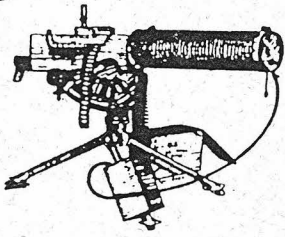




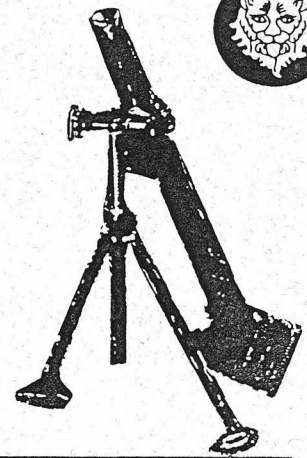
The Bugle



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

TWENTY SECOND EDITION

DECEMBER 2002



To All of You With Whom I Have The
Privilege of Coming In Contact With Thru
This Newsletter, I Wish You a Joyous
Holiday and a Happy New Year.

I Wish You All Good Health And As
Much Happiness That Our Savior Will
Grant. And May There Be Peace On Earth.

The Bugle Toots Again

To those members and family members who might possibly look forward to receiving this newsletter, *The Bugle*, for news about a buddy or member, I apologize for not getting it done for some time. To my friend and long time buddy, Burnie Sutter, after promising to salute you and tell your story it took me much longer than promised. I haven't been sick! I won't blame it on getting older. My only excuse is that I got into a rhythm of putting it off, and there was no excuse. In the meantime, things just happened and I put the newsletter aside.

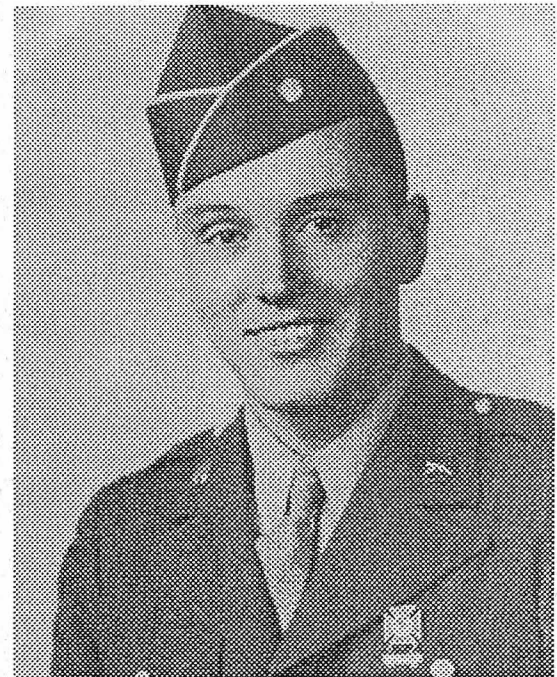
This may be the last newsletter that I send to you, because it may be the last that you prefer to receive. The reason I say that is for this reason: I'm going to take the liberty of saying what is on my mind about our national and world situation and you might not like it nor prefer to read it- but here goes.

I'm mighty unhappy with our President and his eagerness to take us into war. Most of us have grandchildren and some have great grandchildren. I'm not convinced that Iraq will be the end of it. We have never failed to reelect a sitting President and I firmly believe that he feels that it is a way to get reelected - remember, he did not get a majority vote and had it not been for the Electoral College, he would not be president. We have troops in Korea, Kosovo and Afghanistan. How many troops will it take to defeat Iraq and when will he ask for the draft to once again take place? There are many questions that our President has left unanswered. The inspection team has not yet rendered an answer and he says he has the answers. Produce the answers while the inspection team is still there and let them follow up. I firmly believe we should protect ourselves! Must we be the world's police force?

