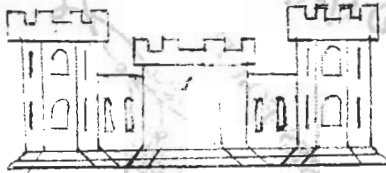


# 596 Parachute Engineer Company



# 517

## PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM





Season's Greetings



YIP-E-E-E... IT'S CHRISTMAS

BEST WISHES  
for your

Happy  
Holidays

ALL GOOD WISHES FOR THE  
New Year



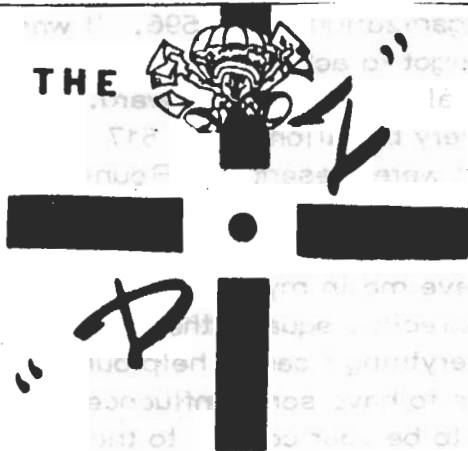
Merry Christmas



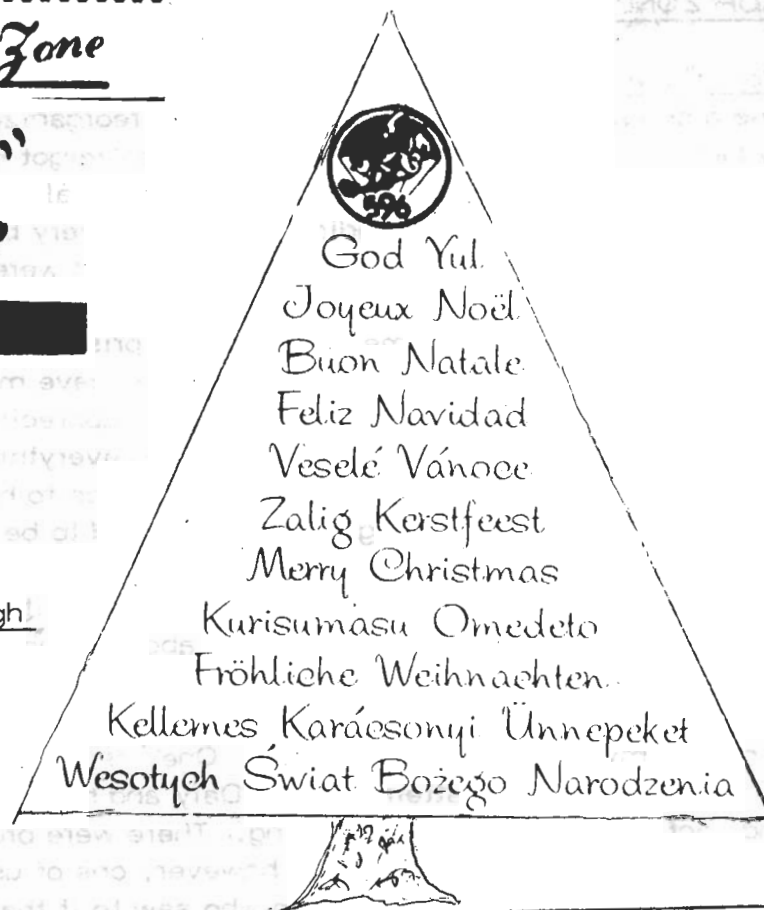
Season's Greetings  
and every good wish  
for a very Happy New Year.



# The Editor's Drop Zone



Edited by Dr. Charles E. Pugh



The "family" reunion was a huge success! It was a never to be forgotten experience for me and I think for most everyone else. There was an abundance of joy and warmth shared by a lot of troopers who, for the most part, had not seen one another for thirty six years. The three days flew by and there wasn't enough time to spend with each person because there were so many of us 596ers there. We had a large three room hospitality suite for the 596 and it was adequate but would have been better had it been twice as large. I want to especially thank Al and Alice Goodman for volunteering to co-host the hospitality suite with Ann and me. We are all in their debt for the time, thought, energy, and money they put into making everything run smoothly. I also want to thank all of you who so generously contributed money to pay the expenses of the Hospitality Suite and the food and Bar supplies. Also many thanks to those of you who went out and bought additional supplies of food and beverages and those who contributed their own "Private" stock to the bar. We did "let the good times roll"! We will do it bigger and better in 1983----with YOU!

A special expression of gratitude goes to Leonard Walker's son-in-law, Jerry Gillooly who volunteered to tend bar in our hospitality suite. He did so, day and night, for three days and his only pay was all he cared to drink and he stayed cold sober all the time. What a delightful young man! We offered him money and he refused it, so we made him an Honorary Member of the 596 Parachute Engineer Company. He is the first and only person to receive this signal honor which we think is probably second only to the Congressional Medal of Honor in distinction.

It is amazing how youthful looking and acting so many of our guys are who were in Orlando. I did hear a few incorrect guesses about identity of some of us but not many.

The 596 CP was a popular place and we had many visitors from other combat team members. We held a special meeting of the 596 at which awards were given to Don Saunders and Hank Simpson for all the work and expense they have contributed to finding 596 ers and reorganizing our group. We also gave Bob Dalrymple a beautiful military sabre and a wall mount for it. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will see a copy of the Citation that accompanied this presentation.

(continued)

We also gave Col. Graves gold paratrooper wings as a token of our esteem. You fellows also gave me a beautiful plaque for my work on the reorganization of the 596. It was given to me the day before by Art Starck and at our meeting I forgot to acknowledge it or even show it to anyone. I apologize for the oversight and thank all of you for the award.

For the first time ever, all of the commanding officers of every battalion of the 517 and the 460 battalion and the 596 company and the Combat Team were present at a Reunion.

At the Banquet, Al Schornberg, Bon Saunders and I were given a plaque in recognition of our work for the Combat Team. This came as a great surprise to all three of us.

I want to thank all of our 596ers for the solid support they gave me in my successful candidacy for the Vice-Presidency of the 517 PRCT Assn. I appreciate equally the support I received from other members of the Combat Team. I'll do everything I can to help our organization grow in numbers and closeness. I am in a position to have some influence, so if you have any suggestions about anything I will be pleased to be your conduit to the Board of Directors. If you have any ideas about things we can do in the future to make the Reunions more fun for everyone and run more smoothly please write me.

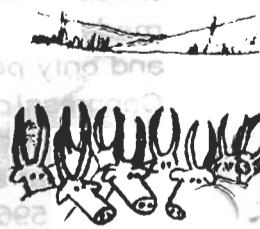
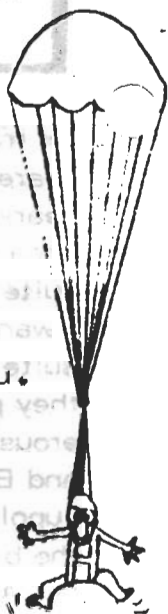
One small sour note---One of the men of the 517th labored long and at considerable personal expense to make guide-ons for every company and battery of the Combat Team and they were mounted on the wall of the banquet hall. After the banquet, it was discovered that the 596 guide-on had mysteriously disappeared. One is likely to think that some 596er reverted to the typical behavior pattern of "Aly Daly and his Thieves" of WW2 European renown and confiscated it for safe-keeping. There were probably several of us who had the same urge but were able to control it; however, one of us found it irresistible. Whoever you are (you are probably the same person who saw to it that the 596 always had twice its quota of trucks and jeeps) please have your wife buy some material and run you up a 596 guide-on using the purloined one as a pattern and then you can return it to me and I'll send it on to the gentleman to whom it belongs. They have appealed to me to try to get you to return it and I told them that I felt pretty sure that we could expect to get it returned so don't let me down. Thanks.

The next Reunion will be held in San Mateo, California in August of 1983. The exact dates and particulars will be relayed to you later on. San Mateo is about 30 miles south of San Francisco. Set aside some time around the 15th of August, 1983, and start saving your money now. No excuses other than health problems will be acceptable. We need you.

Many of you brought WW2 photographs to the Reunion in Orlando and they all were mixed up on the bed in the Goodman's room. Several of you neglected to retrieve your photographs so now I have a sack full of photos. Unless you can describe certain photos to me, I guess you will have to come to Ft. Worth or wait two years and come to the Reunion in San Mateo.

Did you hear the story about the Military Unit Reunion where each man was asked to stand and tell the group something about himself. The first person called upon arose and said, "I retired as a full Colonel and married well and we had three sons, all of whom are Doctors." The second man got up and said, "I too stayed in the service awhile after the war and retired as a full Colonel. My wife comes from a first family of Virginia and we had three sons, all of whom became Lawyers." The next man stood and said, "I never married but I have three sons, all of whom became full Colonels."

There is no charge for this Newsletter but if you wish to send a contribution to help pay the expenses involved in the printing and mailing, I will not refuse to accept, and will appreciate your help. In truth, I would much rather have a letter from you than the money because there can be no Newsletter without your input of material to print. Dammit, slow down long enough to at least write a postcard.



# REUNION GREAT SUCCESS

Look who was at the Reunion in Orlando in August-----

Jim Benson  
Mike and Catherine Bulino  
Dick Bramley  
Bob Dalrymple  
Earl and Edith Dillard  
Barney and Zella Freiberg  
Hal and Polly Eddy  
Al and Alice Goodman  
Jim and Hildred Greenwood  
Alton (Judge) Jarrell and two daughters, Susan and Cindy  
Gene and Mary Jo Hyman  
Ernie and Judy Kosan  
Homer McRoy  
Gus and Mary Ann Madison  
Brooks Moses  
Ed and Kay Phillips  
David and Olga Pierce  
Herb and Marie Reichwald  
Ray and Gloria Poe  
Charles and Ann Pugh  
Paul Roberson and two daughters, Judy and Beth  
Don and Marian Saunders  
Al and Andree Schornberg  
George and Winston Shull  
Hank and Marian Simpson  
B.E. (Pop) Spencer  
Lloyd and Harriet Spencer  
Art and Jean Starck  
Joe and Pat Senter  
Wes and Gladys Williams  
Manny and LaVerne Ventoza  
Leonard Walker and his son-in-law, Jerry Gilhooly  
Bob and Betty Wilkerson and daughter, Molly and her friend Joanne Stransky  
Russ and Mary Pearson  
Don Sherman  
George and Deen Mitchel  
Vince Podrasky  
John Randall  
Pete and Rose Zubricky  
Marshall Turner  
Dennis Shipley

We (596) had by far the largest number of people attending as compared with any other Company or Battery and even more than one or two Battallions. We had 41 of our men there and a total , including wives, children, etc., of 75. Great!!!!!!!



There were about 250 Troopers at the reunion. At the banquet there were 515 troopers, wives, children and guests. Quite a turnout and it seemed to me and everyone I talked with that a good time was had by all. I never saw a single person who had had too much to drink. I saw a few who had had enough, including yours truly, but none who imbibed to excess.



At the very last minute, Beverly Cochran developed pneumonia or she and Bill would have been there. I have talked with Bill recently and Beverly is recovering nicely. Harold Roberts would have been there except for the fact that just before time to leave for Florida he almost severed his thumb. I talked with him recently and he will not lose the thumb but he says it is far from back to normal. Jim Nolan was planning to be with us but at the last minute the airline called and told him his flight had been cancelled, I suspect a good many others decided not to attend because of the uncertainty of air travel schedules due to the air controller strike.



