



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2122

September 16, 2012

*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

Marvin Moles, I Company



Diane and Mark Lynch, Donna Shelton and Teresa Jones (St. Louis, MO 517th Reunion) and the rest of **Marvin Moles'** children and family are happy/saddened to inform you of our hero's passing. He passed peacefully surrounded by his children singing to him the same song that

was being sung when his beloved 'Shorty' passed. We are happy that he is finally reunited with his beloved wife of 56 years and with Jesus, whom he served so faithfully after He answered Dad's prayer to bring him safely home from the war.

We are also so very happy that he found the 517th after Mom passed. The reunions gave him so much joy. He will be greatly missed by all.

Donna (Moles) Shelton
St. Louis, MO



Marvin Moles, left, with the help of his daughter, Diane Lynch, pins Airborne wings on a graduate of the Basic Airborne Course at Fort Benning Friday morning during a graduation ceremony. Moles, a paratrooper with the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team in World War II, was among the group of former paratroopers visiting Fort Benning Friday morning as part of a reunion.

July 2011



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Moles Sr., Marvin Davis, 89

Marvin Davis Moles joyfully entered into heaven on Friday, September 14th. He was born on March 7, 1923 in Floyd County, VA to Bethlehem and Lucy Moles and he married the love of his life, Edna Boothe Moles in 1943. He served in the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team in WWII and fought in Italy, Southern France and was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge in Belgium. He was awarded a Silver Star, Purple Heart and other combat medals and enjoyed visiting with his fellow paratroopers and their families and friends from France at the 517th reunions. He was President and co-owner of Air Control Corporation until his retirement. He was a member of Abundant Life Ministries in Pulaski for over 50 years.

He was predeceased by his parents, a sister, Lora Moles and his wife of 54 years, Edna. He leaves to cherish his memory his children and their spouses: Joan and Rev. Howard Starling, Gibsonville, N.C., Marvin Jr. and Elaine Moles, Gene and Debbie Moles, Pulaski, VA, Donna and Rev. Rick Shelton, St. Louis, MO, Diane and Mark Lynch, Salem, VA, Teresa and Rob Jones, St. Louis, MO.

His grandchildren are: Brady and Becky Moles, Keri and Scott Peterson, Chad and Kelly Moles, Jeffrey, Josh and Tori, Gabe and Garrett Shelton, Heather and Brady Torrence, Robbie, Tori and Micaela Jones. His great grandchildren are Ben Moles, Ellie Peterson, Bethany Moles, Miles, Lila, Ansley and Monroe Shelton.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters: Mae Page, Neva Eversole, Harris and Crystaline Moles, Nelcie and Melvin Compton, Iva Gardner, Lois Edmonds, Clyde and Marsha Moles, Frances Worrell, Shasta Sue Moles and Esther Beth Moles. He is also survived by his brother-in-laws and sister-in-laws: Ann Jones, Nancy Bragg, Jimmy and Betty Boothe, Jean and Joyce Huff, Christine and Gary Horton, and Joe and Mary Boothe. He is also survived by many nephews and nieces and their families and numerous friends.

Stevens Funeral Home is handling arrangements. The family will receive friends from 5 to 8 PM on Monday, September 17th at Abundant Life Ministries on Route 11, Pulaski, VA. The funeral service will at Abundant Life Ministries on Tuesday, September 18th at 11:00 AM with burial following at Highland Memory Gardens, Dublin, VA. Marvin and his family requests that in lieu of flowers memorials be made to his beloved 517th PRCT, c/o Joanne Barrett, 70 Pleasant Street, Cohasset, MA 02025 to carry on the legacy of the 517th's service or a Veteran's Charity of your choice.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Entry of Feb 01, 2004 at 18:49 [EST]

Name: Jean Loup

Unit:

E-Mail: schyzowolf@yahoo.fr

How I found the 517th page: unknown

Comments: I live in southern France and have a paratrooper helmet from the 517th with the name Moles written on it. Apparently this would be the helmet of PFC MARVIN O. MOLES . If anybody has any information whatsoever about this person, please inform me! I would love to hear from you.

