luncheon & Program  
3:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m .....FREE TIME (visiting, shopping, etc.)  
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m .....Reception ( cash bar) Buffet Supper

***SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 1994***

7:30-9:00 a.m. ....Breakfast (sit-down)  
8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. ....Hospitality Rooms Open  
9:00 a.m.-Noon.....(Optional Tour) City Circle Tour #2  
Noon -1:00 p.m .....Lunch (On your own)  
1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m .....(Optional Tour) Ellsworth Aircraft Museum Airbase  
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m .....Dinner (On your own) (Possible Chuck-wagon Supper)  
6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. ....Memorial Service & Mount Rushmore Lighting

***MONDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1994 (Labor Day)***

7:00-8:00 a.m. ....Breakfast (On your own)  
8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. ....Hospitality Rooms Open  
8:00 a.m.-Noon.....(Optional Tour) Southern Black Hills Tour  
Noon-1:00 p.m.....Lunch (On your own)  
1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m .....(Optional Tour) Northern Black Hills Tour  
6:30-11:30 p.m .....Banquet & Dance-Cash Bar  
10:00 p.m.....Rosh Hashana Service, Ellsworth Chapel

***TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 1994***

7:30-9:30 a.m. ....Continental Breakfast& Farwell **(TURN IN BADGES!!!)**

***Registration forms are being sent via First Class Mail to each current member.  
Hope you can stay after the convention to enjoy the many attractions of the  
Rapid City, South Dakota area.***

# December 16th Commemoration Parties

## A Banner Year for Commemoration Parties...

This was a good year for "December 16th Commemoration Parties." As you will see in the following pages, there were many held throughout the United States. We salute Louisiana for its FIRST. Thanks to Hubert Crook for contacting members of the 106th.

I think it apropos to once again recite 106th Inf. Div. Dale Carver's "FIRST REUNION." This poem has been read at many of the Dec. 16th meetings and reunions... (John Kline, editor)

*We were there, that winter long ag.  
We survived; many of our comrades fell.  
Twin enemies were the weather and the foe—  
the never-ending cold and the bursting shell.  
Conceived of this ordeal of fire and icy earth  
this brotherhood of old men came to be;  
a kinship stronger far than that by birth  
was born when we were young, across the sea.  
Of the ties that bind, others cannot know,  
but we were there, that winter long ago.*

BEFORE THE  
VETERANS DIE  
by  
Dale R. Carver



Left to Right -m/m Marion Bahlinger, 422/B; m/m Hubert Crook, 422/F  
m/m Dale Carver, 424/HQ 3Bn; m/m Robert Guintard, 424/C;  
m/m Adolph Maier, 81st ENG/C

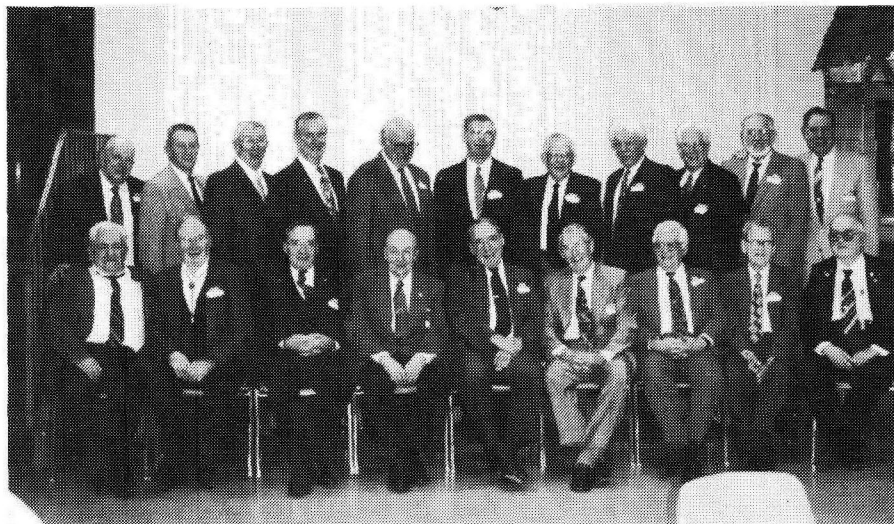
DRUSILLA SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

DECEMBER 16, 1993

## Baton Rouge - 1993

Herbert D. Crook, 9577 Southmoor Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815-4350 TELE: 504-924-4368

A luncheon meeting (our first) was held on December 16, 1993 for the Louisiana Contingency of the 106th Infantry Division Association. A good meal and good fellowship was enjoyed by all. Plans are being made for another in 1994.



## **Chicago Area - 1993**

**Russell Villwock, 106 Sig, 8560 West Foster Ave #510, Norridge, IL 60656 Tele: 708-452-8628**

Once again, this year the Chicago area members of the 106th gathered at the Park Ridge V.F.W. Post #3579, to commemorate and recall our days in Belgium, during December 1944.

We also talked about the wonderful time we had at the reunion in Columbia, and are looking forward to Rapid City in September.

This year our dinner was held on Saturday, December 4, 1993. We started at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails, followed by a buffet dinner. You can see by the smiling faces on the pictures, that the evening was enjoyed by all. next year, the plans are to go to the Elks Club in Des Plaines.

Those in attendance were M/M Gordon Bigelow; M/M Major Hill; Ben Carpenter; Lawrence Costa; Antone Costa; M/M Joseph Dallman; M/M William Brankin; Hubert Hochstetter; Michael Kurzeja; M/M Oliver Libman; M/M Herbert Meagher, Jr.; M/M Raymond Panice, and their friends; M/M Milton Schober; M/M Frank von Schwedler; Lionell White; M/M Ted Swier; M/M Wendell Ulrich; M/M Russell Villwock.

Gordon Bigelow and Wendell Ulrich are not current members, but have applications.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Rapid City, South Dakota in September 1994.





## December 16th Commemoration Parties



### **Southern California Area - 1993**

Milton Weiner, 6440 Knott Ave, Buena Park, CA 90621 714-521-1705

After reading *My First Reunion* by Dale Carver, 424/HQ 3Bn, everyone introduced themselves. Colonel Cavender (CO 423rd Regiment) was happy with the results of the Army-Navy game. Also he was very proud of his World War I medal (75th Anniversary). He is now 96 years of age. We all appreciated Dick and Lynn Erdes for bringing the Colonel from his quarters at the Air Force Facility Care Center in Riverside, California. A good time was had by all. In 1994 we are scheduled for December 4 at 1:00 p.m. Please write or come to be added to the mailing list.

Present were: Colonel Charles C. Cavender, 423/HQ CO; Robert & Verna Bennett, 423/H; Donald Betlach & Mary Jane, 423/HQ 2Bn; Dick & Lynn Erbes, 423/HQ; Arthur Gruen, 423/H/ 2 Bn; Clifford & Sarah Kincannon 590/HQ; Joseph & Ann Litivin, 423/D; Neill Mahoney, 590/HQ; Robert & Mary Lou Marsh, 423?D; Dick Peterson, 423/L; James N. & Aki Yamazaki, 590/MED; Milton Weiner & Bella Duze, 424M





### ***Madison, Wisconsin Area - 1993***

Chuck Rieck, 424/H, 7316 Voss Pkwy, Middleton, WI 53562 Tele: 608-831-6110

The Wisconsin 5th annual commemorative meeting of the Battle of the Bulge was held at CJ's Fast in Madison, Wisconsin on October 16, 1993. We had 50 people in attendance.

➤ **Attending were:** m/m Edward Wojahn; m/m Willis Smythe; Dr/M Eugene Rodd; m/m James Tetzlaff; Walter Donaldson; m/m Robert Likins; m/m Arnold Brannstrom; m/m Roger Bell; m/m Albert Hundt; m/m Ralph Moore; m/m Ray Kurth; m/m Jermy Miller; m/m Charles Puskarich; m/m Albert March; Charles Siebold

m/m Chuck Rieck; Donald Handel; Milo Cunningham; m/m Henry Wittenberg; m/m Larry Post; Fred Broussard; Ms June Kinsey; m/m Robert Lee; m/m Edward Dorn; m/m Joe Broderick; m/m Robert Kane; m/m Charles Lowe; m/m John Hendrickson





## **Pittsburgh Area - 1993**

**George T. and Norma Vance, 283 Dutch Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15236; Tele: 412-653-1724**

On December 12, 1993, a group of the 106th Infantry Division Veterans, with wives and guests gathered at the Georgetown Centre, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to enjoy a noon luncheon and to commemorate the anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge*.

After the *Pledge of Allegiance*, followed by the singing of the *Nation Anthem* and *God Bless America*, there was a moment of silence for our departed comrades, during which time "TAPS" was played. Thanks to Pete Yanchik for his expert photography and to Mrs. Frances Jackson for the beautiful Christmas favors which she "hand-crafted." Mrs. Jean Peters (wife of David) surprised us with a large tray of her home made "Baklava," a delicious Lebanese pastry.