596 PARACHUTE ENGINEER COMPANY



Orlando, Florida

13-15 August 1981

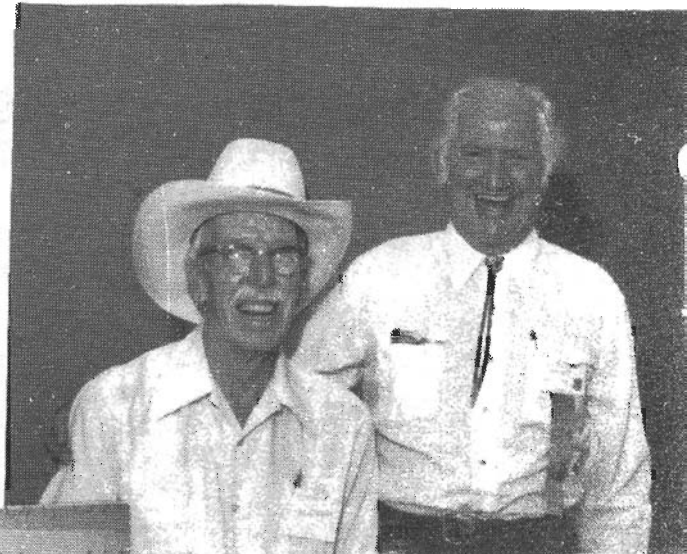


L. to R. Front Row- Walker, Eddy, Simpson, Ventoza, Kosen, Benson, Williams, Hyman  
2nd Row- Podrasky, Bulino, Zubricky, Moses, Saunders, Phillips, Poe, Starck, Pugh, Dalrymple  
3rd Row- Dillard, Freiberg, Pierce, Goodman, Bramley, Wilkerson, Pearson, Senter, Mitchel  
Back Row- McRoy, Shipley, Schenberg, Reichwald, Madison, Spencer, Shull, Randall, Spencer, Harrell, Greenwood, Sherman

AW'OL- Turner & Roberson



Bob & Garnet Dalrymple



Col. Graves & President "Tex" Lewis



Bob Dalrymple

CAMP MACKALL, NC  
 FORT BENNING, GA  
 TENNESSE MANEUVERS  
 FORT PATRICK HENRY, VA  
 NAPOLI, ITALIA - The Volte  
 POZZUOLI, ITALIA  
 BAGNOLI, ITALIA  
 POMPEII, ITALIA  
 GROSSETO, ITALIA  
 FOLLONICA, ITALIA  
 SOMMA, ITALIA



Bill Lewis  
Editor "Thunderbolt"  
Sectry-Treas. 517 PFCI



Immediate Past-Pres. Cameron Gauthier  
(understandably weary)



Back view of Gauthier





"Old Man" Mose, "Pop" Spencer, Bob Dalrymple and Pop's canteen of moonshine left over from WW2



Alice Goodman & Dick Bramley



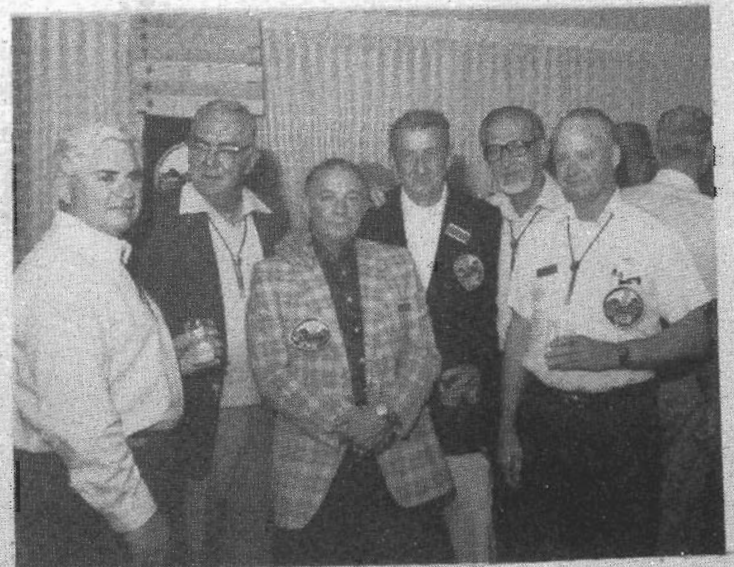
Dennis Shipley & Al Goodman



Russ Pearson & George Shull



Gladys & Wes Williams



Eddy, Starck, McRoy, Spencer, Kosan, Simpson

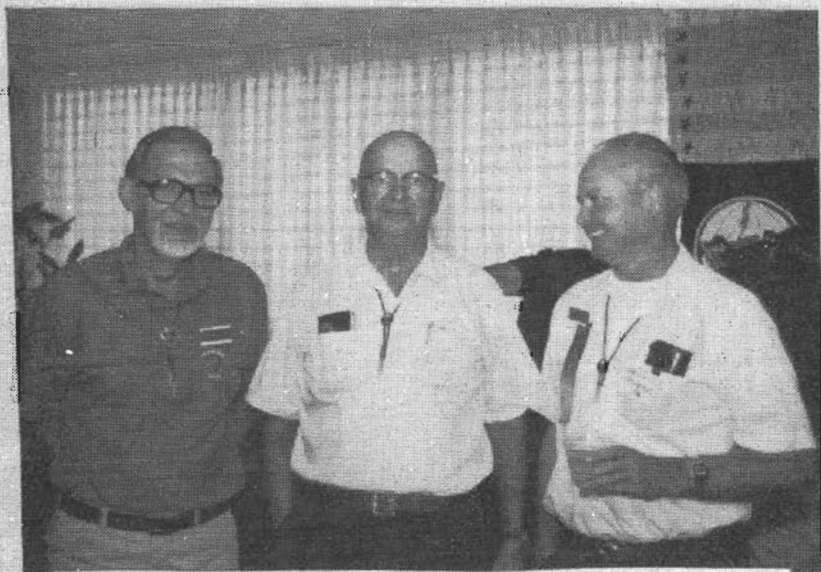
1981 REUNION



Leonard Walker & Homer Mc Roy



Polly & Hal Eddy



Ernie Kosan, Brooks Moses, & Hank Simpson



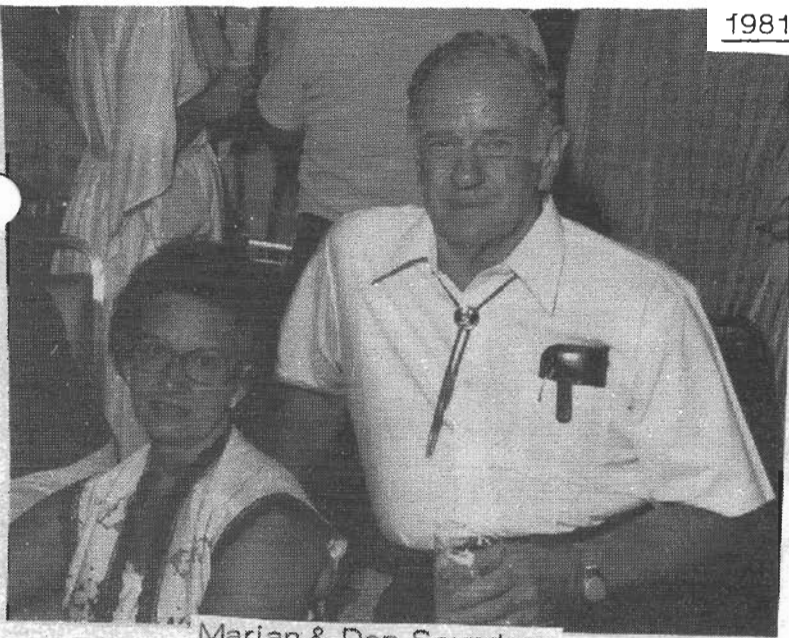
Jim Greenwood



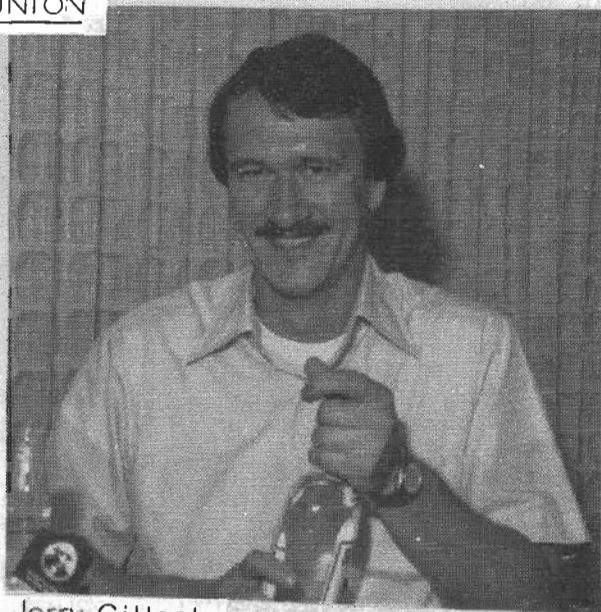
Joe Senter & Judge Harrell



Pat Senter



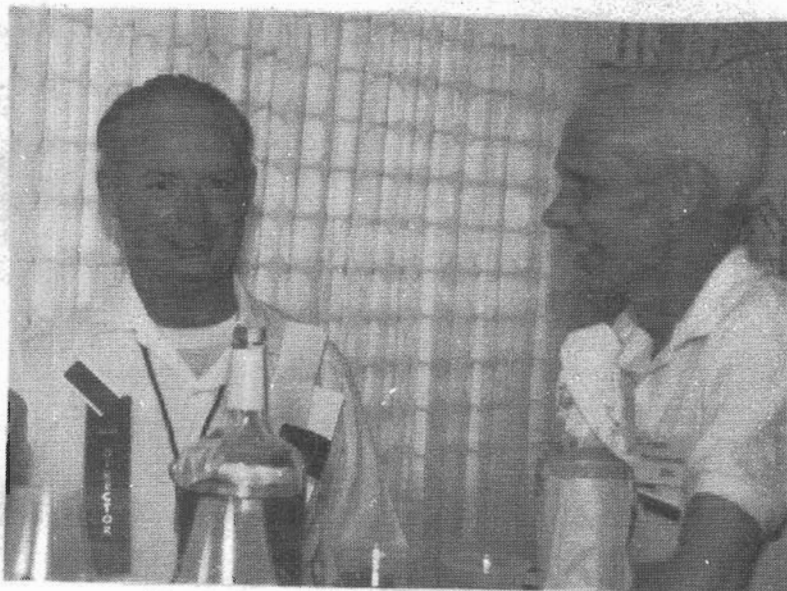
Marian & Don Saunders



Jerry Gillyooly - Volunteer Bartender  
Honorary Member of 596



Lloyd Spencer & Art Stark



Hank Simpson and Al Schornberg



Mary Ann & Gus Madison Al & Alice Goodman



Charlie & Ann Pugh



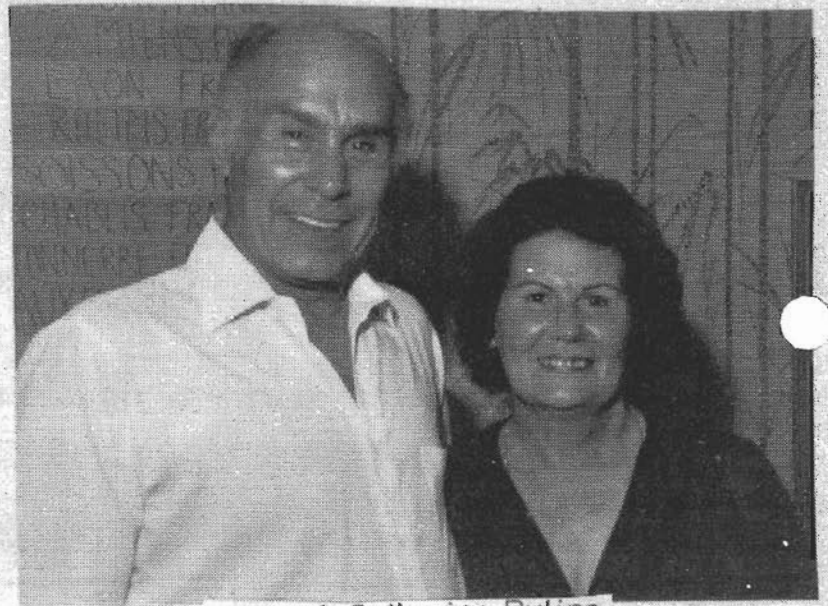
Marian Saunders, Catherine Bulino & Olga Pierce