Jean Loup

[The Full Story of Marvin Mole's Helmet](#)



Sam Mortaro and Marvin Moles
at Camp MacKall



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

PFC Melvin Jarmin, G Company

I regret to inform former members and family of 517th PRCT of the death of my father, **PFC Melvin L Jarman**, 3d Plt G Co 3d Bn. He passed away Monday 4 September and will be laid to rest on Saturday 8 September in Wilmington DE. His obituary is attached.

He was proud of his service and spoke of the 517th and his experiences there frequently. Thank you for being his friends and fellow soldiers. God bless you all and God Bless America.

Charles M. Jarman

LTC USAR Retired

Proud Son of **PFC Melvin L Jarman**

3d Platoon, G Company 3d Battalion

517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Melvin L. "Mel" Jarman

Mr. Melvin L. Jarman, known fondly as "Mel," age 89, of New Castle, DE, passed away on Tuesday, September 4, 2012, at Christiana Hospital.

A native Delawarean, Mr. Jarman was born in Wilmington on October 26, 1922, son of the late Charles Jarman and Mittie Mae Holmes. He proudly served his country as a paratrooper in the US Army with the 517th Regimental Combat Team during World War II and fought bravely in the famed Battle of the Bulge.

For injuries sustained in battle and courage under fire, he was awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. In civilian life, Mr. Jarman made his career as an electrician with Amtrak, where he retired after 40 years of service.

Mr. Jarman was a devout Christian throughout his life and a longtime member of the Pike Creek Bible Church, where he volunteered with the prison ministry.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 55 years in 1997, Emma E. Doberstein Jarman. He is survived by his children, Florence Jarman of New Castle, Melva Fontello (Paul) of Dover, Charles Jarman (Mary Ann) of Webster, NY, Linda Jarman of Newark, Nancy Micsko (Charles) of Mays Landing, NJ, Stephen Jarman of New Castle, and The Rev. John Jarman (Pam) of Lynchburg, VA; grandchildren, Cindy Atallian (Mike), Donna Dowd (James), Paula Fontello (Michael Van Orden), Melissa Fontello, Paul Fontello II (Sonia), Suzanne Urick (Tim), Joshua Fontello (Chiexyle), Matthew Jarman (Janet), Lisa McLaughin (Dave), Bradley Jarman, Brandon Jarman, Derrick Jarman, Anthony Jarman, Brooke Jarman, Kaitlyn Jarman, and Hunter Jarman; 17 great grandchildren; 2 great great grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 6 pm to 8 pm on Friday, September 7, 2012, at the Spicer-Mullikin Funeral Home, 1000 N. DuPont Parkway, New Castle. A funeral service will be held at 10 am on Saturday, September 8, 2012, at Pike Creek Bible Church, 199 Polly Drummond Hill Road, Newark, where a second visitation will be held from 9 am to 9:45 am. Interment will follow in Gracelawn Memorial Park, 2220 N. DuPont Parkway, New Castle. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Mr. Jarman may be made to the [American Diabetes Association](#), 100 W. 10th St., Ste. 1002, Wilmington, DE 19801.



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Donald E. Walker, B Company



Donald Edwin Walker passed away August 23, 2012, at the age of 89. Services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, August 27, 2012, at Lunn's Colonial Funeral Home with Reverend John Dillard of First United Methodist Church officiating. Interment will follow in Crestview Memorial Park under the direction of Lunn's Colonial Funeral Home.

Donald was born on September 19, 1922, in Hawkins, Texas, to parents Bart and Louise Walker and was raised in the Piney Woods of East Texas.



He volunteered for the paratroops after he was told he would never have to wear a tie. He was assigned to the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team, Company B and was sent to Italy in May of 1944. He fought in several major battles in the European Theater, including the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star.

Donald was a steamfitter by trade and soon after his discharge, worked at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, where he met and married Virginia "Ginger" Paschall. He made his home in Wichita Falls, however, his profession required considerable travel, building power houses, refineries, etc., and included a very interesting period from 1946-1952, working in Los Alamos, New Mexico. Donald also enjoyed hunting, fishing, motor homing and gardening.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Anna Louise Williams. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, six nieces and four nephews. Pallbearers include great nephews Bill, John, George and Paul Paschall.

The family will receive friends and family from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, August 26, 2012, at the funeral home.

The family would like to thank the staffs at The Gables at Rolling Meadows and Hospice of Wichita Falls for the wonderful care Donald received.