**IN ATTENDANCE WERE** Thirty-four (34) members and guests:

John & Katherine Collins, 422/F; Raymond & Eileen Devaty, 423/MED; Edwin & Elizabeth Hminski, 424/F; Mrs Frances Jackson; Mrs, Dolores Jones; Francis & Jean Langham, 422/L; Howard & Dorothy Lowenberg, 423/E; Joseph & Viviam Maloney, 424/HQ; Francis & Helen Stepnick, 422/E; George and Norma Vance, 422/AT; James Wiggins, 331 MED/A; Pete & Diane Yanchick, 423/A; Richard E. Bartz, DIV/Hq; Michael & Lillian Honkus, 422/L; Harry & Jennie Rose Kolvezez, 423/HQ; Carl S. & Lillian Kwaczek, 422/C; Dr. John B. & Pearl Martin, 422/MED; David & Jean Peters, 422/K; Stanley J. & Irene S. Repos, 424/MED; GUESTS: Frank McClelland, 28th Division; Grace Moore.

Several of our members were in touch, but were unable to attend. We thank them for their kindness in keeping in touch even though they were not able to be here: Dr. Michael E. Connelly, 589/MED; Robert Flick, 81st/C; Francis E. Gebelin, 424/M; Frank Lapato, 422/HQ; John Shidemantle, 422/HQ; George F. Phillips, DIV/Hq; Richard L. Rigatti, 423/B; Robert Wesing, 423/L; Albert Yelochan, 422/HQ.





## ***Detroit, Michigan Area - 1993***

Russell Mayotte, 9628 Cavelle St., Livonia, MI 48150

**MEN, 1ST ROW:** Mr Russ Mayotte; Charles Mamula and Andy Mato. **MIDDLE:** Marshall Wenslow, Lou Passariello, Rudy Aittama, Harold Ortwine and Jim Karth. **BACK ROW:** John Shalob, Bob Kelly, Bob Rowe, Jim Fonda, Will Hartman, Frank Ross, Jack Roberts and Bob Rutt

**LADIES, 1ST ROW:** Lee Rowe, Lucille Rutt, Pauline Mato, Evelyn Shalob with Jean Schutte up front. **BACK ROW:** Betty Passariello, Marge Karth, Pat Wenslow, Mary Lou Roberts, Ellen, Mary Jane Fonda, Ann Frankini and Audrey Ortwine.





## **New Jersey Area - 1993**

**Carl Messina, 926 Seymour Ave, Linden, New Jersey 07036-2942; Tele: 908-486-2927**

On November 14, 1992 the New Jersey group met. There were sixty (60) people in attendance. **ATTENDING:** Jos& Dorothy Krafchick, 331/MED/HQ; Myron & Janice Swack, 422/HQ; Ephraim & Natalie Goldberg, 423/G; Sal & Mary Grasso, 423/SV; John & Rose Rosalia, 423/C; R. Dackerman, 422/CN; Seymour & Dora Rosen, 423/HQ; Louis & Mildred Piazza, 423/MED; Frank & Muriel Sziber, 81/C; Dr. Harry & Betsy Baird, 81/MED; Charles & Pauline Fehnel 81/A; Wm & Florence Melichar, 423/SV; Paul & Lucille Werkmeister, 422/MED; Joe Puzio, 81/?; John & Stella Gallagher, 81/C; Harold & Ethel Fleming, 423/F; Ken & Milva Vandergrift, 331/M; Harold & Elaine Worrell, 331/B; Carl & Alice Messina, 81/A; John & Grace Starmack, 423/M; Vince & Antonette LoCurcio, 423/M; Charles Kortlang, 106 MP; Kachadour Avedisian, 296 Eng/C and Marilyn Wolfson; Roy & Wanda Fava, 81/C; Dr. Duncan & Grace Truman, 424/AT; Col Earle & Susan Valenstein, 81/B; Nicola & Ann Risoli, 81/B; Sylvester & Marie Golembiewski, 422/MED; Joseph & Dorothy Scotti, 423/B; Wm & Miriam Blaher, 422/I; Jacques & Jean Bloch, 422/K; Jack Middleton, 106 SIG; and Col Tom Riggs, 81/HQ CO.







## **Mt. Vernon, Illinois Area - 1993**

John Mikalauskis, Box 31 306 W. Blake, Benton, IL 62812 Tele: 215-626-1866

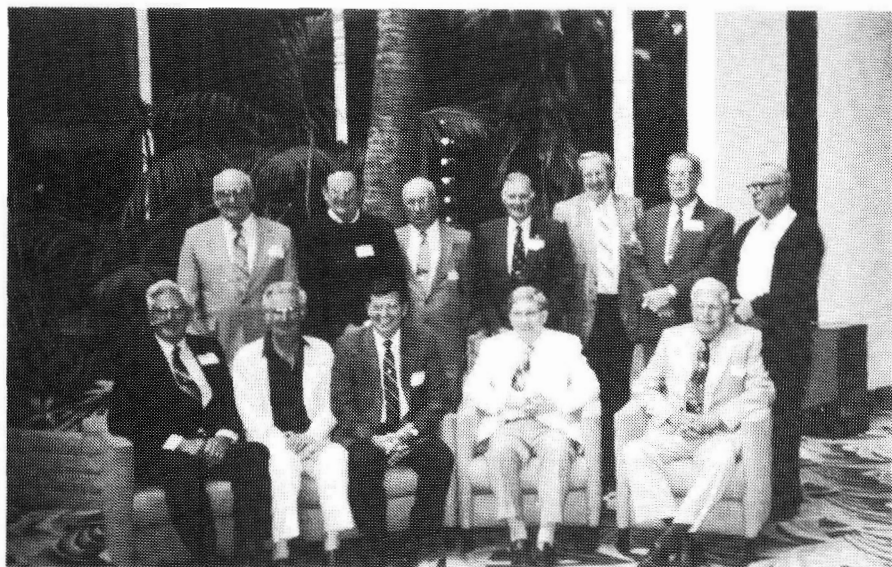
On December 11th, a group of the 106th attended a reunion celebrating the Anniversary of the *Battle of the Bulge* at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. There were 38 members and wives present. An enjoyable time was had by all. It was decided that the 1993 Anniversary Celebration be held on December 10, 1994.

**MEN: Standing:** l/r Robert Allen, guest; Norman Benefeil; Van Wyatt; Newton Johnson; Eugene Bloomingburg; Eugene Kelch; Pete Lauman; John Hohenstein; Bob York; Forrest Williams; Ken Bradfield. - **Seated:** John Mikalauskis; Glenn Hartlieb; Webb Hall; Francis Martin; Stanley Kucholick; Vince Venegoni. **Hidden:** Ken Bryan, Harold Bratton, Alfred Kopatz.

**WOMEN STANDING:** Dorothy Kelch, Leda Johnson, Iona Hohenstein, Dottie Benefeil, Juanita Bloomingburg, Dorothy Williams, Danna Kucholick, Ferrol Bratton, Dolores Mikalauskis, Ida Kopatz. - **Seated:** Velma Hall, June Bradfield, Dorothy Lauman, Nadine Hartlieb, Thelma York, Marge Bryan. **Not pictured:** Mary Venegoni, Mary Martin.



## *December 16th Commemoration Parties*



### **Phoenix, Arizona Area - 1993**

Larry Walden, 7801 No. 44th Dr., Glendale, AZ 83501 - Tele: 602-435-0889

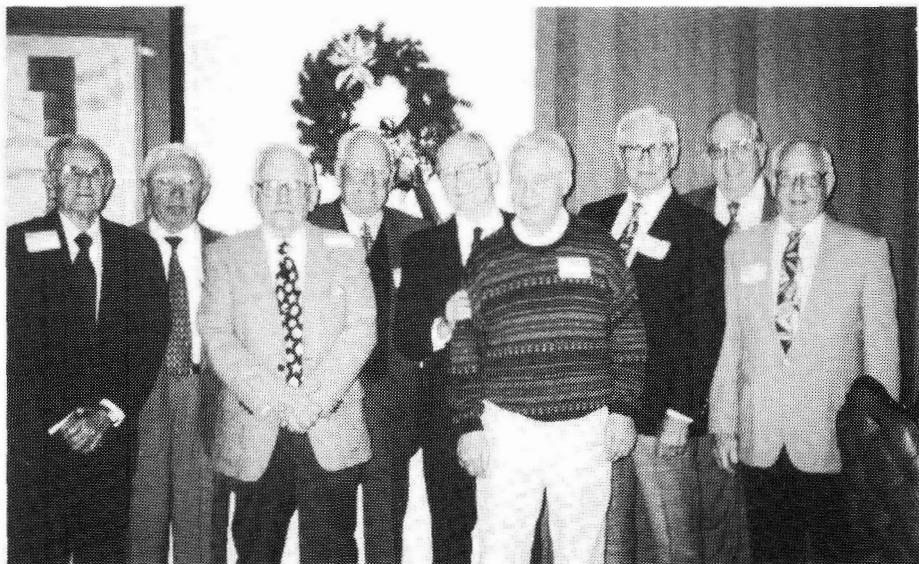
Co-Chaired by Toby Anderson and Em Pretty

We held our 5th Annual December 16th Reunion on that date 1993. We meet at the Hilton -Pavillion Hotel in Mesa, Arizona. There were 22 on hand. Several who planned on coming did not attend. Yes, it gets cold and does snow in the mountain areas. We enjoyed a private room, holiday decorated and had some very interesting photos taken of "THEN and NOW" by Herm VanDeBogart. They were of the battle areas. A member of the Veteran's Administration addressed the group, followed by a spirited question and answer period.

