



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2355

May 14, 2017

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

West Coast Mini-Reunion 2017 - June 2-8

Have contacted all the regular attendees of our reunion and have a few coming.

- Arrive June 2. Then very tentative schedule depending on interest. Red, White and Blue Ball and Mt Hood for sure.
- June 3 visit Erickson Aircraft Collection in Madras Oregon then attend the Red, White and Blue Ball at our Ranch (flyer attached)
- June 4 BBQ at our Ranch
- June 5 breakfast with the Band of Brothers in Bend then head to Mt Hood Resort for the night
- June 6 back to Bend to the High Desert Museum (has WWII exhibit and history of Camp Abbot)
- June 7 rest, sightsee Metolius River and fish hatchery
- June 8 depart
- Approximate cost: \$800 lodging, \$200 other activities

Sorry so late getting this out. Hope all is well!

Karen (Frice) Wallace

I would love to have more people attend. We (me and Wayne) are the sole entertainers. We do have a 15 passenger van for transport but that's it and that would be the only problem really. If family came and rented a car and helped it could work. I have a great price for all of this. The Red, White and Blue Ball is the main reason I planned for these dates. It should be spectacular, held at our place with approximately 300 attending. You can put it out there and have them call me for details as this is not a professionally organized event, We are playing it by ear as to what the few men want to do. Like I said, the Ball and Mt Hood are the only for sure events. We can see what happens, didn't really know of any other veterans able to travel so I kind of dropped the ball with advertising.

Miss our men for sure!

Karen



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Benefit Dinner for the Central Oregon Veterans Ranch

RED, WHITE & BLUE BALL

Silent Auction | Music | Dinner

June 3

66295 Hwy 20 | 6-10pm | Dinner 6:45-7:00

Music By Lindy Gravelle & Doc Ryan and The Wychus Creek Band

Tickets can be purchased at these locations

OnPoint
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

950 NW Bond St
Downtown Bend

1380 SW Canal Blvd
Ste 105, Redmond

61276 S Hwy 97
Ste 100, Bend



25 NW Olney Ave & Wall, Bend



All Central Oregon VFW & American Legion Posts



Tickets can be purchased online at
www.centraloregonveteransrwb.weebly.com
Check website for volunteer opportunities.
CentralOregonVeteransRanch.org



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MailCall News

Thanks Bob for taking the time to send out this latest Mail Call. Have a feeling it gets more difficult each time to find information that the 517th Family will appreciate and learn from...especially when we aren't sending items to you.

Don't usually open Mail Call right away but this one I did. Knew V-E Day was approaching and didn't want to miss "remembering" the 517th Troopers and their exemplary efforts in making this worldly event happen. Appreciate the "history lesson" about V-E Day. Don't believe my school teachers, or even the history texts, explained it so well. Sure hope the kids at Seitz Elementary in Kansas learn to understand this major event in U.S. history. Heck, they probably know more about WW II than I did at their age.

Wore the tan & blue 517th cap yesterday (May 8th) on my volunteer driving route. Drivers asked me about the "Attack" emblem. Their faces "got serious" as I explained the reason why I wore this particular cap...to honor all 517th Troopers, as well as remember all who served in the European Theatre and those back home supporting them.

The article about the Cambridge American Cemetery brought to mind the "story" Mom told me about Uncle Floyd, why he rests in Henri Chapelle and why Trooper Stott wasn't brought home to the U.S. Never asked him myself, but was told Grandpa Wyot, Floyd's dad, told the Army, "Bury him with his buddies," or some statement to that effect. That trip to Belgium is still on my Bucket List.

Always enjoy learning what is going on in Kansas with dedications and memories **of "Dick" Seitz**. Thanks Pat for keeping our 517th Family informed. Makes me wonder what other areas of the country do to honor members of the 517th. **Lest We Forget!**

Finally, had a BIG SMILE on my face when seeing the photo and comments about Crew climbing on the tank. He has MUCH to learn about his great grandpa "Ben."

Kenton Floyd Immerfall

Nephew of **Floyd A. Stott**, 1st Lt., Co. "I", 3rd Bat., 517th PRCT

Bob: love the picture of your grandson. What a great looking young man. Thank you for sharing it. And thank you for refreshing my recollection that VE Day was May 7 with such an excellent MailCall.

Pat Seitz



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I9 Permission to use photograph.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Joe Figueiredo and I have been researching the death and burial in an unknown grave of **Pvt. Robert R. Gruwell** of Company G of the 517 PIR, for use in a possible exhibit in the Soldier Experience Gallery at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center in Carlisle, PA.

I would like to submit for consideration by Army officials a photograph found on your site submitted by Ms. Shelly Azeff taken by her father, **Lt. Warren Caulfield**. The photograph is number 60 and is of two wrecked German vehicles which as I understand it is the location at which Pvt. Gruwell met his death. The photograph was also used by **Jean-Loup Gassend** in his "Autopsy of a Battle." It was he who advised me to ask Ms. Azell for permission to use the photograph. Therefore, would you please forward this email to Ms. Azell for me?

I find the story of Pvt. Gruwell very compelling in that he was apparently accidentally killed by his own hand grenade, but then the location his grave has been unknown for all these years. I can only imagine his family's grief upon being notified of his death and then to be notified that his remains have been lost. Should Army officials decide to use his story as a part of the Soldier Experience Gallery, a process which may take about three years, I believe visitors will better appreciate the many sacrifices made by our Veterans and that not all are accounted for.

Thank you for your service and your kindness to me in all my requests.

Joe Figueiredo

Hi Shelly,

I have a request below from Joe Figueiredo in France, who is requesting permission to use of on your Dad's photos that he found on the 517th website. He is doing some research on **PFC Robert R. Gruwell** of G Company, who was KIA but his gravesite has never been found. The photo is Photo #60 on: http://www.517prct.org/photos/warren_caulfield_2/warren_caulfield2.htm

Best Regards,

Bob Barrett

PS: Sorry for the delay on this, as I have been travelling and very busy at work.

Certainly Joe may use the photo. Any way we can help.

thanks,

Shelly



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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

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