Memorials may be made to First United Methodist Church, 909 10th St. (at Travis St), Wichita Falls, Texas, 76301; Hospice of Wichita Falls, P.O. Box 4804, Wichita Falls, Texas, 76308; or the charity of your choice.

Condolences to the family may be made online at www.lunnscolonial.com.



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MailCall News

Dear All,

Today the 3rd of September were organized the official commemoration of the liberation of the Principality of Monaco.

In that occasion, the MVCG Cote d'Azur organized a very interesting show, right on the front of the Monaco Palace with US WWII army Camp, Jeeps, GMC and other vehicles.

The camp was officially visited yesterday by Princess Caroline who arrived with her own WWII Dodge Command Car (belonged to Prince Rainier before), wearing proudly her own armories and the 517th PIR markings (F Co.) on the bumpers!!!



Wishing you all the best,

Frédéric Brega





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Note from the Editor:

Some of you may have noticed that I did not get a MailCall delivered last week, Sept. 9th. The last MailCall was #2121 from Sept 2nd. Furthermore, #2121 had delivery troubles which I wrestled with for a week. I'm pretty sure that some of you, especially the 7th and 8th mailing groups may not have ever received that MailCall. If so, you can read it [here](#).

In the end, I could never find a good reason that some internet email services try to block the MailCall's as spam. But in most cases, if I just wait a week, and things clear themselves up.

While I fought with the internet, more MailCall news kept coming in and I got behind. I think I got everything important into this MailCall, but if I missed something, please send it to me again.

I do have some materials from **Theresa Pugh** via **Steve Markle**, and some 596th chronicle from **Merle McMorrow** that I will get to soon.

I hope this one gets delivered.

-- Bob Barrett

Bob: Thanks to you and Darrell for the dues reminder. Have just put a stamp on the envelope with our check addressed to Joanne.

Please give our thanks to **Irma and Arnold Targnion** for the pictures. The way they take care of all visitors is beyond fabulous. What they did for Dad, Alan and me when we visited Belgium in 2005 was magnificent. I hope that **Theresa Pugh** has an opportunity to get up to Belgium in addition to visiting Le Muy -- **Eric and Michel** are incredible folks as well. So glad she is in contact with them. No words can do justice to describing our 2005 trip. I hope everyone has the opportunity to visit and see how faithfully dedicated to beautifully preserving the history of our "Band of Brothers" the wonderful folks in France and Belgium are.

Am so thrilled to see how well Saints and Soldiers is doing. Any chance that it might show in the Miami area?

The Seitz clan is heading to Kansas for the Friday naming of the new elementary school at Ft. Riley, Ks after Dad. Dad told us the ceremony would be low key, but we have just learned that former Defense Secretary Gates is coming as well as Kansas' U.S. Senators. Thus, Alan and I have promised to be on our best behavior -- unlike the "mischievous" paratroopers of the 517th PRCT.

Pat Seitz and Alan Grier



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Thank you for the note. Please do add me to the MailCall list.

I knew your dad. I think i met him here at the big dinner in 1998... Well not exactly sure which year. But the year of the big DC parade.

I did the collating and mailing of wings newsletters from the age of 11 to about 25 and a few after that when i visited. He always mischievously had them ready to be collated and addressed or put labels on them when i was in town even as an adult in my 30s. I always groaned but honestly it was a great thing we shared. I read them even if much was beyond my age or level of genuine appreciation.

I am curious, what occupations do Eric and Jean Mikael have that allow them to do this as volunteers. It is quite remarkable. I assume they live in the town. Jean Mikael told me that they both had grandmothers scheduled to be executed when our dads arrived. (i am not positive if my dad was there or at nice airport. I know he was at Sospel).

Let me know your address and i will mail the flash drive.

Do you know anything about the 2013 reunions? Do you have any photos of their august celebrations?

I wonder if they want me to get Army Times or Stars and Stripes to run a story. I live in Dc.

Theresa Pugh

For **M. Kaare Allan Johnson**, President of the 517th RCT association.

Dear President,

I write to you because I'm member of an important reenactment association in Southern France: "Forty Four Memories" and I organize (like every years) a two days of reenactment commemoration in honor of 517 soldiers who fell during Col de Braus fights.

