



# 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team



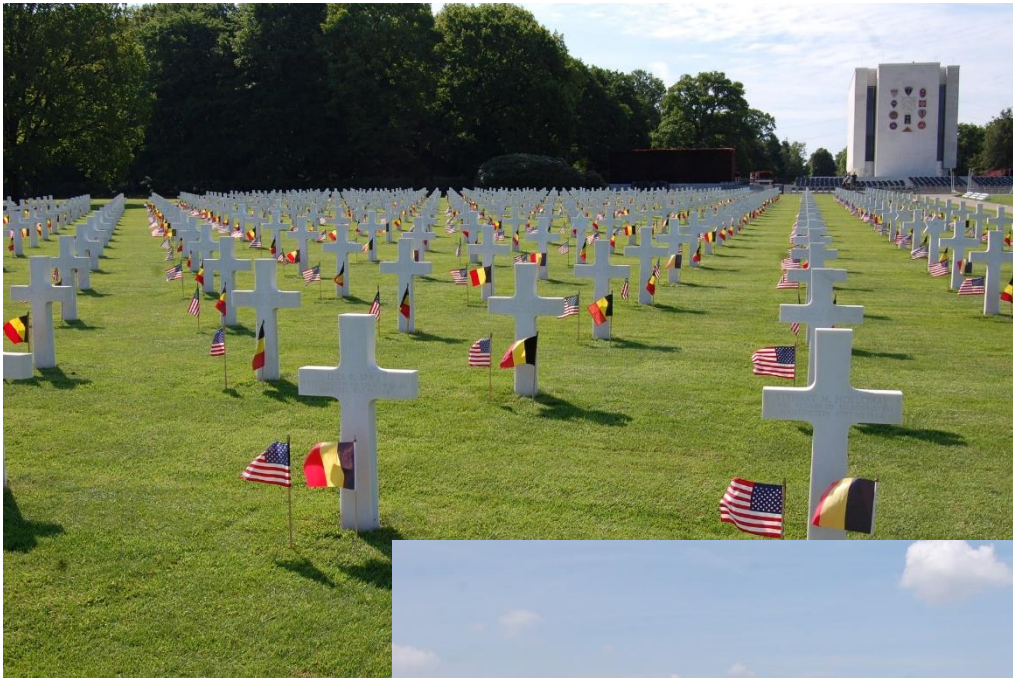
PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

**MailCall No. 2415**

May 27, 2019

*517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment  
460<sup>th</sup> Parachute Field Artillery Battalion  
596<sup>th</sup> Parachute Combat Engineer Company*

## Memorial Day 2019



Ardennes American Cemetery





## 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Rhône American Cemetery  
[#memorialday](#) [#memorialday2019](#)

• [rbarrett3776](#)

Wasn't Albert Robinson's family in attendance this year?

• [forgotten\\_paratroopers](#)

[@rbarrett3776](#) yes, they were there !



**Albert M. Robinson Jr. (HQ/2)**  
KIA August 17, 1944



Meeting with the nièce of **2nd Lt. Albert M. Robinson**, KIA during Operation Dragoon. That was an emotional meeting Cindy. Thank you.

**Loïc Jankowiak with  
Cindy Robinson Karst.**



## 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team



LTC Harold C. Beddow  
First Airborne Task Force, WWII  
Vietnam  
1925 - 2014



At [Beaufort National Cemetery](#), South Carolina



Joseph E. O'Brien  
F Company  
KIA August 17, 1944  
  
Golden Gate National Cemetery  
San Bruno, San Mateo County, California, USA



# 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team

WANNE - 517 th monument, ceremonies of MAY 8th - under the rain (!!!) homage and flowers with the patriotic associations and the children of the school. With gratitude and respect. Love from Trois-Ponts - Arnold and Irma TARGNION and members of CADUSA

- Arnold and Irma TARGNION and members of CADUSA





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## Other MailCall News



One of the events we will be attending this year. This is a great little living history encampment centered around the restoration of a Stuart Tank made in Berwick, PA during the war. We will be set up here portraying the 517th PRCT during Operation Dragoon to commemorate the 75 anniversary of the Forgotten Invasion of France.

