



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2054

June 5, 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

Mail Call News

RE: Memorial Day

I'm back. Today we celebrate all of the Veterans from the various wars that gave their lives to keep us free, it's called Memorial Day. I mention this as many people just look at today as just a holiday from work. Just received Mail Call #2053 and as usual it's very informative.

Hopefully your list on who signed up for the Atlanta reunion is not up to date. For example Chris Lindner and myself have registered. As this may be our final National Reunion the 59 that signed up is a shock. On that list only 11 Vets have registered. Bob if you will update the list in all future Mail Calls some of us will start calling the people that haven't signed on yet.

As usual our great leader **General Seitz** has been working with **Lory Curtis**, our chairman for the reunion, to get our members to attend. In addition he has worked to get Admiral Mullen to be our Key note speaker at our Banquet. Needless to say his duties may prevent him from coming. That's right up there with getting Vice President Cheney who spoke at our Washington Reunion. Thanks General.

The picture of the Ardennes Cemetery was beautiful. The picture of Lud, Ben Barrett and Gene Frice was priceless. It's wonderful how our foreign friends take such good care of our fallen comrades.

Last I would like to plug Operation Dragoon and encourage you vets to attend this super tribute to all of the units that took part in our combat jump into France. The dates are August 4 - 6, 2011. **Monika Stoy** a retired Army Captain and her husband Tim puts this event on each year in Washington, DC. Hopefully you will hear from her through the Thunderbolt and also in future Mail Calls. It's a event you don't want to miss. Last year Generals Seitz and Grange attended.

Darrell Egner



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Hello Howard,

General Seitz has asked me to get a hold of you to find out any information you may have about Uncle Charlie. You probably have seen in MailCall that Admiral Mullens, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff will be our guest speaker at the reunion. His uncle Charlie was in the 3rd Battalion. Do you know his last name, which company he was assigned to, and any other information would be grateful?

Thanks so much, and hope to see you at the reunion.

Lory Curtis, son of **Bud Curtis**, Hq, 1st Bn

Dear Lory,

First let me congratulate you on being able to get Adm. Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, as your keynote speaker for the Atlanta Reunion. This is an honor the unit deserves but would hardly seem within the realm of possibilities. The fact that it arose through Uncle Charlie, a member of the 3rd Battalion, is coincidence I never expected.

Charles (Chuck Boyer) whose sister, I believe, is Adm. Mullen's mother, was an exemplary airborne soldier throughout training in the States and all 5 or our major battles in Europe. He wore the airborne uniform as though it were made to fit him. He was an extraordinary physical specimen with all the endurance required for our combat missions. His unit was Headquarters 3rd Battalion. He served both in the S2 section and as 1st Sgt. of the Company. In both positions he carried out his duties as an extraordinary professional, including both combat and informational intelligence patrols deep behind enemy lines. As 1st. Sgt. he saw to it that all of the details, including paperwork, moved the company in its missions with extreme efficiency. I can attest to all this personally since Chuck served with me with distinction in the S2 section.

I will now add this, which you may or may not decide to use, in a matter of principle Chuck had a major disagreement with Capt. Pencak then commanding Headquarters 2nd. Rather than knuckle under to the Captains ideas, Chuck turned in his stripes.

Chuck was a devout Catholic and always assisted the Catholic Chaplin in all services. He had a girlfriend back home and wrote her a letter every day. Chuck had a conflict as to whether to enter the priesthood after the war or marry his sweetheart. When he was discharged, he decided on the latter.

It would not be astonishing to all those who knew Chuck in the 3rd Battalion to learn that his nephew had become Chairman of the Joint Chiefs.

Red Maline and I are the only living members who served with Chuck in the S2 section. I regret very much that I will not be able to attend the Reunion because of my physical disabilities which would require the attention of the medical staff here at the Palo Alto VA Facility.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

If Red Maline is able to make it to the Reunion to greet Adm. Mullen as an old friend of his Uncle Charlie, I am sure he will do that.

