



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2188

November 28, 2013

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

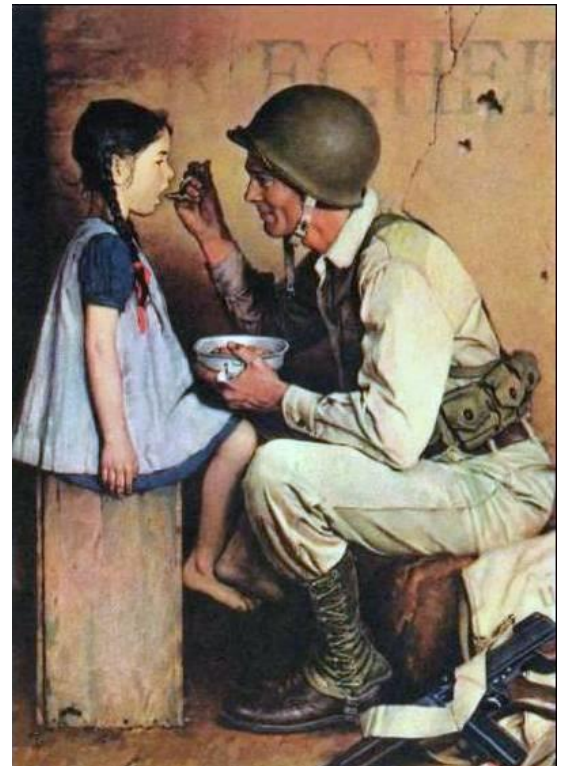
Website
Send Mail Call news to
Mail Call Archives
2013 Roster (updated!)
Thunderbolt (Spring 2013)

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

Thanksgiving Issue



<-- The Saturday Evening Post
November 23, 1943



(Right) As Europe starved in 1944 during the chaotic close of WWII (the Dutch were just beginning their "Hunger Winter" at the end of the Nazi occupation, during which 22,000 people died of starvation), Norman Rockwell's painting *The American Way* gave people back home a gentle sense of their own good fortune and of how our troops were helping newly liberated Europeans.



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460th PFAB Thanksgiving jump 1943 at camp Mackall:



May I take the opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving this coming Thursday, Nov 28th. My Dad wrote this about Thanksgiving on Nov 23, 1944. From what I have been reading President Roosevelt moved Thanksgiving from the last Thursday of the month to the third Thursday of the month to encourage more Christmas shopping. From the date on my Dad's letter it sure appears to be true.

This is what he said about Thanksgiving while he was up in Northern France in Soisson, close to Reims. Remember the 517th was pulled from combat in Southern France and the soldiers all believed the war was over. The 517th was in a garrison camp when my Dad wrote this:

"Oh yes, today is Thanksgiving isn't it? We have a regular field kitchen now and from what they tell me, I gather we are going to have a pretty good chow today with turkey and all the trimmings. It seems funny after so long of cooking your own food to have someone else do it now, and sweating out a chow line again."

Within weeks the 517th would be put in boxcars and transported up to Belgium to begin a terrible winter battle without proper winter clothing.

Lory Curtis, son of **Bud Curtis**, HQ, 1st Bn.



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Other MailCall News

Bob: Tell **Wayne Cross** I'll look to see if we have an original of the picture of his Dad, my Dad and Armstrong. Am not sure, but will look. Would love to help Wayne on this. I do have a picture of our two Dads that if he doesn't have, will get a copy of and send to him. The picture I have is one my Dad treasured of him with **Tom Cross**; it's a full length photo of the two of them, standing in front of a window outside of either a house or building. It is in color, though the building is white and they are in brownish uniforms and it looks like the negative glass or something cracked (sort of looks like you are looking at them with a chain link fence up close to the camera lens).

Pat Seitz

A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Hi Bob: I noticed in an earlier MailCall you had **Hal Eddy** of the 596th listed as still living. We corresponded frequently and I received a letter from a family member less than a year ago that Hal had died. He was lost without Polly, his wife, who had died about two years ago.

This week's MailCall has **Cameron Gauthier** in D Battery. He was in C Battery. This discovery was fun. Everybody thinks you know everything,

Merle McMorrow

Dear Lory, Thank you for sending the obit for **Joe Calder**. Since I had not heard from Joe for about a year, I suspected that he may have passed on, but it is good to know of his death and the fine way he was treated by those who contributed to the obituary.

Frequently there are discrepancies in facts that are reported many years after they happened. Joe was the 3rd Bn. S-4 through a lot of our training in the States and through all the combat in Europe. Although he had enough points to leave us at Joigny after VE Day, he stayed with the 517th until it was disbanded in early 1946. Since his post WWII career in the army was largely intelligence and counter-intelligence, it is easy to see why the obit writer might have thought he was S-2 in the 517th. Joe did an excellent job of supplying everything we needed in combat. He was up in the lines handing out ammo more than he was in the rear getting it. He always made sure we had rations and water wherever we were.