Rose & Peter Zubricky



Deen Mitchel



Mike & Catherine Bulino



Mitchel, Goodman & Pop Spencer



Jean & Art Starck



Andrée Schornberg, Edith & Earl Dillard



Ray & Gloria Poe



Joanne Stransky, Bob, Molly & Betty Wilkerson



La Verne & Manny Ventoza



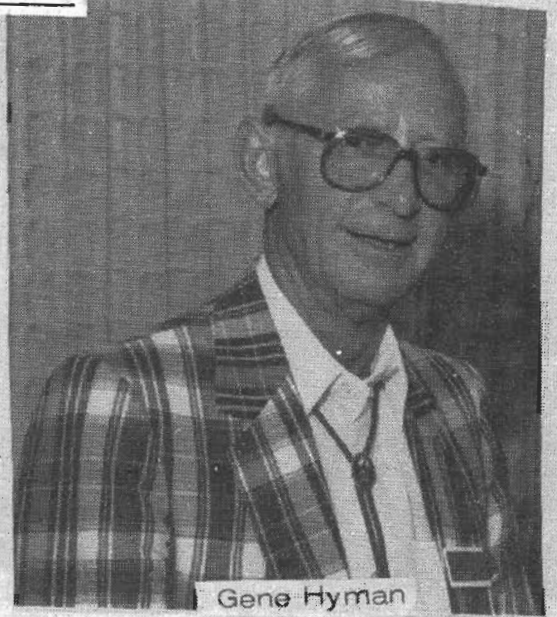
Olga Pierce, Catherine Bulino, Alice Goodman,  
Mary Ann Madison & ?



Beth, Paul & Judy Roberson



Cindy , Judge, & Susan Harrell



Gene Hyman



Earl Dillard, Barney Freiberg, & Ed Phillips



Mary Jo Hyman

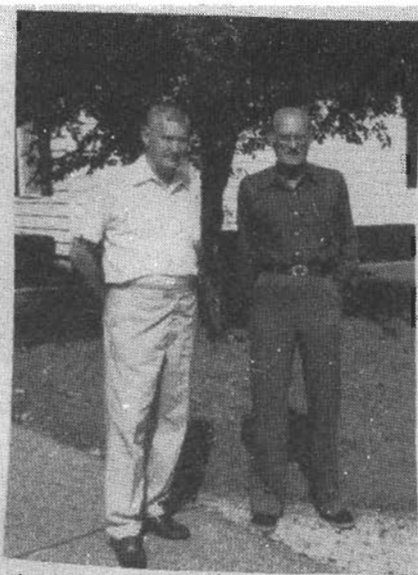


Ernie & Judy Kosan



Bob Dalrymple

1981 REUNION



Hild & Dillard  
immediately after Orlando



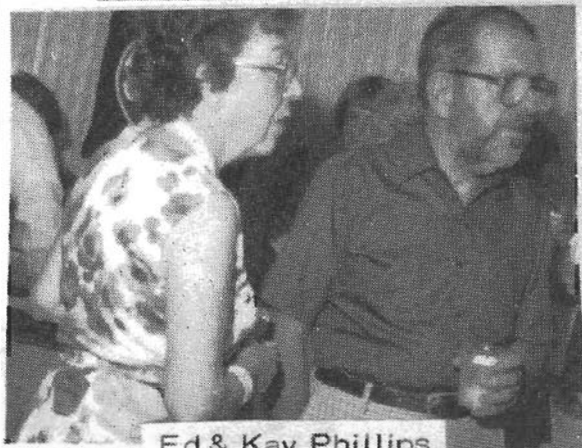
Marian & Hank Simpson & Mike Bulino



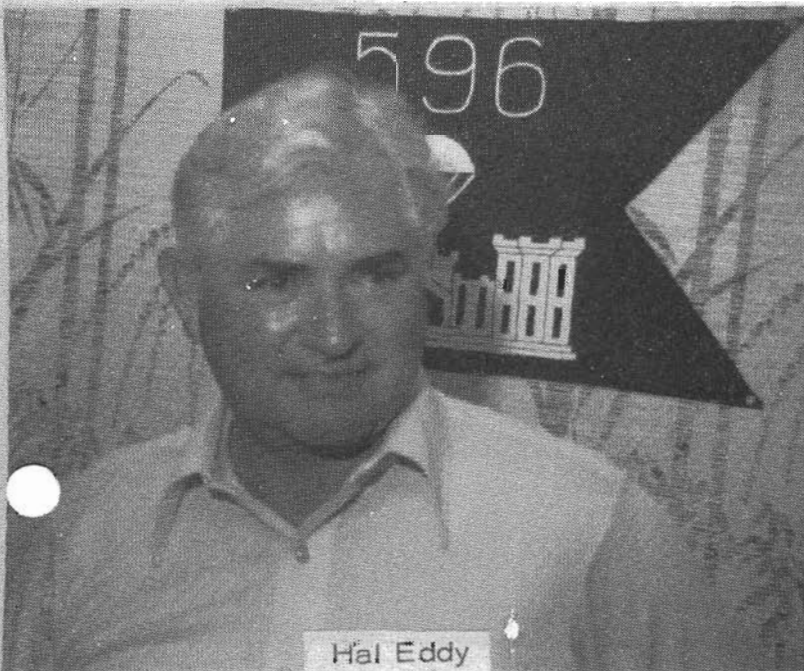
Ann Pugh & Mary Pearson



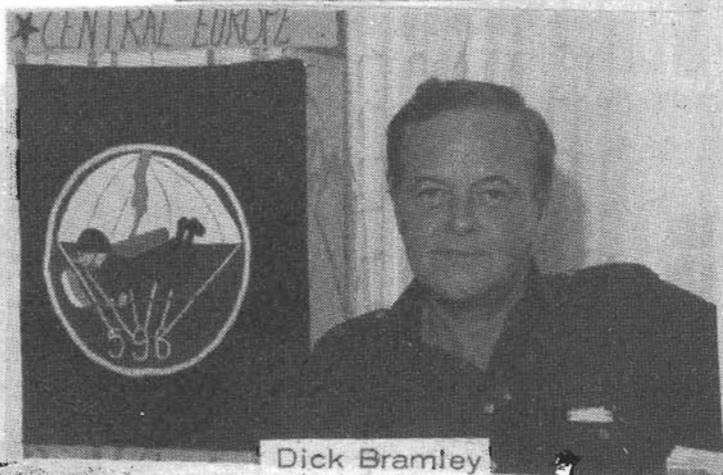
Zella & Barney Freiberg



Ed & Kay Phillips



Hal Eddy



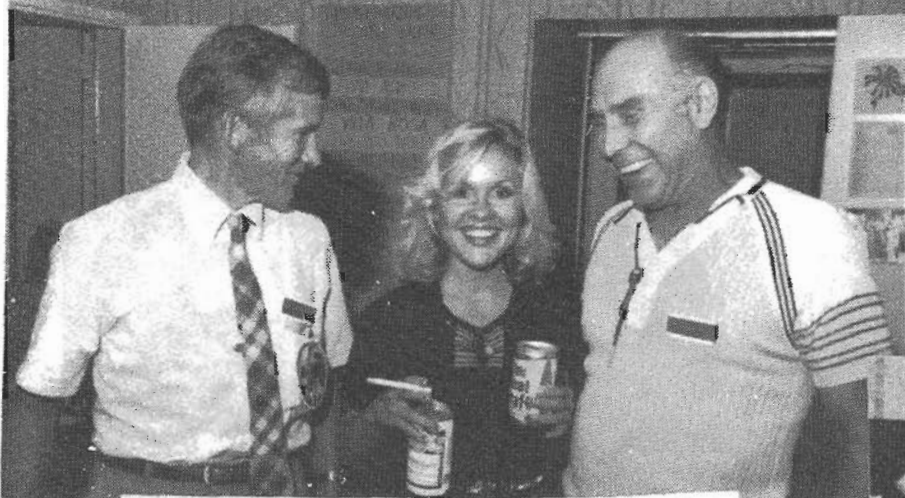
Dick Bramley



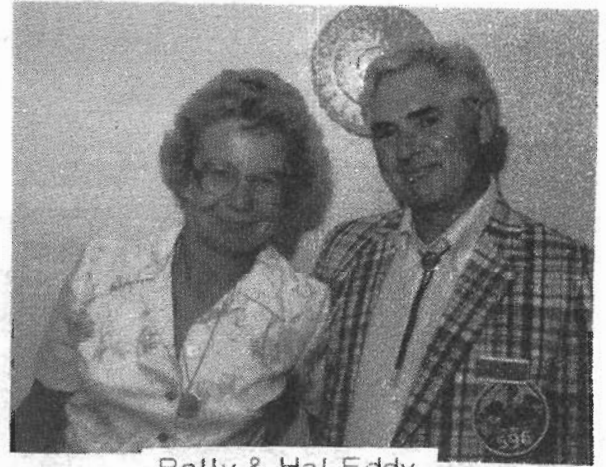
Podrasky, Ventoza, Kosan, Dalrymple, Saunders & Poe



Mitchel, Phillips, & Dillard



Randall, Beth Roberson & Mike Bulino



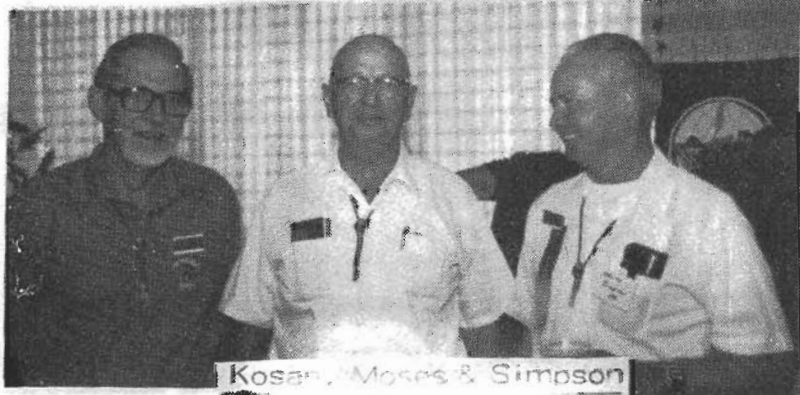
Polly & Hal Eddy



Marion and Hank Simpson, Senter and Shull



Harrell, Schornberg & Walker



Kosan, Moses & Simpson



Saunders & Moses





Sarge Walker & Cindy Harrell



John Randall



Ventoza, Marshall Turner & Senter



Col. Graves



Don Sherman



Podrasky & Pugh



Dave Pierce, John Randall & Geo. Shull



Joe Senter & George Mitchel



Marian Simpson, Harriet Spencer and Jean Starck



Al Goodman & Ann Pugh



Charlie Pugh & Don Saunders



Olga Pierce



Co-Hosts of the Hospitality Suite - The Pughs and Goodmans at 3:30 AM of last night of Reunion - Exhausted

# The Mail Chute



I want to thank those of you who have written me and there have been many. Here are some excerpts from most of those letters:

Tom Small wrote to say that his next leave period from Zambia to the States would be July 1983 to July 1984. He hopes to make the next reunion. Tom and Mary have been serving as Baptist missionaries in Africa since 1955.