Bugle Salutes Burnett L. Sutter

Burnett Louis Sutter, better known to us as "Burnie" entered service from Moline, IL after passing his physical exam at Peoria, IL on March 15, 1943. He reported for active duty at Scott Field, IL on March 22, 1943. Burnie was born on a farm, the older of two male children. After processing at Scott Field, he was one of several thousand (including this writer) who boarded a train which terminated it's carry at Fort Jackson, SC and assignment to the newly activated 106th Div. He was then assigned to Company D, 424th Infantry Regiment on March 28, 1943.

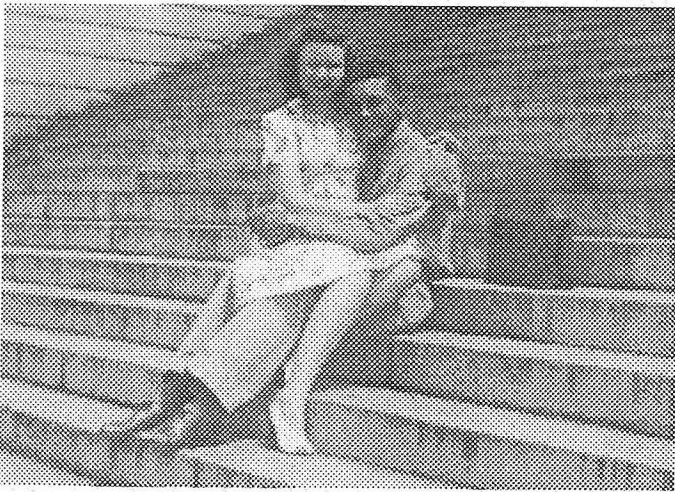
He became a member of the fourth squad, first platoon with Paul Morris as the squad leader. As training took place, he eventually became first gunner.



SERGEANT BURNETT LOUIS SUTTER
Company D, 424th Infantry Regiment, 106th
Infantry Division and Company M, 358th
Infantry Regiment, 90th Infantry Division

Within a short period of time, his very recent bride, Rozetta, joined Burnie in Columbia. Rozetta found a place to live in Columbia and once members of the unit were allowed to be away from the unit at night, Burnie began an adventurous life as he would stay the night with Rozetta in Columbia, arise early, run to the bus route. The bus timing brought about some very close arrivals for Reveille.

When the Division had completed various phases of training at Fort Jackson, it was off to Tennessee in January of 1944 for maneuvers. Not to be left in South Carolina, Rozetta packed her belongings, caught a bus and arrived in Nashville as the division arrived in the area. Following the completion of maneuvers, the division was assigned to Camp Atterbury, IN. Rozetta once again packed her belongings and moved to Indiana to be near and with Burnie. Then the division got the news that in preparation for the invasion of France, several thousand men of the division were to be transferred out. And Burnie Sutter was one of the replacements. The men were given fourteen days leave and Rozetta once again packed up and headed back to Moline, IL. Burnie was to learn by mail that the trip home to Moline had made him a father.



Burnie and Rozetta Sutter, 1943, on the steps of the South Carolina State Capitol.

On May 13, 1944 Burnie with a boat load of former Golden Lions departed for Europe, landing in England. After the invasion, Burnie was assigned to the 90th Division who was already in France in mid-July. Since he had been trained as a machine gunner, the army didn't make a mistake; they assigned him to a heavy weapons company and to a machine gun squad. He was assigned to Company M, 358th Infantry Regiment.

Burnie tells of several incidents that remain in his mind even today. The 90th Div. was trying to take Seves Island to break out of Normandy. They held a line of defense for about four days and then were ordered to attack. As the whole line was standing still, the Germans threw everything they had at them in an all out effort to retain control of their mainline of resistance. Some of the men made it across the river, but encountered a strong line of defense. Rifles were no match for tanks and mortars, so after heavy fighting and the river overflowing its banks, and with no way to get supplies, they

were ordered to pull back. A German tank got in behind his machine gun and fired point blank at him, taking the ammunition box off the side of the gun and just missing him by inches. Then the second round hit the tree he was under and showered him with tree limbs and dirt. The third round hit the gunner of another machine gun in the back, killing him instantly. Somebody finally put the tank out of commission. "I had to stay there for about two days and look at him lying there dead, and it really got to me!" "I was really glad to get out of there alive. We lost a lot of men trying to take the island, so they decided to go around it." The Germans pulled out and they started across France.

