



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2347

February 12, 2017

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

MailCall News



Hi Merle, Hi Mail Call

Merle,

you know that we are thinking always about you and the good time shared together in Sospel, in Le Var or in Ardennes.

you are strong. I can remember in Le Var when you jumped into the GMC without any help and the evening when we dance together. Great memories.

Some pics included

We love you ... be sure of that !

Patou and Roland
Sospel, France



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Merle McMorrow (460th), Ben Barrett (H Co.), Hal Beddow (1ST ABTF),
Gene Frice (F Co.), Leo Dean (Reg HQ), Allan Johnson (596th), Lud Gibbons (I Co.)
August 2009



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

WOW is the only word that came to mind reading the story about the incredible detective work of our passionate historian doctor, **Jean Loup-Gassend** bringing closure to a Polish family whose son/brother/uncle, was in the German forces and killed during the southern Campaign of the 517th. Talk about dedication, compassion and perseverance despite all odds. Such commitment to fostering reconciliation for all and peace for a family who was given no information as to how and where he died and their efforts to obtain it, speaks volumes as to Jean's character. He sets an example for the rest of us of true grit!

Also, I am copying my sister Victoria with this Mail Call because she lives in San Bernadino and I wanted her to know that **Bill Hudson**, who had been with the 596th PCEC that fought with the 517th, designed and built San Bernadino's freeways. It is a small world isn't it.

Pat Seitz

Hi Bob,

Wondering if you can put me in touch with Daniel J Olson, great-grandson of **Jim Bacaloff**.

Daniel references his granddad in Mail Call #2295 on October 26, 2015.

Hoping that he can help in identifying his great granddad in the Company photo.

Regards,

Denise (niece of **William J Eckart, Jr**)

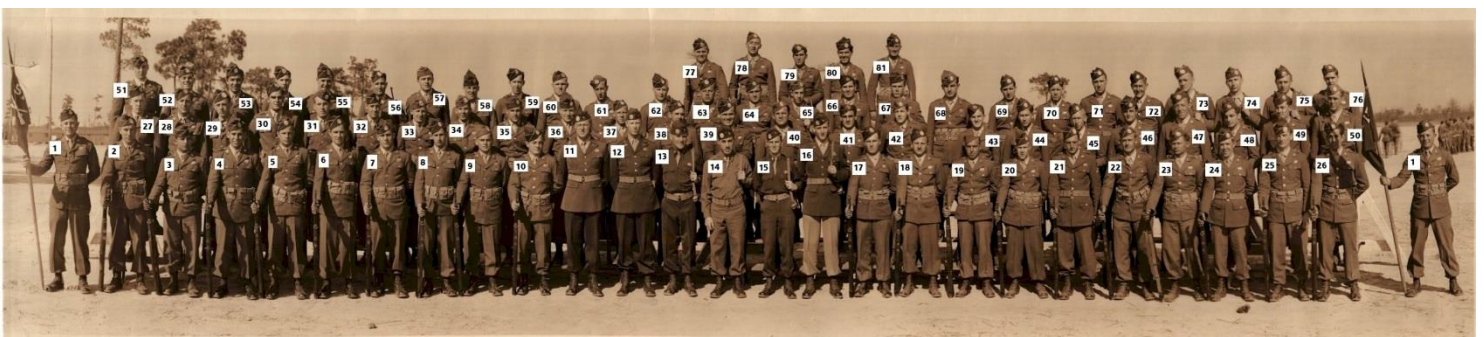
I'd be happy to ID my great-grandfather in a photo.

Would it be okay for me to save a copy of it to my computer?

Also, I need to see the photo to make an ID.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Olson





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I've been in touch with Denise.

Unfortunately, I wasn't successful at identifying my great-grandfather.

I did send her a pic I had of him by himself.

Daniel Olson

Hi Daniel,

If you could send me a war-time picture of your dad, I would love to include it on our MailCall newsletter and on the website.

BB

My dad? Did you mean my great-grandfather?
Sent from my iPhone 7+

Ha! Yes, that's what I meant.

