



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

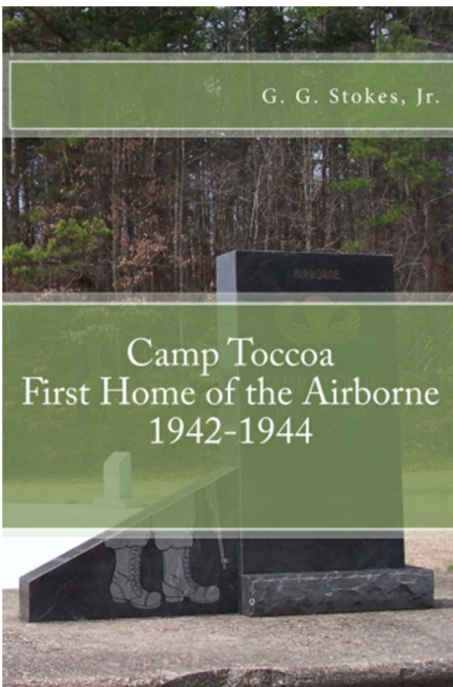
MailCall No. 2045

April 3, 2011

*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

Website www.517prct.org
Mail Call MailCall@517prct.org
Mail Call Archives www.517prct.org/archives
Roster (from 2008) www.517prct.org/roster.pdf

Camp Toccoa book



Many of the veterans of Camp Toccoa have asked if there was anything written [about Toccoa]. I have just released a short, 24 page book, entitled *Camp Toccoa: First Home of the Airborne*, which is now available at the Stephens County Historical Society and online at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.

Attached is an image of the cover with the Camp Toccoa memorial as background. Please let your members know this is now available.



Thank you.

Gerald Stokes –

Visit G.G. Stokes Jr.'s website at: www.georgiawriter.com

[Gerald Stokes is the son of **Pvt. Gerald G. Stokes, G Company.** -- BB]



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From *Paratrooper's Odyssey*:

Returning from a sniper hunt to clean out some woods for his infantry company, Private Gerald G. Stokes, of Tampa, Fla., became separated from his group.

When he bumped into the men from the relieving infantry unit he walked up to the company commander and said:

"What's going on?"

The captain took one look at his "gott mit uns" belt, his iron cross and Nazi bayonet -- all souvenirs -- and immediately put him under arrest as a Nazi suspect.

"I am a paratrooper," yelled Stokes indignantly.

"You're too small to be a paratrooper," replied the Captain.

Stokes was herded back to a prisoner of war pen, probably the most forlorn paratrooper in the history of airborne armies.

There someone recognized him and a few minutes later he was free and boiling mad. He gave the Captain a meaning look as he stalked away.

"It's funny," said the Captain, "I thought he was the first prisoner we had taken with a southern accent."

MailCall News

Dear Ben,

Thank you for responding to my letter. I would like to be added to mailcall and keep up with 517th news. As i mentioned my father passed away in 2007. I'm planning to visit Trois Ponts in 2012 to find the cemetery where my dad was wounded,near Wanne Heights.

Be well,

Bob Gummow
1120 Beacon St.4D
Brookline, Ma 02446
rgumm@comcast.net

I read everything I can find about WWII, particularly as it pertains to Paratroopers - father in law was a member of the 517th from beginning to the end - and thought your readers might be interested in the following site:

http://www.506infantry.org/stories/beyrle_his.htm

Numerous references are also available about the individual under Google search.

Harris Johnson



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We would gratefully appreciate it if you'd give us a clickable link on your website. Please check us out at <http://www.kitchentablegang.org> and if you deem us worthy, then perhaps a link with yours could be established. For more than 22-years we have been helping our veterans and our troops overseas.

The **Kitchen Table Gang Trust** is a rag-tag bunch of military types trying to make life a little more pleasant for our hospitalized veterans at VA Hospitals throughout the United States and our soldiers & Marines deployed overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.

These guys are doing some wonderful things for our veterans and our troops overseas, and it all started with a poker game. (They donated a portion of the pot to help veterans and our active-duty troops – *are you doing anything that cool with your Texas Hold 'Em obsession, hmm?*) These great guys will tell you all about it on their site, and they've got lots of suggestions on how you can express your gratitude to our brave men and women soldiers and Marines deployed overseas. Who knows, they might even be able to help you!

Thank you very much!

Charlie Taliaferro, Director
THE KITCHEN TABLE GANG TRUST
<http://www.kitchentablegang.org>

Subject: 517 PRCT - MailCall No. 2043 - March 20, 2011 (3)

Bob: a great Mail Call. Thank you. (Have been consumed with work and just now catching up).

Pat Seitz

Guestbook Entry:

Submitted by	Comments:
Name: Jeffrey T. Van Ness From: Ft. Lewis, WA E-mail: dumbodriver@yahoo.com	My grandfather was Joseph F. Van Ness B/1/517. Added: March 28, 2011

Recent website additions:

[Charles William Young, C Company](#)
[2nd Battalion - Communications, Mortar and Machine Gunnery](#)
[Pvt. Lloyd R. Johansen](#)
[T/Sgt. Milton J. Hanson at Fort Bragg](#)
[James W. Benson, 596th PCEC](#)



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Administrivia

- If you miss any MailCalls, they are all available online at <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/>
- At any time, if you want to be added or removed from the MailCall list, just let me know.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: MailCall@517prct.org
- If you send me email that you do not want included in MailCall, just label it as FYEO.
- I now understand how Ben could get confused about what he already posted and what he didn't. If I miss something, please just send it again.
- Donations for any programs involving the 517th should be sent to:

Brenda Verbeck Mortensen
13046 Race Track Road #220
Tampa, FL 33626

Annual 517th Reunion (Probably the Last)
July 13-18, 2011, Atlanta, GA
with visits to
Camp Toccoa and Fort Benning