Posted on

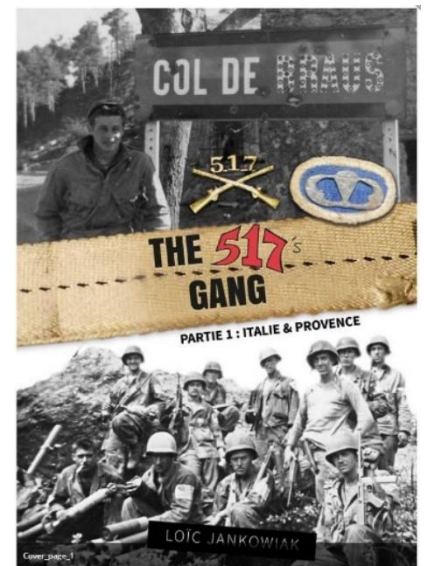
<https://www.facebook.com/WW2ABHistoricalCo/>

Hi,

I really want to order this book but is there going to be one printed in English?

thank you, LOVE the Mail Call!!!

**Juliana Stonis**  
Daughter of **John Stonis**



**Loïc Jankowiak:** Fingers crossed for the end of the year

RE: TRIBUTE TO DUTCH WOMAN - 74 years she has watched over a fallen US soldiers grave. Found an interesting tribute on msn.com; similar to our French friends.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/shes-watched-over-this-wwii-soldiers-grave-for-74-years-he-was-a-mystery-to-her-until-now/ar-AABYBX0?li=BBnb7Kz>

**Mike Wells**



## *517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team*

Hi Bob,

I am the youngest daughter of **Robert (Bob) Vaught. (I Co.)**

I would very much like to be on the list to receive Mail Call.

My Dad passed away in January and we sure miss him.

Thank you.

**Mary Harrington**

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From *517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team*, Turner Publishing, 1998.

**ROBERT VAUGHT**, born Aug. 1, 1924, New Market, IN. He was the fifth of seven brothers to serve in WWII. Enlisted in April 1943 in Indianapolis. Volunteered for paratroops and went to Camp Toccoa, GA, where the 517<sup>th</sup> rejected him because of weight. Took basic infantry training in FT. McClelland, AL, and volunteered for paratroops. Went to Ft. Benning "Frying Pan" in late July 1943, and joined Co. I, 3<sup>rd</sup> Plt. for parachute training. Completed ump training in August 1943, and trained at Camp MacKall, NC. After Tennessee maneuvers was sent to Italy with 517<sup>th</sup> PRCT. Caught malaria in Rome area.



Jumped into southern France Aug. 15, 1944 and continued serving until February 1945. During the second night of attack on Bergstein, Germany, he fell into a hole carrying a 30-caliber machine gun and was injured. The following day was sent to Liege, Belgium for surgery. Then shipped to Paris hospital, Cherbourg Harbor for trip to Liverpool, England. (Met General Eisenhower on hospital ship.) While there had recurrence of malaria and was sent stateside arriving in New York on May 7, 1945. Honorably discharged Oct. 31, 1945. Stayed in enlisted reserves for two years and two years in 38<sup>th</sup> Inf., 139<sup>th</sup> FA.

Finished senior year of high school in 1946. Married Pat in 1948. Has two sons and two daughters, two grandchildren and four step-grandchildren. Attended Chicago Technical College, received a BS degree in electrical engineering. Worked for Mallory Capacitor Co. for 34 years as design engineer and 10 years with Metro Government, Nashville, TN. Still working full time.



## *517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team*

Bob,

Here's the info on D company.

Just checking to make sure you received a USB drive with ALL of the "finalized" company MR's on it. I am still working on some documents that Clark Archer had copied from the NARA; mostly these are documents that indicated a person was being assigned to the 517, etc.; but I believe that all, or most, of the names on those documents are already included in the MR's

My system won't let me send the documents as one single file, so, I'll be sending several. Hope it works; if not, I'll do another USB with everything and send them to you. All Word type docs on this email and the MR copies on the next few emails.