Burnie states that he was very fortunate, or damn lucky. He was never wounded, and didn't get a Purple Heart. But he was hospitalized for two and a half months! Burnie says he was digging a fox hole, hit a rock and it struck him in one eye. It got infected, turning into blood poisoning. He missed the Battle of the Bulge.

As the war got near the end, the 90th was moving across Germany and they had just taken Hof, Germany and were dug in in a field close to the Czech border. Some of their officers came down and said they needed a machine gun to go on a trip. So they chose his gun. They had a couple of tanks and some tank destroyers, and some infantry. There were about fifty of them. The answer was not long in coming. Press photographers and war correspondents accompanied them, and they were headed into Czechoslovakia. Burnie believes they were the first unit in the ETO to slice across the German nation and cut it in half. The date was April 18, 1945. He stated that it was quite an honor to be one of the first soldiers to enter Czechoslovakia of all the men over there.

When it was time for him to rotate to come home he was assigned to a tank destroyer outfit. It was off to Camp Lucky Strike and then aboard The Columbine to New York City. On a train to Camp Grant, near Chicago and a discharge. October 30, 1945.

By the way, the letter that Burnie got in France that he was a father is Sandra Daun born January 5, 1945.

After discharge, Burnie, Rozetta and Sandra Daun settled down in Moline, Illinois. Burnie went to work for his brother-in-law in the tire business in East Moline. Sandie grew up, went off to college and met a young man named Bill Richards and they provided Burnie and Rozetta with three grandchildren. Bill Richards entered the healthcare field and in the ensuing years was CEO for several healthcare companies. His travels and assignments took him from coast to coast. This allowed Burnie and Rozetta to make a good tour of the country. Of all of the traveling they did I feel confident in saying that Burnie always enjoyed Nashville, TN. the most. As long as I have known Burnie, he has been a die-hard country music fan. In his many visits to Nashville he was able to make many friends in the music industry. The Grand Ol' Opry was a steady diet for him. Many of these entertainers when making tours through the mid-west would make a stop in Moline, IL and a visit with The Sutters.

The three Sutter grandchildren, their pride and joy, have all made them very proud. Kimberly, the oldest, was a nationally ranked tennis player, graduated from U. of Texas and received an MBA from U. of North Carolina. She entered the

Continued on Page 3



Burnie and Rozetta Sutter enjoying the conversation at the Nashville Reunion, 1997

sales field with Nortel Corp. and has been outstanding, being ranked as one of the top 5 sales persons. She and husband DeWayne live just down the street from Mom and Dad.

Grandson Barry, was also a nationally ranked tennis player from the age of 10. Barry went to Stanford University on a tennis scholarship. He earned honors as an Academic Student Athlete every quarter, was team captain his junior and senior year, and won three NCAA championship rings while he was there. He earned his MBA at Duke. He played on the pro tennis tour for awhile, left that and worked in New York City for several years with Merrill Lynch and Marvel Entertainment. He is now in Dallas working for Evergreen Alliance, a golf course and real estate acquisition and management company. Barry and his wife Karen provided the Sutters with their first great grandson, Ross. The youngest of the three grandchildren Krista graduated from Texas Christian University and later got her CPA. She works for Lincoln Properties; a commercial real estate development and management company with headquarters in Dallas. She has been promoted to controller recently. She and her husband Toby have provided the Sutters with their second great grandchild.

As a young family, the Sutters enjoyed boating, camping and fishing. They also enjoyed dancing as well as traveling. Rozetta was very "artsy" and liked to make decorator things as well as being an excellent seamstress. Burnie liked to "putter" with mechanics and woodworking.

Burnie and Rozetta attended several of our annual reunions as well as attending annual reunions of the 90th Division. As all of you know, about seven years ago, Rozetta was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. She is now in the late stages and needs 24 hours a day care. Burnie has the whole family near as support.

