



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2379

February 11, 2017

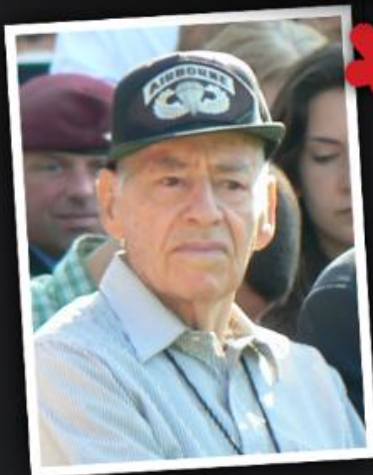
*517th Parachute Infantry Regiment
460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion
596th Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

Ignatius Joseph Bail – A Battery, 460th PFAB

From Facebook page: [Operation Dragoon and the Forgotten Paratroopers](#)

Ignatius J. BAIL

June 25, 1925 - January 28, 2018



It is with great sadness that we have to announce the passing of **Ignatius 'Joe' Bail**, who was part of the A Battery, 460th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion and who made all the campaign of the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team, from Italy to Germany.

Joe Bail lost his best friend, **Robert W. Brown** at the railroad station in l'Escarène on the 5th of September 1944. 12 other paratroopers were wounded this day and Joe was among the wounded.

Joe come back many years in Southern France to commemorate the landing in Southern France and pay tribute to his best friend who is buried at the Rhone American Cemetery.

Rest in peace my dear friend.

A Battery
460th Parachute Field
Artillery Battalion





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IGNATIUS JOSEPH BAIL, born June 15, 1925 in Chester, PA, enlisted in Reserve Corps of the Army on Feb. 19, 1943 and entered active service June 28, 1943, volunteering for paratroop service. Training was at Camp Mackall, NC and Ft. Benning, GA.



Served as cannoneer (pfc) A Btry., 460th Field Arty. Bn., 517th PRCT which was attached to the 82nd and 101st Divs. and later was assigned to the 13th. Participated in battles in Central Europe, Ardennes, southern France, Rome-Arno. Wounded in France Sept. 5, 1944.

He received the EAME Service Medal w/5 Bronze Stars and one Bronze Arrowhead, Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Combat Jump Wings.

Bail was discharged Oct. 13, 1945 and joined the Civil Air Patrol. He and his wife, Helen, have three children: September, Maureen, and Joseph and three grandchildren: Joseph, Jeffrey, and Jennifer. Retired from Scott Paper Company in 1984. He resides in Brookhaven, PA.



Ignatius "Joe" J. Bail Jr. (A Battery, 460th PFAB) and two reenactors with the 517th flag at the grave of his best friend, Robert W. Brown, killed in action in l'Escarène on the 5 of September 1944 by a shell fragment.

Picture taken on the 16th August 2014 after the Rhone American Cemetery ceremony



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From MailCall #2011, Sept 6, 2010:

Subject: Tribute to PFC Robert W. Brown A Battery - 460th PFAB killed September, 5th 1944 near l'Escarène Rail-road stati

For Mister **M. Mc Morrow** - 517th RCT President,
Sir,

I'm happy to inform you that I organize, September 5th 2010 in l'Escarène a day for tribute to PFC Robert W. Brown, A Battery - 460th PFAB (first American soldier killed on our county of l'Escarène).

Since I was a child, my grand-pa **Joseph Arnulf** (1923-2004) said to me : **"a young paratrooper was killed near our field on railroad-station area at beginning of September, 1944, and you owed to honor and remember this man !"**

After 6 years of investigations, I Met a veteran : **Ignatius Joseph BAIL** who was in the same unit and it's very amazing because Jospeh Bail was **Robert W Brown** best friend and he was gravely wounded the same day ! (I made I. J. BAIL honor-citizen of l'Escarène by municipality's decision in 2008)

Now we are very friends with Bail family and I'm very proud for that. With my wife Elodie, we were in Pennsylvania this summer and we decided with them, now, to be the "same family" !

