



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2373

December 16, 2017

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

MailCall News

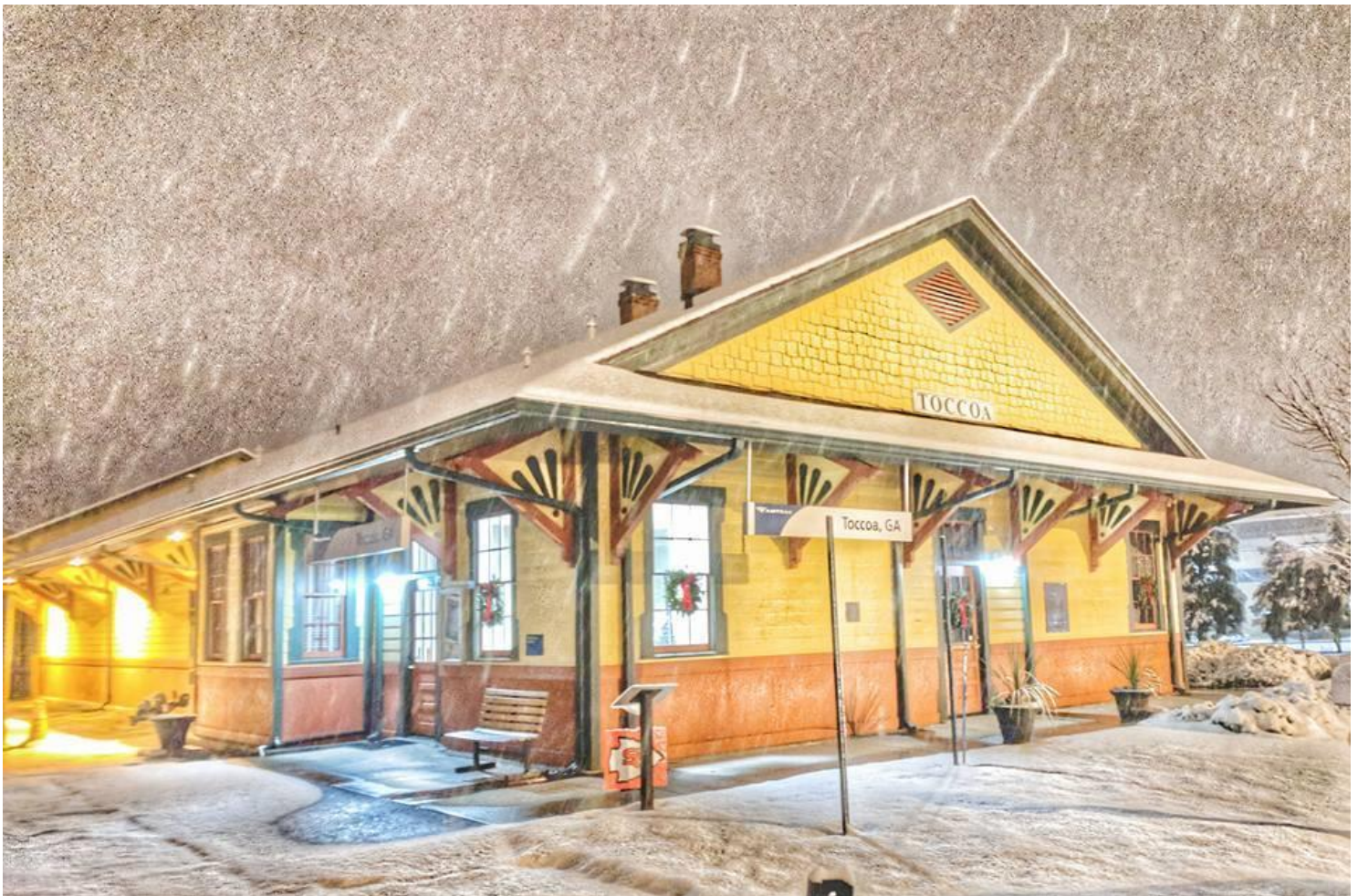


Photo of the Currahee Military Museum in the snow last week in Toccoa, GA.

(Photo by Cavonna Collins Holcomb)

Posted by **Brenda J. Carlin** on [Currahee Military Museum](#)



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Yesterday, December 16, was the beginning of the **Battle of the Bulge** in 1944.