BB

Here's a pic I have:

Jim Bacaloff, 1943:





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Subject: Bruce & **Bob Webber** 517th France trip Fwd: TR: Legion of Honor application - letter to Mr Johnson

Good morning Claire,

I hope you are well and your father.

We have applied for the Legion of Honor Medal for Bruce's Dad.

Bob (Dad) was here in Florida with us for a month over Christmas time.

After the application was made they have been in contact with us. The application I made for Dad was all in order but France still has a few questions which we are addressing as best we can. They have also contacted your father by mail and they sent Bruce a copy yesterday see the letter attached.

I just wanted to give you a heads up. I am not sure your father can assist with the questions that they are asking of him in the letter so just wanted to let you you know not to be too concerned with it. Maybe you could just e-mail a response to her to let her that the letter was received etc.

Many thanks and Bruce and Dad speak so happily of their experience in France with all of you.

Maryanne

Maryanne Webber

Dear Mr. Johnson,

My name is Pascale Furlong-Thome and I'm in charge of reviewing the files of the WWII Veterans from the Midwest region who are applying for the French Legion of Honor.

I'm currently working on Mr. Robert B. WEBBER's application who was part of the 517th PRCT and participated in the Southern France landing in August 1944 and I seek your assistance in order to complete his submission.

I have details regarding his actions in France, and I'm aware that he was in France last year for the ceremonies commemorating the 72th Anniversary of Operation Dragoon and he was awarded the Croix de Guerre 1939-45.

In order to complete Mr. WEBBER's application, I need to provide to our authorities in France, a copy of his Honorable Discharge stating the battles and campaigns he was part of.

Unfortunately, the Honorable Discharge was not properly filled out and doesn't show any of the required information (copy enclosed). I'm also aware that his records were destroyed during the 1973 fire of the NPRC in St Louis.



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I really would appreciate if your association could send me an “official letter” listing the battles and campaigns Mr. WEBBER fought in (Italy, Southern France – Operation Dragoon...) and mentioning that he was wounded in action in Sospel, France.

I have contacted Mr. Webber and his son Bruce but they do not have any other official documents to provide.

Your assistance with this matter would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Pascale Furlong-Thome

Hi Claire and Maryanne,

I don't see any “official” records, on the web site, but I don't know that the French are requiring any official army records (as many we destroyed in the St. Louis fire). In 2009 when we went to France, my Dad and others just wrote up their own bios listing battles and that was enough. I would just list the battles and locations that he fought in, and I would hope that a statement from Allan, as President of the Association should be worthy backup.

We do have some “proof” that **Robert Webber** was with the 517th around Christmas 1944 – just after Operation Dragoon and at the start of the Battle of the Bulge - since he is listed on the HQ/1 roster: http://517prct.org/documents/xmas1944/xmas_1944_hq_co_1st_2.jpg

And I did find a picture of Robert Webber with his HQ/1 mortar platoon on D-Day of Operation Dragoon in Michael de Trez's book “First Airborne Task Force”, on the high ground, overlooking Les Arcs”. That certainly means that he jumped into and fought in southern France. Photo attached.

I do have some notes from **Clark Archer's** morning report summaries, that Webber was wounded on Oct 25, 1944, and injured on Nov 5, 1944. I have attached those lists although I do not have copies of the morning reports for HQ/1.

Bob Barrett



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Warriors" of the 81 mm Heavy Mortar Platoon, Headquarters Co., 1st Bn., ready for trouble at Les Arcs, France.



Après-midi du Jour-J, objectif atteint. Le Mortar Platoon, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 517th PRCT sur les hauteurs dominant Les Arcs. Debout, de gauche à droite : Pvt. Curtis Williams, Cpl. Joe L. Kelly, Cpl. Troy Eagans, Pfc. John Kallen, Pfc. Armando Hernandez, Pvt. Garn A. Whatcott, Pfc. Robert L. Cox, Pvt. Louis A. Berrena. A genoux, de gauche à droite : Pvt. George Arnold, Pvt. Norman C. Reeves, Pvt. Robert B. Webbers, Pvt. Joseph P. Sliakis.