**MEN Front:** l/r Dean Childs, Ray Fawley, Em Pretty, John Hoag. **Back:** Richard Behr, Jack Watters, Ralph Hansen, Herm VanDeBogart, John Whitehead, Robert Bennett, Floyd Friend.

**WOMEN Front:** l/r Ann Whitehead, Velma Hansen, Helen VanDeBogart. **Back:** "Andy" Hoag, Bea Behr, Jeanne Walden, Vera Bennett, Eleanor Childs, Dorothy Watters, Florine Friend. Not in either picture - Toby and Amy Anderson.





## **Atlanta, Georgia Area - 1993**

Sherod Collins, 448 Monroe Trace, Kennesaw, GA Tele: 404-928-3207

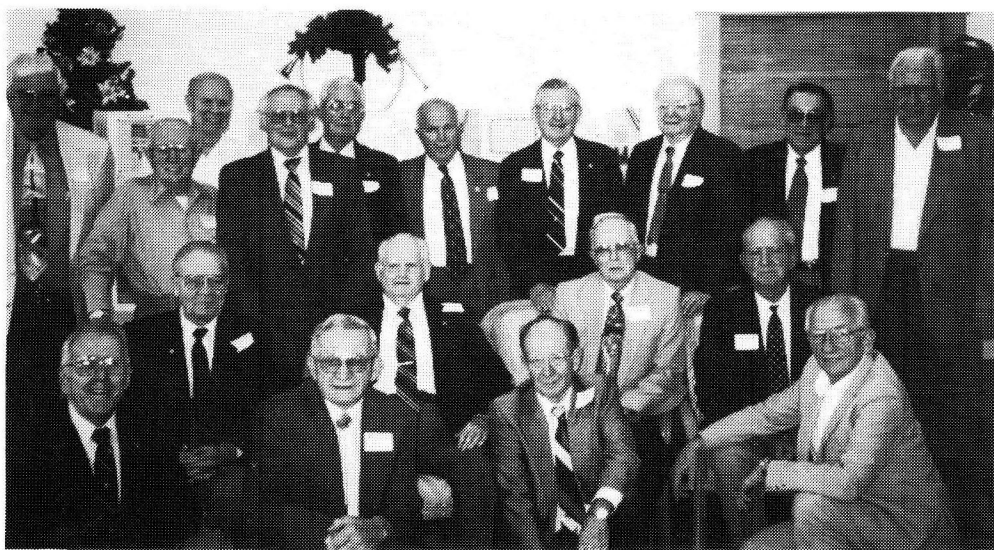
The weather was fine, if a little cold, and the fellowship was superb. The Bulge dinner was held at Dobbins Air Force base, Open Mess, for a close-knit group of eighteen 106'ers on Sunday afternoon, December 12, 1993. We enjoyed tasty food provided by the staff at Dobbins AFB. Prizes were won by Martha Ward and Bob Burke.

**MEN:** l/r Bob Burkes, Morris Piha, Bob Howell, Joe Puett, Sherod Collins, Duke Ward, Lyman Maples, Carroll Padgett, Bill Jenkins.

**WOMEN:** l/r Martha Ward, Ann Maples, Kathy Pratt, Ida May Puett, Louis Howell, Frankie Burkes, Sarah Piha, Sandra Jenkins and Ernestine Holland.







## **Florida Area - 1993**

**Richard Sparks, 3180 Hanley Street, Deltona, FL 32738-2159 Tele: 904-784-4692**

The Florida Commemorative Luncheon was held Saturday December 18, 1993 at the Metro West Country Club in Orlando, Florida. Lloyd Byrd was the event chairman. 31 men, wives and guests were present. Pete House had his usual POW material, others related their personal experiences. Those in attendance were:

m/m Lloyd Byrd, 422/HQ 1Bn; Clifton & Mary Capshaw, 423/K; Lou & Peggy Cooper, 423/M; James & Thelma Daniell, 424/HQ 2Bn; Sam Davis 423/HQ and Midge Ward; William & Dharlys Fleharty, 592/A; George & Muriel Geib, 424/G; Arthur Hanke, 106 MP; Pete & Joanne House, 590/A; Paul & Dorothy Lamb, 423/AT; Melvin Moss, 424/C; m/m Robert Miner, 590/HQ; Paul Oxford, 424/G; Delbert & Marion Rediger, 424/G; John & Beth Riels, 423/HQ 2Bn; Ted Slaby, 423/HQ; Dick Sparks, 423/HQ; Levene Weigel, 423/HQ; Gordon Zicker, 423/HQ.

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## **Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Area - 1993**

**Charlie & Nancy Datte, 591/SV, 231 Davis Ave, Clifton Heights, PA 19018 Tele 215-626-1866**

Philadelphia area, by Charlie Datte... On 12 December members of the Phila area gathered in our home in Clifton Heights.

It was another emotional heart warming affair. Nancy and I want to thank each and everyone of those wonderful people for their help and for their sharing their thoughts and feelings with us. It's such a beautiful time of the year and we "survivors" have so much to be thankful for.

We regret to report that although we had three cameras working, the pictures were like some of our AMMO - "DUDs."

In attendance: Joe & Mary Ansel, 423/AT; Harry & Gladys Albertson, 422/H; Jim & Mary Bard, 423/I; Harvey & Anne Bradford, 424/SV; Charlie & Betty Jane Harvey, 424/A; Russ & Joan Hoff, 422/M; Ruth & Beth Smith, 591/HQ; Ray & Margie Ulmer, 592/SV; Al & Mickie Vitali, 424/B; Newt & Ruth Weiss, 423/HQ; Bob Wilson, 591/SV.

We missed the company of Jack & AnnMcDevitt, 81/A; Stan Waytusik, 422/G and his wife, Ruth, who passed away the week before, Ernie & Sally Savage, 424/HQ.; Ray Boyle, 423/HQ and Tom McHugh, 424/SV.

John, we meet next year, same time, same place for our 50th on December 11, 1994. See you all in Rapid City, South Dakota on Labor Day.

# ***December 16th Commemoration Parties***

## **Reading, Penn. 1993**

John J. Gallagher,  
4003 Francis St., Temple, PA  
19560 TELE :215-929-2887

The Reading Memorial Dinner  
was held on 3 December at the  
Dutch Colony Inn.

### **Men's photo, top to bottom:**

Bill Harris, 423/SV;  
Stanley Kowalski, 592/HQ  
Donal Showalter, 106 Band  
Walter Shirk, 424/M  
Fred Carr, 81/C  
Jack McDevitt, 81/A  
Ralp Hill, Associate  
Robert Dackerman, 422/CN  
Vince Sziber, 81/C  
Norman Spayd, 423/H  
Charlie Datte, 591/SV  
Curtis Deisher, 424/L  
Carl Messina, 81/A  
John Gallagher, 81/C  
Not shown - Greely (Spayd's  
newphew).



### **Women's photo, top to bottom:**

Florence Deisher  
Nancy Datte  
Stella Gallagher  
Anne McDevitt  
Betty Carr  
Lillian Harris  
Muriel Sziber  
Alice Messina  
Erma Kowalski  
Ida (Shirk's friend)  
Sally Hill

Not shown - Robbie Showalter.

Twenty seven persons attended  
the Reading, Pennsylvania  
Area Memorial Dinner on De-  
cember 3, 1992. It was held at  
the Dutch Colony Motor Inn.  
Good Memories, Good Food,  
Good Entertainment, but  
mainly to remember those who  
are no longer with us.



## **December 16th Commemoration Parties**

### **106th Recon gathers at the Columbia Reunion...**

by Lou Cunningham, 106 Recon (Picture below)

My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed the reunion at Fort Jackson. We were particularly pleased that sixteen members of the 106 Recon attended, many for the first time. I also feel I was fortunate that I was able to get eleven of the Recon to become members of the Association. I had hoped for more and am still working on it. The enclosed photo shows the 16 Recon members who attended the Columbia Reunion. Although only eight registered for the total activities, we did have very good representation considering that in the past only one or two attended.

It is always with great anticipation that I await the next issue of *The CUB* and as usual the Oct-Nov-Dec 1993 issue maintains the high quality of material as before.

Lou, I'm sure you and the other fifteen men realize that you are always welcome. It is gratifying to have such a good representation of one of the proud units of the 106th Infantry Division. We hope you are successful in convincing others to join us in Rapid City so that they can enjoy the camaraderie of others who fought with them in those dark days of December 1944... J. Kline.



### **Minneapolis and Minnesota Area - 1993 (NO PHOTO)**

Lloyd Brunner, 424/A, Rte 3 - Box 170, Red Wing, MN 55066

We had 26 people in attendance at the "Treasure Island Casino" near Red Wing, Minnesota on December 16, 1993. A delightful and full-filling luncheon was enjoyed by all. The Casino furnished a room right next to the dining room. We noticed a few chow-hounds go back through the line a couple of times. There is no report of how many went to the "slots," but considering our age, I doubt that many did.