Johnie Neiler was the 3rd Bn. S-2 in the States, except for Tennessee Maneuvers, and until the August 15, 1944 jump into France. The regimental executive officer and the S-2 were injured on the Jump and **Zais** and **Neiler** left 3rd Bn. and went to regiment to replace them. I, at Zais request, acted as S-2 on maneuvers and replaced Johnie at les Arcs. I held the S-2 slot until Bergstein, Germany when I replaced **Grant Hooper** as S-3.

Again thank you for letting me know about one of the best friends of my life.

Howard Hensleigh



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I was very sorry to read about **Leroy Johnson's** passing in the last Mail Call. I was privileged to spend some time with Leroy and **Earl Tingle** at our Mini Reunion last January. I was very impressed on how Earl Tingle looked after Leroy. It was my understanding that they were friends, both living in Daytona Beach. Earl was also a Paratrooper but not a part of the 517 PRCT. After meeting him he is the kind of person I would be proud to welcome into our group. No doubt he must get Mail Call so I am hoping he will see this and join us this January at our Mini again.

If someone would notify me of the date he will be in-turned at the National Cemetery in Jacksonville I would be proud to represent the 517PRCT at his funeral. I only live about 30 miles from there and have attended 2 funerals there. It's a beautiful and peaceful place and the staff does a great job. Earl my mail address is BIGDEGNER1@COMCAST.NET should you wish to contact me or need help with anything.

Darrell Egner

Hi Bob... no date set yet... Lee's sister-in-law had an accident and is recovering... Pauline is a major player in this, and Doreen is agreeable to waiting until Pauline can travel. We'll take Lee's ashes to Jacksonville – probably in mid Dec...

I just read the note from Darrell, and I'll contact him and coordinate his attendance... Doreen will be pleased that the 517 will be represented.

Darrell... thanks for the kind words... yes, Lee is my paratrooper buddy, and it was a privilege to help him as needed. We had a great time at the Kissimmee reunion, and he sure enjoyed the photos of the banquet. I plan to attend the reunion this January, and look forward to seeing my paratrooper friends again.

I'll let you know when the plan to travel to Jacksonville is locked in...

Thanks Bob, and Darrell,

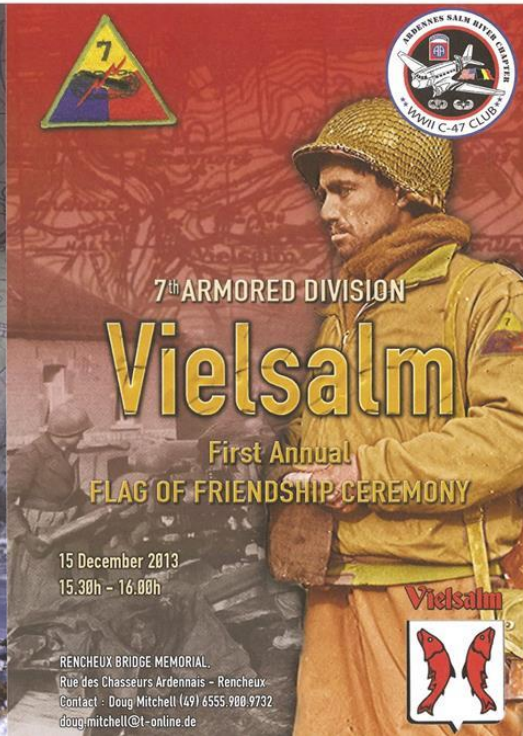
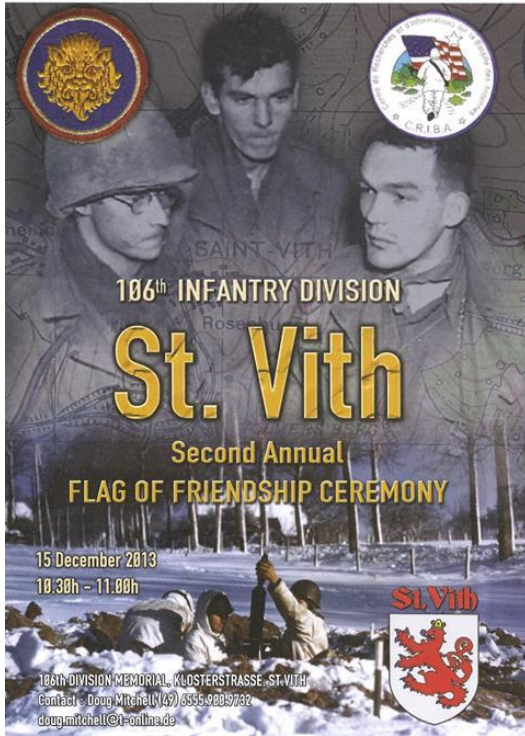
Earl Tingle

**Florida mini-reunion
January 18-20, 2014
Kissimmee, FL
[Registration Form](#)**



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Activities to recognize the 69th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge are starting soon in Belgium:



[St. Vith & Vielsalm Flag of Friendship Ceremonies](#)

Sunday, December 15 at 10:30am in UTC+01

St Vith and Vielsalm

You were invited by **Eddy Lamberty**

Vidéo - 1st Airborne Task Force

Video/story in American / / English and French on the 1 st ABTF now available: <http://1stabtf.com/video-reportage.htm> if you have some videos up entered in this topic, please send me the links.