D-Day afternoon, objective reached. The Mortar Platoon, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 517th PRCT on the highground overlooking Les Arcs. Standing from left to right : Pvt. Curtis Williams, Cpl. Joe L. Kelly, Cpl. Troy Eagans, Pfc. John Kallen, Pfc. Armando Hernandez, Pvt. Garn A. Whatcott, Pfc. Robert L. Cox, Pvt. Louis A. Berrena. Kneeling left to right : Pvt. George Arnold, Pvt. Norman C. Reeves, Pvt. Robert B. Webber, Pvt. Joseph P. Sliakis.

517th PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM

CASUALTY SUMMARY

MONTH/YEAR **OCT/44**

COMPANY **1 Bn/44 Co**

NAME/RANK	DAY	KIA	WIA	MIA	NBC	RTD
BEHRENDT, GEORGE Pfc	02				*	10/17
KLISE, KENNETH T/4	02				*	
SMITHERS, ROBERT Pfc	03				*	10/15
TAYLOR, LLOYD Pfc	03				*	
DOMBOS, LOWELL Pfc	04				*	10/13
LYNCH, ROBERT 1Lt	05				*	10/19
COX, ROBERT Pfc	05				*	
STEXTON, EVEL T/5	07				*	
CLIFFORD, WILLIAM Pfc	10				*	10/14
MORTON, ROBERT Pfc	10				*	10/15
STOVER, WILLIAM Pfc	14				*	10/23
JAMES, CLYDE Pfc	14				*	
TANNER, JAMES T/5	14				*	10/18
BLACK, JAMES Pfc	16				*	10/22
ARNOLD, GEORGE Pfc	17				*	10/18
JOHNSON, RAYMOND Pfc	21				*	10/27
EMMONS, RALPH 2Lt	21				*	10/28
MEYER, GEORGE Pfc	25		*			
WEBBER, ROBERT Pfc	25		*			
BEATED, JOHN L. Cpl	26				*	11/04
KNOECHELMAN, DAN Pfc	26				*	11/01
SEEGAR, HAROLD Pfc	27	*				
HAUSEN, JOE Pfc	27				*	
THOMPSON, PAUL Pfc	28				*	11/22
HERNANDEZ, ARMANDO Pfc	30				*	11/11
MAYRAICICH, JOSEPH Pfc	30				*	11/04

517th PARACHUTE COMBAT TEAM

CASUALTY SUMMARY

MONTH/YEAR **NOV/44**

COMPANY **1 Bn/44 Co**

NAME/RANK	DAY	KIA	WIA	MIA	NBC	RTD
FORREST, JOHN W. 2Lt	02		*			
ANDERSON, JOSEPH Pfc	02					*
BURTON, CHARLES 3/ser	03		*			11/11
JAMES, CLYDE Pfc	04					*
RICE, GLEN Pfc	05				*	11/06
VAN EVERY, RENNIE 3/ser	05				*	11/14
AURER, FRED Cpl	05				*	11/11
VEDDERS, HENRY Pfc	05				*	11/17
SIMLERS, LAYNE Pfc	05				*	11/11
HALLON, RICHARD Pfc	05				*	11/11
HUGH, JAMES Pfc	05				*	11/11
WEBBER, ROBERT Pfc	05				*	11/11
RICE, GLEN Pfc	06				*	
CLIFFORD, WILLIAM Pfc	06				*	12/02
SKARYD, CHARLES T/4	06				*	
LIPMAN, GEORGE 3/ser	07				*	11/11
ARTHUR, GEORGE Pfc	07				*	11/11
HUNTER, THOMAS Cpl	11				*	11/29
KELLOGG, JOSEPH Pfc	14				*	11/17
CONISKI, FRANK 2Lt	15				*	11/10
STEEGE, CHARLES Pfc	15				*	11/10
ZICKFOOSE, CAROL Pfc	18				*	11/29
JEDRYNARI, WILLIAM Pfc	18				*	11/30
YALSHNEK, FRANK 3/ser	22				*	11/22
WATKINS, WILLIAM Pfc	22				*	12/02
LAWRENCE, HAROLD Pfc	23				*	11/29
HARRALSON, ALBERT Cpl	25				*	11/28



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Bob, I just saw your email string with Claire and Maryanne. I've got 7 MR's for **Robert Webber** in HQ/1 on the following dates:

25 Oct 1944 This section has not been index on Excel yet so I could not search by name; could be other entries
5 Nov 1944

2 Mar 1945 The rest of the dates have been indexed and I was able to search by name.
9 Mar 1945
23 Mar 1945
26 Mar 1945
30 Mar 1945

A couple are very hard to read; if you need some help deciphering them let me know.