Several years ago, after caring for Rozetta by himself, Sandie and Bill Richards convinced Burnie to sell their one and only

Fifty-sixth Reunion at Hampton, VA

The annual reunion was held this past September in Hampton, Virginia and headquartered at the Holiday Inn. The reunion saw eight former Company D veterans and their ladies enjoying the friendship and entertainment. In control of the activities this year was President Joseph P. Maloney who was a former Headquarters Company, 424th Regiment.

In alphabetical order, our attendees were Judge Walter and Barbara Bridges in from Huey, Alabama; Truman and Anne Christian drove in from Camp Hill, Pennsylvania; Myrton and Beatrice Dickerson who flew in from Federal Way, Washington; Robert and Pat Homan who drove their van from Janesville, Wisconsin and brought the supplies for our get-together; Franklin and Maefred Koehler who although they were the nearest, they flew in to rest Frank's heart; by the way, the Koehlers live in Toms River, New Jersey; Alden and Margaret Russell who drove down from beautiful Alexandria Bay, New York; Norm and Betty Simmons whom I forgot to ask but I will assume they drove; and last, ME; I drove from Bethalto, Illinois because I wanted to drive up to Maryland after the reunion to spend some time with my daughters and families. No, Fran didn't feel up to the trip.

We had a grand time as usual. I didn't partake in any of the bus trips since I had "done that" when we visited Hampton in 2000 with the Army Divisions Association to look the facilities over.

The first evening at the Welcoming Dinner was very nice and after the dinner, we were entertained by "The Virginia Stompers." If you have never seen them dance, you have missed some nice entertainment. At one point they asked for several members in the audience to come up and join in. Guess who volunteered? Pat Homan! She was terrific! Turns out that Pat has participated in that type of dancing. I should have known, being from Wisconsin. They do all of that kind of stuff up there, including the "beer barrel polka" and the ump-pa-pa.

Continued on Page 4

Salute Burnett L. Sutter

residence in Moline, IL and move to Plano, Texas. There they share a home with Sandie and Bill and they assist Burnie with the care of Rozetta.

Note: I have been very fortunate to have not only served with Burnie and called him "a buddy" but can honestly say "they are my friends." Burnie and I joined Company D off the same train, the same truck delivering us to the company and after being separated from service, spent many weekends and some vacations together. Later as I moved about, the Sutters visited my family and me as they traveled about. At Ft. Jackson after Rozetta arrived in Columbia, their apartment was a gathering place on weekends for Paul Morris, Kenny Dux and myself. We were given a place to relax and we shared many wonderful meals. It was there that I found that the country boy Burnie didn't know how to kill and clean a chicken. But Rozetta knew how to provide wonderful fried chicken. During those days in training this wonderful, beautiful young lady and these three buddies were a great help to me personally. I will say my prayers for this wonderful lady and for this great friend. May our Lord be with you and watch over you both.

In Memoriam

Since the last publication of this newsletter we have lost five former members of Company D, 424th Infantry Regiment. I know that each of you will support me in extending our support to the families of our departed buddies.

Robert J. Landis Died January 1, 2002 while he and Maryjane were winter vacationing in Hilton Head. His wife Maryjane, whom those of you that have been attending our annual reunions, know very well survives Bob. In addition to Maryjane, there are five children, fifteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Bob was buried under his United States flag and with a 106th Infantry Division insignia.

William A. "Bill" French died this past summer. His wife had sent me a notification that Bill was a Parkinson's victim. I apologize for having misplaced the letter. Bill was an early member of our Association and quite active in the Detroit area. He served on a committee when the annual reunion was held in Detroit. For a period of years Bill and his wife lived in South Carolina but when his physical condition declined, they moved back to Strongsville, OH to be near his children.