Fred Zavattero is still battling his health problems. Everyone at the reunion signed a "Get Well" card to him. He wrote to the 596ers as follows:

"Reunions are happy times for us to get together and remember our youth. Unfortunately, I cannot be present with you this evening so I am sending this message instead. Although reunions are usually celebrations, they are not without their sorrows. Several of us who attended the last reunion are missing. These, we salute. Still we must remember each year some of us must make the decision to attend or not. This is often not in our hands. For those who have made the great journey beyond, we might recall Mark Twain's immortal comment, "Heaven for climate ; hell for companionship."

To all of you who are there, I hope you have an exciting reunion . I hope to see you at the next one." (Fred lost this fight on 19 Oct. ---see obituary in this issue--Editor)

Ray Hild wrote to send his regrets because health and family business kept him from coming to Florida. He sent his warmest regards to everyone and sent me a large number of his WW 2 photographs which I took to Orlando and some of which are in this Newsletter. Ray also sent a contribution to the 596 Newsletter----Thanks. We called Ray on the phone from Orlando and many of the guys talked with him.

Ernie Kosan travelled to the reunion from Taipei, Taiwan where he is the chief structural engineer for a new chemical plant being built. Judy met him in Orlando. Ernie was in an airplane for 23 hours in getting to Florida. Do you remember Judy? She served tables in our mess hall in Berlin, Germany/.

Talk about making an entrance----Marshall Turner arrived on the last evening during the Banquet. His reunion was a short one due to problems with flight schedules.

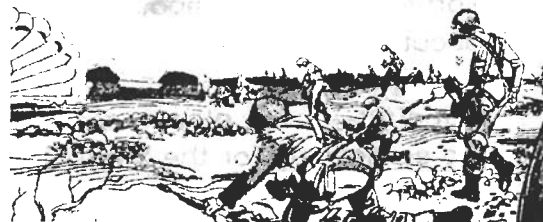
George Shull sent a most generous contribution to the 596 after the reunion and said that he and wife, Winston, had a wonderful time. Thanks for the help, George.

Al Kunzer and Don (Jack) Goudie both wrote to express their regrets that recent surgery prevented the trip to the reunion.

Pete Zubricky said his health wouldn't permit him to attend the reunion but lo and behold, he and wife, Rose, came anyway. It was great to be with you both.

Bob Kuston went to college after WW2 and then with the Santa Fe Railway in the engineering Department where he is still employed in the Chicago area.

There are over 100 photographs in this Newsletter.



# The Mail Chute

(continued)



"Mose " Moses wrote, "Doesn't it feel strange to introduce yourself to a guy that you shared a fox-hole and C rations with years ago? However, I hope to do it AGAIN TWO YEARS FROM NOW in Calif.. Thanks to everyone there, it was one of the best times I ever had. It seemed everybody made a special effort to see that all the others had a good time. Physically and mentally, I am doing fine; financially, I have doubts. ("Mose", maybe that's partly because of the very large donation you made to the 596 reunion expense fund. Many thanks. Editor) Congratulations, Charlie, on being elected to V.P. of the Combat Team. I wish I could be President of Vice."

Barney Freiberg wrote to say that he and Zella had a grand time at the reunion and that he was overwhelmed by the warmth of the reception he received.

Jim Botts had planned to be with us in Orlando but he had a flare up of his arthritis and also had some dental problems.

I am pleased to be able to show you the very first detailed color photograph of a black hole in space. Note features at upper left and center of photograph that are in perfect agreement with current theoretical predictions. Please remember that you saw it here first, (Editor)



Ed McKinley had planned to be at the reunion but at the last minute his van broke down and couldn't be repaired in time.

Mike Kovach retired from Schlitz Brewery on June 1st, 1981.

Dick Bartholomew has a new job with Kerr-McGee Oil and Chemical Co. and couldn't get time off at the time of the reunion but plans to be at the next one.

Pete Lannen wrote for himself and Ray Sampson as follows: "To those likeable incorrigibles with whom we had the honor to bear arms in our youth, we send our warmest regards."

Joe Miller wrote to say that circumstances prevented him from attending this year but he hopes to see all the guys in California in two years. He sent a toast to his 596 buddies, "May the good Lord take a liking to you, but not too soon." Joe is Deputy Executive Vice President of the American Medical Association.

Don't get spoiled by the length of this Newsletter. I just got carried away this time. I hope my enthusiasm is contagious and prompts each of you to write me. Send me some information about yourself or tell me what you thought about the reunion or tell me a story about WW2 experiences or tell me a joke or send me a cartoon or a newspaper clipping---but please don't be disinterested or apathetic. Do something for the 596 Newsletter.



"Pretty anxious to get dug in, Pugh?"

VIP

(From Army - Aug. 1977)

(this issue is more like a magazine.)

(continued)

Al Goodman recently retired as the President of a steel fabricating company so he could concentrate on golf, grandchildren and wife, Alice. They drove to the reunion and stopped in Ft. Worth to spend a couple of days with us and play Colonial Golf Course. They also visited relatives and friends all over the U.S. after the reunion and drove 7,000 miles before getting back to California.



Earl and Edith Dillard also made a long motor trip vacation in association with the reunion. They visited with the Hilds in Indiana. Earl recently retired and is doing all the things he has been putting off because of work.

Joe Senter is in the landscaping business in Dallas and he and Pat had a great time in Orlando. They recently visited with us in Ft. Worth and Joe and I played golf while Ann and Pat had a long gab session.

Art Starck has license tags that read "596-517". He said the telephone company wouldn't cooperate and give him a phone number with these digits.

Monk Johnson wrote that his health would not permit him to travel and sent his regrets and his regards to all. I know he would like to have a card or letter from all of you as he fights a heart problem.

Robert Wilson wrote to say he couldn't make the reunion this time because of health problems but hopes to be there in 1983. During the past 35 years, he has worked in plumbing and heating trades, machine shops, electrical work and since 1970 has done mechanical work for local school district. He asked if anyone remembered John (Jack) Oberdorf who left us while we were still at Camp Mackall? Oberdorf is Chief of Police in Muniz, PA.

James Rogers retired from the military in 1965 and since then has done pipe fitting and carpentry. He has 4 boys and a girl. He invites all 596ers to come and hunt elk and deer with him in season.

Bill Doane couldn't be at the reunion because he is recovering from recent stomach surgery. He sent his regrets and a large number of photos from WW2 for everyone to enjoy in Orlando.

Louis Gelen sent his regrets that he couldn't attend this reunion.

Warren Sandberg wrote that his son, who is a trooper in the 82nd Div., would be home on leave at the same time as the reunion and would mean he couldn't be in Orlando.

Warn Meares sent his regrets and said that he and wife LaRue have 2 sons and 7 grandchildren. Warn has a back problem. He has done farming, logging and now is in the store business.

Bill Hudson wrote that he couldn't make the reunion because of family illnesses but he sent a most generous contribution to help pay for damage to the hotel furniture and to provide bail money for those he expected to need it. Bill also called us on the phone in Orlando and talked with many of the guys. Bill got his civil engineering degree after the war and worked for the state of California for 30 years. He is a Registered Engineer and has done surveying work, designed freeways, aqueducts and a pumping plant, constructed dams, etc.. He plans to retire in 6 more years and he definitely plans to be at the 1983 reunion.

Francis O'Lone is a General Electric Production Man.

George Williamson is building a retirement home for his family on a 91 acre farm (ranch) near Lampasas and said that he needed the time and money that he would have to spend to come to the reunion to apply to this building project.

Donald Smith went to "E" Company of the 517 just before we went overseas but he was in the 596 for one year when we were "C" Company of the 139th Abn. Engr. Bn.. Don is in the construction business.

Thanks to "Boomer" Pierce for his valuable assistance in crowd control and noise abatement in our Hospitality Suite. He has a voice volume that could stop a freight train but I noticed it never got very loud when he was speaking to wife, Olga.

Don Saunders wrote to say that he and Marian had some ideas about how to make the next reunion more interesting and fun for the wives. He is already planning his itinerary for the California trip in 1983. He is also working on a list of 18 of our 596ers in the New York area that he is trying to locate. What a worker! What a traveler! What a wonderful friend!

Warren Leatham and Evelyn planned to attend reunion but he received a call to go to Upper Volta on a consulting contract. After the war, he received a degree in Civil Engineering at Utah State Univ. and then spent 30 years in Federal service, the last 18 years with the State Dept. in Foreign Service. He is now retired and is a part time consultant in irrigation engineering and in that capacity has worked in many countries of the world.

Roy Herren works for Electro-Voice, Inc. that makes communication equipment. He plans to retire in 1982 and he and Naomi will winter in Florida and summer on their farm in Brookston, Indiana.

Russ Pearson received his B.S. in Metallurgical Engineering at Michigan State in 1950 and was recalled to the Korean war for 2 years where he served in the Military Police. He is presently Senior Staff Engineer at TRW Systems where he has worked on our missile program and on the LEM in the space program and now on renewable energy projects. He has several U.S. and foreign patents. The Pearsons had a good time at the reunion.

Dennis Shipley is another who said up to the last minute that he couldn't make the reunion but then decided he just couldn't stay away. Dennis is Vice-President of a large painting and decorating firm that does large commercial, industrial and institutional jobs. His firm is working on several large jobs in Ft. Worth now and Dennis drops by my office from time to time for a short visit.

Bill Winterling wrote that he has now been in the can manufacturing business for 35 years. He hopes to retire at the end of this year. After Bill left the 596, he went with the O.S.S. in Paris until the end of the war. He hopes to make the California reunion. He and Frances have one son.

After the war, Barney Freiberg had a succession of industrial engineering jobs before going into business for himself in 1951. He and Zee sold the business and retired in 1974 and now spend their winters in Naples, Florida. They play a lot of tennis and travel quite a lot to visit with friends. For those of you who were not at the reunion, I can tell you that Barney and Zee are the most charming and pleasant people you will ever meet.

Bill Lewis writes, edits, publishes, mails and pays for the publication of the 517th Combat Team, "Thunderbolt". Bill doubles in brass and also serves our Association as Secretary-Treasurer. Write Bill a letter or card occasionally with something for that publication and send him a few bucks when the spirit moves you. He will appreciate your interest and help. Bill has just retired and his new address is 109 Debbie Lane, Hudson, Florida 33568. His phone number is 1-813-863-2995.

OPEN LETTER TO FRANK GRBINICH: On behalf of all the people who attended the Reunion, many, many thanks for all of the work and time spent by you and your helpers in making the myriad arrangements that helped to make our stay and the event so pleasant, so smooth, and so memorable.



Do you know that the attendance at Reunions of the 517th Para Regimental Combat Team surpasses that of every other parachute group of similar size and almost equals the attendance of some DIVISIONAL reunions. What does that tell you about the closeness and esprit of our group?

Static Line is a wonderful monthly publication, now in its 16th year, that covers news from and about all airborne and other elite military units of the past and present. A subscription is 20 dollars per year and the Editor and Publisher is Don Lassen, Box 87518, College Park, GA 30337.

PRESENTATION TO COLONEL ROBERT W. DALRYMPLE (U.S.A. RET.)