This event will be in October, the 27th and 28th.

In 2009, last President **Merle Mc Morrow** wrote to me an official letter, sent by postal services to sponsor (officialize) this event.

Me and my young comrades will be very happy and honored if you accept to write to me the same letter.

Thanks for all,

Nicolas Arnulf

2418 Chemin de Montagnac
06440 l'Escarène,
FRANCE



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Hello 517th PRCT Troopers and family, Airborne all the way!

Bob, please add me to the Mailcall list at dannieperry@att.net

I met some of you at the JULY 2011 reunion in Atlanta GA. Unfortunately I had to choose between my professional conference and the reunion in Kansas City MO this year. 2 years ago, March 2010, we discovered that our father, **Cpl. Floyd R. Perry**, was awarded the Purple Heart w/1 oak leaf cluster for wounds received in Jan 1945 in Belgium while assigned to HQ Co. 2nd BN 517 PRCT as a mortar crewman. This led me to your wonderful website where I discovered that he was on the DEC 1944 C-Mass Roster and in the "Documents, History and Archives" section. I found his name on the photocopy of the mimeographed copy of the, General Order # 22, orders for the Combat Infantryman Badge for soldiers assigned to the 517th PIR dated 15 NOV 1944. This raises several questions as to his exact assignment to the unit. In order to be eligible for the CIB you must first be assigned as an infantryman to a combat unit for at least 90 days which 90 days prior would put him with the unit during the 15 AUG 1944 invasion of S. France. According to other records and research he was previously assigned to the 1178th MP Co. Aviation with the 15th AAF Service Command in Foggia Italy as an MP as early as NOV 1943 and I don't believe that MP's are considered Infantry eligible for the CIB. I am attempting to determine if he was with the 517th PIR/PRCT during Operation Dragoon and if he is entitled to recognition as having been part of the S. France campaign, neither of which are listed on the WD AGO 53-55 Service Record that we found at the Indiana State Library Archives 2 years ago? My brother and I are having a current reconstruction of his DD-214 done and we are attempting to get it as correct and complete as possible. He died in July 1961 in a VA hospital in Indianapolis Indiana when we were babies and in the late '70's we were told the story of his records perishing in the 1974 Fire in St. Louis MO. I had asked Mike Wells about the project with the 'Morning Reports' and at the time of the Atlanta reunion HQ Co. 2nd Battalion morning reports or casualty reports had not been researched or transcribed or made available. Any assistance with these questions would be greatly appreciated.
Dan Perry

Also I would like to share with your members and enthusiasts that I frequent a web-site that folks trade and sell military items. <http://www.usmilitariaforum.com/> I ended up purchasing this presentation cup to **Gen Melvin Zais**. I am either going to add it to my father's memorial display or pass it on to family members of Gen Zais or someone who may be more interested in it than I am. The following post and PIC was copied from that site. If there is some interest in this item my e-mail address is listed below.

"Gen Melvin Zais presentation pewter cup.
Offered for your consideration is a pewter cup given to General Melvin Zais from the Commandant of The U.S. Army War College in Carlisle Pennsylvania. This cup bears the engraved inscription as well as a monogram on the reverse. The cup is a little bent at the rim, but can be easily bent back by its new owner if so desired.

General Melvin Zais had quite the career....





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General Melvin Zais (May 8, 1916 – May 7, 1981) was a United States Army general.

General Zais attended the University of New Hampshire and graduated with a B.A. in Political Science. In 1937 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. He attended the U.S. Command and General Staff College, and was also a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College, and the National War College. He was promoted to Brigadier General, June 1, 1964; Major General, May 1, 1967; and Lieutenant General, August 1, 1969. He was named Commanding General, Allied Land Forces, Southeast Europe, Turkey, effective August 1973 following his promotion to General on July 13 the month prior.

He was a veteran of World War II and Vietnam War. His assignments included Commander, 1st Infantry Division, United States Army, Vietnam, 1966; Director of Individual Training, Office, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C., 1966–68; Commanding General, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile), U.S. Army, Vietnam, 1968–69; Commanding General, XXIV Corps, U.S. Army, Vietnam, 1969–70; Director for Operations, J-3, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C., 1970–72; Commanding General, Third Army, 1972–73

In 1940 he was a member of the original Parachute battalion later the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment. During World War II, Zais was the Executive Officer of the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, fighting in Italy, in southern France and in the Battle of the Bulge. During his command of the 101st Airborne Division in Viet Nam, they fought the Battle of Hamburger Hill.”