Hope this is of interest to the family. Please let me know if you receive this email.

Mike Wells

COMPANY MORNING REPORT 5 Nov 4

741-982 Gospel, France
Hq Co 1st Bn 517th Prct Inf.

36368886 Rice, Glen L. 71607 Pvt
fr asgd to Co to atchd unasgd hosp LD NBC

16085344 VanEvery, Rennie W. 7674 Sgt
30249798 Auker, Fred A. 7645 Cpl
37553832 Vedders, Henry J. 7604 Cpl
35609674 Simler, Layne E. 7604 Pfc
29464196 Haddon, Richard M. 7604 Pvt
30201485 Houg, James G. 71607 Pvt
37553826 Webber, Robert 71607 Pvt
above 7 enlisted men fr asgd to Co to atchd unasgd hosp LD NBC.

RECORD OF EVENTS
No change in situation. Morale excellent weather fair

OFFICER STRENGTH	PLD G A CAPT	1ST LT	2D LT	WO	PLT C
ASSIGNED	1	3	2		
ATTACHED			1		
UNASSIGNED			1		
OTHER ORGN					
TOTAL	1	3	4		

AVN CADET & ENLISTED STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS	ENLISTED MEN
PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT
145	1	146
ATTACHED		9
UNASSIGNED		6
OTHER ORGN		
TOTAL	151	161

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DAY OF WEEK RATIONS REQUIRED FOR DATE

MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT

PREPARED: DINNER SUPPLY

MAN ATTENDING TO OTHER DUTY FOR BATTION

MAN ATTENDING TO OTHER DUTY FOR BATTION

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
E.H. SCHOFIELD, CWO USA

COMPANY MORNING REPORT 5 Nov 4

741-982 Gospel, France
Hq Co 1st Bn 517th Prct Inf.

36368886 Rice, Glen L. 71607 Pvt
fr atchd unasgd to hosp NBC LD to reasgd & Jd Co

39564760 Clifford, William C. 7604 Pvt
Fr asgd to Co to atchd unasgd hosp NBC LD as of 5 Nov 44.

35289527 Skaryd, Charles W. T/4 7060
Fr asgd to Co to atchd unasgd hosp NBC LD

RECORD OF EVENTS
No change in situation.

One Second Lieutenant error carried in atchd unasgd pres for dy column. Should be carried atchd unasgd abs column corrected this date

OFFICER STRENGTH	PLD G A CAPT	1ST LT	2D LT	WO	PLT C
ASSIGNED	1	3	2		
ATTACHED			1		
UNASSIGNED			1		
OTHER ORGN					
TOTAL	1	3	4		

AVN CADET & ENLISTED STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS	ENLISTED MEN
PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT
144	1	145
ATTACHED		10
UNASSIGNED		6
OTHER ORGN		
TOTAL	150	161

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF DAY OF WEEK RATIONS REQUIRED FOR DATE

MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT

PREPARED: DINNER SUPPLY

MAN ATTENDING TO OTHER DUTY FOR BATTION

MAN ATTENDING TO OTHER DUTY FOR BATTION

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
E.H. SCHOFIELD, CWO USA



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

RESTRICTED

MORNING REPORT 23 March 1945

ORGANIZATION: H & Hq Co 1st Bn 517th Para Tpk
 STATION OR LOCATION: Joigny France

NAME 765-410 SERIAL NUMBER GRADE MOD CODE

Broudy, Joseph 0-1013873 Capt 0001 AR
 Hereby asgd to Co fr Co A this Reg per ser 1 SO 52 dtd 21 Mar 45, no princ dy asgd

Moyle, William J. 0-21953 Lt Col Q3
 Fr abs sk LWA BC hosp basic status atchd unsgd. to trfd to the 1st Repl Regt Prcht Sch Ft. Benning Ga. Per SO 56 Hqs 98th US Gen Hosp Com 2 BTO APO 205 dtd 1 Mar 45.

