



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



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

## MailCall No. 2279

July 12, 2015

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

## 517th PRCT 2015 Annual Reunion



I wish everyone that helped at the reunion a job well done. The last reunion I was at was in 1991. I sure enjoyed this one. i was able to come to this one because of my son who arranged everything for me. Wouldn't even let me repay him. .it's been a long climb back after my wife passed away. i miss her a lot. Thank you very much for a wonderful time.

**Mel Trenary**

Did anyone catch this name of these folks who joined us for dinner at the reunion? The woman in the middle is the widow of a trooper from E Company. They brought the Camp Mackall 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion photo. The daughter on the left works at the WWII Museum and heard we were in town I would like to contact them and get some more information about the trooper.

Let me know if you have the names or contact info.

Bob Barrett



What a great Mailcall, seeing the pictures of all of us in New Orleans was great, makes me wish we were still there visiting and having fun. It truly was a another great reunion!! Thanks for all you do to keep mailcall and the website going

**Lory Curtis**



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

At the reunion, I received some important documents that I will (eventually) post to the website. **Claire Giblin** managed to sit down with 3 of the vets and help top write a short bio of each – **Allan Johnson**, **Gabe Delesio**, and **Tony Mandio**. I also received a copy of **Mel Trenary's** autobiography including many wartime stories that I will be scanning in soon. And **Carol Dreesen's** family has shared many wartime photos of **Lt. George Roseberry** of the Service Company.

I'll do my best to get these posted over the next few weeks.

If anyone else has a short biography that we can include in [Meet the Troopers](#), please send it in. It doesn't have to be anything fancy, just your own words about your life and the 517<sup>th</sup>.

Bob Barrett



Work hard....thank you Joanne.



Play hard.....Bourbon Street

Somewhere I have a photo of **Ben Barrett** tirelessly maintaining Mailcall while at a reunion.

Thank you Bob. All the best.

**Paul Abbene**





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

## Other Mail Call News

A friend sent this clip to me on the 4th of July. Hard to believe.

[FAIL - Americans Don't Know Why We Celebrate 4th of July! -- A conversation with the general public.](#)

**Paul Abbene**

---

Dear Bob

My father **Harrison W Soots** was with Company G in 1944. I read that you had some pictures of Company G and I would love to see them if that is possible for you to share. I read about **Wilbur Ingram** who was also in Company G your comment about the pictures. We lost my father in January 2001. I am sorry I was not able to share the webpage and Mail Call with him as I was not aware of it prior to his death. I enjoy reading it. Keep up the good work!

**Marianna Soots**

---

Hi Marianna,

I haven't yet found any info in my records on Harrison Soots, other than that he was listed on the Christmas 1944 roster:

[http://517prct.org/documents/xmas1944/xmas\\_1944\\_company\\_g2.jpg](http://517prct.org/documents/xmas1944/xmas_1944_company_g2.jpg))

and he is also listed on the manifest of the Madawaska ship on the return to the US:

[http://517prct.org/documents/madawaska\\_victory/Madawaska\\_Victory\\_August\\_20\\_1945.pdf](http://517prct.org/documents/madawaska_victory/Madawaska_Victory_August_20_1945.pdf)

In 2010, we did receive a note from another relative, Dolores Rose Esch-Coop, , also looking for info on Pvt. Soots.

See: <http://www.517prct.org/mailcall/2029.pdf>

One more thing. His enlistment record from Indiana is on the NARA database:

[http://aad.archives.gov/aad/record-detail.jsp?dt=893&mtch=23&cat=WR26&tf=F&sc=24994,24995,24996,24998,24997,24993,24981,24983&bc=,sl,fd&txt\\_24995=soots&op\\_24995=0&nfo\\_24995=V,24,1900&rpp=10&pg=2&rid=6152989&rlst=5009818,5074780,5838863,5848472,5965240,6152989,6202842,6243385,6334931,6673745](http://aad.archives.gov/aad/record-detail.jsp?dt=893&mtch=23&cat=WR26&tf=F&sc=24994,24995,24996,24998,24997,24993,24981,24983&bc=,sl,fd&txt_24995=soots&op_24995=0&nfo_24995=V,24,1900&rpp=10&pg=2&rid=6152989&rlst=5009818,5074780,5838863,5848472,5965240,6152989,6202842,6243385,6334931,6673745)

The photos that I have of G Company are all on the web site. I do not have any mentioning Pvt. Soots, but nthere are many then are not identified. Here are a lot from **Donald Barry**:

<http://517prct.org/photos/barry.htm>

Hope this helps a little. Do you have any photos of Pvt. Soots?

Bob Barrett

[MailCall@517prct.org](mailto:MailCall@517prct.org)



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

From **Carol and Lanny Dreeson** and the Dreesen-Roseberry family, I received about 200 wartime photos taken by **Lt. George Roseberry** of Service Company.

I will get these posted on the website soon, but here are a few samples. – BB.



Italy – George and his boys



“My Jeep, the boys. Note the fancy skirts over the rear wheels. Those pieces came from an English Spitfire. The man on my right with an X over his head is a businessman of Rome, an Italian.”



Service Company and girl



France: Look what we found



Playing cards



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

Here's the names of two more WWII vets from the 517<sup>th</sup>:

- John Pastalenic** (H Co.), Arkport, NY
- Manuel "Manny" Ventoza** (596<sup>th</sup>), Burien, WA

When I receive MailCall I make copies and send to them. I also send a copy to:

**Mrs. William Christian (Sophia)**, Costin, CA

I also used to send copies to three other 517<sup>th</sup> vets but they have gone to the DropZone in the sky.