Howie Flen, an Associate member, presented a slide presentation of his trip through the Ardennes area of Belgium. Russ Gunvalson, 590/A showed a video of the *Battle of the Bulge*.

**Present were:** Richard Ritchie & Carol, 423/MED; Chase Haug & wife, 112th Reg, 28th Div; Lex Schoonover & wife, 422/HQ; Howard Flen, Associate; John Kline, 423/M; Russ Gunvalson & Idelle, 590/A; Lloyd Brunner & Audrey, 424/A; Alvin Swanson & Dorothy, 424/I; Albert Kranz & Patricia, 106 MP; Vince Lawrence & Fran.; Phil Gerlach & Shirley, 424/D; Hampton Dailey & Shirley, 422/K; Boyd Rutledge & Flora, 422/D; Robert Sanberg & Pat, 81st Eng/A.

There was a write-up in the local paper featuring Lloyd Brunner (local resident). He said we all had a lot to remember, and we re-win the battle each time we meet. This group also held a mid-summer meeting at Red Wing in a restaurant, on the Mississippi River near downtown.



George Peros, 590/A was the big winner of the GOLDEN LION" which was raffled off at the closing banquet of the 47th Annual Reunion. Pete House, who took the photo, says "Which is meaner, the Lion or Peros? I'll vote for Peros." Georgia Peros is to George's right.

## **RED CROSS WORKER VISITS BROTHER DEC. 15**

by Pete House, 590/A

Jill Pitts visited her twin brother, Capt., John Pitts, the day before the Battle of the Bulge began. Capt. Pitts, who commanded A Battery of the 590 Field Artillery, had not seen his sister in over a year.

Jill was a Red Cross club mobile worker and had been in Europe since December 1943. While in England they felt the effects of constant bombing and V-1 attacks. She landed on Utah Beach in the middle of July and drove her 6 x 6 to the 8th Corps. She was based at Bastogne until the US military was driven back. In December her crew was assigned to the 106th Division at Vielsalm.

On December 15 Miss Pitts and a male Red Cross worker visited her brother at "A" Battery's site in Oberlascheid. Many of us got to meet Jill. She said she would bring a clubmobile up in a few days. The next afternoon Capt. Pitts was killed when German artillery fire hit "A" battery.

The Red Cross unit was cut off in Vielsalm by the German advance. On the 20th they were told to be ready to walk out back to the American Line. On December 23 the 82 Airborne was able to open a road and they escaped.

On January 9 what was left of their group joined the 28th Division. The 28th Division was on the right of the 106th when the Battle of the Bulge began.

# New Members

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## **Benson, Burton E. 423/K**

1515 Anken St.  
Rome, NY 13440

Would like to know the location of  
S/Sgt Koehler, 423/K.

(Editor's Note - Burton, I found the full name  
of your S/Sgt in the 432rd Infantry Combat In-  
fantry Badge Orders. It is Eldon A. Koehler....  
I learned later, from Burton that his sergeant  
had passed away six years ago... J. Kline)

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## **Frankini, Ann D. ASSOCIATE**

35300 Hillside Dr.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

Widow of Richard A.

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## **Fryhoff, Robert E. 423/G**

RR #2 Oak Hills  
Rochester, IL 62563

I was Platoon Sergeant of the 3rd Pla-  
toon and was on point with Lt. Millice and  
a Major from Battalion Headquarters.

Lt. Millice and I were hit and taken  
prisoners. To this day I do not know what  
happened to the rest of the unit. We were  
never registered as POWs, only thing the  
Army knew was that we were missing in  
action. I ended up in a town named Hep-  
penheim. We were the first group of  
wounded POWs to be liberated when the  
Allies made the Rhine crossing..

(Editor's Note -2nd Lt Dave R. Millice, "G"  
Co., 423rd shown as missing in action on  
General Orders #51. That order was written  
on July 31, 1945. You would conclude from  
that that he probably perished as a prisoner.  
Most MIAs are men who were killed and can-  
not be identified, but there were many that  
died before they were registered as POWs  
that show as MIAs.

In that same list there are three other men  
from your company shown as MIA. Lt. Earl  
Browne, Sgt Percy Kempen and Pvt Robert  
G. Miller. You are shown, amongst the living,  
as T/Sgt Robert E. Fryhoff 36478426.

Heppenheim an der Bergastrasse is just  
northeast of Mannheim and not many miles  
from the Rhine River.

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I have a few copies of Order #51, dated July  
31, 1945. It was the order that awarded the  
Combat Infantry Badge to men of the 423rd  
Regiment. It is 21 pages (16 double-sided  
and 5 single sided 8.5x11 inch) of copy.  
Send me \$5.00 for costs and mailing. The  
names of most of your company men ap-  
pear. It shows no KIA, 4 MIA, 2 POW and  
172 returned to the Army. Your LT. would  
have shown under POW had the authorities  
known he was captured. "POW" in this order  
means that they were known to be captured  
but never showed up after the fighting  
stopped.

Thanks for your comments and welcome  
back to the 106th .... J. Kline) editor)

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## **Gremillion, Sr., Jack P.F.**

### **424/HQ 3BN**

5475 Capital Heights Ave  
Baton Rouge, LA 70806-6007  
504-924-2124

Born June 15, 1914 at Donaldsonville  
La, Catholic. Graduated CHS Dond-  
sonville in 1931. I attended Louisia-  
State University, Baton Rouge, 1931 to  
1937. Law School LSU, started practice of  
law on July 30, 1937. First Assistant Dis-  
trict Attorney EBR Parish for five years,  
1948 - 1955. Attorney La. Department of  
Revenue 1940-46. Elected Attorney Gen-  
eral of Louisiana 1955 - served 16 years in  
that capacity 1956-72.

Hon. LLB-Philathea College, admit-  
ted to all Federal/State Courts. Authorized  
to practice in Supreme Court of US since  
'42. Outstanding Attorney General of US  
- July 1963. Wounded St. Lo, France July  
30, 1944 while serving with L Company,  
2nd Infantry Regiment, 5th Inf. Div. Re-  
tired 1st Lt in June 1945.

Formerly married to Doris McDonal,  
(1-12-1942)- she died on October 31,  
1989. Five children, Jack Jr, Donald,  
Wayne. Phetta and Mark.

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**Grubb, Willis L. 423/L**

433 Sylvan Ave #98  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
415-961-0692

I took Basic Training at Camp Roberts March '44 to Aug '44. Was sent to camp outside Washington, D.C. for overseas. Since I was not ready and couldn't be sent over as a replacement, I was sent to Camp Atterbury with the 106th where my lack of training would not be noticed.

I remember my sergeant turning white when I ask him what the stove pipes were and where the trigger was..... When I returned from prison camp my mother was sure we had been used as "Sacrificial Lambs."

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**Hurley, John ASSOCIATE**

5519 N. 46th Ave  
Glendale, AZ 85301  
602-435-2401

Sponsored by Marion Ray, 424/D..

John is the son of my service buddy, "Kriege Buddy" and service friend - George Glen Truman Hurley. George had two middle names and I always told him that sealed our friendship because I had no middle name.

George G. T. Hurley passed away March 17, 1988 which was almost an anniversary date of entry into service and of the 106th.

Sgt. George Hurley entered service from the state of Missouri and like all the rest of us was shipped to Fort Jackson to the 106th and assigned to "D" Co. 424th Infantry Regiment and became one of the "Damn Hard Men." George because he stood 6'3" became the company guidon bearer and was the only guidon bearer the company had until taken prisoner in Germany. He set a steady step for us wherever he went.

He was also assigned to the second platoon as Instrument Corporal. In the ETO, when we were put to the task in Germany, George was taken prisoner on 17 December at or near Winterspelt. Although George and I were in the same platoon our duties were different, and it was not until they got us into a warehouse collection point at Gerolstein. From there to Stalag 12-A, Limburg where on the night of 23 December the British bombed us and the officers barracks received a direct hit. Then a five day train ride to Stargard II-A. Then the Russians started moving and we had a 13 day walk west to Neubrandenburg II-A and stayed there until liberated by the Russians.

Hit the U.S. at Hampton Roads, VA and Camp Patrick Henry, VA and then extended leave.

George's family lived in St Louis, Mo then - and my family not far away in Illinois. George met a beautiful young lady and got married and after living in St. Louis several years decided to move "West." So George with wife and young son John moved to Phoenix, Arizona.

George Glen Truman Hurley died March 17, 1988 at Phoenix, Arizona

Rest ye well my friend!

So I submit to you his son, John, for Associate membership. signed *Marion Ray*

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**Mathews, Walter A. 81st ENG/C**

34 Willmore Rd  
St. Louis, MO 63109-3330  
314-352-0758

Sherod Collins, Thank you for the information and application forms from the 106th Association. My check and application are enclosed. Also, I am sending a check payable for the book *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in REVIEW*.