Gornick, James L. 37048806 Pfc 7657
 Gasto, Donald G. 35-9175 Pvt 7657
 Reld fr atchd to Co. fr Med Det this Regt.

Webber, Robert B. 37553926 Pfc 71607
 Fr abs sk 28th Field hosp NBC ID to dy

Hering, Donald E. 36687987 Pvt 71607
 Chandler, Letus W. 34767263 Pvt 7060
 ATCHD to Sv Co this Regt for rat grd dy & adm SO 53 Par 5 dtd 23 Mar 45

LIMITED ASSIGNMENT PERSONNEL NONE

GRADE	TOTAL	PRESENT		ABSENT	
		PLACES	PLACES	PLACES	PLACES
1st Lt	1	1	1		
2nd Lt	1	1	1		
Capt	3	3	3		
1st Sgt	10	1	11	9	1
2nd Sgt	1	1	1	1	
3rd Sgt	16	1	17	15	1

SIGNATURE: *Lamar A. Tavolian*
LAMAR A. TAVOLIAN
 CAPT INF

RESTRICTED

MORNING REPORT 23 March 1945

ORGANIZATION: H & Hq Co 1st Bn 517th Para Tpk
 STATION OR LOCATION: Joigny France

NAME 765-410 SERIAL NUMBER GRADE MOD CODE

Langer, Carl G. 36583117 Pfc 7604
 Tully, John K. 36813508 Pfc 7764
 Above two (2) EM fr abs sk 28th Field hosp NBC ID to dy.

CORRECTION 1 FEB 45

Clink, Ralph K. 35550758 Cpl 7604 A1
 Fr atchd unsgd hosp NBC ID to trfd to the Prcht rapl cen TFS Ft. Benning Ga. as of 23 Jan 45. ERROR ENTERED

Clink, Ralph K. 35550758 Cpl 7604
 Fr abs sk hosp NBC ID to dy basic status changed fr atchd unsgd to asgd

Kasabucki, Leon A. 6978344 S/Sgt 7604
 Teague, Willis L. 36895277 Pvt 7604
 Above two (2) EM fr err in grs to dy

Heady, Jr., James H. 39696691 Pfc 71607
 Fr dy to abs sk 28 Field hosp NBC ID

Beltran, Gilbert T. 39860827 Pvt 71607
 Fr conf Regt'l stockade to duty

GRADE	TOTAL	PRESENT		ABSENT	
		PLACES	PLACES	PLACES	PLACES
1st Lt	1	1	1		
2nd Lt	1	1	1		
Capt	3	3	3		
1st Sgt	10	1	11	9	1
2nd Sgt	1	1	1	1	
3rd Sgt	16	1	17	15	1

