



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2256

February 1, 2015

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

Website
Send MailCall news to
MailCall Archives
2015 Roster (updated!)
Thunderbolt (Winter 2014)

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

517th PRCT Reunion Info

Upcoming Reunions



West Coast Party
March 9-13, 2015
[Registration Form](#)

As the West Coast Party is coming up soon, I have attached the Registration form and info on the following Pages.

WWII THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM
NEW ORLEANS

VISIT GIVE HONOR LEARN SEE & HEAR EXPANSION

2014 TRAVELERS' CHOICE
tripadvisor

#4 AMONG THE TOP MUSEUMS IN THE US
#11 AMONG THE TOP MUSEUMS IN THE WORLD

2015 National Reunion
New Orleans, LA
June 25-28, 2015
[Program](#)
[Registration Form](#)
[Hotel Registration](#)



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



2015 517th PCT PALM SPRINGS REUNION

**March 9-13, 2015
Palm Springs, California**

Anahata Retreat/Lodge Hot Mineral Springs Pool and Spa here we come!

We have reserved the entire resort for our group.

We will provide breakfast, lunch and dinner while you sit soaking your feet in the warm springs.

There will be options for each meal and snacks all day so you won't go hungry.

Your 150.00 registration fee will cover all meals at the resort. We may go out for our banquet this year, will keep you updated.

Rate: Rooms will run from 120.00 to 200.00 per person for the ENTIRE stay, not per night, including all taxes and resort fees. This fee will be based on how many sign ups we get.

Registration fee: \$ 150.00

Your registration fee will cover all meals at the resort including the banquet which will be at the lodge.

We may leave the lodge for ribs, museum, follies or ??, which would be additional charge.

Please mail registration form (next page) as soon as possible to lock in rate.

Karen Wallace
66295 Highway 20
Bend, OR 97701
541 948 2486

Please join the Frice Team, (the gals), and our many friends for another great 517th event!

Questions?

Karen 541 948 2486

Wayne 541 948 2484

Please confirm by February 25th, we will take registration after that if you need.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



2015 517th PCT PALM SPRINGS REUNION

March 9-13, 2014
Palm Springs, California

Please provide the following information before February 25th:

Date and time of arrival: _____

(We will arrange transportation from airport and return if needed)

Names of participants:

Note: Extra person(s) for banquet (at \$20.00 per person)

Any special activities you would like to do?

Please send this registration form and \$150.00 registration fee per person to:

Karen Wallace
66295 Hwy 20
Bend, OR 97701



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

MailCall News

Good news: **Leo Dean** did Jump 167 in Florida this past weekend. Bad news: he had a bad landing and sprained his right ankle and broke his left.

He is medicating with his customary wine. Updates as they occur.

Claire Giblin

We very much enjoyed the blog of the Frenchman who is traveling across the US interviewing WWII veterans. Thank you for sharing it with the rest of us.

Also, our deepest thanks to **Irma and Arnold Targnion, Maria Gaspar**, CADUSA President **Victorine Margreve** and **Father Radermecker** for the remembrances of the 517th on Jan. 10 and beautiful tributes to our heroes. Thank you Irma for sending the photos. God bless you all.

Pat Seitz and Alan Greer

PS Thank you for the info about the New Orleans reunion.

Bob, **Mike Wells** and I went to breakfast this morning and he has asked me to ask you to move the reunion info to the top of the mailcall page because he says some people do not scroll down to the bottom. Is that possible?

Lory Curtis

Good idea. Done! -- BB

Hi Bob - am I missing it? - don't see any specific info re the Palm Springs Reunion.

Hope all the Barrett's are well in the New Year! Am sure Patriots Mania is prevalent.

Also might you have happened to catch the recent Sons Of Liberty series on the history channel? Lot of fascinating stuff that happened in your back yard back in the day!

Cheers to all!

Tom Copsey (son of **John Copsey**, I Company)

I just spoke with **Donna Shelton**, she is the daughter of **Marvin Moles**. She would like to be put back on mailcall. her email is: donna.shelton4@yahoo.com

Lory



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Hi Bob - a request, do you have email addresses of some of our Belgian friends? I will be in France in June with my Aussie companion, Christa, and we would like to briefly do Belgium and the the Waterloo 200th anniversary. Would like to reach out to them to see if they have any insights or recommendations on this.

Thanks
Tom Copsey

Hi Tom,

I've never been to Waterloo. I see that it is just south of Brussels, which should make it easy to get to. Most of our 517th friends are in the Manhay and Stavelot area, which is about 1.5 hours away, south of Liege.

I know your Dad was in I Company. Do you know if he was with the 517th into the Bulge? Was he in the Manhay battle? Are you planning to get to that area?