I wish you and those planning the Reunion the highest airborne regards and success in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Howard Hensleigh

Hi Lory,

My name is Walt Wallgren and I am currently doing the typing for Howard. Unfortunately, I misspelled the name. It is actually **George (Red) Meline**. He is on the roster and is living in Shasta, Ca. He and Chuck were very good friends. Sorry for the confusion.

WW for HH

Thanks so much Walt. I am sure I can speak for everyone in the 517th, we sincerely appreciate what you are doing for Howard. Since you are operating Howard's computer do you know about Skype? It is software that lets anyone with a computer talk to someone else via a videoconference. A remote camera plugs into the USB port and then you can ring each other up, just like a phone call, but with video. I was thinking that we could set up a station at the reunion so that we could ring up people, such as Howard and then he could see us in Atlanta and we could see him. We could talk back and forth and it would be like Howard being at the reunion. What do you think?? One of these cameras costs about \$25-\$50. You can buy them at Office Depot, Office Max or Staples.

Great hearing from you,
Lory Curtis

Hello, Howard / Walt, and Bob Barrett

I accessed the 517th roster and sure enough George Meline's name, address and email are there. I sent an email but got an error message back that said his email was wrong. I sent it to georgemeline@cs.com. It didn't go through. My question is do either of you have a phone number on him or a correct email address???

Lory Curtis

For **Myrle [Travers]**, Well wishes and rapid recovery. All the best,

Paul Abbene



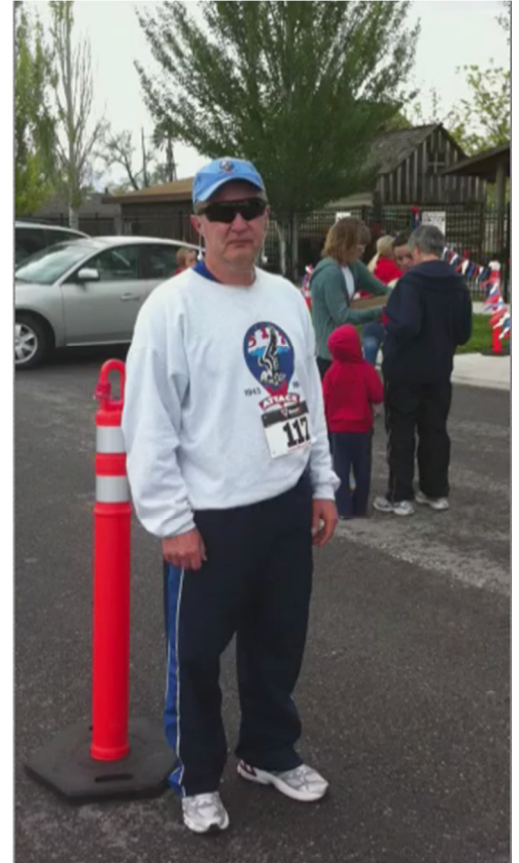
517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Subject: MailCall - Memorial Day, Charles Boyer request

Bob:

Memorial Day:

For Memorial Day I ran a 5K with the intentions of letting folks know of the contributions of the 517th. Attached you'll find a picture of me after the run. I wore a sweater with the 517th patch on the front and a 517th hat I got from the SL reunion. (NOTE: It was COLD that morning; had been raining most of the weekend and it snowed at about 5500 ft and we are at about 4500 ft!) I informed the other runners as to why I was running that day and for whom I ran. This generated some very good conversations. You will notice that my Bib Number was "117." I asked for the # 517 but 117 was the closest I could get; but this request generated another conversation about the unit. During the traditional "moment of silence" before the race, my thoughts were for those of the 517th that did not return home; and then for all who have paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the armed services. I'm sure looking forward to the Atlanta Reunion!



Charles Boyer Request:

With Admiral Mullen accepting to be the Keynote speaker at the banquet, Lory Curtis asked me to check the Morning Reports to see if I'd come across with anything about Admiral Mullen's uncle, Charles Boyer. Attached you'll find a copy of the Morning Report information from I Company that lists Charles Boyer. It appears to be the same person as that referred to by the Admiral, etc. There could be more entries as I'm still working on Companies A, B, C, D, E, Medical, Service Co and the various HQ's. I think Lory will send some of the information to the Admiral.