I CERTIFY THAT THIS MORNING REPORT IS CORRECT. PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

SIGNATURE: _____

RESTRICTED



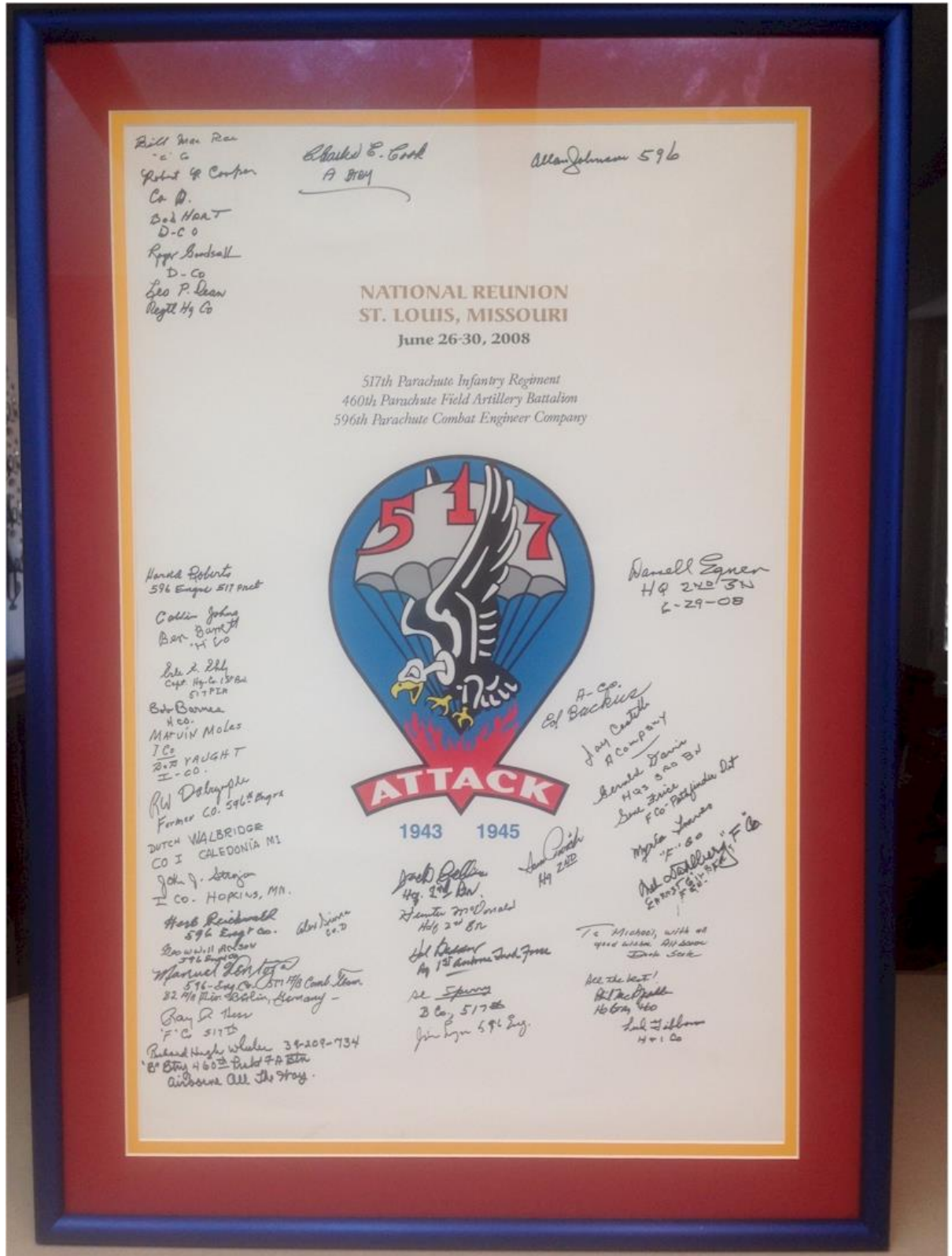
517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

I just found an unread email from Mike Wells, from last Veterans Day. Sorry I missed it back then.
-- BB

As usual on Veterans Day, I like to look over the history of the 517th and the good memories we have from our association with the Association! As I was looking at some photographs, I found one of a poster that I took to the first 517th reunion we attended; St. Louis in 2008. I was able to get several autographs from the vets who attended. After returning home I got it framed and we proudly display it in our home. Thought I'd attach it for inclusion on Mail Call; it brings back a lot of memories.

THANKS to the members who have served, who are serving and those that will choose to serve in the future! I have never served in the Military, but do appreciate your service!!

M WELLS





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

John G. Jonientz, F Company

1923 – 2016



John was born in Kent, Washington and attended Kent High School. He passed away on Christmas Day. He loved watching the Seahawks.

He was in the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team “Battling Buzzards” from 1943–1945 (F Company). He fought in the Battle of the Bulge in WWII. John had a great band of brothers. Lived in Birch Bay for many years.

John is survived by Deanne and his three daughters: Kay, Pam and Cheri, 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

We love and miss you. God has you in his arms, we have you in our hearts.



John and Deanne Jonientz

Kansas City Reunion 517 PRCT.