# New Members

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## **Mato, Andrew J. 424/E**

26771 Graythorne  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
810-477-6057

I met my wife in Indianapolis while at Camp Atterbury. We were married in 1946 and have five children and 17 grandchildren

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## **McMullin, Gerald W. 423/K**

1627 Arbor Dr  
Beloit, WI 53511

Sherod, Enclosed are my membership entry dues.

I was a cook in "K" Co., 423rd Infantry from March 1943 to December 1944. Captured when the Third Battalion was told to surrender. I was in Stalag 9-B all of the time I was imprisoned, was liberated in April 1945. Discharge November 1945.

I am married for 47 years. have a son and two daughters and six grandchildren.

I started a plumbing apprenticeship in March 1946. I had to retire on disability November 1984. I am in a wheel chair a lot of the time now, so can't attend reunions, even though I would like to. I am looking forward to getting the CUB and any other news.

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## **Mohn, John J. 422/HQ 1BN**

12691 South Ave  
North Lima, OH 44452  
216-549-2826

Married 39 years to Cherie A. Mohn, an artist. Daughter Deborah Marie, son in Law Richard Altimas (?), granddaughter Amanda, age 10; grandson Marcus age 4. Retired Clinical Psychologist/University Instructor/School Psychologist.

Editor's Note - Sherod Collins informed me that John was the S-3 (Operations Officer) of the 422nd Regiment.

## **Osborne, Reggie R. 424/F**

PO Box 74  
Jefferson, NC 28640  
910-246-9441

I am a paraplegic veteran from World War II. I was a rifleman and served with "F" Co., 424th Regiment during the *Battle of the Bulge*.

I am married to Wava Eller Osborne, we live in Jefferson, NC. I entered service at age 18, was wounded in January of 1945.

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## **Ray, Marion 424/D**

1740 Green Tree Ct  
Crofton, MD 21114  
301-261-6741

I'm sorry for not having forwarded this application as I promised. Tried to make the Fort Jackson reunion, but due to my wife's health we could not come.

(Editor's Note - A card accompanying Marion's application shows him as Lieutenant Colonel, Artillery, Retired, Army of the United States... J. Kline)

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## **Searfoss, Clifford L. 422/HQ 3BN**

5823 Durham Ct.  
South Bend, IN 46614  
219-299-0466

I was discharged from the Army on Nov 26 1945. I worked briefly for Geo. F. Burnette Driveaway and U.S. Army Air Corps. I enrolled at Manchester in June of 1947. I then worked briefly at Singer Company and in August of 1947 I went to Bendix Corporation from which I retired on March 31, 1983.

Married on Oct 7, 1950 to Juanita Sharp. Six children and 12 grandchildren. We have done considerable travel, including battlefield tours of England, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany. I have had some health problems including 5-bypass heart surgery in 1990.



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**Shaver, Robert M. 424/HQ**

4961 Winston Dr.  
Indianapolis, IN 46226

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**Swonger, John W. 424/F**

1435 Eastgate Rd  
Springfield, OH 45503  
513-399-3147

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**Thompson, Paul G. 106 RECON**

6945 Harriet Ave. So.  
Richfield, MN 55423  
612-866-4683

Boyd Rutledge and I, your adjutant, have known each other for years. His quite salesmanship has convinced me to join with other veterans of the 106th.

I was a late comer, joining the 106th at Atterbury. Shortly thereafter I was transferred to the Signal Company and from there to the RECON Troop as a radio repairman under Sgt. Harry Naish. Rudy Aittama's comments in the CUB last Spring covered our move in the Ardennes so I won't repeat it. As a matter of interest, however, my family and I visited Stow-on-the-Wold a few years ago. Stow, is now a tourist town and nothing was familiar except the town-hall.

Our positions in Grosslangenfeld were overrun on December 17th and the residue of the Recon Troop was marched to Prüm and thence to Stalag 12A, by train, to Limburg an der Lahn. If I remember correctly, Rudy Aittama had a bad leg wound and was shipped with the rest of our wounded to some other location. Unfortunately 12A was next to the railyards near Diez and we were bombed, heavily, by the British two days before Christmas. Most if not all of our officers were killed

in a building in the camp and many prisoners in box-cars were wounded or killed in the railyard.

From Limburg we were sent to Stalag 3A at Luchenwald (near Berlin) and later to 11A at Altengrabow. In early April we were formed into Arbeit Kommandos (work camps) and marched to the front to repair railroads. When the Americans broke through most guards shot their prisoners. Carlton Schilcher and I were the only 106th people in our group and we hid out until elements of the 83rd and 8th Armored passed us heading east.

After the war I went back to school, married Laura Jones. We have four children, nine grandchildren and live in Minneapolis, Minnesota in retirement.

I found some keepakes in my trunk that belong to Carlton Schilcher. He, or his heirs, would want them. Can anybody help me find him?

(Editor's Note - Paul, I am sure that the picture of the Diez railyards and other comments about the Limburg bombing in this cub would be of interest... J. Kline)

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**Vonachen, Donald F. 424/B**

4720 N Idlewood Ct  
Peoria, IL 61614  
309-676-8986

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**vom Orde, Hallie Jones  
ASSOCIATE**

4235 Ross Drive  
Reno, NV 89509

Hallie is a sister to Alan W. Jones, Jr., son of our WWII Division Commander. He, Alan, Jr. was an officer in 423/HQ 1st Battalion.



Written on the back of picture  
L/R/ Ward Richardson, 422/D,  
Walter "Tuck" Daugherty 423/L  
Picture taken January 9, 1944  
guarding prisoners at a Alabama  
lumber camp. Sitting in a Ger-  
man prison camp on January 9,  
1945, along with 500 men. Was  
captured 19 Dec, 1944 and  
marched days with no food.  
Have not changed clothes since  
28 Nov. Food is terrible, hot  
water for breakfast, soup at  
noon, bread at night.....

## THE LONG DRAG

by Ward Richardson, 422/D

Of all the gifts I have ever received or given, there is one, though of little significance to most, to "Tuck" Daugherty and I will long be remembered.

Our friendship began at-the time we entered the armed forces in January 1943. Although "Tuck" and I came from the same small home-town, we never knew each other before entering service. We went through basic training together, served a year in the 386th. Military Police Escort and Guard Company guarding German Prisoners of war in the States and Africa. Tiring of guard duty, we volunteered for the infantry in the early part of 1944. We were transferred to Camp Atterbury, Indiana to join the 106th. Infantry Division. Assigned to different regiments, we saw little of each other during our infantry training, but did manage an occasional get together at a PX mid-way between our regiments.

Our division left for overseas in the autumn of 1944. It had been some time since I had last seen "Tuck." At our last get-together we were both resigned to the fact that we might not meet again until after the war. With a brief stop over in England, then through France and into Belgium our division took over front line positions in and around the Schnee Eifel, a rocky wooded ridge 10 miles long and two miles wide astride the Seigfried Line, The date—December 11, 1944.

It was described as a "quiet sector." A 27

mile front. A holding action with probing patrol duty. This was to end as the quiet was shattered by an eruption of fire and steel. *The Battle of the Bulge* was on, Field Marshall von Rundstedt's attack started in the early morning hours of December 16, 1944

I remember the bitter coldness and the thick blanket of snow on that morning of December 16th, so many years ago. The terrifying whine of the German Artillery, the ominous sounds the buzz bombs made as they projected overhead. It didn't take any of us long to realize the seriousness of the situation. We held our position until the afternoon of the 18th, when orders from our company commander to destroy everything but our weapons and pull out. We were surrounded.

There was one chance in a million that we might break through the German Lines. For this all out effort we began by destroying and discarding packs, gas masks, all personal articles Including razors and dental articles, We knew what lay ahead - a 16 to 18 hour night-marish march through the Ardennes Forest. The lighter the load the better. I had always been glad on joining the infantry of being assigned to heavy weapons company, now came the disadvantages. As first gunner on an 81 Millimeter Mortar Squad, that meant not only carrying side arms but the additional weight of 41 to 43 pounds as my part of the mortar.

We hurriedly pulled out of positions and as we passed our now deserted company headquarters. The full impact of our dilemma was

Nearly visible on each man's face. Numbed with fear, cold, fatigue and hunger, we stumbled through the darkness toward the enemy

In the early dawn of the next day, December 19 we knew the full might of the Germans. Having avoided his patrols, artillery and mortar fire during our hellish all night march, we now met him face to face. Although our numbers had grown to a sizable attack force, lacking ammunition and heavy fire power, attack after attack was repelled by the Germans. With their ever increasing reinforcements our chances of breaking through grew dimmer and dimmer as the day wore on. By mid-afternoon we gave up the ghost and surrendered. It was at this time the effects of the last four days finally caught up with us. The human body and mind can stand so much; with no sleep, limited food, bitter cold and physical exhaustion, our minds were dull as we destroyed our weapons and slowly obeyed the piercing orders of the Germans. We were a beaten and miserable lot.

The Germans wasted little time in moving us inland. Their guard system was very efficient, after a short interval we started walking again. Step by step we walked deeper into Germany, up one hill and down another, with the guards prodding us to go ever faster. Woe be unto the man that couldn't take another step! Five minute breaks were few and far between. The Germans communicated ahead and had a complete change of fresh guard personnel at 10 mile intervals thus insuring our march inland was as fast as possible with no rest for the prisoners.

