

# John Phillips

*Co E, 424th Regiment  
106th Infantry Division*

John Phillips

Born: 1923

Reason for entering military service: Phillips, a Waterloo native, enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

Assigned: Initially assigned to Army Air Corps but was reassigned to Company E, 424th Infantry Regiment, 106 Infantry Division.

Rank: First Lieutenant

"Suddenly we had walked into a German ambush. They were behind us. They were around us. They were in the trees. They were in the bushes. They were firing from every direction..."

#### Background:

In January of 1945, 22 year-old John Phillips of Waterloo was part of a group of replacement troops sent to the [106th Infantry Division](#) fighting the Battle of the Bulge. After taking the town of Medell, Belgium, Phillips took a small group of men just beyond where most of his unit was camped. There, he began directing the placement of two machine guns to protect against a German counterattack. Phillips was captured, sent to a front-line German field hospital for surgery, and then forced to walk 15 miles to a prison camp near Koblenz, Germany.

[Watch the full story](#)

You will need the RealPlayer to view the video.

Download it free at [www.real.com](http://www.real.com).

<http://www.iptv.org/IowaStories/WWII/interviewsdetail.cfm?ID=14>

*(link still good, 09/12/2016)*



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