The change of perspective wrought by time and experience has given us a greater understanding and appreciation of the lonely and difficult demands of effective military leadership. Your insistence on discipline and extremely high standards of excellence were not always received at the time with popular acclaim. In retrospect, we know that the difficult challenges you put before us and the goals you insisted we meet and excel were the essential elements of the elite military unit that we were to become. The training regimen you designed and implemented required us to handle adversity without quitting; to face danger with courage; to fulfill our responsibilities in spite of our fear. These are qualities of character that have remained a part of each of us and have been of inestimable value throughout life.

The large number of men here today is a testament to the high esprit-de-corps and pride of this unit and for that you deserve much of the credit.

This military sabre is a token of the high esteem in which we shall always hold you.

Orlando, Florida  
14 August 1981



With our thanks and admiration,  
All the men who served in the  
596 Parachute Combat Engineer Company  
1943-45

---

Bob Dalrymple and wife, Garnet, are retired in Green Valley, Arizona and have a summer home in Montana. After the Reunion, Bob sent a generous contribution to the coffers of the 596. Thanks, Bob. Here are some excerpts from his letter:

"I'm still in shock over the great time I had meeting and talking with all the fine men of the 596----wives and daughters, too. Words do not begin to describe my rush of emotion and feelings as I entered the Hospitality Suite that first evening. Then to share our past experiences and to enjoy the pleasure of current well being and accomplishments of each of you was a privilege I shall cherish in my memory forever."

"As you so aptly stated in your flyer, 'These three days will be one of the highpoints in your life; the occasion was stunningly so for me. The plaque, sabre and citation will remain cherished possessions of mine and my family for generations to come.'"

Following is some biographical info about Bob after he left the 596:

"After leaving the 596 in Stavelot on 28 January 1945, I joined the 1153rd Engineer Combat Group. Eventually, we withdrew from the Bulge and regrouped and trained for assault of the Rhine.

The Rhine operation was a massive effort but relatively unopposed. We had nearly 8000 Engineer troops of all types under our group control and I was privileged to write the operations order for that affair.

VE day found us somewhere in the Ruhr valley. Our unit was then ordered to LeHavre and I was transferred to the 38th Engineer General Service Regiment at Rouen. That unit was engaged in demobilizing the large staging areas such as "Lucky Strike" and "Twenty Grand".

In a few weeks, the Regiment was sent to an airfield north of Bruxelles where we took charge of over 1800 German POW's and the responsibility for the entire road net from LeHavre to Antwerp. We also took over and inventoried all engineer unit equipment and vehicles of



units whose personnel were being returned to the States for demobilization. I commanded one of the battalions during this period and eventually the regiment.

I was rotated to the U.S. in early 1947 and after a year at Princeton, spent two years in the personnel division of the Chief of Engineer's office. After attending the regular course at Command and General Staff College, I was assigned to the General Staff of the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Army Europe at Heidelberg (1951-54).

From Heidelberg, I spent the next two years in the Chief Engineers office in Washington, D.C. Then I was moved across the Potomac to the Pentagon in the office of the Secretary of the Army (Ass't. Sec'try for Logistics) for two years plus.

After a year in the Far East, I attended the Army War College and was retained there on the Staff and Faculty (1962-65). That was my last major tour.

I entered active service at Ft. Belvoir, VA in 1941 and retired from there in 1965.

In September 1965, I joined the faculty of the Univ. of Illinois at Urbana, and taught in the College of Engineering there for three years.

We decided to return to the west and in 1968 relocated to Denver, Colorado. I taught there at Metropolitan State College for 9 years, creating and eventually heading their first department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology.

In 1978, I retired again and Green Valley, Arizona became our permanent home.

Garnet and I have two married daughters who have provided us with 5 grandchildren. Our son is the youngest at 27 and is an aerospace engineer in Boulder, Colorado."

Ned "Herc" Hosterman is an oil distributor. He and Maybelle have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

Bernie Barnes and Thelma were disappointed that they couldn't be at the reunion but Bernie has a coronary artery problem and his doctor wouldn't let him travel. Bernie wrote and said that he had served with a lot of men in a lot of outfits but the men of the 596th Para Engr. Co. were the finest of them all. When Bernie left the 596, he went to the 307 Engineer Bn. of the 82nd Abn. Div. from whence he had come to cadre us in the 17 Abn. Div.. After WW2 he stayed in the Army and in 1950 went to Korea with the 24th Infantry Division. He was wounded twice in Korea and lost his left arm. He was sent to Ft. Belvoir, VA, to instruct OCS classes for 2 1/2 years and then did some recruiting duty until he completed his twenty years and in 1956 he retired. He then went to work for the postal service and now is retired from that also. He and Thelma have two grandchildren. I'm sure Bernie would love to have a card or letter from each of you.

Dick Bramley went back to work for Western Electric after the war and stayed with them for 16 years and then went into the retail business for himself. He sold out in 1976 and retired to Palm Springs, CA, where he now sells real estate. Dick travels frequently in Europe and looks great. He is a bachelor and seemed to have a great time in Orlando.

, Bill Cochran is retired from Shell Oil Co. and recently went with another oil company to keep himself occupied.

George Mitchel works at Redstone Arsenal in Missile Control and he and Wife, Deen, have 4 children. They had a fun time at the reunion.

Judge Harrell is a geophysical engineer in the Houston, TX, area. He brought two beautiful daughters to the reunion.

Marvin Rigdon has a large farm in Arkansas where he and his wife, Ann, have raised one son, one daughter and a lot of rice and soybeans.

I talked with Richard Nosky on the phone a few months back and all I remember is that he is a consulting civil engineer. I hope he will write and tell me more.

Jim MacFadden is Chief Operator in a water plant and he and his wife have 5 children and 5 grand-children.





Jim Greenwood wrote. "Orlando was a ball! Really enjoyed seeing all those "old folks". There is a photo of Jim's lovely but camera shy wife, Hildred.

One thing I have heard from many members and wives about the reunion is that most of the wives didn't know anyone -----a large group of total strangers to them---- and we made no effort or provision to help ameliorate this problem. We men were so involved with one another that we left the wives to look after themselves with no help from us. Consequently, many of them were pretty bored and tired before the three days were over. They need to have more to do than watch us have a good time. At the next reunion, we must be more aware of this situation and do something about it. I solicit your suggestions---ask your wife if she has any ideas about activities that we might arrange to help them get acquainted more quickly and easily with each other and us.



Hildred Greenwood

I wrote Art Starck to thank him for having the beautiful plaque made up for me and ask him who else was involved so I could thank them also. In his reply, Art said that he designed the plaque and had it made up and presented it to me on behalf of all 596ers. Art, you went beyond the call of duty and I appreciate it very much. Art said that he and Jean had a good time at the reunion.

Leonard Walker retired 5 years ago as Assistant Director in Supply and Administration for the Illinois National Guard. He has three daughters and four grandchildren. He says the tie that bound 596ers together then is still strong now and that the three days at the reunion were the best three days he has had in many years.

Herb Reichwald wrote to say that he and Marie enjoyed the reunion and also the Caribbean cruise afterward. He says, "It was really great to see so many of the guys again and although I didn't recognize several of them at first, after talking with a few, the memories started flooding back." On the cruise they met and enjoyed being with Bob and Emma Olson (517), Al and Lena Sobel (517), Leo and Joyce Turco (460), the Bakers (460) and the Herdsmans (460).

**"Nothing Is So Strong As Gentleness,  
Nothing So Gentle As Real Strength".**



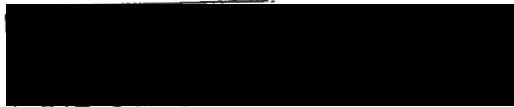
When you have occasion to travel, whether for business or pleasure, don't forget to look at the 596 Roster to see if any of your old buddies live in or near your destination or along the route. If so, you should get in touch for a drink, a meal or a visit. A phone call to a buddy before you visit his city will frequently result in a more enjoyable trip for you and will most certainly bring welcome warmth and joy to your old buddy also-----a double benefit. Don't pass up these opportunities because in some cases you will never have another chance. Visits with 596ers, either singly or in groups, and in person or by mail or phone put more fun in your life and add to the quality. Our men have a lot of knowledge and experience in a wide variety of fields and are a valuable resource for each of us to tap when we have a problem or question. One or more of our buddies is as accessible as the telephone and pleased to be consulted and delighted if he can be of any help. This is one of the reasons I keep after you guys to write and tell me something about yourself and your activities over the years-----so I can call on you for FREE advice and counsel and expertise when I may need it. I may be cheap but I ain't dumb. If you can't use your friends, who can you use?

OFFICERS

Honorary President-----Col. Rupert D. Graves



President-----Clem "Tex" Lowe (Co. C)



Vice-President-----Charles E. Pugh, D.D.S. (596)

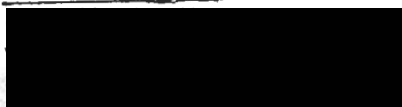


Sectry-Treas/Editor----Bill Lewis



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Richard Miller (460)



Dick Spencer (Co. G)



Joe A. C. Williams (Co. B)



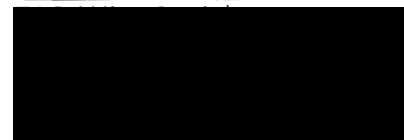
Cameron J. Gauthier (460)



Henry S. (Hank) Simpson (596)



Frank Grbinich (Co. A)



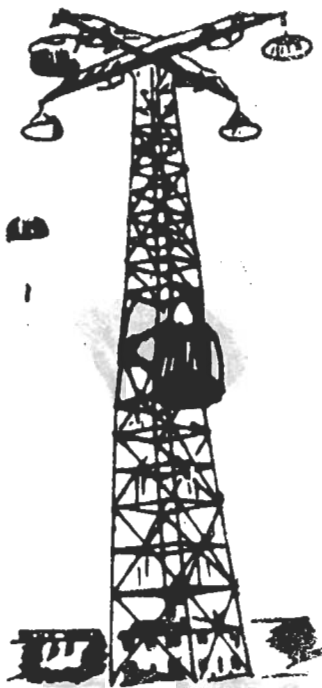
xt. 413

If you have any suggestions, questions, complaints, ideas, information, etc. that you feel would help you or the 517 Combat Team Assn., please write or call one of your officers or directors. Your interest and participation are welcomed. Teamwork was an important attribute that helped us to earn the reputation as an outstanding combat unit and it is that same trait that helps us to be just as outstanding in our peacetime endeavors.

John Randall wrote, "What fun it was to relive some of those fabulous times. Earl and Edith Dillard spent an evening with us on their way north and on to visit with Ray Hild and Mary. Earl is a fine fellow and we enjoyed their visit.. My wife Alice is talking about a trip to Norway. Our daughter married a Norwegian and is expecting about Christmas. It will be our first grandchild; however, since the Bulge and Hurtgen, I have become allergic to temperatures below 50degrees Fahrenheit, snow, ice (except in drinks), skates, skis, and camping out----all those things that most Americans find so enthralling---not I. (My sentiments exactly!---Editor) If I have my way, which is not likely, it will be mid-August before departure. I plan to be at the 1983 San Mateo adventure."

If you find a lot of typographical errors in this issue don't be too critical because I did all the typing and that is not one of my strengths.





