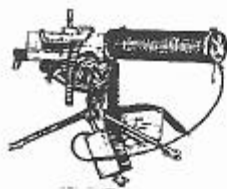




The Bugle



TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE 106TH INFANTRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION AND COMMUNICATE WITH FORMER MEMBERS
OF COMPANY D, 424TH COMBAT INFANTRY REGIMENT

SIXTH EDITION

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 1997



THE BUGLE BLOWS AGAIN

As The Bugle blows again, it brings sad news and good news. The bad news, the loss of another former member of Company D, Robert Lee Berry. It's strange that one can go to a hospital for an accident and be put in more danger of your life than the accident brought. Elsewhere in The Bugle, please read the article about Bob Berry.

As publication takes place, we continue to say prayers for Joseph Goodwin and for his brave wife Gay. Both of them having gone through the loss of previous mates, now facing a very heavy burden with Joe fighting for life against prostate cancer. The 1996 Roanoke Reunion was the first time we have had this wonderful couple with us, and their smiling faces will be remembered. This writer had the privilege of serving with Joe and Lt Claude VanEmelen on an umpire team during the D series maneuvers in South Carolina. Through that close association, I got to know Joe pretty well and I am proud to say that I found him to be a wonderful gentleman. Joe and Gay, our prayers are with you in these difficult days.

Just today as I'm putting The Bugle together, I spoke with Paul Morris who underwent a prostate operation and for a fellow who lives every day with Parkinsons, he has made a terrific recovery and things are looking pretty good for him right now. He sends his best regards to all.

I am pleased to inform you that D/424 will provide it's largest gathering of former members to the 1997 Nashville Reunion. Thirteen have registered and a possibility of an addition two is possible. This certainly will be a happy reunion. To prevent those attending for the first time, or haven't attended for so long that they may feel like a first timer, we're going to try something new. Here it is: Anyone attending for the first time will be assigned "a buddy" with wife, so that as they prepare to attend various functions, they will go with "a buddy and his wife. The ladies will also feel better as they move to the various ladies functions, because they will have "a buddy." With the likelihood of having rooms on the same floor, (thanks to Bob Homan) this will bring about an even greater buddy relationship.

We are also looking at some time on Friday, the 29th for an informal get together, so that everyone can be introduced, meet your "buddies" and have a short period of chit chat. Some have even suggested that we use the open dinner period on Sunday the 31st for a group dinner of some type. Any discussions?

SECOND PLATOON SERGEANT

Walter Pampus

This publication we proudly salute Technical Sergeant Walter Pampus of N Huntingdon, PA. Walter entered military service April 30, 1940 when he enlisted in the army in Pittsburgh. After completing basic training, he was assigned to the 33rd Infantry Division and was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone for 20 months and when the 33rd was sent to Trinidad, he was there for 20 months. After completing his tour of duty, he was returned to the US to FT McClellan, AL, Replacement Depot and then on to the 106th Division at FT Jackson, SC and assigned to D/424 as Platoon Sergeant, Second Platoon. At the time of his assignment, McAlarney had succeeded 1/Sgt Lieberman and Pampus succeeded McAlarney in the Second Platoon.

He was there for the frigid "D" Series in South Carolina and on to Tennessee for the maneuvers. Then on to CP Atterbury. It was while at Cp Atterbury that Walter and Betty Pampus were married on May 13, 1944 in Indianapolis, IN. It was from there as one of the leaders of D/424, that we got orders for overseas, on to Cp Miles Standish and Europe. We landed at LeHarve



SECOND PLATOON SERGEANT, Technical Sergeant
Walter Pampus, Machine Guns, Company D, 424th
Combat Infantry Regiment.

Walter Pampus....Continued from Page 1

after a brief stay in Banbury, England, and motored across France and through Belgium to the German border where we took up "residence" in a very small border burg named Steinebruck. It wasn't long until that fateful morning of December 16, when Jerry woke everyone up with a lot of artillery.

