



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2314

March 6, 2016

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

MailCall News

From: <https://www.facebook.com/loicjack.jankowiak>



Wonderful "meeting" with **Bob Amerlain**, veteran of the RHQ/517th and his daughter on skype !

Loïc 'Jack' Jankowiak

And from the other side:

Today my 92 year old father, **Robert Amerlain** was interviewed by author **Loïc Jankowiak** from France, via Skype. My father related his personal experiences with the elite tasks force of the 517th Parachute Regimental combat team's jumped into southern France on D-day to the end of the war in Europe. Here is the photo of them talking. Thank you Loic for preserving the greatest generations stories.

Bonnie Nowinski





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



The Bévéra runs through Sospel during the last storm

From Nlla Gott:

This photo was taken by a soldier in Afghanistan of a helicopter rescue mission. The pilot is a PA National Guard guy who flies EMS choppers in civilian life. Now how many people on the planet you reckon could set the ass end of a chopper down on the roof of a shack, on a steep mountain cliff, and hold it there while the soldiers load wounded men in the rear. If this does not impress you... nothing ever will.



Hi Bob. I would appreciate your placing my name on the MailCall roster.
Thank you,

George Flynn (F Company)



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Bob: Was thinking of your Dad as I opened up your Feb 28 Mail Call. His spirit is still going strong! Thank you for another excellent Mail Call.

Nila's comment at the end of her list of noteworthy famous folks who served our country seems regrettably true based on those who get media coverage today. Fortunately, there are many young and older people who humbly work for the common good of us rather than just seeking to arrogantly self-promote and tear down rather than build up and bring us together as communities and as a country. I find I have more hope and more positive outlook when I don't listen to all these shouting talking heads!

PS We are in Buenos Aires (lovely city, looks a lot like Paris) with Internet access! Heading home this evening.

Pat Seitz

Anyone going to Manhay? Paratrooper Odyssey signed for sale there on eBay. No shipping. I keep looking for my dad's bracelet I lost. If I remember **Russell Miller** correctly, he used to go to Toccoa quite often. Wish he had come to the last reunion. I thought he was gone. Thanks for posting the boot pics.

Thanks.

Heather Riley.

went through the list of 517th men still living. I did not see **Lt. John Harte**, 460th B Bty. I did see Robert Hart (D Co.). A few years ago Lt. John Harte's son, Don, reported that his dad was still living. I'm wondering if Lt. Harte has died.

Katherine Wheeler (Richard H. Wheeler, 460th Bty B)

RE: A 517th guy forgotten

Sent from my iPad. I meet in Conroe, tx. Every Wed. A group of veterans at what they call 105 storage on 105 in Conroe it started out as a group of WW11 veterans who went to Washington DC to see the memorial for WW11 veterans. The schools in Conroe, tx. & Montgomery, tx worked up the money for us to go there. Jack McClanahan & Brenda Beavan allowed us to go to the storage & meet after the trip. Eventually we started getting the veterans from the Wars of Korea, Vietnam & other conflicts. One of the young guys mentioned his father was in the 517th. He visited his dad & brought him back to see me. We talked about the war in General. He was a replacement. I did not know him. He also was in Co. A His name is **Elmo Kunkel** his address is 38 strichen dr .Bella Vista,AR.72715 his ph. Is 1-475-268-4732 ok! That's it took me an hour to do this with one finger. I'm not a typist. Thanks Bob for all you do in keeping us informed.

Mel Trenary



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Got the last Thunderbolt, very good. What I am concerned about now is getting 517 E--mail. We were getting them regularly until a couple of months ago, then nothing. Our e mail info. is-kathbob19@q.com. -Phone # 360-432-9524. Address---820 E Rd of Tralee, Shelton, Wa. 98524 I hope to start getting them again as I look forward to them. Thank you very much for all the work you put into keeping the outfit alive.