I also believe that I told you I sent this same information to the WWII museum in Louisiana and they now have copies for research purposes.

Anyway, I didn't get these off to you as quickly as I said I would; but this weekend activities jogged my memory.

And, on this weekend, for MailCall, I just wanted to send a thank you to all our French friends who take the time to remember those from the 517th who served. When we went to France, and met up with **Patricia, Roland, Frederick, Anne-Sophie**, and a HOST of re-enactor's, Rhonda and I were amazed at what they all did for us that day; it is forever burned in our memories. At that time, it was mentioned to one of the "troops" that some in America had wondered if those past days had been diminished or even forgotten. The man we were talking to held up his hand, he looked us in the eyes, things got VERY quiet around us, and with a heartfelt conviction in his voice, said, "**We will NEVER forget the sacrifices of your fathers!**" The others around him echoed that sentiment. We were humbled, thankful, and shed a few tears, for the respect shown that day. We think of this often; and always during Memorial day activities. Que Dieu bénisse

Keep up the good work!

**Mike Wells**

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Hi Mike,

Thanks for sending all the Morning Reports for D Company. Actually, I can't tell if I got them all. My mail provider for 518<sup>th</sup> MailCall has a small limit on the total size of email that I can keep online, and you may have exceeded that with all the files you sent. That's fine, as I did download all the ones you sent – about 25 emails with 3-5 MRs with each. If you got any bounced, saying that my mailbox was full, you probably know already. Just end me those again. Or if they are on the USB, I'll verify against that. (I haven't received the USB yet, but it is a 2-day, no-mail holiday weekend. I'll let you know if I get that or not in the next few days.

Thanks for all the MR work you've done. That's a great resource.

Bob Barrett



## 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Bob:

I numbered each set of MR's I sent via email to [MailCall@517prct.org](mailto:MailCall@517prct.org); in the SUBJECT area there will be a number: 1 to 37. I have looked at my email for each and all look like the were sent. So, look over the numbers and let me know if you are missing any and then I'll send those again.

Also, I did not send a USB this time; I will send one if you need it. I sent you one soon after I finished all the MR's; that would have been somewhere around May 2018.

The file names on the USB I sent will be in this style: A Company - COMPLETED. There also may have been a file on that USB that was named: 123-MASTER LIST - By Company; and then ALL the companies would be under that file; with the same style of A Company - COMPLETED.

If you don't have those COMPLETED company MR's, then you don't have the most complete files; I'll then send you another USB with them on it.

Let me know if those missing files came across or not.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO!

Wells

<  Amy Carlisle Keating is with Helen Beddow and 7 others. Yesterday at 5:55 PM · 

Thank you to The City of Milton!! What a way to honor the hero's of our family and the country!







## 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team

I was searching the web recently – I don't even remember what I was searching for -- and this popped up: <https://www.hollandsentinel.com/x1641098635/WWII-vet-uses-Web-to-stay-connected>

It's an old copy of what I thought was a small local article in the Cohasset, MA newspaper. Apparently, this article on my dad, **Ben Barrett**, written in 2009 got a lot more circulation that I realized at the time. This was in the Holland, Michigan Sentinel newspaper.

Bob Barrett

holland  
**sentinel**.com

### WWII vet uses Web to stay connected

By Mary Jane Hanron

Posted Jul 27, 2009 at 12:01 AM

Updated Jul 27, 2009 at 2:35 AM

Barrett, a World War II army veteran who fought in the Battle of the Bulge along with his comrades of the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team refers to his brothers in battle as, "the real heroes. They are the ones who never came home."

Every day, Ben Barrett places the finishing touches on the daily newsletter he sends to more than 400 recipients. Barrett, a World War II army veteran who fought in the Battle of the Bulge along with his comrades of the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team refers to his brothers in battle as, "the real heroes. They are the ones who never came home."

A special Memorial Day edition of Mail Call, was prepared at his desk facing a wall covered with awards, honors and remembrances from his service in the war. Still humble, yet very nimble at almost 91, Barrett enjoys his days in Cohasset with his family while tirelessly continuing the maintenance of a Web site dedicated to his Paratrooper's Combat Team and its great legacy.