The First Battalion was committed to the area around Winterspelt, astride a road to Steinebruck and on to St Vith, a necessary Belgian road center for the German success. Sgt Pampus stayed with the first section of the platoon while 1Lt G K Flewelling went with the second section. Later Sgt Pampus was dispatched to locate this writer and Staff Sgt Nels Moe who was section sergeant. Our machine gun was malfunctioning so Moe and I had taken it back to a bombed out house to check it out. When Pampus found us, we then heard German voices and he said "get out of here before we get a grenade." Which we did! As we ran down a ditch between the road and a hedge, we got to an opening, which Pampus ducked through, Moe and I hesitated to give him time to get through and within that split second, two Germans had Moe and I. After getting through the hedge, Pampus was wounded by artillery fire being directed towards our machine gun emplacements. He managed to avoid capture, although badly wounded, and made his way to the rear, where he was found and evacuated. His wounds were serious enough that he was evacuated to a hospital in England. He remained in the hospital for several months and when well, was sent back to the continent to a replacement depot where he stayed for several months and finally reassigned to D/424.

By that time, the Germans had surrendered and the fighting had stopped. His length of service and points put him into a position for return to the US. Pampus boarded a Navy Troopship for his return trip which turned out to be Norfolk, VA. June 30, 1945 Technical Sergeant Walter Pampus was discharged.

Pampus, discharge in hand headed back to Pittsburgh and his wife Betty. He found employment with General Tire Company for four years. He then moved to U.S. Steel and became a bricklayer and where he stayed for 32 years and eight months and in 1982, retired. In the meantime, Walter and Betty raised two children and are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren and one great grandchild. Walter and Betty enjoy fishing and state that the both of them are in pretty fair health. Having lost Technical Sergeant Carl Kerin several years ago, Technical Sergeant Walter Pampus stands as our senior non-com. Welcome Walter and Betty. Since the 1998 Reunion is to be held in Indianapolis, we hope that the two of you will join us there and although the dates will be later than your anniversary, we will help you celebrate in the city of your marriage.#

SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL

Into the envelopes of some of you, I have placed a two page Background Questionnaire. Not everyone, just a few at this time. Next publication, I will do the same for an additional number. The reason being, as I write the articles about you men, I would like to have information to write a basic article, then send it to you for review. Yes, I know many of you, however, writing articles from memory is difficult. So, please cooperate, complete the questionnaire as best you can, add anything you would like to add, and please return to me.

FOOTLOCKER NEWS

Received a very nice letter from Leon Langlois and wife, she like many of the wives have additional duties of "correspondent" informing me that they won't be able to make it to Nashville. As some of you already know, some years back Lee suffered a stroke and has some heart problems. He wishes everyone a great time and will be thinking of us. Lec, we understand about the health situation, but I do point out that very few of the fellows don't have one or more health problems. Think positive, join us in 1998 in Indianapolis. And thank you for the invitation to visit you in beautiful New Hampshire.

Leon Kerns wrote a nice letter telling me that he and his wife spent the winter months in Florida, away from the cold Ohio weather. Due to his wife's health situation, they flew down and their daughter drove their vehicle to Florida, so they would have wheels while there. We all wish you and your wife better days ahead Leon, and hope that you can make Indianapolis. By the way, as I was typing, I suddenly realized I had written two items in a row with men having the name Leon.

Spoke with Phil Gerlach who is trying to make arrangements to be in Nashville. We hope you can make it. Phil, you are one of the few men available from the machine gun platoons who can answer the many questions about the first and second platoons, afterwards. And even though it has now been a few years since you and Homan visited Belgium, we still like to hear about your visit. Phil was getting ready to go up to his place on a lake, and he doesn't fish!

Talked at length with "ol buddy" Frank Koehler who spent the winter months in Florida. Boy, the way this fellow loves golf, I would think that his arms are in slings, after swinging a golf club so much. Frank is on a VFW Honor Guard which turns out for many events, as well as burials. The last time we got together, Frank demonstrated the manual of arms to me, and even without a rifle, I could hear it "pop" as he went through it. He also does ball room skating. We also discussed the article in the latest Cub regarding our troopship, The Aquitania. We both agreed that we differed with the author of the article about transportation from CP Miles Standish...We, D Company went by **train**, and boarded ship at night. But then again, maybe the 423 rode in on trucks.