Airborne!

**Leo Dean**

We're up to 55 known 517/460/596<sup>th</sup> troopers still in communications with us. But we know there are lots more out there. Who have you been in touch with lately?

- |                 |            |                  |               |
|-----------------|------------|------------------|---------------|
| Robert J.       | Amerlan    | Chet             | Kochersperger |
| Stephen J.      | Armbruster | Harold G. (Sug)  | Lawrence      |
| Marshall W.     | Baird      | R.G. (Bob) "Doc" | Lecklider     |
| Willard         | Berdit     | Anthony A.       | Mandio        |
| John            | Bradovich  | John T.          | Marsinko      |
| William         | Brannan    | Hunter           | McDonald      |
| Fred            | Brown      | Merle            | McMorrow      |
| Jack J.         | Cason      | Philip P.        | McSpadden     |
| Jay             | Castello   | Jim              | McWilliams    |
| Joseph L.       | Clark      | George E.        | Meline        |
| Thomas R.       | Cross      | Dick             | Miller        |
| Melvin J.       | Dahlberg   | Joe              | Molina        |
| Robert (Bob) W. | Dalrymple  | James Frank      | Morris        |
| Leo P.          | Dean       | John M.          | Pastalenic    |
| Gabriel         | Delesio    | Leslie E.        | Perkins       |
| Erle E.         | Ehly       | Nolan L.         | Powell        |
| John L.         | Garvey     | Norman           | Ross          |
| Roger W.        | Goodsell   | Mike H.          | Schlacter     |
| Robert D.       | Hart       | Walter W.        | Smith         |
| Ray R.          | Hess       | Gene J. (Zoot)   | Snyder        |
| Ludwick (Lucky) | Hiers      | John             | Stonis        |
| Keith           | Hobson     | John J.          | Strojan       |
| William S.      | Hudson     | Myrle E.         | Traver        |
| Kaare Allan     | Johnson    | Melvin C.        | Trenary       |
| John G.         | Jonientz   | Robert L.        | Vaught        |
| Richard         | Kachalsky  | Manuel "Manny"   | Ventoza       |
| George W.       | Kennedy    | Earl             | Whisenhunt    |
| Robert W.       | Kennedy    |                  |               |



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

July 9, 1944 – 71 Years Ago This Week

## "IF WE COULD SPEAK" ..... COLONEL GRAVES

When the chaplain asked me to speak to you here this morning, it occurred to me that, since this service is devoted to the men we have lost in action, it would be fitting to express some of the things that, were they here, they would like to say to you.

If they could speak now, they would probably remind us to do certain things as members of their squad, their platoon or their company, their battalion or combat team. This is what I believe they would say to you:

« Carry on the tradition of our outfit, the foundation of which we have laid with our lives. Stick with the job until it is finished, in order that you may return to the homes which we shall never see.

« You have the power and the will to defeat any enemy you may face. However, profit by our mistakes that you may prevent unnecessary casualties to yourself and your comrades.

« Enjoy yourself when the opportunity is given, but take care of your health in every way, that our unit may go into the next fight with its full strength of men who have fought well and worked well together.

« If your next mission is an airborne one, we will jump with you in spirit. See, therefore, that it is a good jump and a strong blow against an enemy who has planned the enslavement of the free people of the world.

« We extend our congratulations with great pride to those who have won the privilege of wearing the Infantry Combat Badge and to those men who have won citations for acts of courage beyond the call of duty while in action.

« God speed and happy landings. »

## IN MEMORIAM.....

### 517 PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT

- Arneson, PFC George W., Company H
- Bearden, Pvt. Arlton E., Company I
- Bosley, Pvt. William E., Company H
- Collins, Pvt. Joseph P., Company H
- Dipko, S/Sgt. James A., Company E
- Ellis, Pvt. James L., Company B
- Farmer, Sgt. Robert W., Company E
- Gogos, T/5 Spros, Company I
- Hosback, Pvt. John H., Company C
- Johnson, Pvt. Holger E., Headquarters, Second Battalion
- Licano, PFC Pedro P., Company I
- Murphy, Sgt. Andrew Jr., Company B
- Slaten, PFC James S. Jr., Company B
- Taylor, Cpl. Eugene L. Headquarters, First Battalion

### 596 AIRBORNE ENGINEER COMPANY

- Flannery, First Lieutenant George E.
- Ropyak, PFC Francis T.
- Springer, Pvt. Harry L.

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not wither, nor the years condemn,  
But at the going down of the sun and at the rising  
We shall remember them.*

For the entire booklet of this memorial service, see:

[http://www.517prct.org/documents/1944\\_july\\_9\\_memorial/1944\\_july\\_9\\_memorial\\_booklet.htm](http://www.517prct.org/documents/1944_july_9_memorial/1944_july_9_memorial_booklet.htm)



# 517<sup>th</sup> 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, 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



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

[www.517prct.org](http://www.517prct.org)  
[MailCall@517prct.org](mailto:MailCall@517prct.org)  
[www.517prct.org/archives](http://www.517prct.org/archives)  
[www.517prct.org/roster.pdf](http://www.517prct.org/roster.pdf)  
[www.517prct.org/archives](http://www.517prct.org/archives)