We marched from the day of our capture, December 19th, to 4 a.m. the following morning, covering an unbelievable distance considering the condition of the men. With four hours sleep, but no food, we were ordered on the move again. The bitter cold penetrated every bone of our bodies, especially our feet. Walking became automatic as mile after mile passed.

We walked for two more days through snow and mud, with half a loaf bread as daily rations. Arriving at Gerolstein, we were split into groups. The big rush to get us inland as like old army stuff "hurry and wait." We stood in the cold for hours. The men were milling

and stamping around trying to get life into their frost bitten feet. Everyone wondered what was in store for us next. As I looked among that mass of weary men, I could hardly believe my eyes—there was "Tuck" standing among another group of newly arrived prisoners. We saw each other about the same time. With so much confusion it wasn't difficult for "Tuck" to leave his group and join me.

After many delays we were finally herded into box cars. The particular boxcar we were in contained 62 men packed like sardines. We had to take turns sitting and standing as there wasn't room for all of us to sit at once. The only advantage of being packed in so tightly, was the warmth obtained from each other. We rode on that miserable car for four days and nights with German field rations which consisted of hard dry biscuits for food.

The enemy transportation system had been hard hit by Allied planes. They would no sooner repair a section of track when it was bombed out again. It was due to one of these delays that our unmarked boxcars, pushed on a siding was bombed. Several cars at the rear were rolled over causing death to a number of prisoners. It was on Christmas Eve following the bombing, as we huddled in the boxcar, that I gave "Tuck" his gift — my last cigarette.

Shortly after Christmas we arrived at our first P.W. compound, Stalag IX-B. It was an appalling, unsanitary and overcrowded camp, infested with lice. Our daily rations consisted of ersatz coffee, a portion of soup, made of dehydrated greens, barley or peas, and for dinner one sixth of a loaf of bread plus a pat of margarine. Later the bread ration was cut to one-seventh then to one-tenth of a loaf per man.

We ate our soup ration out of our steel helmets, by using hand hewn wooden spoons. Those of us who were lucky, slept on wooden benches, the others slept on the floor. Dysentery was prevalent, and those who made it to the outdoor slit trenches were lucky. Four of us pooled what money we had and bought blackmarket cigarettes. We rationed ourselves to two "drags" a day after our daily allotment of bread, rotating as to who would light the cigarette each night. When our money ran out,

we fashioned cigarettes of straw and wood. Friends became enemies over them; non-coms were “busted” for stealing tobacco from other prisoners and we often saw men fight over a drag on a makeshift “smoke.” Cigarettes were the bane of our existence. Between them and food, I don’t know which was the most longed for.

The German Army, highly disciplined, believed in segregating non-coms from privates. Once again “Tuck” and I were separated. Along with 1,200 other noncoms I was transported by boxcar to Stalag IX-A, a barbed wire enclosure in an open field near Ziegenhain, 14 miles southwest of Kassel.

Following our liberation by the Sixth Armored Division, we were flown to Camp Lucky Strike in France. It was here that “Tuck” and I met again. Food and cigarettes were plentiful, none of them went to waste. We ate and smoked constantly. I accidentally ran into “Tuck” again while on one of my frequent

sojourns to the mess halls. A big grin spread over his face. He said, “Ward, have a cigarette, have the whole package. When you gave me that cigarette last Christmas Eve, I’ll bet you never realized how valuable it was going to become. I’ve thought about it constantly, as I craved for a smoke. I’ll never forget your giving me your last cigarette.”

“Tuck” and I shipped home together and here our paths separated. He remained in our hometown. I went to live in an adjacent city. Every year since our capture, we’ve made an occasion of meeting and sharing a cigarette together. The exchange of that cigarette, put the final seal on a friendship good for a lifetime.

(Editor’s Note — In his letter to me. Ward said, “Tuck and I live about 90 miles apart now. We visit with each other over a lunch once in a while. We both given up smoking years ago, but still talk about that cigarette ....)



**For you, like, Ward Richardson, that were interned at Stalag IX-A....  
A photo from from an “album” that was liberated by Joseph Litvin, 423/D,  
as the camp was evacuated by the Germans and liberated by the Allies.  
Stalag IX-A (Ziegenhain) “ADMINISTRATION GROUP (Gruppe Verwaltung).  
Commander Obzm. Engel, in the center, with his administration staff.**



## From the Editor...

Thanks to all of you who sent Christmas cards to Margot and I. We hope you all had a good holiday season and wish you the healthiest of all New Years.

I am sitting here typing this column - two weeks late (1/24/94) - with about thirty wires glued to my body. I am participating in a "Sleep Disorder" test in conjunction with the Veteran's Administration Psychology Department. They have already pronounced me unbalanced, after 12 hours of psychiatric examinations, and now are trying to prove that I can't sleep. All in jest of course, it's part of a special program for Combat Vets and Ex-POWs - about 300 men from the Minneapolis VA Center. WWII-KOREA-Viet Nam etc. Excuse the late CUB. Margot and I had a rough Christmas, some sort of flu and I had a little trouble at work, with a boss who all of a sudden doesn't seem to want a 69 year old man on the payroll - I shall survive! ... J. Kline)

## Austin, Clifford N. 589/C

125 S Maple St  
Vergennes, VT 05491  
802-877-3451

Our group The ZITTAU SURVIVORS is a group of Ex-POWs who were interned at Arbeit Kommando #1315 near Zittau, Germany during WW II. One hundred eleven of us left the work-camp on May 7, 1945. We held our first reunion in 1965 with only seven attending. We have been meeting yearly since then. Our address list now total twenty-seven (27) including nine who were with the 106th.

We hope to reach additional Ex-POWs who were with us at the Work-Camp.

(Editor's Note - Cliff, you will, in due time receive a first-class mail packet for the 1994 reunion. At that time you can make reservations and/or contact the chairman for whatever purpose. I also, suggest you write a short article for the Ex-POW Magazine - that would reach many of the ZITTAU Ex-POWs, I'm sure. Good Luck... J. Kline)

## Beaver, Johnnie R. 423/H

116 Martha Dr Cumb Vlg Apts  
St. Mary's, GA 31558  
912-729-2054

I had no knowledge of my service or medical records. So I wrote the St. Louis

Personnel Records Bureau, only to receive a form letter that my records had been destroyed in a fire.

My daughter and I composed a heart-breaking letter that I did not want to leave this life without some record that I had served my country with honor.

We sent it to Thelma J. Martin, Chief of Records Reconstruction Branch. Not too long after that I received a large package of my medical records. It did show evidence that sides of the pages had been scorched. I sent her copies of my present records, which she put with these to make a complete file. I send this to show that you must keep trying.

(Editor's Note - With the above letter Johnnie included a couple of copies of the VA "Reply to Inquiry" forms that he had received. In them they acknowledge that some records have been re-constructed, but not all have complete records in them, due to the fire. As Johnnie says, KEEP TRYING...

Army personnel records are available from NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER, Military Records/Army Reference Branch, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132... J. Kline)

## Carver, Dale R. 424/HQ 3BN

742 Druid Circle  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808  
504-767-3111

John, After the South Carolina Reunion, 1993 - Ruth and I drove to North Carolina and spent four days camping, hiking and white-water rafting. We got home the 17th of September to find that Louisiana had not cooled off yet.

We thoroughly enjoyed the reunion, the tour of Fort Jackson was, in my mind, the best part of the whole show. I am enclosing a check for five copies of *The CUB of the Golden Lion: PASSES in REVIEW*. I intend to give a copy to my five children for Christmas. We are looking forward to the Rapid City meeting. We have never seen the Black Hills, the Bad Lands or Mount Rushmore. See you there.

(Editor's Note - Most of you know that Dale



See article below - Norman Croucher, 424/B holding the  
106th Division flag (original)  
Fort Jackson Museum, Fort Jackson S.C.

has written a book of poems, many of which have appeared in *The CUB* over the past few years.

I have reproduced one of his more recent poems on the lead page for the December 16th Commemoration Parties, in this issue (please note I have spelled 'conceived' properly this time).

To receive your personal copy send Dale, at the above address, \$6.00 which includes shipping. You will receive a 61 page booklet, 6x9 inches crammed with his remembrances of his experience with 424/HQ 3Bn.

Dale was the Platoon Leader for the Ammunition and Pioneer Platoon (A&P Platoon - those guys who set out and remove landmines, among other crazy things...

Dale received the coveted "Silver Star" for his actions against the enemy during the *Battle of the Bulge*. You will find the poems will bring back memories, stirred by words that are poignant, sometimes sad, revealing and true as he recalled his memories of those events after returning home. The original book was published in 1985... J. Kline)

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## Croucher, Norbert 424/B

216 Greenbrier  
Palm Springs, FL 33461  
407-965-4123

I thought you might like a picture of the 106th Infantry Division flag as it appeared in the Fort Jackson Museum, while we were there for the 1993 Reunion. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in South Dakota in Sept 1994.