Bob Hart

Hi Bob,

According to the Mailchimp email system, you were unsubscribed:

This person unsubscribed on Oct 21, 2015 1:25 pm

After receiving "[MailCall #2294](#)"

Reason: Spammy content

That happens occasionally and for no apparent reason. Unfortunately, I cannot add anyone to the list once they have unsubscribed.

But you can add yourself back on the list by signing up again at: <http://517prct.org/mailcall.htm>

Bob Barrett

Hi Bob,

My dad was in the 517th but passed away last July.

is there a possibility that I could get a copy of the final Thunderbolt sent to me? I would be happy to pay you for it, just let me know the cost.

Thank you very much,

Juliana Stonis

Hi, Bob. I am responding to your request for updates to the WWII Roster.

I served from Toccoa to the end of the war in Europe with the 517th PRCT as a member of A Battery 460th PAB.

Thank you,

Harris Miller



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

YOU FOR GOT THE BAND LEADER GLENN MILLER ON LIST OF FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO FOUGHT IN WWII
DICK MILLER (460/A)

We posted that list of WW2 celebrity soldiers a couple of years ago. Here's a photo that went along with it:



This is a photo of all the movie stars then under contract with MGM, celebrating MGM's 20th anniversary in 1944. Notice that 3 of the stars are in military uniforms. Can you name them?

If you need to blow the picture up larger, click [here](#).



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Just checking, but my mother, Elaine Markle (wife of 517 member **Eugene C Markle**) has informed me that **Col. Bob Dalrymple** has passed away and I wanted to check with you to see if this is correct or not.

He was gracious enough to be our daughter's presenter (in place of Gene who had passed away by then) at her USAFA graduation in 2002 and had not heard of his passing. I see that you have him listed as one of those still "kicking", so thought that I should verify.

Thank you,

Jerry Markle

I haven't heard anything about Bob's passing. But It looks like he has not opened a MailCall since last May. – BB

Hello, My Uncle, **Lt. Charles M. Willis** was part of Operation Dragoon. The purpose of this email is to find out whether he had recently joined the 460th and jumped into France with this unit. Can you please check your roster of the men who jumped into France?

Lt. Willis was originally an officer with 513-E PIR, from its inception until about March of 1945. He was sent to the Mediterranean area ahead of the 460th PFA, so if he was part of the 460th during Operation Varsity, he joined the 460th in the late spring or summer of 1944. (There were hints in his V-mail that he was with an artillery unit, and he also had begun pilot training, perhaps to become an artillery spotter).

Lt. Willis was wounded or was injured during the invasion and after a period of recuperation was assigned to the 12th Armored Division in December of 1944. He was assigned to the 56th Armored Infantry Battalion, Co. A. He subsequently earned a Bronze Star (for valor) and a Silver Star and was KIA on March 23rd, 1945 in Speyer, Germany.

Thanks very much.
Yours truly,
Michael Woldenberg
geomike <geomike@buffalo.edu>

Hello Ben,
This is Melanie Hanson, daughter of **Gary Davis** F-Company (now deceased)
I noticed on your list of the 517th that **John Jonientz**, F-Company currently lives in Bellingham, WA. I live in Monroe, just a 30 minute drive and would love to get in touch with him and his family. I have tried to find him with no luck. Can anyone help me with this?

Thank you-

Melanie Hanson



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Thank you for your help Bob !

The email of Brendan work. I have written to the mail of the grandson of **Alex Tait**, but I think he had changes this, 'cause the mail address don't work.

I'm also looking for the mail of the wife of **Russell Miller**, who was platoon leader in B Company. (See her on the last mail call)

I ask all this to you, 'cause since many month I work on a book on the 517th, and I have contacted many wonderful families.

I try to contact **Tony Mandio** of the 517th PIR, he his still a lawyer, but sadly, don't reply to my mail. Sad.

Best regards,

Loïc.

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	www.517prct.org
Send MailCall news to	MailCall@517prct.org
MailCall Archives	www.517prct.org/archives
2015 Roster (updated!)	www.517prct.org/roster.pdf
Thunderbolt Archives	www.517prct.org/archives