(Photo from Paul Abbene)



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



John Jonientz

Ray Hess, Ernest Gilbert,
John Jonientz, Alvin Adelman





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

A Tribute to Sam Povich (HQ/2)



Tribute to Service
Sergeant major Sam Povich
01 November 1923 -16 December 2016

Good morning, I am First Sergeant Jim Hovda, united states army retired. I have been asked by the family to honor the military service of our deceased veteran. In the presence of such an esteemed gathering of military veterans and friends, it is an honor and humbling privilege to be allowed to participate in this hallowed event and celebrate Sam's military service.

WWII was well underway. In Hibbing, MN Sam entered the army in 1942. The war at that time was not going well for the allies and Sam wanted to be a part of the liberating force that would win the war.

Sam completed basic training and volunteered for the airborne. Back then, it was brutal training. The instructors did everything to eliminate the airborne students. They would have to be the toughest soldiers in the American army. And they were. Private Povich would earn his silver jump wings.

Private Povich would be assigned to the 517th Airborne Regiment.

Private Povich would fight in the European theatre with the 517th Airborne Regiment first landing in Italy by boat. They would fight through Italy then joining other airborne units make a combat parachute jump into La Ciloat, France on 15 August 1944. Hard fighting would earn them the privilege of fighting in the "Battle of the Bulge", the Ardennes campaign. Cold, snow, mud and, of course lots of Germans were their constant companions. Then it would be on through Germany.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

The 517th airborne regiment:

- Completed more than 150 combat days.
- Suffered 81.9 percent casualties.
- Suffered 247 killed in action.
- Awarded 1 medal of honor
- Awarded 6 distinguished service crosses.
- Awarded 131 silver stars.
- Awarded 5 legion of merits.
- Awarded 631 bronze stars.
- Awarded 4 soldiers medals.
- Awarded 17 French Croix de Guerre's.

By now a sergeant (of some pay grade) Sergeant Povich would stay in Germany with the occupation army. Had that not happened, he would not have met his lovely wife Irene. She would be his “rock” supporting him forever.

Then the Korean war. Sergeant Sam distinguished himself again. More cold, mud and lots of people trying to kill him.

In 1963 I came into the picture joining Master Sergeant Sam's special forces “A” team in Co D, 5th Special Forces. Sam was the “Team Sergeant” of our “A” team. He was the boss.

This was a new experience for me. I thought I was really “hot stuff” — young airborne sergeant in Special Forces. A “green beret”

About a month with the team, we had just returned from a long field training exercise and Sam issued a list of things he wanted to accomplish and who would do them. Well, I teamed up with Sgt. Perryman, our team demo man, and i suggested we do it a little differently and would complete the tasks more quickly. We did. After the formation everyone was released but i was told to report to the team room to see the team sergeant.

I was convinced that i was going to get a “pat on the back” for getting all the tasks done more quickly. Not to be. Master sergeant Sam proceeded to give me the ass chewing of my life and if that didn't impress me he would take me behind the barracks and kick my ass. He asked me to count the number of stripes on his sleeve (6) then mine (3) and asked me who had more. The point - when he issued an order of what was to be done and how, that was exactly what would happen. I never forgot that lesson. I quit being impressed with myself and paid strict attention to the team and its mission and following orders.



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We all got back from our tour in Vietnam with only one wounded. The team that followed lost so many people Sam had to go back and put the pieces back together. There is no doubt in my mind that Sam and his military knowledge kept us out of harm's way many times.

When we review all the accomplishments that sergeant major Sam Povich achieved we can stand in awe of this incredible soldier.

Sergeant major Sam Povich's awards and decorations include, but are not limited to:

- Bronze Star Medal w/10lc
- Purple heart
- Meritorious service medal
- Air medal
- Army commendation medal w/10lc
- Good conduct medal (7 awards)
- American campaign medal
- European, African, middle eastern service medal w/bronze arrowhead. (signifies airborne combat parachute jump)
- European, African middle eastern service medal w/5 campaign stars.
- WWII victory medal
- Army of occupation medal (Germany)
- National defense service medal
- Korean service medal
- Vietnam service medal
- eight overseas bars
- Combat infantry badge - 2nd award.
- Master parachute badge
- Expert M-1 rifle

Unit decorations

- Presidential Unit Commendation
- Meritorious Unit Commendation

foreign decorations

- Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/palm
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal
- United Nations service medal (Korea)
- Republic of Vietnam parachute badge
- Staff Service Medal (Vietnam)

To all here I conclude by saying, "Well done good and faithful soldier." You've earned our final salute and full military honors.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Obituary

Mr. Sam Povich, 93, of Fayetteville passed away on Friday, December 16, 2016.