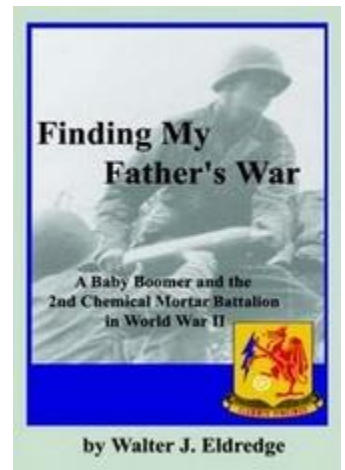
This website, built by Loïc Jankowiak, includes several videos about the First Airborne Task Force, including the 517th history, **“A Cut Above”**

From the “It’s a small world” department:

In my conversations with **Loïc Jankowiak** (<http://1stabtf.com>), I noticed that he was corresponding with a fellow in New Orleans named Walter Eldredge. Walt’s father Paul Eldredge fought with the 2nd Chemical Mortar Battalion in WW2, which was part of Operation Dragoon, arrived in Southern France in gliders in August 1944, and fought in the area around Le Muy.

Walt wrote a book about his father’s wartime experience in southern France, called **“Finding My Father’s War”**. He also has a short video on Loïc Jankowiak’s webpage : <http://1stabtf.com/video-reportage.htm>

The reason this got my attention is that I recognized Walt Eldredge as a fraternity brother of mine. He and I were both Lambda Chi’s at MIT (many years ago).



Bob Barrett



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Submitted by

Name: **John Mullen**
From: Chicago, IL
E-mail:
jcmullen.chicago@gmail.com

Comments:

I discovered this site a few years back (2004 or so) when doing some research on my grandfather (Papa) **Dallas Lloyd Long**. I have talked to him quite a bit about his service and his experiences in trying to put together a timeline of his service.

One of the big problems I have been having is finding his name in the unit's 1944 Christmas roster. Does anyone know why his name might have been omitted? He started out as a Sgt. then somewhere along the way was promoted to Warrant Officer. He was with the 517 PRCT from Toccoa, to the first jump in Italy, Nice, Bulge, and back home. I have very few pictures of him in the unit and any help would be appreciated. I am very thankful and proud of his service. I just wish I had a more complete his story of his personal experience. This site has been an incredible resource for me. Thank you to the stewards of this site.

Regards,
John Mullen

Admin reply: John, I think the answer is that he was transferred to the 7th Army in September 1944, then was in the hospital in Soissons during early December 1944, and rejoined the 517th in January 1945. I will send you some info from Morning Reports. -- Bob B.

Added: November 24, 2013

Hi John, I have some info from Morning Reports of G Company. I'm not sure I can read it all, but here are the records:

COMPAN	STATUS	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M	RANK	DATE	CODÉ	ASN	MOS	LOCATION	NOTES
G		Long	Dallas	L	1st Sgt	12-Sep-1944		35004066	585	Col de Brous, France	MOS 585 NBC fr duty to AB SK NBC to trfd to Det of Pat 7th Army as of 11 September 1944
G		Long	Dallas	L	1st Sgt	14-Sep-1944	A	35004066	585	Col de Braus, France	asgd & jd Co fr Det of Pat 7th Army Hosp to duty.
G		Long	Dallas	L	1st Sgt	18-Dec-1944		35004060	71812	Cp. Casevence Gouroud, Soissons, France 798-959	fr duty to AB SK in Hosp as of 17 Dec 44
G		Long	Dallas	L	1st Sgt	19-Dec-1944		35004066	71812	Cp. Casevence Gouroud, Soissons, France 798-959	fr Ab Sk in Hosp NBC LD. To Duty
G		Long	Dallas	L	1st Sgt	18-Jan-1945	JL	35004066	71812	91.7 77.5 Patteaux, Belgium	Relieved fr asgd to Co & trfd to asgd Hq Co 3rd Bn this Regt

If you do a search of the 517th web site, you will see a few notes about **Sgt./Lt. Dallas Long**, including a picture of him. See http://www.517prct.org/photos/dallas_long.htm And we know he was at some reunions.

I have attached one of the Morning reports for Dec 18 1944 and Jan 18 1945.

Let me know if you need help interpreting the morning reports.

Bob Barrett



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RE: World War II Posters Found!

From **Phil McSpadden**



And of course...



See more at:

http://www.ar15.com/forums/t_1_5/1011369_Old_WWII_posters_found_.html



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Military Humor



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 Association Treasurer: Identify the purpose of any donation (Annual Donations, In Memory of... etc.) and make all checks payable to:

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