That's the program for September, 5th in l'Escarène :

9H30 Arrival of liberty convoy (reenactment vehicles and 517th troopers)

9H45 ceremony tribute to Robert Brown (inauguration of his "plate")

10H30 "En-route" for the village of l'Escarène !

11H00 Mass in the church of l'Escarène, for Robert W. Brown and 517th RCT roll of honor

12H00 Reenactment exposition on the "plaza"

I hope that this day will be a success and that you will inform your veterans friends.

I send you Robert W Brown plate and 3 other pictures :

USA 1943 : Robert W Brown and Ignatius Bail

L'ESCARENE 2008 : Ignatius J Bail with his wife and me when we found the place where he was wounded and R Brown killed.

USA 2010 : Ignatius J Bail show us pictures and war documents

After this event I will send you new pictures ! I'm proud to say you that young French never forget that young Americans made for their freedom !

Excuse me for mistakes, my English is not very correct.

Sincerely,

ARNULF Nicolas

2418 CH de Montagnac

06440 L'Escarène - France



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MailCall News



St Jacques' church - 2018 jan 6TH



St Jacques - 2018 jan 6th flowers and homage at 517 th and 505th monument



517th monument in Logiermé (Trois-Ponts) Elsa and Raphaël, young belgian patriots. As long as we can, we shall perpetue the memory of those young american soldiers who left their country and fought for our freedom. We are happy to have with us some young persons to keep the memory.



S aterday jan 6 th - Church of St Jacques, Father M. CAPE and Father G. RADERMECKER as they are celebrating the Holy Mass of Souvenir to pray for the US soldiers who gave their live and suffered for our Liberty

Our Love and gratitude to all of you and your family.
From **Irma and Arnold Targnion**



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(From Facebook page: [517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team - Families & Friends](#))

Recently, [Clint Richins](#) died suddenly at home.

Clint was a member of this group and the grandson of **Pvt. Fred Beyer**, a veteran of I / 517 who lost an arm during the bombing of Manhattan by a p-38.

Clint was passionate about the 517th story and loved telling stories about his grandfather...

Good bye, Clint

[Loïc Jankowiak](#)

Bob: I do not know if I shared this information with you earlier. If I did, please disregard.

World War II Registry:

How Can I Register A Name In The [World War II], Registry?

You may enter a name in the Registry via the internet or by mail. To register a name via the internet, go to <http://www.wwiimemorial.com>. Click on the "WWII Registry" button at the [upper] left. Set up a "free" account and follow the online instructions to enter the name you wish to honor. To register a name via mail, call 1-800-639-4992 and a form will be mailed to you with instructions.

Who May Be Honored?

Anyone who served in the armed forces during World War II, and any American who helped on the home front is eligible for the Registry. Home front activities include working in defense related industries, recycling of materials needed for the war effort and more. You may register your own name, the name of a family member or friend.

(For example: My father served in the U.S. Navy and my mother sewed bindings for uniforms and then was an electrician's helper at the New York Ship Building Company, Inc. at the Camden, NJ shipyard.)

Joe Figueiredo

[Trevor Loudon](#), www.theememieswithinmovie.com

World War II Registry, www.wwiiregistry.com

United States Army Heritage & Education Center, www.usahec.org



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RE: **Fred Eugene Brown**

Mr. K. Allan Johnson – President of the Thunderbolt Newsletter;

On page 11 there is a list of names starting with **Steve Armbruster**, NC and going down the page under Plus at the bottom you will see Fred Brown's name with – TX at the end. He was in the 517th Artillery Unit Battalion.

He was in the 517th Airborne Parachute Division which was moved into the 460th Artillery Battalion Unit which was a part of the 517th Airborne Parachute infantry. Can you tell me anything about any of this? His records got burned up when they had that fire. My email address is blehman@gt.rr.com and my home address is Bobby L Lehman, 808 Wagner St., Port Neches, Tx. 77651. My home phone number is 409-237-5168. Fred Brown's home address is 5100 Woodlawn Drive, Groves, Tx. 77619. His home Phone Number is 409-962-8552. He is 93 yrs. old and is very hard of hearing so if you call him you will have to talk kind of loud. If you have any info on any of this I sure would like to have it. Thanks very much.