The Memorial Day message to his readers was poignantly simple yet powerful in both its image and words. It began with a quote and a poem from two chaplains of the 517th regiment and was followed by a listing of more than 250 names of their fallen fellow soldiers.



# 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team

May 17, 2019:

<https://www.facebook.com/RMCDECOUVERTE/videos/669151840165864/?sfns=mo>



Yet Unknown, the landing on the beaches of the côte d ' Azur is one of the largest military operations and one of the best prepared of the second world war.

Battlefields, tonight at 20 pm on @rmcdecouverte 📺

On August 15, 1944, nine weeks after Normandy landed, several hundred thousand Americans and Frenchmen landed on the beaches of the Côte d'Azur. It is one of the greatest military operations and one of the best prepared, of the second world war. The allies brought together hundreds of ships flying French, Canadian, English and American pavilions, dozens of barges, supply boats from the four corners of the Mediterranean and the Normandy front. Thousands of fighter planes, bombers, will fly

over the sky of Provence before and during the operation. For months, the greatest strategists of the Allied forces have prepared it thoroughly; The invading army will consist of American soldiers, veterans of landings in North Africa and on the Italian coasts. On these beaches, in these Garrigues transformed then in the battlefield, the landing in Provence was not a Ballad of pleasure. Perfectly coordinated, the operation was able to succeed thanks to the effective action of the networks of resistance and the perfect agreement of Allied warlords.

Loïc Jankowiak replied to a comment on this. ⋮

**17** The 517th's Gang  
2 hrs · 🌐



Last night, the last documentary of **Champs de bataille**, Provence, the forgotten landing, was broadcast on **RMC Découverte**. In this show I had the opportunity to be able to talk about the various faces of operation dragoon but also airborne troops during the operation. This intervention took place at the **Château de Valbourgès**, on the historic drop zone of the 517th prct.

📖 to learn more about the airborne operation in Provence, you can order the 517th's gang here:

➡ <http://bit.do/the-517ths-Gang> ⬅

⚙ · Rate this translation





## 517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team

: <https://www.facebook.com/jeremy.curtis.98434>

I'm proud to say that I come from a long line of men who served in our country's military, dating as far back as the Revolutionary War.

I'd be remiss to not personally recognize them today (and every day) for their commitment to our country and those others throughout the world not strong enough to fight for their own freedom and liberties. They answered the call to serve and did so with great honor and valor.

We are better because of men and women like them.

Most close to my heart are my father, his father, my father's Uncle, and my mom's father. Each have served with honor and integrity and did some very marvelous things. I'm humbled to call them family and love each one of them for the examples they set as patriots who loved this country.

May all who have family and friends who served in the military, and are now passed on, be comforted by our Heavenly Father's spirit, as you reflect this Memorial Day on the greatness of their lives.

Love you dad. Thanks for all the memories.



**Lory Curtis**

Son of Harlan "Bud" Curtis, HQ/1





## *517<sup>th</sup> Parachute Regimental Combat Team*

From [Operation Dragoon and the Champagne Campaign](#)

**Joe Bail.** US PFAB veteran with one of my 75mm Pack Howitzer on the Chateau Valbourges LZ/DZ on 70th Anniversary. It was the first time he had fired a 75mm Pack Howitzer since the war.



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My apologies to **Bruce Broudy**. A few weeks ago, Bruce sent me info for his Dad's story - **Capt. Joe Broudy**, A Company -- to add to the web site and MailCall. It will be in the next MailCall. -- BB



# 517<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.

Website	<a href="http://www.517prct.org">www.517prct.org</a>
Send MailCall news to	<a href="mailto:MailCall@517prct.org">MailCall@517prct.org</a>
MailCall Archives	<a href="http://www.517prct.org/archives">www.517prct.org/archives</a>
2018 Roster (updated!)	<a href="http://www.517prct.org/roster.pdf">www.517prct.org/roster.pdf</a>
Thunderbolt Archives	<a href="http://www.517prct.org/archives">www.517prct.org/archives</a>



*"We oughta tell 'em th' whole army don't look like us, Joe."*