



# 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

## MailCall No. 2249

December 24, 2014

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

Website  
Send MailCall news to  
MailCall Archives  
2013 Roster (updated!)  
Thunderbolt (Winter 2014)

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## Merry Christmas from the 517th



## Christmas 1944

1944 Merry Christmas V-MAILS

517 Combat Paratrooper Team  
WWII 1944 Army 3 BN CP

You are looking at 2 V-Mails done by my father (**Dick Spencer**) in 1944 when he was in France with the US Army 517th Combat Team Paratroopers. He signed the cartoon **Lt. R. Spencer**. He is well-known for designing the 517th Battling Buzzards Patch. This Christmas cartoon was probably done due to a request from the Command Post. These were copied so others in the outfit could use them.

Bobbie Joe Spencer (2008)

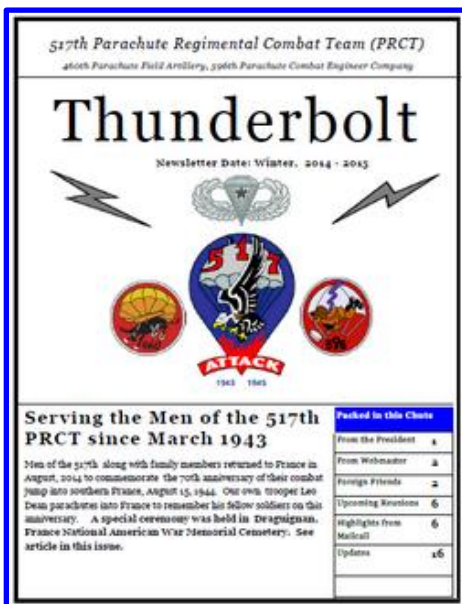


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Christmas 1944  
...now on to Manhay

## The Thunderbolt



The Winter (December) 2014 Thunderbolt is complete and at the printers.

FYI, there are 365 people that currently subscribe to MailCall. (I can tell that only about 1/3 of the subscribers actually read any given MailCall, but that is actually very high for any online newsletter.)

There are an additional 248 people, mostly 517th troopers and wives, who are not online, so we send them paper copies of the Thunderbolt, reporting all the 517<sup>th</sup> news of the last Quarter.

But MailCall readers, because you are so 21<sup>st</sup> century, are able to get this early online edition:

<http://517prct.org/thunderbolt/2014%20December/Thunderbolt%20Winter%202014.pdf>



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## *Kissimmee Reunion- Sign Up Now!*

I forgot to attach the Kissimmee info and Registration forms to the last MailCall. Time is running short. Please let Claire and the hotel know if you're able to join everyone in **Kissimmee, Florida, from January 17-19 2015**. Info and Registration Form is at:

[http://517prct.org/reunions/2015\\_florida\\_mini/kissimee\\_reunion\\_2015.pdf](http://517prct.org/reunions/2015_florida_mini/kissimee_reunion_2015.pdf)

## *MailCall Greetings*



Dear friends of America, dear 517th family,

MAY THE PEACE AND JOY OF CHRISTMAS REMAIN WITH YOU THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR. MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR.

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE.

GOD BLESS YOU;

**Arnold and Irma Targnion, Maria Gaspar** and the members of the US Airborne Reception Committee - TROIS-PONTS. Belgium

For some of the newer readers of MailCall, you should know that Irma, Arnold, Maria, CADUSA and **Eddy Monfort** were among the very early friends of the 517th PRCT and several have honored us with their presence at many past reunions.



Eddy Monfort and the townspeople greeted us in 2009 upon our arrival in Manhay and we soon met the Mayor and many friends from the area. Irma made arrangements for us and guided us to visit Manhay, Trois Ponts, Bergeval, Henri-Chappelle Cemetery and any other places that we wanted to see. Again in 2014, our friends received the 517th with great welcome. Every year, CADUSA holds commemorations for those who died in Belgium, and they maintain the various memorials in the Ardennes. -- BB



## *517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team*

Dear Bob, wanting to wish everyone, and a special wish for you, a Merry Christmas. I am so thankful to be part of your 'mail group'.

The stories and information is remarkable, surprising, interesting, sorrowful and joyful, depending on what is in the newsletter.

I especially enjoyed the Sainsbury Chocolate video in the last one and the story of our fighting heroes in WWI.

God Bless you and the others, united in our hearts,

**Anne Justice**

### *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, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- Send any news, stories, or feedback to: [MailCall@517prct.org](mailto: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 Donations, In Memory of... etc.) and make all checks payable to:

**517 PRCT Association, Inc.**  
c/o Miriam Boyle Kelly  
19 Oriole Court  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866