I've also attached a short video clip but do it just in case you want to us a picture from it instead of the other picture; the guy taking the picture put the camera in video instead of photo mode!

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

Michael S. J. Wells



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Lory:

Here's what I have on Charles BOYER. I have the MR's for F, G, H, I and Regt'l HQ completed; unless my daughter finds some more files that I haven't seen. Regt'l HQ doesn't have many entries. Hope this helps.

	26-Sep-1944	20-Oct-1944	7-Jan-1945
DATE	26-Sep-1944	20-Oct-1944	7-Jan-1945
COMPANY	I	I	I
STATUS			
LAST NAME	Boyer	Boyer	Boyer
FIRST NAME	Charles	Charles	Charles
MI	P	P	P
RANK	PVT	PVT	PVT
CODE	A	?	JI
S/N	37110076	37110076	37110076
MOS	745	7745	7631
LOCATION	2 Kilometers NE Piera-Cava, France	Peira-Cava, France	Bergeval, Belgium 681.968
NOTES	Asgd & jd Co fr Hq Co 3rd Bn this Regt.	fr dy to atchd Hq Co 3rd Bn this regt.	reld fr atchd to Hq Co 3rd Bn this Regt and fr asgd to Co and trfd to Hq & Hq Co this Regt as of 6 Jan 45.

I was able to find George's phone number and I talked with him yesterday, so he is going to provide me with some stories of him and Charlie Boyer. George is trying to come to the reunion but has a rare form of cancer and may not be able to make it. His email on the roster is wrong. I believe his new one is gmeline@gmail.com

Lory

Dear Bob: we just returned from Italy this afternoon. It was a wonderful, beautiful, restorative trip, probably the opposite end of the spectrum of the 517th's experience in Italy back in '44. We did not make it into Salerno, but could see the city and its bay from Ravello where we were staying. Thanks also for the fabulous news about Gen. Mullens' being the guest speaker. This is a marvelous recognition for the 517th. Thank you also for listing the attendees for the reunion; I had planned to call tomorrow as the reunion folks had not cashed our registration check and I was concerned it hadn't been received! Your list took care of my concern. We are looking forward to seeing everyone. Please tell Merle and Betty we are pounding heaven for Merle's speedy recovery.

Pat Seitz and Alan Greer



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Bob,

I just found out how to access military information and medal requests to the Army. This is what they told me. I thought others out there might be interested in the process.

Lory Curtis

From the National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, Mo

Thank you for contacting the National Personnel Records Center. The Privacy Act requires a written release authorization before we can provide copies of the requested document(s). We need complete information to identify and locate the service record: complete name of veteran, branch and approximate dates of service, social security number and service number if one was issued, date and place of birth. We need a signature from the veteran, if deceased, next of kin, date, and include your mailing address. Requesters must provide proof of death, such as a copy of a death certificate, letter from funeral home or obituary.

The following is considered as Next of Kin: un-remarried spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, son and daughter. Individuals not listed may request information releasable under the Freedom Of Information Act. *** For security purposes, we will not accept request via email ***

If you are a veteran, or a deceased veteran's next of kin, the easiest way to submit your request is online at <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>

You may also submit a Standard Form 180 for this request. You can download a copy of the Standard Form 180 from our web site, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>.

You can send a written request that includes the above information.

That request can be faxed or mailed.

FAX: (314) 801-9195

Or

National Personnel Records Center
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

From **Teresa Messina**:

You just have to appreciate this one.

Young people forget that we old people had a career before we retired...

Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Wal*Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10 or 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker; really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded, and a real credit to the company. He obviously demonstrated their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. "Charley," he began, "I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you get here; but your being late so often is quite bothersome."