Dannie Perry, (SGT. E-5 US Army Self-Propelled Field Artillery Turret Mech. 82-87)
Son of **Cpl. Floyd R. Perry**, HQ Co. 2nd BN 517th PRCT
dannieperry@att.net

Hi Bob,

Received many materials in the mail from **Ponnie Davis**. They include a copy of the Official Program of the D-Day Conneaut, Ohio, Reenactment in the Invasion of Normandy, France, photos Ponnie took during the event (with her comments on the backs), and a personal letter of Ponnie explaining what she witnessed.

I took the liberty to re-type Ponnie's hand-written letter into a Word document and only added/changed a few items so readers might understand the content a little better. However, I will enclose Ponnie's actual letter so you can make your own decisions as to what should go in Mail Call. I am attaching a copy of "my" re-written letter to this email.

All of this is being sent Priority Mail today from Green Bay, WI.

This looks like an event I would like to attend in the future. Perhaps the Conneaut coordinators would care to respond to Mail Call in some fashion.

Kenton Immerfall
Nephew of **Floyd A. Stott**
1st Lt. "I" Co, 3rd Bat, 517th PRCT



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

August 23, 2012

Thank you for recommending me to Eric Montgomery, Veterans' coordinator of the D-Day Invasion (Reenactments) in Conneaut, Ohio, on August 17-18. Conneaut is a 68-mile drive from Cleveland. (*Ponnie lives in Cleveland, OH*)

I was asked to be guest-speaker to announce the Airborne Creed movie, "*Saints and Soldiers.*"

It was truly a weekend to remember, forever. There were 760 volunteers dressed in military uniforms, nurses, factory-workers, ladies in 1940's fashions, and a "Lana Turner" guest singer. The event was attended by 10,000 (or more) visitors.

There was a big parade for the raising of the flag ceremony. Squads were marching. There were a lot of military vehicles from WW II tanks, cars, and military equipment all over, including a German kitchen on wheels, automobiles, and bikes.

It looked like tent-city to me. There was an occupied French Axis camp, an English Allied camp, and a French Resistance camp.

There was constant warfare. The *La Fiere Stone Bridge Battle*, the *Foucarville Battle*, and the *Normandy Landing* were some of the reenactments. I counted 20 boats dropping off soldiers on our *Lake Erie* shore, 75 air flights, and constant gun fire.

When I was taken to the German camp and saw all of those soldiers in German uniforms, I actually felt frightened. I know I was frightened because my mood ring turned black. Probably was a throwback of memories of 1944 just thinking about my brothers. I guess it was the (German) uniforms.

There were golf carts and small buses transporting people from one battle field to another. There were a lot of educational talks and several veterans told their stories. There were many vendors selling all kinds of World War items.

I was so excited when I received the call (from Eric Montgomery) at 2:00 in the afternoon (a day or two before August 17). I drove to Perry, Ohio, so my son (David) would drive me there (Conneaut) for Thursday night's movie. Friday and Saturday I knew the way and didn't even get lost.

Sincerely,

Ponnie Lewis-Davis

hi my name is neil Blanton. i would like to see about getting 4 sets of your challenge coins. i need to see how to go about that.

thank you

neil



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Hi Bob,

Since the movie premier here in Salt Lake City August 17th, I have really been super busy. I have been reading all of the mailcalls, and I just have to say you do such a great job with this site. I look forward to seeing it every week. Thank you so much for your time and effort to keep it going. You are the Best!!!

During the premier here in Salt Lake **Hoyt Kelley** attended with is family. He was the S-2 NCO in 1st BN. And, much to my surprise a good friend who I met through mailcall, **Alex Mendoza** (a paratrooper himself) drove all the way from Southern California with his two sons to attend the premier. Wow, I was just taken back by his dedication and interest in the 517th Association. His uncle was with my Dad in Headquarters, 1st BN, and so Alex and I have developed just a wonderful friendship. In fact in a recent email he told me this:

"I would like to thank you for writing " Letters Home: A paratrooper's Story" it brings the story of the 517TH to life. I mentioned to my Aunt a movie was made about the 517TH she stood quiet, I could tell emotions went through her mind. My uncle seldom mentioned what the 517th went through my aunt said it was bad. Unfortunately, my uncle is not alive to see his unit come to the big screen but, the legacy will live on."

