



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2385

April 29, 2017

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

MailCall News



Happy to report the mini-reunion in Salt Lake City was a great success a few weeks back. As the picture indicates, most of us proudly wore our 517th hats and shirts. Also it was the birthday celebration for my awesome brother **Dr. Lory V. Curtis** past VP of the 517th association. In attendance from past reunions were **Mike and Rhonda Wells** and a surprise visit by **Mimsey Boyle** who brought along a special gift from **Paul Abbene**. A great time was had by all.

Tim Curtis

Son of **Harland "Bud" Curtis** HQ 1st



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Hi Bob - I read **Mike Wells'** comment about "talking up" the 517th to help keep the unit's memory alive. On a much smaller scale, I do that as well. A long while back, **LGEN Seitz** and I exchanged a series of emails regarding having an airborne or air assault unit re-christened as the 517th. He said he'd thought about that as well, but the list of units deserving such an honor is long and the odds slim of being able to make it happen. I wonder if we ought to consider launching an effort to make his thought come true. Anyone interested in joining me, let me know. Thanks for all you do to keep the 517th alive,

Mark Lamdreth



Camp Toccoa at Currahee is hosting the annual D-Day Run at Camp Toccoa at Currahee on Saturday, June 2nd. This is a fund raiser for building and projects for the original WWII Paratrooper training site at Currahee Mountain in Toccoa, Georgia. Registration starts at 7am, run at 8am.

Location address for Banquet and D-Day Run, 2351 Ayersville Road, Toccoa Georgia.

You may register online with www.active.com or https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/7aa6e7_356486e2449340fda352235c066cf92e.pdf at www.camptoccoaatcurrahee.com for a registration form.

Come Friday and join us for the D-Day Banquet in the new Camp Toccoa Pavilion. Tickets are \$40 per person. 706-282-5055





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Mike, I enjoyed your article about Matt Anderson's grandfather, **Sgt. Ray Anderson** who served in Company A of the First Battalion.

My father, **Hoyt Kelley**, surely knew and was friends with **Ray Anderson**. Both them of them enlisted in Salt Lake City, both served in the First Battalion (Dad was a Staff Sergeant in First Battalion's HQ reporting to **Colonel Boyle**).

Like Matt's Grandfather, my dad rarely spoke about the War. It was really only in the last few years of his life that he shared with us some of his experiences. Several years before my Dad passed away, I help him put together a Journal of his time in the 517th (Dad passed away in 2014). I know Mail Call has seen Dad's Journal before, but in case Matt hasn't seen it, I thought he would find it interesting, particularly since my Dad and his grandfather served together under Colonel Boyle. You might forward it to him.

I appreciate your efforts to keep these memories alive.

Thanks,

Brian Kelly



World War II Journal
Hoyt Frank Kelley
1943 – 1945

See: http://517prct.org/bios/hoyt_kelley/hoyt_kelley_journal_updated_04_17_2013.pdf



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From **Hoyt Kelley's** journal, I found one note about **Ray Anderson** on page 51:



Another death that I remember well was **Lieutenant Allingham**. He was a cheerful officer that was well liked by all the men. A prankster, in Nice he had impressed the troops by riding a bicycle backwards, only to end up crashing into a bus.

During a fire fight, a phosphorous grenade that had been strapped on his chest had been ignited by a bullet, and his whole stomach was burned out. He was still alive when we reached him and whispered "kill me"! I probably would have, but he thankfully he died before I had to make that decision.

My good friend **Master Sergeant R. E. Anderson** was also wounded that night. I remember taking him in to the aid station and telling him he was a lucky B.... because he got a ticket home. A bullet had shattered his leg and he would be out of the war. All of our fighting in Belgium had been in the province of Luxembourg as far as I know.



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Administrivia

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- 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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