P.S.- The woman that lives with Fred is my Mother-law. I am trying to help him with the VA so he can get some hearing aids.

bobby lehman

Re: information on unit, years, etc for **Richard Davis**, Missouri

my father, Lt. Jack S. French served in the 508th PIR and I have gained much knowledge and photo's on him from their web site. I am working on a history project on a Minister who served in WWII with the 517th PIR. I have next to no information except his obituary mentioned in WWII he served this unit. It does not say if he was assigned to the unit as a chaplain or become a Methodist minister once returning. Know that's not much to go on. Any information sources I might try besides going through the 517th site here?

Charles M. French
chuckomaha156@gmail.com

Hi Charles,

In a quick search, I haven't been able to locate any references to Richard Davis in the 517th, but my records are very incomplete. And the 517th had lots of casualties and replacements, especially later in the war. Can you give me any more info on Richard Davis?

Bob Barrett



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In reply to **Brenda Mortensen's** request regarding Korea, my father, **George Sullivan** 517th PRCT Co. A served there twice.

After WWII, he left the army & went to pattern-making school in Chicago, graduated from that, & then concluded that the army was in his blood & decided to reenlist. He was accepted into Officer Candidate School in March of 1949. However, while waiting for the next OCS class to start, he received orders to Korea as a 2LT platoon leader in Co L, 24th Infantry Division. They gave him a book to read on the basics of being an officer & that was essentially all the training he received – apart from the fact that any man who served in the 517th was well qualified already as a soldier and a leader.

Dad was involved in the infamous “Battle of Chonan” https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Chonan . He served at that time under Col. Robert Martin who was posthumously awarded the DSC for his actions on July 7th 1950. The (family) story goes that Co. Martin had taken dad under his wing due to dad's lack of formal officer training. I would bet it was also because of dad's WWII battle experience. Dad must have been fairly close to the worst of this action, as he received letter in 1954 from Maj Gen William Dean (commanding officer of the 24th ID to which the 34th was attached) thanking him for his statement regarding Col. Martin's actions, as Dean was building the case for the DSC recommendation. Of all of dad's service experiences, the only thing he ever said to me was in reference to this time, “You haven't lived until you've been chased down the street by a Chinese tank!”

He spent some time in the hospital and then, vowing NEVER to enter battle on the ground again, went to flight school and trained as an artillery spotter. Then he went back to Korea as a spotter for most of 1952. Spotters flew L-19s – basically a stripped-down piper cub. It had no armament, no weapons (except the pilot's 45), and flew at very low altitude – often well below 1,000 feet in order to spot targets. The enemy well knew the planes' purpose and made every effort to shoot them down. Perhaps a foxhole would have been a better choice?

Roger Sullivan

Thanks once again for all you do for us readers of Mail Call. As usual the Mail Calls have been extraordinary - fascinating and very interesting!

John Krumm

That is totally an astounding story that Martin Neaman / Mangello ferreted out after so many decades!!! I am glad he can be a part of an even bigger family here at 517th!

BJ (Richard Spencer) McCauley



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Reproduction 517th T-Shirts available from WWII Soldier.

<https://wwiisoldier.com/product/wwii-517-parachute-infantry-t-shirt-u-s-army/>

Matt Holmgren

517th webmaster,

I've attached a photo and obituary, which provides some biographical background, for my uncle **Robert "Bob" Morancy**, who was a trooper with the 517th. I did not find much mention of his name on the 517 website, likely he never submitted anything. However, I did find him mentioned on a few mailing lists.

I would be interested to know if you have any more info on Bob, or if any troopers remember him and might have photos or stories they recall. I'm trying to compile a history on Bob, as well as his two brothers who also served in WWII, with Marines and Army Air Corps.