Alex Mendoza AIRBORNE!

Finally, along the freeway here in Utah are billboards of the movie so it is getting much publicity here. See the attached photos.

Airborne!

Lory Curtis, son of **Bud Curtis**, HQ, 1st BN





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Good morning Bob from very sunny and very hot Draguignan

As promised, please find attached a couple of photos of 'my Boys', sorry that's what I call them it's very English I know but that's what they are for me The Boys this month are Ernest, Herbert, Patrick and Henry all from the 596 ENGR CO 517 PRCHT RCT.

If anyone can give me any info or photos on any of them it would be wonderful and would really help us in telling their stories.

All the best to everyone

Regards

Alison

ALISON LIBERSA
CEMETERY ASSOCIATE
AND CERTIFIED INTREPRETIVE PRESENTER
RHONE AMERICAN CEMETERY
553 BOULEVARD JOHN F. KENNEDY
83300 DRAGUIGNAN





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Donald E. Walker, B Company, passed on August 23, 2012. He was 89. **Virginia (Ginger) Walker** has spoken to me about how much it meant to him to stay connected to the 517, once they could no longer travel to reunions, through *The Thunderbolt*, which she would read to him cover to cover each time it was received. Some of you in B Company may have some memories to share and additionally, a number of you have enjoyed the Walkers at past reunions.

Virginia (Ginger) has asked for your prayers. This is of course a very difficult time for her. Donald was in a nursing home for the past several years and she rarely left his side. She does not receive email but would certainly appreciate cards and letters. Her address: 2209 Shepherd St., Wichita Falls, TX.

What follows is an aside from me:

My recent talks with Virginia have made me realize that we do have people who want so very much to stay connected but are not online and do not receive Mail Call. We decided at our meeting in Kansas City that it was important to identify people who are not online because mailing *The Thunderbolt* is a large expense and many of us would be fine with receiving it online, but it would need to be mailed to those who can't. Once we have those names, and I imagine it is not THAT many, I wonder if it would be possible to send out a regular mailing to those folks, perhaps every other month, of excerpts from Mail Call. (I can hear you saying, "...that sounds fine Brenda, and how would you like that job). I'm not yet volunteering but I think it's a good conversation to have.

Brenda Verbeck Mortensen

Subject: Re: 517th Parachute Combat Team - **James M McFadden**

Hello Bob

Is it safe to assume that nobody has any information on my grandfather? I am heading to Germany in two weeks. Would love to know.

Thanks,

John

Sorry John,

I did post your note in a MailCall newsletter, www.517prct.org/mailcall/2116.pdf, but I did not get any responses back. You mentioned **Charley Pugh** as a friend of your grandfather. Charley was a very active member of the 596th and 517th alumni, but unfortunately, he passed away many years ago. We do hear from his daughter Theresa occasionally.

I will post you reminder again, in case anyone missed it.

Bob Barrett



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Un autre Vétéran nous quitte...

C'est avec tristesse que nous apprenons la disparition le 30 aout dernier de notre ami le

Baron Robert Reiber,

il était probablement le dernier survivant du 5em bataillon Ecossois Parachutiste parachuté au sein de la 2em Brigade Britannique. Son avion fera parti de la vague éparpillée au Nord du Mitan, parachuté vers 5 heures du matin le 15 AOut 1944 entre Bargemon et Fayence.

Venu dès 1994 nous rendre visite pour l'inauguration du Musée, il reviendra avec sa fille Marie pour le 60em ou il sera fait chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur par Hubert Falco lors de la cérémonie de La Motte. Sa dernière venue fut pour le 65em anniversaire, ou déjà fatigué il se battait contre la maladie. Sincères condoléances à la famille, qu'elle soit certaine que nous continuerons à honorer sa mémoire.

Jean Michel SOLDI & Eric RENOUX,
"15 Aout 1944" Airborne Task Force Museum Association
SUD FRANCE



Another Veteran passed away..