Born in Hibbing, Minn. on November 1, 1923 to Marta Povich and Mike Povich. He graduated from Hibbing High School in 1942 and joined the Army in May 1943. He was a veteran of three conflicts, World War II, Korean War and Vietnam. After 30 years in the Army he retired in 1972 and went to college at FTC majoring in Business Administration. He then received a Business Management Degree from UNCP.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Irene Wiess Povich; one son, Peter Michael Povich; one daughter, Martha Jane Povich; and four grandchildren, Samantha Baird, Katlin Povich, Philip LaBrake and Erin LaBrake.

Service Funeral Co.
Papers and Brass Funeral Home
4111 Ramsey Street Fayetteville, NC 28301 www.rpapersandbrass.com

In Honor and Memory



Sam Povich

November 1, 1923 - December 16, 2016

Graveside Service
2 p.m. Wednesday, December 21, 2016
Lafayette Memorial Park Cemetery
Reverend Archie Barringer, Officiant



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



J. E. POWERS

To you who answered the call of your country and served in its Armed Forces to bring about the total defeat of the enemy, I extend the heartfelt thanks of a grateful Nation. As one of the Nation's finest, you undertook the most severe task one can be called upon to perform. Because you demonstrated the fortitude, resourcefulness and calm judgment necessary to carry out that task, we now look to you for leadership and example in further exalting our country in peace.

Harry Truman

THE WHITE HOUSE



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

More MailCall News



From the Airborne Museum, Sainte-Mère-Eglise, Belgium

<http://www.airborne-museum.org/en/at-the-heart-of-history/planes-of-the-museum/douglas-c-47-skytrain-plane/>

The C-47 on display in the museum came out of the Douglas factory in Long Beach California December 16th 1943. This plane which has a wing span of 29,41 meters and is 19,43 meters long served as a transport for troops, containers for ammunition, food and supplies and towing gliders. During Operation Neptune on the night of the 5th going into the 6th of June a stick of paratroopers of the 101st Airborne are going to jump from it. It will have in-tow a glider of the 325th GIR of the 82nd Airborne that it will release on the 7th of June into the Normandy bocage.



August 15th 1944, paratroopers from the 517th PIR are going to jump out of it. the same day it'll tow a WACO CG4A glider, on September 17th & 18th during Operation market Garden in Holland it will tow gliders of the 82nd Airborne in the Groesbeek – Nimègue region.

It will be sold in 1946, (turned back into it's commercial name the DC-3) for commercial use. In 1962 France buys it and transforms it into a trainee plane for future pilots and non-pilots of the French aeronautical aviation, it will be used in this function for 20 years.



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December 27th 1944 during the “Battle of the Bulge” (in the Ardennes) from it supplies will be dropped to American forces surrounded in Bastogne. The plane ends the war with Operation varsity March 24th 1945 in Germany.

Promoter and master of paratrooper ceremonies in Sainte-Mère-Eglise Yves Tarel gets the rights to the plane in 1982 at the end of its contract. Restoration is done in the Atelier d’Aviation de Cuers workshops of naval constructions of Toulon with the help of original equipment. In the absence of information about it’s configuration during WW2 the plane gets the emblematic colors of the C-47 “The Argonia” serial number 4315159 lead plane of the 439th Transport group.

On March 28th 1982 the plane does it’s last flight during which Robert Murphy D-Day veteran of the 82nd Airborne and Yves Tarel jump out of it over Sainte-Mère-Eglise putting an end to its career. February 13th 1983, heliported by the United States Army from the Cherbourg-Maupertus airport to its final resting place within the Airborne Museum in Sainte-Mere-Eglise.





517th 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
- 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

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Merle and Patricia