(Editor's Note - Thanks for the nice picture of you and the 106th flag. I have corrected my roster to reflect the proper expiration date of your membership... J. Kline)

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## Fonda, James R. 590/B

1760 N Woodward Ave #43  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

John - I refer to the Apr-May-Jun 1993 *CUB* magazine, page 5, where entitled "Were You in BERGA!"

I wrote to Ms. Janine Jaquet Biden asking for information about Pvt. Martin Goldstein, with whom I had talked after we were captured on 20 December 1944.

Although I was a member of 590/B I had known Martin, because if was earlier in 590/C. Ms. Biden sent me the following information, dated 10/24/1993, which would be of interest to those in 590/C and others who survived Stalag 9-B and Berga.

*Dear Mr. Fonda,*

*I believe the man you are referring to was Martin Goldstein of Atlantic City, New Jersey, who was shot and killed by one of the guards at Berga after he tried to escape. After the war the Americans charged this guard with, among other crimes, murdering Goldstein. The guard, Erwin Metz, was found guilty and was sentenced to be hanged, but upon review of the case, subsequent U.S. military legal authorities decided the evidence was not sufficient to sustain the charge, and the findings were reversed. Metz served 15 years for other charges.*

*I have enclosed a copy of one of the documents I found in the national Archives, about the shooting. Minimal, but I thought seeing the information, on an official document, that Goldstein was deceased, might make the news easier to absorb, somehow.*

*Thank you for the commendation, I, too, think these were fine, brave men and would like to tell their story. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.*

*Signed, Janine Jaquet Biden, 7 Pinecrest Drive, Wilmington, DE 19810.*

(Editor's Note - 106'ers — Ms. Biden is looking for any information you might have relative to Berga or the segregation of Prisoners of War. Write to her if you have information or want to know about the story she is piecing together Eg: separating Jewish soldiers from other to be used as laborers, in camps like Berga... J. Kline)



Left: Jim Moore; John Forsyth;  
Brown L. Kennedy, kneeling  
all 423/G men

## Forsyth, John L. 423/G

325 Station Ave  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
215-757-4121

(Editor's Note - John, I want to apologize. In the February 1993 CUB I promised to print a picture of you, Jim Moore and Brown L. Kennedy from 423/G. Like other articles the photo did not get included in the May or the Sept CUB. As things happen in life, I recognized this too late.. Brown L. Kennedy died, I am sure you know, October 19, 1993. (see "In Memoriam" on inside back page of this CUB.).. J. Kline)

## GOSSET, Pierre CRIBA

Rue des Fraisières 20  
B 4041 Vottem, BELGIUM BELGIUM

(Editor's Note - Pierre has, many times through various letters, passed his good wishes along to all the men of the 106th Combat Infantry Division.

In the summer of 1993 he sent me a copy of a book named: *CHEVRON: A Belgian Village*. I read this book and passed it along to Edward Prewett (424/B) for I thought that the 424th passed near this village as it drove the Germans

back in January 1945. The book now resides with the 106th Infantry Division Association's "Historian," Sherod Collins.

This was a book assembled by Pierre GOSSET and his associates from a diary written by Mr. Walthère JAMAR (1866-1951). He was the Retired Notary of CHEVRON. Walthère chose CHEVRON as his place for retirement because he revered the beautiful surrounding of Chevron, as a favorite subject for his paintings.

CHEVRON, tucked away in a small corner of the Ardennes, has roots leading back to the Romans.

It is the opinion of the men of CRIBA, (Centre des Reserches et d'Information: la Bataille des Ardennes, i.e. a Belgian non-profit Historical Society with a focus on the Battle of the Bulge), that the diary of Mr. Walthère JAMAR in its detailed and precise nature is extremely rare, and as such, merits publication even after 40 some odd years.

With the publication in hand one can visit CHEVRON and visualize the events of so many years ago. Readers can get a comprehensive view of the battle in the CHEVRON area, supported by data from other military sources.

On the one hand this is a publication of microscopic nature (Walthère did not leave his small village during the period of the battle); on the other hand through the footnotes and Annexes the publication is of mosaic nature; i.e. the footnotes enable the reader to gain a comprehensive and integral appreciation of the *Battle of the Bulge*. CRIBA hopes that this publication will stimulate the further study of the *Battle of the Bulge*, in particular on the Northern shoulder of the Bulge and specifically of the operations in the CHEVRON area....

The above was taken from the "Acknowledgments" of the book. I found it interesting with many diagrams and descriptions of where the various units were and where enemy matériel was destroyed.

If you have interest in the book I suggest that you contact Pierre GOSSET at the above address. I have no details on costs or shipping charges.

I wish to congratulate and thank Pierre and his comrades from CRIBA for their outstanding work in preserving the history of the Battle of the Bulge, and for their kind considerations given to all the men of the 106th who have visited their beautiful country... Thanks Pierre.. J. Kline)

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**Gaffney, Frank W. 424/HQ**

1756 Lanbury Dr  
Kettering, OH 45439

Dear John,

I have never written to the Cub before, but your current cover brought back so many memories, I felt like sharing them with other members of the 106th. I joined the division in March ( maybe April) of 1943, just after it was activated. I was assigned to B CO. 3rd. platoon. I met 1st. Sgt. Rutland and Capt. Peyser the first day. I really don't remember if the meeting was on a first name basis or not, but I do recall they addressed those of us who were there. My platoon commander was a man named Hall, and my platoon sergeant was a man named Adams. Ed Prewett's name I remember but not Hall's. This was 50 years ago. I took basic training with that Company and Ft. Jackson was HOT in the daytime and COLD at night, and there lots of sand chiggers. I got them once and they were very irritable.

The only other man I remember in the company was a man named Percy and he was from Pennsylvania. The reason I remember him is because one Saturday morning for having his hair too long. As I recall he had a burr haircut at the time. He immediately went to the camp barbershop and had his head shaved and upon his return was confined to the Fort until his hair grew back because he did present a scary appearance. He looked like a popu-



**D**r wrestler of the time -The Swedish Angel. After basic I was transferred to Regimental Hdqtrs. Capt. Burkes, C.O, a regular army man named Burkett, 1st Sgt. The one memory, among others, was being called to his office in a driving rain. I jauntily entered and was told in no uncertain terms to knock before entering and wait till I was told to do so. I immediately went back out in the rain, closed the door and knocked, waited what I thought was about 30 minutes, and was told to enter. He told me I was so damned smart I was being transferred to the Air Force because I was so damn smart. Seems the results of some tests I had taken upon being drafted and some I.Q. tests in high school had come in and the scores were pretty high and I was transferred.

I spent 3 months in the USAF, and preparations were under way for an invasion of Europe, and I was needed in the Infantry. I returned to the 106th, and was there a short while and was once again called to the 1st Sgts. office. I knocked and waited and upon entering was once again told I was being transferred to the ASTP program, which I had never heard of before. I asked a couple of questions, and was once again told it was being done because of the test scores. I was sent to the University of Mississippi, where I spent 6 to 8 weeks at which time I was sent back to the 106th. The ASTP was being shut down. Infantrymen were more important at that time. Upon my return to the 106th they had been through 2 P.O.E.'S and Tennessee maneuvers and I had missed them all.

Today I can be very grateful for that, because when the division went overseas I was blessed to be part of a group of people I knew, and a group of people I had trained with, and believe me, that, later on saved my life. Arrived in Glasgow, spent 3-5 days and we all took a train to Southern England, to a place where Regimental

Hdqtrs. was located in what was then and still is a very large home that belonged to an English nobleman, where time was spent playing cards, being told to keep the streets clean, because they did belong to the monarchy, learning to drink warm beer, becoming acquainted with the pub owners so we could stay a little longer when they closed early in mid afternoon, and again in early evening.

Most of us were in the 19-20 year old age bracket and thought we knew it all. Finally we were sent to Southampton and then into LeHavre Harbor where, it seems we had to wait to disembark. We had been issued some K rations and were told to eat them sparingly, as the ships we were crossing on had a limited supply of food. Who listened? Hardly anybody. We were soon reduced to bread and canned Salmon. You can soon tire of that. I didn't eat salmon for 20 years after I left the service. Soon, we left that ship before a small battle started on board over Food and facilities. Remember we were all young and knew everything. As I recall, we went to a tent camp in France, and then to the Belgium-German border to replace the 2nd Division, which had been a static position for 3 or 4 months. Patrols every day, some artillery exchange, maintaining equipment, playing cards, eating, sleeping. All of that came to an end on Dec. 16, 1944. All hell broke loose. Those of you who were there in those first days will remember. NO, we didn't run but we were surely in disarray. Communication was not broken down, but it was close. As we were moved about, we green troops were scared. This is where, as I said before, I was with people I knew. Guard duty, at night was terrifying, because we had been told that there were Germans in American uniforms and that they spoke perfect English. The passwords were changed constantly. Different buttons on outer garments were left unbuttoned, so you could look and

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determine friend or foe.

That situation lasted for a number of days because of weather. The Air Force couldn't fly and we were more or less pinned down. On the 23 or 24th the situation changed. The weather broke, the planes could fly, the 82nd Airborne had arrived previously, and the feeling of situation hopeless slowly went away. Those were three weeks of confusion, confusion, confusion. But it did one thing for me and I'm sure for many others. We made the change from boys to men. A few in that division probably had been in combat previously, but not many. I found out a lot about what happened in those two and one-half weeks later on, that is, after getting out of service.