Sincerely,

Chris Moloney



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Robert Weston Morancy

(May 21, 1927 - April 14, 2014)



Hartland, VT—Robert Weston Morancy, Sr., 86, died Monday, April 14, 2014 at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in White River Junction, VT. He was the fourth son and seventh of eight children born to Verginand Joseph and Lorna Bertha (Weston) Morancy on May 21, 1927 in Morrisville, VT. Employment opportunity brought him to White River Junction in the early 1940s.

He served in the US Army as a machine gunner during World War II. Four bronze stars were awarded to him for serving in the Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, Rome-Arno and Southern France campaigns during the European Theater of Operations while assigned to the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster for wounds received in action during the Battle of the Bulge. In 1980, he retired following 33 years of employment by the Veterans Administration. Robert married Lucille Antoinette Hill on December 1, 1945, in White River Junction. They were later divorced. On March 21, 1975, he married Rosemary Barbara (Howard) Spear in Hartland.

He served on the Executive Board, as President of Vermont Federation of Chapters, National Association of Retired Federal Employees; Hartford Civil Defense Director 1973 – 1977; Hartford Volunteer Firefighter and EMT; and Hartland Deputy Health Officer. He was a member of the Sierra Club, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans. He was a sociable, inquisitive being who enjoyed people in general. He enjoyed what most considered work. Depending upon seasonal beckoning, a good day was to split and stack firewood, mow the lawn, lend a hand in the hayfield, clear snow, and when nature interfered, window washing sufficed. Above all, he took pleasure in the company of family and friends.

Survivors include his wife , Rosemary of Hartland, two sons from his first marriage, Robert Weston Morancy, Jr. and wife Julianne (Rohanik) of Croydon, NH and Timothy Edward Morancy and wife Maryhelen (Gibson) of East Waterboro, ME; a son from his second marriage, Daniel Howard Morancy and wife Mandi Potter of Hartland; a step-daughter, Barbara Brooks Spear (Gary Coolidge) of Claremont, NH, a brother, Walter Oliver Morancy of White River Junction; a sister, Mildred 'Joan' Kowalski and husband, Frank of Pennsylvania. Grandchildren: Robert Weston Morancy III, Ryan Morancy, Thomas Morancy, Tye Morancy, Derek Morancy, Alexandra Morancy, Dominick Morancy, Cole Morancy, Bryce Morancy, Ava Morancy, Julie Morse, Courtney Coolidge, Kyle Coolidge. Great-grandchildren: Robert Weston Morancy IV, Hannah Rose Morancy, Madison Morancy, Weston Kyle Gunnip, Emma Sofia Dematteo; and many nieces and nephews. Two brothers, Albert Ferdinand Morancy and Raymond Norris Morancy, and three sisters, Pearl Dorothy Laraway Coan, Elsie May Beal, and Helen Rose Maillioux predeceased him. A granddaughter, Kimberly Dawn Morancy and great-grandson, Elijah James Gunnip also predeceased him. A graveside service will be held Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 11:00 AM at the Vermont Veterans Cemetery in Randolph Center, VT. Knight Funeral Home in White River Junction has been entrusted with arrangements.



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Bob:

More morning reports completed. Company C only Needed December. Reason it hadn't been done is MR's from Dec had not been scanned. They still need to be scanned but scanner is on the fritz.

My records show that you should have the COMPLETED spreadsheets for the following companies:

A,
B,
C,
E,
F,
G,
H,
I,
HQ & HQ Co,
HQ CO
HQ &HQ Co 1st BN
HQ 2nd BN,
HQ & HQ Co 2nd BN
HQ 3rd BN
REGTL HQ
REGTL HQ Co
SERVICE COMPANY

I'm still working on these:

D,
HQ Co 1st BN
HQ Co 2nd Bn
Medical Detachment

I'll be working on Medical Detachment next.

After I've sent all the spreadsheets, from all Companies I have, I'll load up a thumb drive and send all the scanned MR's.

Mike Wells

Hi Mike. I have downloaded the new updates, and your note below is correct – those are the ones that I do have.

Thanks for all this. I know it's a lot of work. But as you know, this comes in very handy when people are looking confirmation or info about their family members, which happens all the time.

Bob B.



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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.

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