One of the first ones that I heard from stating that they had made reservations for Nashville was Alden and Margaret Russell. They spend their winters in beautiful Arizona away from the home place in upstate New York, just a few miles from the St Lawrence River dividing U.S. from Canada. I spent a summer's duty at CP Drum, now Fort Drum and even the summer nights were cold. Just imagine the troops stationed there doing winter "Battle of the Bulge" type weather duty.

Steve Varhola.....would you please call me? I don't have your telephone number and would like to talk with you. You have been an association member for quite some time and I can't remember if we ever met "back then." When you call, be ready to answer quite a few questions as I'm anxious to know something about you.

I heard from Bob Landis, home from down south for the winter. He sent me a nice picture post card from a fellow in Belgium. This man, like so many of our friends from Belgium is interested in "the Bulge" and the 106th and also about 424. I have now received a letter from Belgium and will answer it, along with copies of The Bugle.

WALTER PAMPAS "FOUND"

Second Platoon Sargent Located, Alive and Well

Friday, September 20th started off like most other days, the sun was shining, a coolish late summer day. I drank my diet drink and took my morning "power walk." I spent some time getting the newly printed envelopes for The Bugle ready and affixed the addresses. The Bugle was in the hands of the printer and I was feeling good physically and mentally. I had completed my "household" chores, my granddaughter came home from school and I got a phone call from my daughter saying that my granddaughters father would be picking her up and she would be spending the night with him. I began to think about the evening meal. And the telephone rang!

A voice on the other end, speaking clearly and with a hint of southern drawl, "This is Thomas Jones calling and I called to say thank you for answering my letter regarding my uncle, James Blythe." We spoke for a few minutes about Jim, and about the two snapshots of Jim that I had sent along with the letter, a copy of The Cub, and two issues of The Bugle. I was happy that I had provided something of value and interest to this relative.

Then he dropped a bomb into my ear....."How would you like to talk with Walter Pampas?" Would I like to talk with Walter Pampas? Well, I've just talked with him, he talked to me about Jim, and he doesn't remember you.

Since coming home from prisoner of war camp in 1945, as I thought about different people in D Company, one of those of whom I thought was my platoon sargent, T/Sgt Walter Pampas. On that eventful day in December 1944, late in the afternoon, the .30 caliber machine gun of my squad had malfunctioned and the Platoon Leader, Lt. Flewelling had given S/Sgt Nels Moe(my section sargent) and myself orders to take the weapon someplace in the rear and fix it. Moe and I took it back into the remains of a house and crawled down into the basement and I began stripping it down. I found no broken parts, so began reassembling it, checking everything as I went and adjusting the headspace. I had gotten it back together and was snapping it to check for firing when into the basement tumbled T/Sgt Walter Pampas.

Have you got it fixed, he questioned. Yes, it appears to be working OK, Moe answered back. Just then, outside we could hear voices, talking, yelling, and it wasn't in English. We had better get the hell out of here before a German throws a grenade in her and we will all be gone. One by one we crawled out through the window area, Pampas, Moe and then myself. Running in front of the house, was a road which went back in to Winterspelt, along side of it, ran a ditch and beside it, a hedge. We ran down the ditch a short distance, Pampas then finding an opening in the hedge, we hesitated momentarily, then Pampas darted through the opening. Before Moe could raise up and dart through, a voice shouted "Hands up!" We looked up and standing above us in the road were two Germans with what appeared to be machine guns. In that fraction of time, several old WW I movies flashed through my

mind. I admit to this day that I was scared, because I thought that at any moment they would start firing at us, and at that close range, that would be it. They took our weapons, and as one stood guard, the other searched us. They took watch, billfold, a pair of socks, ammo belt and then marched us up the road, into Winterspelt. At that particular time, they controlled Winterspelt. As they brought us together with a small group of 424th men, I recognized my ol' buddy George Hurley.

After I got home, I began to think about the others I was with, and what had happened to them. I knew that Lt Flewelling had been captured, because he was brought into the warehouse in Gerolstein where we had been marched to, later Lt Kilkenny was brought in, along with S/Sgt Frank Koehler. Lts Kilkenny and Flewelling would die the night of December 23, when the British "pathfinder bombers" bombed the railroad yards, and strayed off course, and bombed the prison camp. The building that held the officers received direct hits...all who were in the building were casualties.