You can look up the emails on the roster at: <http://517prct.org/roster.pdf>

OK to post your note on the next MailCall? Then you might get some volunteers with info.

Bob B.

Hey Bob, sure go ahead and make the post out on the Belgian reachout. We probably would not have enough time to journey North as we will already have been in Paris and France for the better part of 2 weeks - a river cruise will end with us being in Monte Carlo for 2 days - will reach out to Patou/Roland to let them know.

Tom

Re; **Daniel Medonich**, E Company

Thank you so much for the information you provided. Please accept my apologies for the delayed response.

My father passed away on 12/4/05 at the age of 81. I don't have any photos. I doubt that he kept any, but I will ask my brother who has the bulk of our dad's possessions. Like many soldiers, my dad didn't talk about his experiences very often, and the few times he did, he choked up (something I rarely saw). A few of the incidents he relayed to me seem to match events I recently read in *Operation Dragoon: Autopsy of a Battle: The Allied Liberation of the French Riviera August-September 1944*. It was fascinating to learn the details. Incredible book!

For the past few years, I've become absorbed in the history of the 517th and airborne divisions in general. One of the things that strikes me is the seemingly lack of recognition the 517th received.

Thanks again,

Diane



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

While doing research on the VI Army for my book, came across this website, www.6tharmygroup.com As they toured, there was no American Flag there for the celebration. While Avignon was liberated by the French Forces, we were certainly the support system behind the entire French Liberation, along with other allied countries.

As stated on this website, the first allied unit to arrive in Avignon was the U.S. 6th Army.

Interesting note,
Anne Justice

At first, I wasn't sure of what Anne was trying to convey about the 6th Army unit, then I went to their web site (www.6tharmygroup.com) where they wrote about this past year's commemorations in France for Operation Dragoon. Their page talks about the ceremonies that they attended last August, much as our 517 and other units visit France each year and trace their steps. In the 6th Army accounts, they talk of the great reception that they received in all of the towns that they visited. They go to different places than the 517th group, but I see similarities, including events from **44 Memories**. It looks like **Tim Stoy** is also involved, and I am assuming that is the same **LTC Tim (and Monica) Stoy** who arrange the Operation Dragoon events in Washington, DC every year.

I include the journal entry below that Anne was referring to. It appears that they were somewhat disappointed at their arrival in Avignon. I don't know the history, but perhaps there is some contention about who to credit for the liberation of Avignon, and the 6th Army representatives felt slighted. -- BB

“Avignon, something of a disappointment”

Posted on September 12, 2014 under 7th Infantry Regiment, Ceremonies

25 August was a great disappointment for us. We attended the “liberation” ceremony in the great and historic city of Avignon. There was no American flag, and it was not planned to play the US national anthem but we were able to convince the protocol officer to include it in the ceremony. There were no speeches honoring the liberators, just the placing of six wreaths at the city's war memorial by numerous dignitaries.

For several years we have asked the city to honor our WWII Marne Men with a plaque. The city has a plaque from the 1st French Army in the town hall which claims the 1st French Army liberated the city. Other sources claim the FFI liberated the city. Historically, the German 19th Army evacuated the city, and the FFI did take over the town hall the evening the Germans left, but the first allied unit to arrive in Avignon was from the 7th Infantry Regiment.

We were also surprised to see that at the war memorial there was no French flag displayed. There were, however, numerous flags from patriotic organizations present. From all appearances, Avignon was indifferent to the significance of the day. Even some local veterans and local citizens were disappointed with the ceremony. It is a shame the city missed the chance to commemorate appropriately such a significant anniversary.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

517th PRCT National Reunion – New Orleans

517th PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM ASSOCIATION REUNION

JUNE 25 – 29, 2015

BEST WESTERN PLUS LANDMARK HOTEL

METAIRIE, LA (NEW ORLEANS)

Thursday, June 25

3:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration Open**
Hospitality Room will be open at various times during the reunion.

Friday, June 26

9:00am - 9:30am **Reunion Registration Open**
10:00am - 2:00pm NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MUSEUM (description follows)
2:30pm - 3:30pm **Reunion Registration Open.**
Additional hours will be posted at the reunion if necessary.

Saturday, June 27

7:30am - 9:00am Breakfast and business meeting
9:30am - 2:30pm CITY TOUR (description follows)

Sunday, June 28

Free day to explore New Orleans on your own or spend time in the hospitality room.
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cocktail Hour with Cash Bar
7:00pm - 10:00pm Banquet
10:00pm - Hospitality Room open

Monday, June 29

Farewells and Departures

[Program](#)

[Registration Form](#)

[Hotel Registration](#)

You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.afr-reg.com/517th2015

(3% will be added to credit card charges).



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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, or just click on the unsubscribe link on the email.
- 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 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