From [Paratroopers' Odyssey](#):

Movement orders came for the 517th RCT at 1100, December 21st. Colonel Graves set out for Werbomont with his battalion commanders and a few staff officers while the troops formed on the Caserne parade ground to wait for trucks. One Battery of the 460th and a platoon of the 596th was attached to each rifle battalion for movement. The order of march was to be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, through Namur to Werbomont. Warnings were issued to avoid Bastogne by then known to be surrounded if cut off.

Trucks from a variety of sources began arriving in mid-afternoon. At 1800 the 1st Battalion rolled out, followed within a few hours by the 2nd and 3rd. It was a long, miserable, sleepless night. Sleet, snow, and freezing rain fell continually.



The Command group was preceded by Lieutenant Carl Starkey in a radio-equipped jeep. He moved from town to town by bounds, checking to make sure the way was clear. At Namur he was told to rejoin his unit.

Colonel Graves' group arrived at XVIII Corps headquarters in the morning of December 22nd. General Ridgway concluded a short briefing by saying, "The commander of the first battalion to physically arrive will report to General Rose, commanding the Third Armored Division, at Manhay when this briefing is finished."

This was Colonel Boyle's Battalion. When the Corps 0-3 completed the briefing, Boyle set out to find Manhay, while Graves and the others reconnoitered for assembly areas around Werbomont.

Without a map or a guide, Boyle finally found Manhay by the simple expedient of asking a truck driver.





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Can you identify this trooper? (Answer on Page 4)

Hello Bob,

I am the wife of **Walter W. Smith** HQS CO. He passed away July 9, 2015. I read and enjoy every one. I am 94 years young. Due to macular degeneration, I had to leave our home on Rhoda Ave. Columbus Ohio.

My new address is:

Dublin Retirement Village Assisted Living
Apt. 216
6480 Post Road,
Dublin, Ohio 43016

Enjoy those grandchildren and Ben's greats. Walt and I have six greats. Thanks for all you do with MailCall, Bob.

Fondly,

Peanie Smith



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

I would like to wish the veterans and the families of the 517th PRCT a very Merry Christmas.

Thank you Bob for keeping us all in touch.

Chris Lindner

Dear Bob, hadn't heard from your wonderful mailing lately. Hope you are just busy with the holidays. Hope your Christmas is blessed for all the work you do to keep this wonderful feeling alive in all of us. I am sure they are making imprints upstairs of all the good work.

Same goes for Joann. I look forward to your next issue. I had some problems with my computer and wanted to make sure that you still had me on your list.

I know your a busy man. Thanks again, and I hope you both have a wonderful holiday season.

blessings, **anne justice**

Hi Anne,

Yes, you are still on the MailCall distribution list. I did have a delay in sending out MailCalls for a couple of weeks, but did send one last week, and one should go out tomorrow. You can always read previous emails at: <http://517prct.org/mailcall/index.htm>

Always nice to hear from you.

Bob Barrett

I would like to wish the veterans and the families of the 517th PRCT a very Merry Christmas.

Thank you Bob for keeping us all in touch.

Chris Lindner



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

The action figurine is from <http://actionfigures.bbfr.net/t12586-r-borne-spirit-major-donald-fraser-517th-prct> (from July 2014). It is a replica of **Major Don Fraser**, executive officer of the 1st Battalion of the 517th.





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Objet : RE: **Herbert V Larson** Box.

Hello Bob,

Thanks for your answer. It s difficult for me (little belgian guys) to find some informations about this officer. I continue on Google but Nothing.... It s for me a challenge to find some pictures of this gentleman. Do you know alive veteran of 596th?? I would like to ask some questions about this officer (function, campaign, ...) and also find his family.

I know, it s difficult in 2017... I hope not too late....

Best Wishes for 2018. 🎄👶

Regards,

Erik,

PS: I will be this week-end in Manhay/Lamormenit (Sector 517thPIR) for commemorations (Big event with US WW2 Vehicles) of the Bulge.

Lt. Herbert Larson was the Supply Officer of the 596th. Does anyone remember him? - BB

Hello Erik,

I will put a note into tomorrow's MailCall newsletter asking if anyone remembers Lt. Larson. There are a few 596th troopers left, but I don't know how many read MailCall.

I did find his name on an old roster from 2003, which listed Herbert V. Larson with F Company, but that must be wrong.

And another record in the 2007 roster, also with his address in St. Charles, Missouri, and there he is listed as with the 596th, and as LTC (Retired).