Samuel Cemer Died September 8, 2002. Truman Christian forwarded his passing to me. Cemer and Christian both joined the company in December '44 as replacements during "The Bulge." His son-in-law, with whom Christian spoke, stated that "his heart just wore out." Christian also spoke with Sam's wife, Betty, who stated that Sam had been in failing health the last few years. He was 83 years when he passed away.

Russell G. Satrang Died October 5, 2002 in St. Louis Park, MN. Russell was another of the numerous members from South Dakota. His wife Judith, a son, two daughters and five grandchildren survive him. As some of you might remember, Russell and Judith joined us for the 1997 Nashville reunion. They, Russell and Judith entertained us all on the dance floor during the trip to Jack Daniels, Inc. Every one noticed that he always wore his western hat. Russell was one of the last replacements to join us at Camp Atterbury just before leaving for Europe. Notice of his passing provided by his long time friend, Myrton Dickerson.

Oscar Rufus Scott Died November 29, 2002 of renal failure. "Scottie" had been on a dialysis machine for a number of years and as his wife Cleola informed me, "he just got tired of it and said that he didn't want to continue." "Scottie" was a 106er from activation and a Company D member from the start. He served five years in the army, then enlisted in the Air Force. He retired after serving sixteen years (a total of 21 years) as an E-6 Technical Sergeant. Besides his wife Cleola, there is a son and a daughter, and four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. I received word of his passing by a telephone call from Kenny Bratton (1stBn HQ/424) a friend of Frances Steele. Mrs. Scott had called Mrs. Steele. Scottie's death came just 23 days short of their 60th Anniversary.

I would like to take the time and space here to tell you of an incident that "Scottie" passed along to me. Scottie had written a personal story of events during the BOB and had sent it to me to edit and reproduce for him. As I read the copy I got to this part: *It was night time, very dark and very cold and snowing. I was separated from the rest of the unit and walking back along a road. I spied a dark spot off the road*

beside a building that was not covered by snow. I made my way over to the mound, pulled the collar of my overcoat up around my head and lay down. I went right to sleep because it was warm and I was exhausted. I don't know how long I slept, but it was daylight when I awakened. As I got up, I then noticed that I had been sleeping on a warm pile of manure. I guess I smelled like it, but I was rested, and could go on. As you read this, I know that Scottie is up there laughing with you. Rest in Peace Buddies.#

Fifty-sixth Reunion at Hampton (Continued)

On Friday evening, instead of joining the group for dinner out, the D Company group got together for dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Rikken (Willy and Adda) joined us. They are our wonderful friends from Belgium. They are so nice that I really believe it's worth the trip just to be with these wonderful people. By the way, it took the chef a long time to prepare our meal, but it gave us time to have good conversation. I won't ask Frank what was the problem with his meal, but like a good soldier, he ate it???

The Memorial Services conducted by our Chaplain, Dr. Duncan Trueman is always outstanding. You will have received your latest edition of The Cub by the time you read this, and will possibly be able to read his presentation.

The Banquet Dinner was very nice and the entertainment was "out of this world." We were entertained by a combined group of area high school students who play string instruments - violins, cello (dictionary says violoncello), base and more. It was great as they strolled through the audience. They were very enthusiastic and the audience picked up on it.

During the program, our own Judge Walter Bridges was presented to the membership as the new Second Vice-President. As thing go, Walter will assume the Presidency in Milwaukee in September 2004. Having been a judge, Walter won't have any trouble handling the gavel.

During the evening business session it was my pleasure to be one of four members who were honored by being presented with *The Order of the Golden Lion, Commander Class*. In receiving the award, I join our fellow members Judge Walter and Barbara Bridges who received the awards last year. In fact, it was my pleasure to make the presentation last year while serving as President.

Our next Reunion will be September 9th to 15th. 2003 at the Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky - Across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, Ohio. Will I see you there?

Mark on your calendars now, don't put it off until later and forget. Make your reservations for Reunion #57 at the DRAWBRIDGE INN

FT. MITCHELL, KY

Sept. 9th to Sept. 15th

See you there buddy!