*We have the regret to inform that **Baron Robert REIBER** died on the 30th last august. He was probably one of the last paratrooper of the 5th Scottish battalion from the British Parachute Brigade landed at about 5.00 AM on the 15th of august 1944. His plane was scattered 10 miles north of the drop Zone, between Bargemon and Fayence.*

He came to visit us for the Museum inauguration in 1994, he came back for the 60th and was awarded by the French minister at La Motte ceremony, the last visit with his daughter Mary was for the 65th already fighting against cancer.

He always host a special place in our hearts, and we will continue to honorate his memory. our deepest condolences to the family.

any email messages will be forwarded via : anvil-dragon@hotmail.com

Jean Michel SOLDI & Eric RENOUX
"15 Aout 1944" Airborne Task Force Museum association.
Southern France



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Submitted by

Name: **David Becker**

From: Hot Springs,
Arkansas

E-mail:

beckerdavid81@yahoo.com

Comments:

I am the son-in-law of **PFC Robert A. Pitts**. I married his youngest daughter, Gwendolyn Diane Pitts (Di). He passed away November 2004.

He was a very quiet man and a well of patience. He worked for ACIPCO(American Cast Iron and Pipe Company) in Birmingham, Alabama for 44 years after his returning from his tour of duty.

He married Gwendolyn Sims and had 2 beautiful daughters, Janet and Diane. They each married. Janet has two sons, Connor and Alex and Diane has two daughters, Ruth and Sarah.

God bless all who had any part in seeing him back home safely. In the 24 years that I knew him, I grew to love and admire him very much. He was a wonderful father and grandfather. In his spare time he made furniture as a hobby and was a craftsman. Items that he made, with his own 2 hands, I will cherish for the rest of my life.

I remember a story he shared, with me, of his experiences overseas. As he was sharing the story, I noticed that my wife and mother-in-law had stopped watching the TV and were listening with open mouths to his recollection of his experiences on the front line. I was in the service, at the time, and could understand his story. They had never heard him speak of it before. I asked and wanted to know his history.

He was in a commo section running wire from command tent to command tent while German 88's whizzed overhead. He also told stories of guarding German POW's. He injured his back and was sent to the rear area to recover. When he return to the front, the men in the squad he served with were dead and gone. He shared with me the desire to see them again one day.

I have never known a more humble and caring man. He is and will always be a hero to me.

God bless you all.

Admin reply: PFC Pitts was in HQ Co, 2nd Battalion.

Added: September 6, 2012

Submitted by

Name: **Gary Burris**

From: North Carolina

E-mail:

burris940@yahoo.com

Comments:

Just trying to learn as much about my grandfather. **Ralph M Loving Sr.** from South Carolina. He passed 10-13-93

Added: September 3, 2012



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

CHER MONSIEUR

Je m'appelle Marion et je suis passionnée par la seconde guerre mondiale depuis l'âge de 9ans

Ce sont mes grands parents qui me l'ont faite découvrir

Excusez moi de ne pas vous écrire en anglais mais il n'est pas très correct.

Je vous écris ce mail car j'aimerais entrer en contact avec des vétérans du 507 prct pour avoir leur témoignages et une photo dédiée

Si cela est possible pour vous et si les vétérans sont d'accord bien entendus.

Pourriez vous s'il vous plait leurs transmettre mon mail .

Vous remerciant à l'avance de votre réponse

Ps : je suis également militaire.

Sincerely Marion FAVA

DEAR SIR

My name is Marion and I am passionate by the second world war since the age of 9 years

These are my grandparents who have made me discover

Excuse me for not writing to you in English, but it is not very correct.

I am writing this email because I want to contact PRCT 507 veterans for their testimony and an autographed photo

If it is possible for you and if the veterans agree well together.

Could you please their transmettent my mail.

Thanking you in advance for your answer

Ps: I am also military.

Sincerely Marion FAVA

Veronique FAVA

marion.fava@orange.fr



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

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

This past August 15th was the 66th anniversary of Operation Dragoon. This is a good time of year to remember to pay your annual membership dues. Suggested donation: \$30

Enclosed is my annual dues contribution towards the 517 PRCT Association.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Make checks payable to:

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