I did find an obituary for Herbert V. Larson II, who was born around 1942 and served in the army. It's possible that Herbert II could have been the son of Herbert V. Larson.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/nhregister/obituary.aspx?n=HERBERT-V-LARSON&pid=175565632>

And I also found a short obituary for a Herbert V. Larson Sr. in Missouri. That is probably our Lt. Larson, but it doesn't provide much info.

<http://grave-records.mooseroots.com/l/3630939/Herbert-V-Larson-MO>

Bob Barrett



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...my father in law [deceased] **Lawrence Shipp**, is mentioned in the Jun/Jul/Aug 1944 Service Company Casualty Report – 4th from the top, Middle Initial incorrect - as having been WIA in Italy 28 June and RTD 17 July. He appears again - Service Company [2] – as a PFC in the 1944 Christmas Roster, These two instances are the only places I can find his name in the material available. Yet he was discharged with 100% disability with one Purple Heart listed on his Discharge although he had the physical evidence of at least six and maybe 7 wounds including two very serious ones involving the loss of a testicle [France?] and in Germany, 1945 a head wound which required a metal plate. Between arrival in Italy and final return home, he drew several wound recuperation leaves, including a trip back to the US.

I would like to be able to attach specific information to the gemology of his family.

Thank you your consideration of my request.

Harris Johnson

Hi Harris, I am going to forward to you several emails from Mike Wells. Mike has the copies of the Morning Reports, at least the ones that we managed to get copies of.

Mike went through all the reports of the Service Company and scanned all the ones that mention Lawrence Shipp. I don't think there is much more than you already know, but he did attach the reports that he found.

Bob Barrett

Here is what I have:

| | | | | | | | |
|------|------------------|-----|------|---|-------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| SERV | 11- | | | | | Asgt To & Jd | |
| CO | Shipp Lawrence W | PFC | Jun- | A | 33517405 | Co as of 5 | John H. |
| | | | 1944 | | | June 44 Trfd in | Allen, |
| | | | | | Staging Area No. 3 | Gr Fr HQ Air | Capt, |
| | | | | | Peninsular Base Section | Borne Tng | INF. |
| | | | | | | Center, APO | |
| | | | | | | 512 US Army. | |

If you do have any possible dates I'll check the MR scans for his name.

Mike Wells

Not a lot of MR's for Service Co so I'll go through what I can tonight and send you any I find. Here's another 2 MR's for Shipp on June 26, 1944; June 28, 1944;

Did a quick search tonight and did not find any more MR's for SHIPP; I'll work on getting this one put into a spread sheet so you have it. Really bad copies! Hard to read most. But, I found a new entry from my Dad and a couple of other Wells'; one of which might be related to him.

Mike Wells



51th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

COMPANY MORNING REPORT **2000** **11 June** **1944**

STATION **Staging Area No 3 Parachute Base Sector**
 ORGANIZATION **Service Co 517th Parachute Inf Reg**

| SERIAL NUMBER | NAME | GRADE | CODE |
|---------------|---------------------|-------|------|
| W2116195 | SCHOFIELD | CMLD | 52 |
| DY TO HOSP LD | | | |
| 37622842 | CRAVEN, JOHN T. JR | PVT | A |
| 12059278 | HERTWIG, RUDI E. | PVT | |
| 20014704 | YOUNG, WEN FOOK B. | S/SP4 | |
| 31329990 | DeFILIPPO, MICHAEL | PPC | |
| 33517405 | SHIPP, LAWRENCE W. | PPC | |
| 12003334 | MANSFIELD, PAUL H. | S/SP4 | |
| 14022653 | WELCH, JOHN D. | PVT | |
| 7082964 | WALKER, JOHN S. | PVT | |
| 31836623 | TAYLOR, CALVIN L. | PVT | |
| 15353994 | WELLS, WAYNE A. | PVT | |
| 37387847 | Goodman, HOWARD B. | PVT | |
| 3205206 | SYLVA, PHILIP | PVT | |
| 37615616 | WILDMAN, JAMES W. | PVT | |
| 33491205 | O'NEILL, RALPH D. | PPC | |
| 6966968 | BURKHALTER, FLOY | PVT | |
| 35801292 | WILLIAMS, DONALD L. | PVT | |

ABOVE M&M REG TO 4 TD Co. HQ of 5 June 44 TRD IN GR FR HQ AIRBORNE TNG CENTER, APO SIB US ARMY.