Herb Larson wrote his regrets about not being able to attend the reunion because of other family commitments and the last sentence of his letter was, "My best to the VERY BEST PARACHUTE ENGINEER COMPANY in the WHOLE DAMN ARMY!" He stayed in service for 20 years and retired as a Colonel so he may really know whereof he speaks. Herb transferred out of the 596 while we were in Southern France to the 887 Aviation Engineering Co.. They were attached to the 82nd Abn. Div. during the Battle of the Bulge and then were sent back to the States to be disbanded. Herb left the service in 1946 but returned in 1947 with an enlisted grade but in 1948 he received another commission and then he transferred to the Air Force as an Engineering Officer. He retired in 1964 and went into business in Missouri. He sold that out and presently is in real estate and rental property. He and Ann have one son, one daughter, and one grandchild. Now I quote from Herb's letter: "Of all the assignments I have had in the military I have never met the equal of the quality of men of the 596th. I never saw them assigned to anything that ever challenged their true ability as a unit. Truly a proud unit of fine men. I loved these men so much that I even covered up for them while they were on

Tennessee maneuvers. I never told the "old man" they were burning "white lightning" in their tents to keep warm. I doubt very much if anyone drank any !!! I owe a lot to the 596. It was my parent organization and while in it I learned what it was like to serve with well trained and strictly disciplined soldiers who had great individual and unit pride."

(I say HEAR! HEAR! for the extraordinarily perceptive person that Herb was and is. Editor)

Don Smith wrote, "God, do you remember that mountain in Toccoa, GA! What an introduction to the Army!" Don went to E Company of the 517th after the Tennessee maneuvers. After WW2 he went into the construction business. Presently he is a purchasing agent. He and Kathy have 3 sons and 3 grandchildren. Don has arthritis and has had both knees replaced and is moving around quite well with the new ones. Don is pleased that he is still considered to be a 596er and said that he was in the Second Platoon.

Leo Wroblecki was hoping to get a free plane ride to Florida for thereunion but I guess it didn't work out because Leo never made it.

Kyle Kenyon is a retired Chemical Operator and he and Shirley have 2 daughters. They lived in Michigan but have retired to a farm in Tennessee..

Gene Markle retired in 1964 from the Army as a Major. He sells real estate in California and he and Elaine have 4 boys and a girl.

Hal Bean planned to be at the reunion but his boss became ill and Hal had to take over for him. Hal lives very near Yellowstone National Park and invites every 596er to come to see him and Yellowstone.

Gene Hyman is Sales Manager for the Louisville Courier Journal newspaper. He and Mary Jo seemed to be having a good time in Orlando.

Wes Williams is an executive with an outdoor advertising firm and he and Gladys have three children. They too had a good time at the reunion and helped everyone else to do the same.

John Whiteman wrote that previous commitments and a heavy work schedule prevented him from being with us in Orlando and sent his highest regards to all assembled in Florida. "They were and are as fine a group of men as I ever knew and my time in the Company is something I shall never forget."

Many of our 596 members have requested the words to this World War II classic. Here it is:

### Blood On the Risers

(Tune of Battle Hymn of the Republic)

He was just a rookie trooper and he surely shook with fright  
 He checked all his equipment and made sure his pack was tight.  
 He had to sit and listen to those awful engines roar,  
 "You ain't gonna jump no more."

Is everybody happy, cried the sergeant looking up  
 Our hero feebly answered yes and then they stood him up  
 He jumped into the icy blast his static line unhooked  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

He counted long, he counted loud, he waited for the shock  
 He felt the wind, he felt the cold, he felt the awful drop  
 The silk from his reserve spilled out, and wrapped his legs around  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

The riser swung around his neck, connectors cracked his dome  
 Suspension lines were tied in knots around his skinny bones  
 The canopy became his shroud; he hurtled to the ground  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

The days he'd lived and loved and laughed kept running through his mind.  
 He thought about the girl back home the one he'd left behind  
 He thought about the medics and wondered what they'd find  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

The ambulance was on the spot, the jeeps were running wild  
 The medics jumped and screamed with glee rolled up their sleeves  
 and smiled  
 For it had been a week or more since last a chute had failed  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

He hit the ground, the sound was "splatt", his blood went spurting high.  
 His comrades then were heard to say "a helluva way to die"  
 He lay there rolling around in the welter of his gore  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

There was blood upon the risers, there were brains upon the chute  
 Intestines were a'dangling from his paratrooper suit  
 He was a mess, they picked him up and poured him from his boots  
 And he ain't gonna jump no more.

### Chorus

Gory, Gory, what a helluva way to die  
 Gory, Gory, what a helluva way to die  
 Gory, Gory, what a helluva way to die  
 He ain't gonna jump no more.

WHO KNOWS WHAT GOES ON  
 IN THE HEARTS OF MEN



THE SHADOW KNOWS



You will need that parachute  
 if my husband comes home.  
 We are on the 23rd floor.



RECENT PHOTOS



Ann & Marvin Rigdon



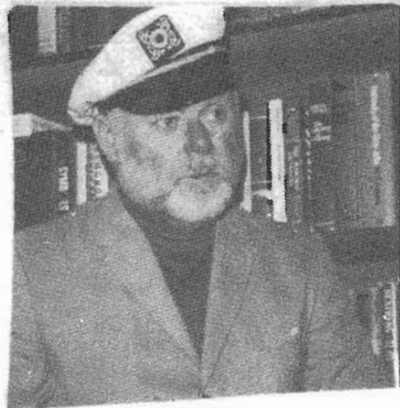
Pete & Rose Zubricky



Ann & Herb Larson



Bill Hudson



Glenn Gainer



Mary & Tom Small



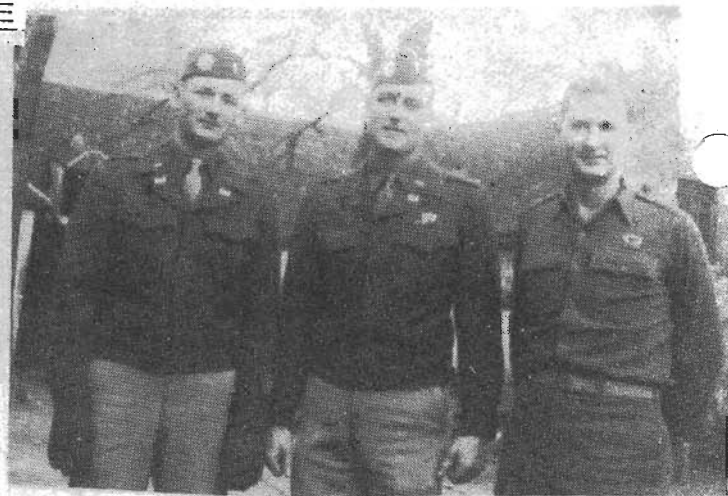
Evelyn & Warren Leatham



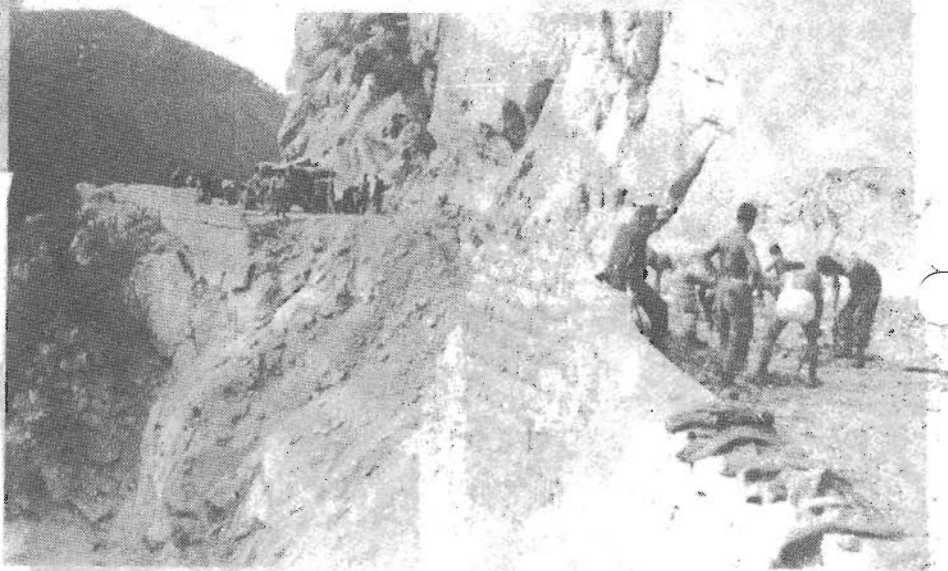
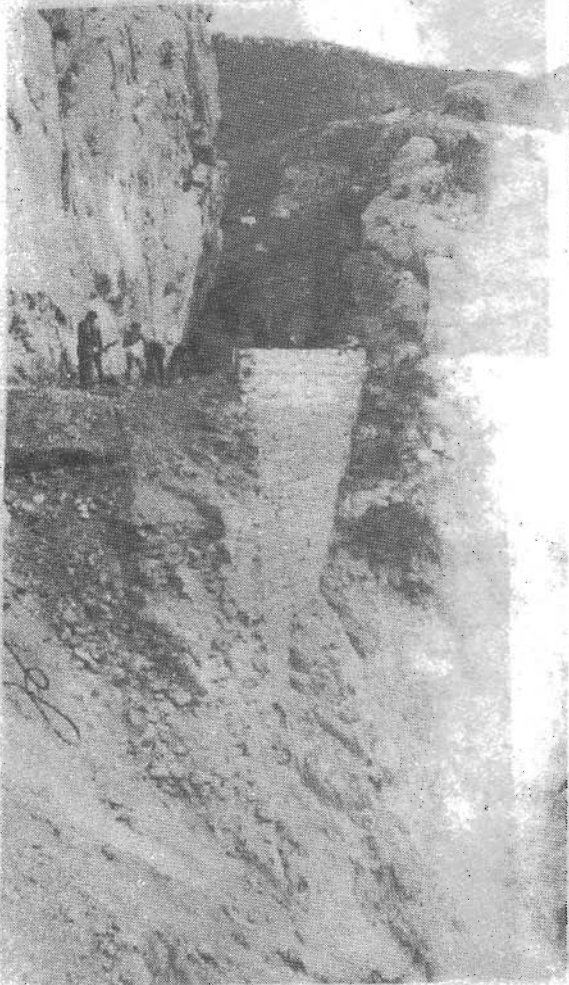
Ray Hild, Ed & Kay Phillips



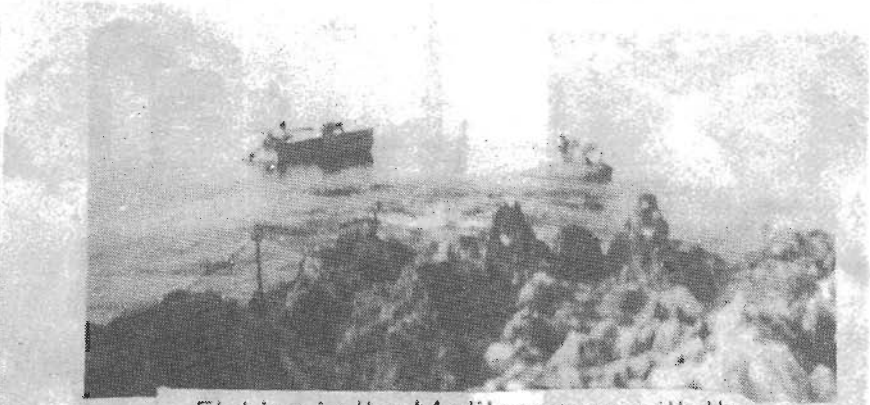
Unrecognized ? and Gus Madison



Three Lieutenants-- ?, Dillard & Hild



← ↑ Roadbuilding in Southern France



Fishing in the Mediterranean with the most effective bait--hand grenades.