Sgt Ellis Watson, my opposite number in Sgt Moe's section was killed, as well as his squad, all of my squad was killed, and I wasn't knowledgeable of that until years later, an issue of The Cub contained the names of those dead and buried in the cemeteries in Belgium.

I had always thought about Sgt Pampas, and I kept looking in any list that I could read, pertaining to 106th, 424th Regiment. He wasn't on the Combat Infantry orders dated 4 January 1945, so I knew wasn't present for duty the last days of '44. He wasn't in the KIA listing, and I found nothing about the second platoon. Later as I talked with Phil Gerlach who had been in the first platoon, who said that he had become a squad leader in the second platoon, still no word about T/Sgt Walter Pampas, platoon sargent, second platoon.

And here he was, on the telephone.51 years, 9 months.....Hello Walter.

Yes, he was alive and well. Retired from the steelmills of Pittsburg, as a bricklayer, married with two sons. He had been wounded in the hip and had crawled towards Steinbruk where he had been picked up and evacuated, ending up in a hospital in England. Although the wound was serious, not enough to have him sent back to the states. After months in the hospital, he was returned to duty. Guess where? D/424! But before he could really get settled in, the point system started him home. He remembered that Capt Griffin was company commander. And he lives just a couple of miles off the Pennsylvania Turnpike, over which I have traveled many, many times. Hope to see you sometime soon Walter. Best of health to you.

*Walter Pampas
254 Entry Road
Irwin, PA 15642-2566
412-863-4679

NASHVILLE BOUND

Who is going to the 106th Division Association Reunion in Nashville, to be held August 29-September 2, 1997??? Just read on my friends and maybe you will find your name in the following list. If your name isn't there, I'm sorry! You either didn't tell me, or you couldn't make it, and I'm sorry about that.

Here goes in alphabetical order, even though Frank Kochler was the first one. Judge Walter Bridges who is on the Reunion Committee; Myrton Dickerson again flying in from the state of Washington; Robert Homan driving down from Wisconsin; Frank Kochler driving in from New Jersey if he doesn't see any golf courses and stops to play a few rounds; Robert Landis, probably driving in from the Poconos in Pennsylvania; Glenn Parvin will come in by square and compass; Marion Ray will drive in, accompanied by daughter and granddaughter who will go on to Memphis to see if Elvis is at home; Phillip Rosenthal will drive in from upstate Illinois bringing a couple of passengers if their health permits; Alden Russell, Lieutenant, Sir, will drive in from beautiful upstate New York; Russell Satrang will probably motor in from St Louis Park that is, just outside Minneapolis, not Missouri; Norman Simmons will motor down from outside Harrisburg in the great state of Pennsylvania; Lee Steele (Kermit?) will be driven down from southern Indiana by his wife Frances; Burnie (Burnett) Sutter attending for the first time, may already be in Nashville since he visits there often; AND if health permits, newly located Anthony "Tony" Skoda AND if other arrangements don't preclude our arrangements, Phillip Gerlach. Now, count them yourselves, that's thirteen with two more possibilities. With the ladies attending, we will have a very sizeable group. Wish you all safe and enjoyable travel.

ATTENTION ASSOCIATION AND NON-ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Each year the Association presents to relatives of former members of the 106th Scholarship Grants. The money going into the fund has been donations by members like yourself. (I would like to go after some defense contractors for a sizeable donation-so far, not much support.) This year, the group of members sponsoring the Nashville Reunion have come up with a very nice idea to help the Scholarship Fund.

Those who are association members, received a flyer announcing the sale of Afghan covers which are The Golden Lions Afghan. Woven into it, not silk screened on, is the history of our division. They are beautiful items, and very useful when the evenings are cool and you don't want to turn the heater on. I encourage each of you to buy one of these beautiful afghans and reward you and your wife (or lady friend) with not only a beautiful afghan, but also the knowledge that you have helped the association Scholarship Fund and some worthy high school graduate relative of a buddy 106er.