| OFFICER DESIGNATE | PLD O & CAPT | SGT LT | SGT | WO | PLT O | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|------|------|-------|------|
| | PREG | ASST | PREG | ASST | PREG | ASST |
| ASSIGNED | 2 | 5 | 7 | 3 | | |
| ATTACHED | | | | | | |
| UNASSIGNED | | | | | | |
| ATTACHED TO OTHER ORGAN | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 2 | 5 | 7 | 3 | | |

| AVN CARET | AVIATION CARETS | ENLISTED MEN | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| | PRESENT | ABSENT | PRESENT | ABSENT | PRESENT | ABSENT |
| ASSIGNED | | | 181 | 29 | | 210 |
| ATTACHED | | | | | | |
| UNASSIGNED | | | 3 | | | 3 |
| ATTACHED TO OTHER ORGAN | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | 184 | 29 | | 213 |

| R | I | ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BATHINGS REQUIRED FOR DATE | DAY OF WEEK | NUMBER |
|---|-----|--|--|-----------|
| A | | | | |
| T | II | MEAL ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT | TOTAL | AVAILABLE |
| I | | BREAKFAST | DINNER | SUPPER |
| O | | MEAL SEPARATELY | MEAL ATTEND FOR BATHING | |
| N | III | MEAL ATTEND TO OTHER ORGAN FOR BATHING | MEAL ATTEND TO OTHER ORGAN FOR BATHING | |
| S | | MEAL PRESENT | 217 | 29 |
| | | | 184 | 19 |
| | | | 203 | |

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
 I CERTIFY THAT THE BATHING REPORT IS CORRECT AND THAT BATHING PRESENT IN PART IS INDICATED AS SUCH.

John H. Allen CAPT INF

COMPANY MORNING REPORT **2000** **26 June** **1944**

STATION **V 355 855**
 ORGANIZATION **Service Company 517th Parachute Inf Reg**

| SERIAL NUMBER | NAME | GRADE | CODE |
|--|--------------------|-------|------|
| 38544502 | KIRMAN, EDWARD V. | T/5 | |
| Above SN dy to hosp LW as of 25 June 44, Hosp to dy as of 26 June 44, HQS 344 | | | |
| 33517405 | Shipp, Lawrence W. | PPC | |
| Above EM dy to hosp LW & trfd to Det of Patients 5th Army as of 26 June 44 HQS 344. | | | |
| 39695418 | Norrov, Buford D. | Pvt. | |
| Above EM dy to hosp Sk LD HQS & trfd to Det of Patients 5th Army as of 28 June 44, HQS 501 | | | |

RECORD OF EVENTS
 Weather warm, three hot meals served
 Morale Excellent

| OFFICER DESIGNATE | PLD O & CAPT | SGT LT | SGT | WO | PLT O | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|------|------|-------|------|
| | PREG | ASST | PREG | ASST | PREG | ASST |
| ASSIGNED | 2 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| ATTACHED | | | | | | |
| UNASSIGNED | | | | | | |
| ATTACHED TO OTHER ORGAN | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 2 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 |

| AVN CARET | AVIATION CARETS | ENLISTED MEN | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| | PRESENT | ABSENT | PRESENT | ABSENT | PRESENT | ABSENT |
| ASSIGNED | | | 171 | 29 | 13 | 213 |
| ATTACHED | | | | | | |
| UNASSIGNED | | | 3 | | | 3 |
| ATTACHED TO OTHER ORGAN | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | 174 | 29 | 13 | 216 |

| R | I | ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BATHINGS REQUIRED FOR DATE | DAY OF WEEK | NUMBER |
|---|-----|--|--|-----------|
| A | | | | |
| T | II | MEAL ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT | TOTAL | AVAILABLE |
| I | | BREAKFAST | DINNER | SUPPER |
| O | | MEAL SEPARATELY | MEAL ATTEND FOR BATHING | |
| N | III | MEAL ATTEND TO OTHER ORGAN FOR BATHING | MEAL ATTEND TO OTHER ORGAN FOR BATHING | |
| S | | MEAL PRESENT | 174 | 29 |
| | | | 174 | 19 |
| | | | 203 | |

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
 I CERTIFY THAT THE BATHING REPORT IS CORRECT AND THAT BATHING PRESENT IN PART IS INDICATED AS SUCH.

517th Parachute Infantry

26 June 1944

Shipp, Lawrence W. PPC 33517405 Sv Co (BC) SPV Calif Lt Reg 15 Evac



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.

| | |
|------------------------|--|
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| Thunderbolt Archives | www.517prct.org/archives |