MEMORY TIME



Delrymple, "Stand in the door"



McRoy and Shaw



Dave Pierce



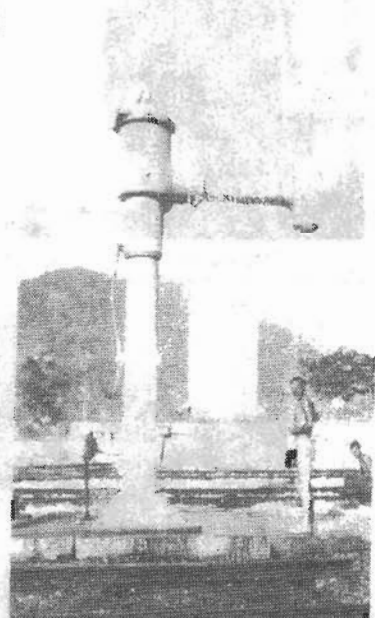
Don Saunders



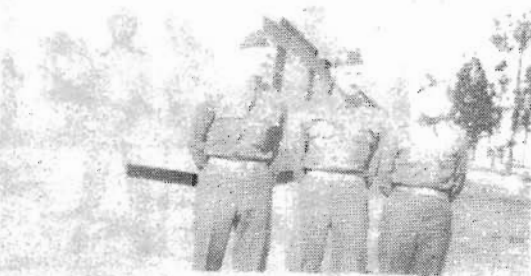
O'Neill and M...



Dick Bramley



Bob Verdi showering



Delrymple, Hild, & Phillips



Dalrymole, Zavaterro, Flannery, Mullen, ? , Kosan



Hudson and Zubricky after fight over bacon



Lloyd Spencer & Bartholomew



Front row: Shaw & Lloyd Spencer  
Middle: McRoy, Christian & Barbera  
Standing: Starck, Reed & Costello



Judge Harrell & Bill Hudson



Paul Roberson



Stroud & Reed



Al Kunzer







MAJOR U.S. AIRBORNE ASSAULTS  
(condensed listing)

by Ray Morrone



<u>UNIT</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TYPE OF ACTION</u>
<u>WORLD WAR II - EUROPE</u>			
509th Prcht Inf Bn	8 Nov 42	Oran, No. Africa	First American use of airborne troops.
509th Prcht Inf Bn	15 Nov 42	Youks Les Bains, Tunisia	Contact French Troops and proceed to attack.
509th Prcht Inf Bn	Nov 42	Faid Pass, Tunisia.	Demolition Action, Infantry contact with Italian Troops.
82nd Abn Div 	9-10 July 43	Gela, Trapani, & Palermo, Sicily	First large scale night airborne aslt.
82nd Abn Div	14 Sept 43	Salerno, Italy	Reinforcement to hold beachhead.
509th Prcht Inf Bn	14 Sept 43	Avellino, Italy	Attack 25 miles behind enemy lines.
504th Prcht Inf Regt	14 Sept 43	Altavilla, Italy	Reinforce Salerno beachhead.
82nd Abn Div	5-6 June 44	Normandy, France	Disrupt Nazi Communications and supply.
101st Abn Div	5-6 June 44	Normandy, France	Seize causeways, disrupt Nazi Communications.
1st Abn Task Force*	15 Aug 44	Southern, France	Spearhead Invasion.
82nd Abn Div 	17 Sept 44	Nijmegen, Holland	Seize & hold highway bridges across Maas River at Grave and Waal River at Nijmegen
101st Abn Div	17 Sept 44	Eindhoven, Holland	Seize 4 highway & railway bridges over Aa River and Williams Vaart Canal at Vechel, seize bridge at St. Oedenrode, seize Eindhoven and bridges.
17th Abn Div	24 Mar 45	Across the Rhine at Wesel	Start of the rush to Berlin.

\* .. Units included: 517th Prcht Inf Regt; 460th Prcht Fld Arty Bn; 463rd Prcht Fld Arty Bn; 509th Prcht Inf Bn; 551st Prcht Inf Bn; 550th Glider Inf Bn; and 596th Abn Engr Co.



(continued on next page)

MAJOR U.S. AIRBORNE ASSAULTS---continued



WORLD WAR II - PACIFIC

503rd Prcht Inf Regt	5 Sept 43	Lae, Salamaua, New Guinea	Cut off route of 20,000 fleeing Japanese
503rd Prcht Inf Regt	3 Jul 44	Noemfoer Isld	Capture main airdome
11th Abn Div	3 Feb 45	Tagaytay, Luzon	Invasion of South Luzon.
503rd Prcht Inf Regt	16 Feb 45	Corregidor Island	Destroy enemy guns from the rear.
11th Abn Div	23 Feb 45	Los Bancos Camp, Luzon	Raided prison camp freeing 2,146 American civilians
11th Abn Div	25 June 45	Luzon	Parachute assault plus first use of gliders in Pacific Theatre.



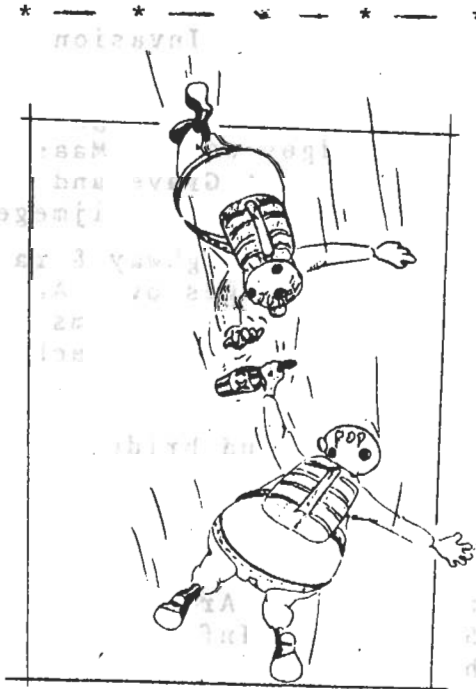
KOREAN WAR

187th Abn Regt Cmbt Tm	20 Oct 50	Sukch'on- Such'on No. Korea	Designed to trap North Korean Troops
187th Abn Regt Cmbt Tm	23 Mar 51	Munsan-Ni, So. Korea	Delay Chinese soldiers retreating from Seoul.

VIETNAMESE WAR

173rd Abn Inf Bde (Sep)	22 Feb 67	War Zone "C"	Search & destroy mis- sion during Operation Junction City
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(Reprinted from Nov. 1973 "Chute & Dagger")



"Pop" Spencer & "Judge" Harrell

34 NOW WHAT DO YA SAY WE DISCUSS  
THAT TEN BUCKS YOU OWE ME !!!



# FALLSCHIRMJAGER



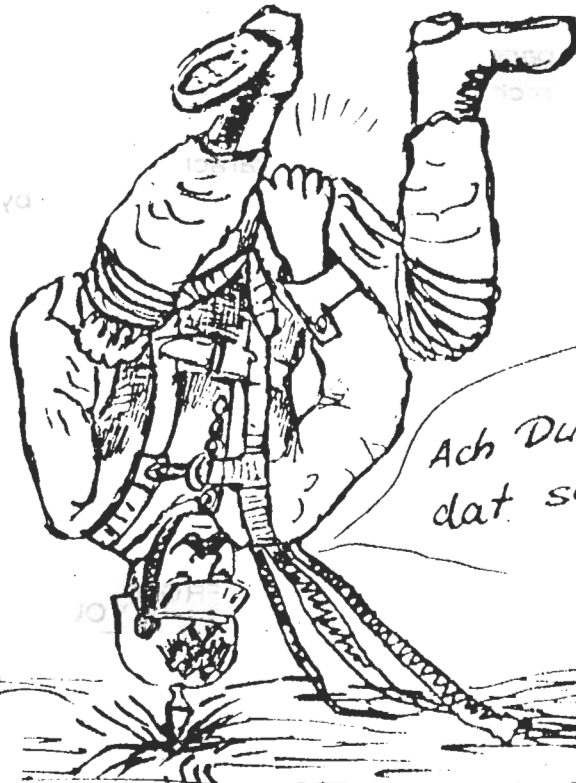
## THINGS AND NONSENSE ABOUT THE FALLSCHIRMJAGER by Col. Dieter Klein, CAF. DIV. STAFF PIO

In contrast to the British and American Parachutes used during World War II, the German Fallschirmjager was equipped with the RZ series chute which had only a single lift web and left the trooper hanging face forward and quite violently swinging his limbs. This resulted in many injuries while training and during operations. The most popular aircraft used by the Fallschirmjagers, the Junkers Ju-52/3m had a very small exit door, which necessitated a most stylish exit, starting with a crouch, followed by a rather fancy swan dive like coming off a 10 meter diving board during the Olympics.

Upon landing, while hanging face forward and coming in at better than 20 feet sec, the Fallschirmjager wearing knee pads had to roll forward for a quite harsh meeting with Mother Earth. Now some "Hero" in the Luftwaffe made a suggestion to return to the spiked helmet of World War I in order to just roll over and stop yourself by anchoring your spike into the ground.

Now they got some of their Italian allies to try this method out, but the experiment was abandoned rather quickly, many of the volunteers got stuck in this position with the "Southern" exposure up, which of course made them very vulnerable for an "Attack" from the rear. The other calamity was undue amount of hemorrhoidal problems, as they kept rolling forward and thus spiking the poor dude in front of 'em.....

Here however is the only "Battlefront" sketch that survives the "Top Secret" operation.....



*Ach Du lieber Himmel  
dat schmarts!!!!*

Reprinted from 1st Airborne News  
Spring 1979 issue  
(Confederate Air Force)

THOUGHTS FROM GENERAL MELVIN ZAIS-----

These sentiments were expressed by one of the greatest combat military leaders of any rank in our nation's history and one who was venerated by the men who served with him. As you no doubt know, General Zais died earlier this year and I thought you would like to read what he had written and said about our group....Editor

Here is a reprint of the message sent to the Reunion of 1977 in San Diego, Ca.:

"You men and your families who served with the 517th Combat Team will never tire of the recital of the glorious achievements of your squad, platoon, company, battery, battalion and regiment. You will never be bored, often to the utter amazement of your wives and children, by the constant repetition and occasional exaggeration of your exploits on the field of battle, in the dens of iniquity, in the barracks, in the marshalling area, hooking up, standing in the door, experiencing the opening shock, landing in North Carolina, Georgia or Southern France. You will return to these reunions every other year or whenever you can, a little balder, a little fatter and a lot wiser. The passage of the years will have made you more and more proud of your contribution. Those days of service and comradship will stand out like a beacon on the panorama of your memories, letting you know that once you were brave, tough, strong, independent and an integral part of an outfit whose individual members inspired you and brought out in you heroic qualities that even to this day seem unreal. They make you want to reach back and relive those fleeting moments of personal glory. That is what these reunions are all about. Fortunately our wives understand this reaching back, this love we have for each other, for our military unit and for our country. Often the critics do not understand for they know the price of everything and the value of nothing. We know better. We have planned and saved and sacrificed in order that we might glory in the greatness of the 517th Combat Team."

Here are some excerpts from another letter written to the 517th by General Zais when he was Commander of Allied Land Forces Southeastern Europe in 1975 :

"Since I reported to Camp Toccoa , Georgia in 1943 to activate the Third Battalion, I have had the good fortune to command hundreds of thousands of outstanding soldiers. As I reflect in my mind's eye on the galaxy of men and units with whom I have served, I always return to that gallant, hell-raising, heroic band of troopers that gathered together in Camp Toccoa and Fort Benning to form the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment. I can state categorically after all these years of service that there was never a finer or more gallant unit assembled than the 517th Parachute Combat Team, including the 460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion and the 595th Parachute Combat Engineer Company.. I have been branded by their memory, and I greet all of you here today at our reunion with deepest respect, affection and gratitude."