Books, movies and the like told some of the story, but only by being there and after a period of time, did I finally realize all that happened there. Recalling memories is not an easy thing, and there are more, but those are for another time. .and all because of a picture on the front page of The Cub. Thanks.

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### Ginther, Keith 422/G

RTE. 2 - Box 19  
Fairfield, MT 59436

After seeing the map and article of Frank Trautman and the map of the 314th Engineers from World War One, I got down the history of the 89th Division 1917-18. My father, Ernst, was in the 314th Supply Train. He was a Corporal and drove down the hill into Prüm, the same road that Frank and I, and most of the 106th POWs walked down in 1944.

I found a map and a story of the Occupation Area of the 89th. The area started at the Luxembourg border, then North along the Belgium border to a point just north of Auw and some 30 miles into Germany. They say the area was hilly and the Northwest region, and it was. That was where we had our introduction into the area known as the *Schnee Eifel*.

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### House, Pete 590/A

5662 Clifton Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32211-f

The Camp Blanding Museum Association conducted their annual Memorial Day Remembrance on November 11, 1993. Pete House, veteran of the 106th Infantry



Pete House, 590/A  
MEMORIAL DAY at CAMP BLANDING

Division, presented a wreath to all Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. Pete is a member of the museum association. He entered the service from Camp Blanding, was the Separation Center Supply Sergeant when discharged, and attended guard training here in 1946. Anyone traveling through Florida on US 301 should plan on visiting this fine museum dedicated to people who served in World War II.

## Hoff, Russell 422/M

2895 Street Rd  
Warrington, PA 18976

### URGENT:

Anyone who served with or knew BERNARD A. VOGEL, "A" Co., 422nd Infantry who could give details as to his death while a POW, please contact me. Bernard was from the Pittsburgh area.

## Jolgren, Gordon A. 424/L

RR 1 Box 12  
Pelkie, MI 49958

**Editor's Note** - Gordon wrote me asking for info on Bill Cody, who died at the age of 79. William Garlow Cody went by the name of "Buffalo Bill Cody." Gordon thought he might be a member of the 106th Infantry Division. Anybody out there know? I checked the 423rd and 424th CIB rosters and cannot find that name.

## Kilian, B.F. 81st ENG/C

(winter) 4121 Carnation Dr. #B-6  
McAllen, TX 78501

I underwent surgery on September 10 and was unable to come to the reunion. We are thinking of a permanent move to Texas, vacating Wisconsin summers. We are playing each day as it comes. Keep up the great work.

(Editor's Note - Hang in there B.F. It is always nice to hear from you. We never did get in that golf game - it was not your fault. I have been working, retiring very soon, and just haven't traveled far from the stable, that is, except to the annual reunions. Good luck to you and Bea. Keep in touch... J. Kline)

## Mikalauskis, John L. 424/H

PO Bx #31 306 W. Blake  
Benton, IL 62812  
618-439-3867

Sorry that Delores and I could not attend the reunion. We had family visiting us this past month and took them to see Graceland in Memphis, Tennessee. While there I visited with James Collier, 424/H and his wife Mary Lou. Last week we had a pleasant visit with Harold Bratton, 424/HQ 1Bn and his wife Farrol from Poseyville, Indiana. They brought friends, Mr/Mrs. Gene Williams, 168th Engineers.

I am enclosing a copy of the POW camp sites located throughout Germany, also a copy of Tank Hill, Fort Jackson. Hope you can use these items.

(Editor's Note - Thanks for thinking of me, John. As you saw on the cover of a recent CUB, I did have Tank Hill. The POW map must have appeared in many newspapers and magazines throughout the United States during that time. I have several copies. I was in Stalag VIII-A Görlitz, Germany on the old Polish border which does not show on the map, but most all other camps for the 106'ers do. John, you have done a great job with the December 16 meetings in your area. I have your photo in that section in this CUB... J. Kline)

## Moyer, George 424/CN

78 Goldenhawk Ct.  
Monticello, GA 31064-9575

I ran across some of my WWII memorabilia. Preceding joining the 106th after the Bulge, I was transferred to an Infantry training camp near Gainesville, Texas. I found a week-end pass from there. Also ran across a poem my mother sent me. I attach a photo-copy of it.

I'm turning 69 in a few weeks, still working full time. I changed jobs last June and was hired with all company benefits by a company called Hayssen in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. This speaks well of a company that looks at an individual and not age.

I stay in touch with a few of my 424th

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buddies. I'm sure Ginnie and I will show up a future reunion. I wish a healthy, enjoyable 1994 for all the 106th men.

Here's the poem:

NEXT COLUMN →

### ***THE GI***

Sitting on my G.I. bed,  
my G.I. hat upon my head.  
G.I. pants, G.I. shoes,  
everything free, nothing to lose.  
G.I. razor, G.I. comb,  
G.I. wish I were home.

They issue everything we need,  
paper to write and books to read.  
They issue food to make us grow,  
G.I. want a long furlough.

Your pants, your shoes, your G.I. ties,  
everything free, nothing to buy.

You eat your food from G.I. plates,  
you buy your needs at G.I. rates.  
It's G.I. this and G.I. that,  
Everything here is government issue,  
G.I. wish I could kiss you.....



### ***CASCADE de COO — Amblève (Providence Liège) BELGIUM***

Just before "press time" I received a packet from Pierre GOSSET, CRIBA's Secretary, containing two of their 1993 news-letters, and a post-card. The sketch above, is by R. Bock. The scene might be recognizable by those of you who were in Amblève.

In the card he wrote, "For three years CRIBA was trying to obtain a 105 mm Howitzer (Top secret up to now). Now we can reveal our plans for the Howitzer. It will be in a Memorial to be dedicated on the 50th Anniversary of the fighting soldiers of the U.S. Army. It will be displayed and elevated at "Parker's Crossroads" We hope the official inauguration will be on 7th May 1994."



**Trost, Paul M.L. 423/H**

1000 Sand Street  
Churdan, IA 50050  
515-389-3627

John,

Enclosed are some pictures of mine from Stalag 9B, Bad Orb. The wife and I look forward to the CUB. Sometimes, soon, I will set down and write an article for The CUB.  
.... Paul Trost



Burial detail, Stalag 9-B  
May 3, 1945  
Chaplain Neel leading,  
L/R clockwise Emor  
Pretty, Carrie Robinson  
(hidden), Ray Johnston,  
William Lawson, Paul  
Trost, Lloyd Diehl  
Photo furnished  
by Paul Trost

Burial Site  
Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb  
Photo furnished  
by Paul Trost



Stalag 9-B  
Officers  
Photo furnished  
by Paul Trost

U.S. Medical Personnel  
Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb  
Photo furnished  
by Paul Trost



A group of POWs  
Stalag 9-B, Bad Orb  
Photo furnished  
by Paul Trost



l/r— Raymond Hinkle, 423/HQ 3Bn; Dean Redmond, 422/HQ 3Bn; Edward Wojahn, 81st ENG/B;  
First time together since they were liberated by the Russians in BRUX, Czechoslovakia, May 9, 1945.  
Wojahn, a former board member of the 106th Infantry Division Association, is currently the State  
Commander for the Wisconsin American Ex-Prisoners of War.

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# In Memoriam

**Brown, Robert G. 424/H**

Died December 31, 1993. Survived by his wife Harriet and two daughters. Bob was with the division from the beginning. He attended most all of the reunions.

**Zabinski, Conrad 422/D**

Died October 5, 1993. Survived by his wife Florence.

**Ellsworth, Col. Perry R. 591/C**

George Welton, 591/C informed us that Perry died July 22, 1993

**Jackson, Roy T. 591/B**

From Roy's daughter. Roy died September 1992, survived by his wife Doris, 3303 Ramada, Highland, MI 48356 and Jane his daughter.

**Kennedy, Brown L. 423/G**

Ruth his wife, Rte 2, Box 33, Thomasville, NC 27360 writes. "It is with sadness to tell you that Brown L. Kennedy passed away from a heart attack on October 19, 1993, one day before our 48th anniversary. We attended the reunion at Columbia, South Carolina and enjoyed it tremendously. Please continue to send The CUB."

 **ley, Ross 424/HQ**

Mrs. Doris Smiley writes, " Ross, my husband, passed away November 23, 1993. He was disappointed that he was unable to attend the reunion at Fort Jackson, but did have fond memories of the Pittsburgh Reunion. Our sons Don and Craig, and I, are so grateful for the wonderful people that made the occasion so special for him. God Bless you all. *Doris*"

**Bailey, Gibbs 424/L**

Died June 18, 1993

**Guigno, Sr., Joseph M. 423/A**

Died March 24, 1992

**Purtell, William E. 81st ENG/A**

Died January 16, 1993

**Oliver, Grover C. 589 FAB**

Died 11-6-93

**May these valiant soldiers  
Rest in Peace**





PHOTO COURTESY  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON  
AFB MUSEUM

**DIEZ/LIMBURG BOMBING 23 DEC '44**