You can take receipt of it in Nashville, or have it mailed to your home. To enter an order, if you haven't already done so, call 334-347-7730, John Gilliland, and tell him Marion Ray sent you. By the way, John and Joe Massey and our own Judge Walter Bridges, who make up the committee for the Nashville Reunion, all live in Alabama, and all time and travel working on the reunion is voluntary.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert Lee Berry

Died, Friday, May 16, 1997 in the VA Hospital after an extensive illness of infections which came about after his admittance following an automobile accident. He was buried with military honors in the Andalusia Memorial Cemetery. The Keahey Funeral Home directed.

Surviving are his son Greg Berry, himself a veteran of the Vietnam conflict, his daughter LaJuana Grief, both of Andalusia and two grandchildren. There were four brothers, Bobby, Lewis, Joe and Emmette.

Robert Lee Berry was one of the original D/424 members and was known well by those of us who trained in the first platoon. Norm Simmons and I were in the third squad with Bob and the squad leader was John Frizzell. He was tall and lanky and had curly or wavy hair which he kept combed regardless of the situation. Now adays with the situation the way it is, when two men walking down the street together, one must be careful of what he says, or how he says it, so in making this statement, I say it very guardedly, shelter halves and pup tents being what they were, Bob and I shared tents and blankets many a night. I will admit, being a "Yankee" we had many a discussions about the war between the states. It was not until nearly forty years later when tracing my family tree, that I found that my great grandparents hailed from Tennessee and four of my great uncles fought for the south. Had I known that before, I would have had even more discussions with Bob.

Some of you got telephone calls from the funeral director asking about Bob's status, had he been a prisoner of war? I for one can not answer that question. Do any of you know? It was also found that the service records of Robert Lee Berry were destroyed years ago, when a fire took place in the Army Records Center, St Louis. Bob had spent many years trying to get proper medical attention and proper service connection. We will miss you Bob. Sleep in peace friend.



Robert Lee Berry, 1924-1997 Shown here white on maneuvers in Tennessee, March 1944.

SILENT CORPS ADDITIONS

There are two new additions of Company D. Silent Corps list which is published on the last page of The Bugle each publication. Robert Lee Berry and Anthony Della Pinta. Bob was a member of Company D from start to finish, serving in the first platoon, third squad with Sgt John Frizzell. Della Pinta was an early member of Lt Alden Russell's second platoon. He was one of the early members to be transferred from the unit for replacement assignment to Europe.

ROLL CALL

*Anthony (Tony) Barredo
55 High Street
Winsted, CN 06098
*Walter Bridges
225 Laird Ave
Huey, AL 35023
*Fred F. Chermak
4038 Wooded Drive
Colgate, WI 53017
*Myrton B. Dickerson
17431 Ambaum Blvd s 01
Seattle, WA 98148
*William A. Domiano
509 St. Paul Ave.
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010
*Kenneth Dux
403 E. 2nd St.
Neillsville, WI 54456
*Val O. Erion
RR#2, Box 161
Cass Lake, MN 56633
*William A. French
112 Lexington Pl.
Myrtle Beach, SC 29579
*Phillip E. Gerlach
4112 Rice St.
Vadnais Heights, MN 35126
*Joseph N. Goodwin
850 Abbey Drive
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
*Gordon Hawn
1509 River Bluff Blvd
Rockford, IL 61103
*Robert Homan
1614 Holly Dr.
Janesville, WI 53546
*Steve Jablonsky
Box 425
Dixon, IL 61021
*Leon J. Kerns
631 Hamilton St.
Bellefontaine, OH 43311
*Franklin R. Koehler
243 Torkey Pines Rd.
Toms River, NJ 08757
*Robert J. Landis
210 Indian Mountain Lakes
Albrightsville, PA 18210
*Leon J. Langlois
543 Hanover St.
Manchester, NH 03104
*Noel Lyon
1110 Yellowstone Ave.
P.O. Box 145
Osburn, ID 83849

