



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2086

December 24, 2011

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

Website
Mail Call
Mail Call Archives
Roster (from 2008)

www.517prct.org
MailCall@517prct.org
www.517prct.org/archives
www.517prct.org/roster.pdf

Christmas, December 1944

Forwarded via Facebook from [AIRBORNE MUSEUM "15 Aout 1944" Association](#) and [Jean Michel Soldi](#)

Christmas, 1944 - The Battle of the Bulge - Video from the Central Florida WW II Museum.



The Battle of the Bulge represented Hitler's final attempt to stop the Allied advance into the industrial areas of Germany. This is the story of Christmas in 1944.



See the full video [here](#)



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

From:



[Le 517th PIR dans la bataille des Ardennes](#)

par Jérôme ~ 23 décembre 2011



See more photos at: [Le 517th PIR dans la bataille des Ardennes](#)



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MailCall News

Dear friends of America,

May you know the Love, Happiness and Joy of the Holy Family this Christmas and for the year to come. Wishing you peace and sweet times now and through a bright new year. With Love, gratitude and respect.

Maria Gaspar, Irma and Arnold Targnion and the members of CADUSA - Trois-Ponts Belgium



Thank you Emmie McDonald - a note on Kissimee and the Mortensens

An earlier note on **Jim Mortensen's** hospitalization, over two weeks as I write this, didn't make it into MailCall, but when **Emmie McDonald** learned that he was so ill she stepped up to the plate. It's unlikely, due to the recuperation period Jim will need when he is finally released from the hospital, and we don't yet know when that will be, that we will be able to be on site in Kissimee. I will continue to handle the registration but Emmie and her daughter, Keith Barry, will be working with **Helen Beddow** on site to organize and "staff" the hospitality room. Thank you so much Emmie and Keith.

As for Jim, his first hospitalization since the one following the Bulge resulted from a combination of the following: a bit of pneumonia, a small heart attack, some heart failure, and a systemic infection. Two stents were successfully inserted but kidney complications due to the dye led to his current location in ICU benefitting from dialysis. He's doing much better. His nurse all but did a happy dance when he gave me the report of last night.

It's notable that when the doctor, in giving Jim the diagnosis of his various ills said, "Mr. Mortensen, you have a weak heart." Jim replied, "I can't possibly have a weak heart, I'm a paratrooper."

A Blessed Christmas to you all.
Brenda Verbeck Mortensen

Brenda,

My sincere apologies that I didn't get the previous note into MailCall. I just found it as I was organizing this week's. Please know that Jim is in my thoughts and prayers. Keep us posted.

Bob Barrett



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

I just want to wish you and all of your readers a very Merry Christmas. Thanks to the 517th, 460th and the 596th men for fighting through that cold winter to defeat Hitler's forces. You truly changed history for millions of people. I'm glad that I got to meet you at the reunions and make some new friends. I also wish you a happy and healthy New Year!

Son of a Buzzard
Rick Sweet

Christmas Greeting

To all my 517th comrades and their families best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a New Year that fulfills all the hopes and dreams you have for it. You are the best.

Dick Seitz


I'm outta here!

Since my return to Dixieland some 9 years ago, I've disposed of all my winter clothes, as we don't have winters here. I swore I'd never go north of the Mason Dixon line in the wintertime, but, I'm leaving in the morning to go North to help Santa with his last minute details...of course, I'll probably stop in New Hampshire to visit with one of my daughters and one of my sons, and I just maybe stay there instead of going on to the North Pole...especially, since my daughter's house has a big fireplace! But, I'm such a 'suthern' boy now, I have grits in my veins, hate to think of going to Yankee Land, but, my ticket is in my hands, and my limo is picking me up at 9 AM in the morning.

So, what I really want to say is hold all those cards and letters, telegrams and phone calls, and especially your e-mails until I get back on the 30th. And, until then, y'all have a

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!!!

phil mc spadden

Submitted by	Comments:
Name: Greg Glunz From: Wisconsin E-mail: gregory.glunz@stantec.com	I am in search of information, photos, stories, etc. regarding a friend's father, pfc. Harold T. Ross, Battery D of the 460th PFAB. If anyone has anything to share his daughter and I would greatly appreciate hearing from you. Added: December 22, 2011 
Name: Shirley Redcay E-mail: sredcay@hotmail.com	My uncle Edward Ries, currently living in Venice, FL. was part of the 517th. Added: December 19, 2011



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517 PRCT Florida Mini-Reunion – January 14-16 2012

[Click here to download info and registration form](#)

For further information contact
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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 our new Association Treasurer: Identify the purpose of any donation (Annual Dues, etc.) and make all checks payable to:

517 PRCT Association, Inc.
c/o Joanne Barrett
70 Pleasant Street
Cohasset, MA 02025