THIS  
SPACE  
WOULD  
BE  
FILLED  
WITH  
A  
LETTER  
OR  
PHOTO  
FROM  
YOU  
HAD  
YOU  
NOT  
PROCRASTINATED



# THE PARATROOPER

by Jeannie McCombs with revisions by Editor

Between the security of childhood and insecurity of second childhood we find the Paratrooper. Paratroopers are found everywhere, in bars, under bars, behind bars, looking through bars, in trouble, in debt, in the air and in love.

Paratroopers come in assorted sizes, shapes and weights, in states of sobriety, self pride and arrogance.

Girls love them, mothers worry about them, 'Straight legs' envy and avoid them for they know troopers get along only with each other.

The Paratrooper is conceit under a red beret, a millionaire without a cent, bravery with a smile.

The Paratrooper is a composite with the confidence of a swindler, the guts of a burglar, the sincerity of a liar, the appetite of an elephant, the judgment of a daredevil, the aspirations of a Casanova, the stories of a hero. When he wants something, it is usually free beer, more money, a good piece of tail. He dislikes First Sergeants, getting up early, push-ups, running, hot-shot pilots that never hit the DZ, the week before his pay day, his girl's father's curfew and 'legs' wearing jump boots. He likes girls, women, females and all members of the opposite sex. If none of those are available, he likes alcohol and fist-fights.

No one can think of loved ones so often and write so seldom. No one can get so much fun out of jump stories, old jump suits and shining boots. The Paratrooper is a magical creature, you can lock him out of your house, but not out of your heart.



Mike Bulino and Catherine wrote that they had a great time at the reunion and are looking forward to San Mateo in 1983 with even more 596ers. Mike was discharged at the end of the war with a 50% disability and it took him a couple of years to regain his health and strength. He worked a couple of years in coal mines and steel mills and then went into the plumbing and heating business and became a pipe fitter. He then became a self employed welder and for 15 years has repaired railroad tracks for steel mills, paper mills and quarries. For the past 5 years Mike has worked only during the summer months, by choice. Mike and Catherine have three children.

Any of you who would like a 596 patch please send me \$3.00. I am referring to the type of patch you will see in photos in this issue being worn by 596ers at the reunion. (Editor)

I have separated the Roster from the main body of the Newsletter so that you can put it on your desk or someplace where maybe you can find it when you want to write or call someone or send a get-well card or send a cartoon or article to the Editor for the Newsletter.



I have just received a letter from Charles Bonaventura. He retired from the military in 1961 and I located him through the help of the Locator Section of the Army. He has just returned from an extended trip and only just now received the letters and Newsletters that I have been sending for the last four months. Had he known in time he probably would have made the Florida reunion. He wrote that he was very interested in renewing old friendships in the 596. He said that after retiring from the Army he continued working for the Dept. of Defense until he retired once again in 1977. Since then he has traveled as much as possible. He will write more detailed info about himself and family for the next Newsletter.





Fred epitomized the very best of the civilian called by his country to be a temporary soldier. He was small in stature but had amazing physical strength and stamina. He had the heart and courage to dare any challenge and was a natural leader of men. He loved the feel, the rush, the challenge, the camaraderie, and the achievement of being one of the military elite, a paratrooper. Fred was a man's man with a zestful joie de vivre but he also was a man of insight, sensitivity and concern for the welfare of the men under his command. These traits of character won the hearts and loyalty of the men of the 596 Parachute Engineer Company forever. We share the sorrow of his loss and send our deepest sympathies to his wife, Betty, and his four sons and to all those who loved him. Memorial donations in Fred's name can be made to your local chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Messages of condolence should be sent to his family at 18 Shinanomachi,  
Flowers from the men of the 596 Parachute Shinjuku-ku,  
Combat Engineer Company were sent to Fred's Tokyo, Japan 160  
Rosary in Tokyo.

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It is my unhappy duty to report that Don Sherman passed away on 26 October. His wife Charlotte said that shortly after his return home from the Reunion, doctors found that he had a brain tumor and it was surgically removed on 4 September with a very poor prognosis. Don was 57 years old in September and was proud of his service with the 596. Those of you who were at the reunion may remember the fright he gave us all when he passed out in the hotel lobby on the first day and was taken to a hospital. After a couple of hours he was released and fortunately had no further trouble while there. Charlotte said that the get-together with his old friends in Orlando had meant a lot to him. They have two sons and a daughter. Don was a fire protection engineer. Messages of condolence should be sent to his family at: Rt. 1, Box 330A, Burton, WA 98013.

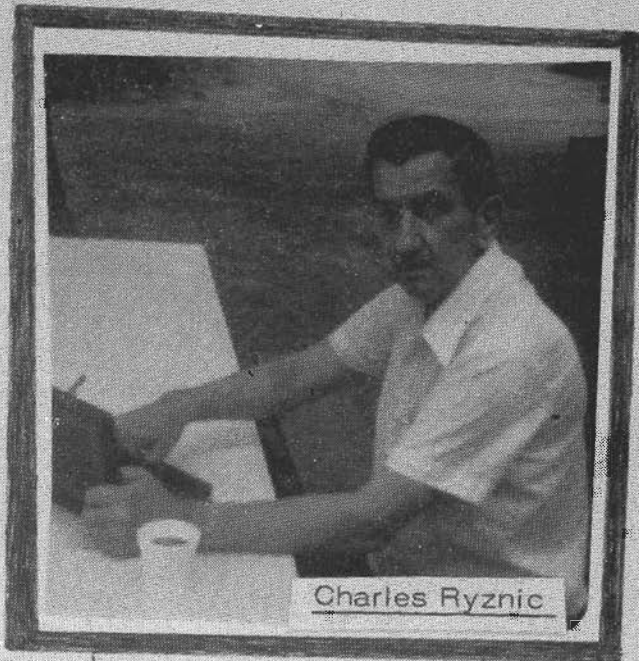
## Here Dead Lie We

A.E. Housman

Here dead lie we because we did not choose  
To live and shame the land from which we sprang,  
Life, to be sure, is nothing much to lose;  
But young men think it is, and we were young.



This photo shows Al and Alice Goodman at the entrance to the U.S. military cemetery at Draguignan, France. Our men, Wikins, Michaels and Coffelt are still buried there. Originally 2500 U.S. servicemen were interred here and presently 800 plus are still there.



Charles Ryznic



### Charles Ryznic

Oct 28, 1920  
SUNDERLAND — Charles Ryznic, 63, of 143 Northwood Apartments and formerly of Amherst, died yesterday in The Cooley Dickinson Hospital.

He was the husband of Arlene A. (Manchester) Ryznic.

Born in Amherst Aug. 2, 1917 he was the son of Blanch (Ciesluk) Ryznic of North Amherst and the late Charles Ryznic.

He had been employed for many years as an explosives expert by the Lane Construction Co. of Amherst.

He attended local schools and was a U.S. Army veteran who served during World War II. He served in the European theatre and was awarded the Purple Heart.

He was a communicant of St. Brigid's Church in Amherst, a life member of Northampton Chapter 92 of the Disabled American Veterans organization, a member of Belchertown Post 8428 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Post 148 of the American Legion in Amherst.

Besides his wife and his mother, he is survived by seven daughters.



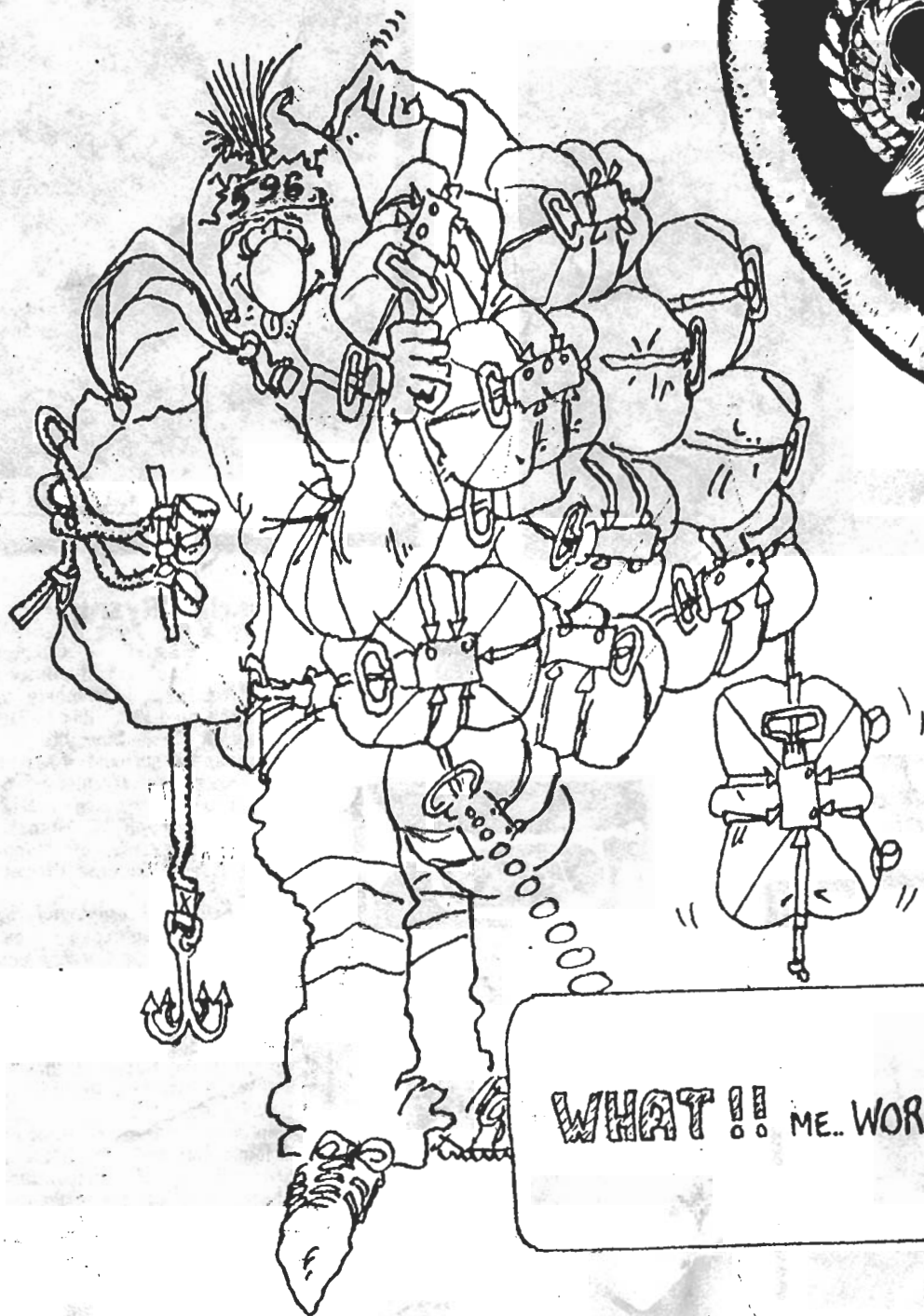
Jesse Floyd



Ernie Coffelt's boots

Bill Wickersham and John Whalen were killed in combat in Korea.

Jesse Floyd was killed in the early 1950's while doing barnstorming exhibition parachute jumping.



He who climbs into a plane,  
and mounts into the blue,  
Then dives to dare the Sea of Air,  
has joined the favored Few.

He has climbed the cloudy mountain-  
He has tasted of the fountain-  
He will never-ever after-  
Be the same again.

Though his landing be with laughter-  
Though he seem like other men-  
He will never-ever after-  
Be the same again.

by George McCulloch