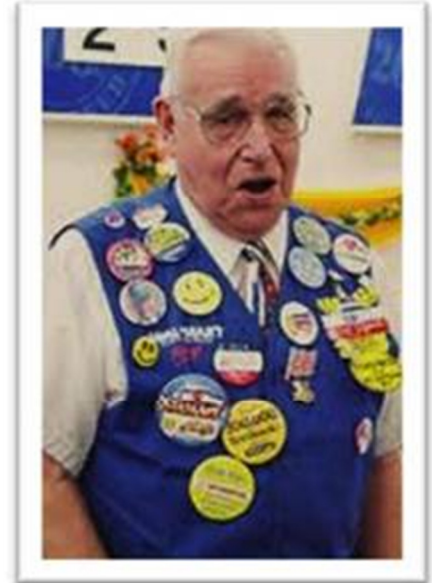
"Yes, I know, boss. I am working on it." Charley replied

"Well, good. You're a team player. That's what I like to hear."

"Yes sir. I understand your concern, and I'll try harder."

Puzzled, the manager went on to comment, "It's odd though, your coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up so late and so often?"

The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled. He chuckled quietly and said with a sheepish grin, "They usually saluted and said, 'Good morning, Admiral, can I get your coffee, sir?'."





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Guestbook Entries

Submitted by	Comments:
Name: Jonathan Slaten From: Wylie, Texas E-mail: kpot5610@verizon.net	I am seeking information from anyone knowing of my uncle James Slaten, B Company, 517th . He was the second 517th member killed in action on June 18th, 1944. Any info would be appreciated by myself and my father. Thanks.
Added: May 31, 2011	

Atlanta Reunion

Count is up to 89, but growing quickly. Sign up now.

First Name	Last Name	Spouse First Name	Vet or Auxiliary?	Company	Count
Dick	Seitz		Vet	HQ 2nd	1
Mel	Dahlberg		Vet	F Co	1
Dan	Perry		Other	HQ 2nd	2
Patricia	Seitz	Alan	Auxiliary Member		2
Lory	Curtis		Auxiliary Member	HQ 1st	1
Bob	Vaught	Patricia	Vet	I	4
Eileen	Broudy	Michael	Other		2
Bruce	Broudy	Liz	Auxiliary Member	A	2
Marvin	Moles		Vet	I	3
George	Spears	Juliette	Vet	F	2
John	Seitz		Other		1
Kaare	Johnson		Vet		2
Patrick	Dunlevy		Other	A	3
Joanne	Barrett		Auxiliary Member		1
Merle	McMorrow	Mardy	Vet	460th - C	2
Richard	Hammel		Vet	E	1
Neil	Blanton		Other		2
Floyd	Immerfall		Auxiliary Member	I	1
Scott	Ross	Deana	Auxiliary Member	I	2
Les	Perkins		Vet	C	1
Paul	Abbene		Auxiliary Member		1
Gene	Frice		Vet	F Co	3
Tom	Copsey		Auxiliary Member	I	1
Ray	Hess		Vet		8
Chris	Lindner		Auxiliary Member		3



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Michael	Lippman		Other		0
Morris	McDowell	Beverly	Auxiliary Member	H	2
Darrell	Egner		Vet	HQ	1
Leo	Dean		Vet	HQ	1
Tim	Curtis		Auxiliary Member		1
Joe	Boyle		Auxiliary Member		1
Charles	Cook	Bernice	Vet	H Btty	2
Jesse	Ross		Other	F	1
Barbara	Boyle		Auxiliary Member, Other		5
Bert	Ross	Lynn	Other		2
Dennis	Sura	Kathleen	Auxiliary Member	H	2
Teresa	Messina		Other		1
James	Mortensen	Brenda	Vet, Auxiliary Member		2
Jeanne	Davis		Auxiliary Member	F Co	1
Myrle	Traver	Betty	Vet	F Co.	2
Gabriel	Delesio		Vet	460 Battery C	3
Paul	Barrett		Other		1
Wade	Gilbert		Auxiliary Member	F Co	2
Kay	Bowman		Daughter (John Jonientz)		1
dawn	eckart		Other	I	1
Kathy	Perkowski		Other		1
Robert	Kennedy	Ruth	Vet	F	4

89

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