



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2284

August 10, 2015

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

This Week in 517th PRCT History



August 13, 1944

J-2, **Capt. David H. Armstrong**, D/517 PIR commander and **second Lt. Loren S. James** make a final briefing on the respective tasks of each squad for the big jump.

Dave Armstrong will be seriously injured on D-Day by landing on a pine tree, injuring the backyard. Loren James will be in command of D Company until war end.

From:

[First Airborne Task Force ; The Forgotten Paratroopers](#)



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MailCall News

RE: Still moving

Richard Lee Hammel CoE from May 42 until Dec 44. Have retired to a Senior complex Apartment with my wife in assisted living. Address 1880 Brookwood Avenue Apt 503 Burlington NC 27215

RE: **Harland "Bud" Curtis** and friends

Hello,

I'm an Englishman of 52 living and working on the continent within Europe nowadays and I'm prepared to admit, that I never saw active service during any time of my life, I don't want to say too much, but I have a lot of respect and admiration for those who fought and died during WWII and I'd simply like to say thank you. A lot of Americans died to liberate Europe. I have and do know a lot about Europe and its liberation and I know a lot of Americans died to liberate us all.

Regards,

Kevin Boyden

Please let **Eddy Lamberty** know how much I appreciate the pictures that he has shared of the 517th markers in Belgium. Seeing them bring back incredible memories of our visit there with Dad in 2005. We are so blessed how dedicated the preservation effort is in Belgium.

Pat Seitz



I'd like to point out that when I visited Belgium with Ben and friends, that **Irma and Arnold Targnion** made sure that we visited each of those four monuments. And I also saw a few more informal "remembrances".. There a plaque on **Maria Gaspar's** house (near where Ben was wounded). And a thank-you from the 596th to the citizens of Stavelot. - BB



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Bob -- really enjoyed this MailCall. Was it you or Claire who got **Tony Mandio's** story down? Thank you to whomever it was, it was wonderful to read. Also great pictures. You constantly amaze us all.

Pat Seitz

PS The Seitz clan was not prepared for how impressive the Seitz Regional Training Campus is both in size -- about 40 acres, and many buildings -- and technology inside those buildings. The battlefield simulators were simply amazing. We were awed.

Claire Giblin gets all the credit for extracting the bios for **Tony Mandio** and **Gabe Delesio**. She still owes me the final copy for **Allan Johnson**.

See: [Meet the Troopers](#)

I also have a whole book of stories and photos from **Mel Trenary** that I will start on soon.

Dear Bob, Allan, Lory, Morris. Robin, JoAnne, Mimsey, Merle, Mike, Helen, Claire, Rick and Cody:

May I complement each of you for the extraordinary leadership and work that you have done on behalf of the 517th PRCT Association. The Special Thunderbolt, the ballot and its explanation and Bob's Frequently Asked Questions were superbly written -- clear, concise, straightforward, and realistic. Such is essential to make informed and intelligence decisions which will achieve all of our primary interests namely, preserving the history and legacy of the 517th. Thank you on behalf of us all in thoughtfully planning for our future while we still have access to our beloved veterans and their wise advice.

Pat Seitz

PS I am mailing in my Ballot having voted "Yes" to dissolve the present legal structure as we can continue the friendships, gatherings and thanks to you Bob, the Mail Call, yet take the steps to preserve the 517th's history going forward.

Click here to open ["Why would you want to dissolve the 517th Association?" - Questions and Answers"](#)

And don't forget to vote: [Special 517th Thunderbolt and voting ballot](#)



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In Memorium – John Andrew Stonis



Hi Everyone,

Just wanted you all to know that my sweet father, **John Stonis** (A and H company) took his final jump on July 10, 2015. He was the best person I knew and I loved him so much. He was 91 years old and I will miss him...

Thanks,
Juliana Stonis





71^E ANNIVERSAIRE



PROGRAMME DES COMMÉMORATIONS DU DÉBARQUEMENT DE PROVENCE

OPERATION DRAGOON



12 AOÛT

Ouverture du camp au stade de La Motte dans l'après midi.

13 AOÛT

12H00 - Départ en véhicules pour la DRAGOON HISTORICAL MARCH.

Bivouac des participants au domaine de Valbourgès pour la nuit.

14 AOÛT

9H00 : Arrivée de la Dragoon Historical March + Cérémonie au Mitan

16H00 : Cérémonie à la stèle du golf Saint-Féréol

18H00 : Défilé + Bal à La Motte

15 AOÛT :

Cérémonies de la ville de Lorgues

9H00 : Cérémonie à la stèle des 13 Lorguais aux Arcs sur Argens

11h45 : Cérémonie à Lorgues

12H00 : Apéritif + animation musicale années 40

Après-midi repos à la rivière

18H00 : Bal à Lorgues

16 AOÛT :

9H00 : Cérémonie au Cimetière Américain de Draguignan

12H00 : Repas à Valbourgès en compagnie des vétérans et leurs familles

17H00 : Cérémonie à Trans-en-Provence



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17 AOÛT

Fermeture du camp à la Motte et déplacement vers SALERNES.

10H00 : Ouverture du camp US à Salernes dans les jardins de l'ancienne gare.

12H30 : Repas pour les participants offert par la Municipalité.

17H00 : Départ du défilé pédestre et motorisé, suivi d'une animation dynamique sur le cours au centre du village avec ambiance musicale.

18H45 : Remontée des troupes vers le parking du Conseil Général.

19H15 : Cérémonie officielle au square du 17 août 1944.

20H00 : Buffet dans les jardins de l'ancienne gare et repas pour les participants.

22H00 : Grand bal et spectacle « Haute Tension » sur le cours.

18 AOÛT

Le Besson

9H30 : Manifestation associative sur la crête du Gros Besson à la mémoire de ses martyrs en présence d'un Résistant (tenue civile d'époque appréciée).

12H00 : Pique nique à proximité de Cotignac.

14H00 : Circuit touristique dans le Haut Var.

En fin d'après midi, animations sur le camp - échanges entre collectionneurs.

19 AOÛT

SILLANS LA CASCADE

Journée «Quartier libre», sortie au Lac de Sainte Croix ou autre site.

18H00 : Cérémonie de Sillans la Cascade sur 2 sites (monument aux Morts et stèles).

20H00 : Apéritif offert par la municipalité.

22H00 : Bal populaire

Le 20 août : fermeture du camp US de Salernes à midi !



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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



Website
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2015 Roster (updated!)
Thunderbolt (Winter 2014)

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