*Paul E. Morris
128 Glenbrooke Ct.
Hendersonville, NC 28739
*Walter Pampus
254 First St.
North Huntingdon, PA 15642
*Glen R. Parvin
3316 Princeton Rd.
Kingsport, TN 37660
*Marion Ray
1740 Green Tree Ct.
Crofton, MD 21114
*Phillip Rosenthal
7401 West Arcadia St.
Morton Grove, IL 60053
*Alden F. Russell
20892 St. Lawrence Park Rd.
Alexandria Bay, NY 13607
*Robert Sabiston
Glen Meadows Nursing Home
11630 Glen Arm Rd.
Glen Arm, MD 21057
*Russell Satrang
2844 Brunswick Ave.
St Louis Park, MN 55416
*Anthony Skoda
888 Audrey St.
Chicago Heights, IL 60411
*Oscar Scott
5305 Pentel Ln.
N Little Rock, AR 72117
*Norman Simmons
1208 Florence Dr.
Harrisburg, PA 17112
*Kermit Lee Steele
424 Roosevelt Dr.
Mt Vernon, IN 47620
*Burnett L. Sutter
832 53rd St.
Moline, IL 61265
*Howard Swenson
2371 Kimball Ave, NW
Annandale, MN 55302
*Russell F Vanarnam
112 N Roloff St.
Davenport, IO 52804
*Steve Varhola
6650 Royal Palm Blvd #309C
Margate, FL 33063
*Andrew M Yakupchina
232 W 2nd St.
Wilburton, PA 17888

THE SILENT CORPS

The following names are those men, that in my searching, or have been reported to me, found they have joined the "Silent Corps."

Pfc Herman Bavarisco KIA 1944 T/Sgt Carl J Kerin 1995
1Lt John Berthias KIA 1944 2Lt John P Kilkenny, Jr KIA 1944
T/S William G Berri 1996 Pfc Charles Kossage 1989
Pfc Robert L. Berry 1997 T/Sgt Nels Moe 1993
Pfc William H Bingle KIA 1944 Pfc Michael Petrunio 1994
Pfc James W Blythe 1991 Maj Robert W Preucel (M.D.) 1995
1/Sgt Robert Buthe 1993 Pfc Clarence Saffley 1987
Pvt Eugene B Clifton KIA 1944 1Lt Allen G Smith 1986
LCol Charles H Costigan 1988 Pfc Christian Sutich 1989
Pvt Joseph D'Antonio KIA 1944 Pfc Michael Serrian 1976
Pfc Anthony Della Pinta 1993 Maj Russell Terry 1985
Pvt James J Detore KIA 1944 1Lt Kenneth Tewell KIA 1945
Sgt Louis Ferretti 1981 Sgt Robert Triglowme 1985
1Lt G. K. Flewelling KIA 1944 1Lt Claude VanEmelen KIA 1944
Sgt John Frizzell KIA 1944 Sgt Ellis R. Watson KIA 1944
Pfc J.C. Frodge 1990 Maj George Warner 1994
T/S William E Gradin 1994 Pfc David Woodson, Jr KIA 1944
Sgt John P Hart 1977
S/Sgt George G.T. Hurley 1984
T/S Robert Huchko 1995

OFFICERS CALL

Following are names of Officers who served with D Company. If you can remember additional names, please supply them.

Capt John P Foley (First CO)
1Lt John Berthias (First EXO)
2Lt Kenneth Tewell (1st Platoon)
2Lt Alden F Russell (2nd Platoon & 2nd CO)
2Lt Russell Terry (3rd Platoon)
1Lt Claude VanEmelen (2nd Platoon)
2Lt E. C. Johnson
1Lt Lawrence E Randall
1Lt Cecil Ayers
2Lt Donald K White
2Lt Gene O Yarnell
1Lt Harry M Wooldridge
Capt Wesley D Griffin
Capt Ralph K Lee
Capt Roy Burks
Capt Robert W Preucel (CO in US & ETO)
1Lt Charles H Costigan (EXO US & CO ETO)
1Lt G. K. Flewelling (2nd Platoon-KIA)
2Lt John P Kilkenny, Jr (3rd Platoon-KIA)
1Lt Plummer (1st Platoon)
2Lt Jack E. Clifton
2Lt William S. Boucouala
2Lt Allen G Smith
2Lt William C. Sanderson
2Lt Anthony M Yanulaitis (BF Comm)
2Lt George Warner (ETO OCS)

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Any comments or items or articles
that you would like to have published
in "The Bugle," send them to this address

To all of you reading this newsletter, if you can do a little thinking back, please help by supplying any names of former members who were KIA that are not on the list. Thank you.