



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



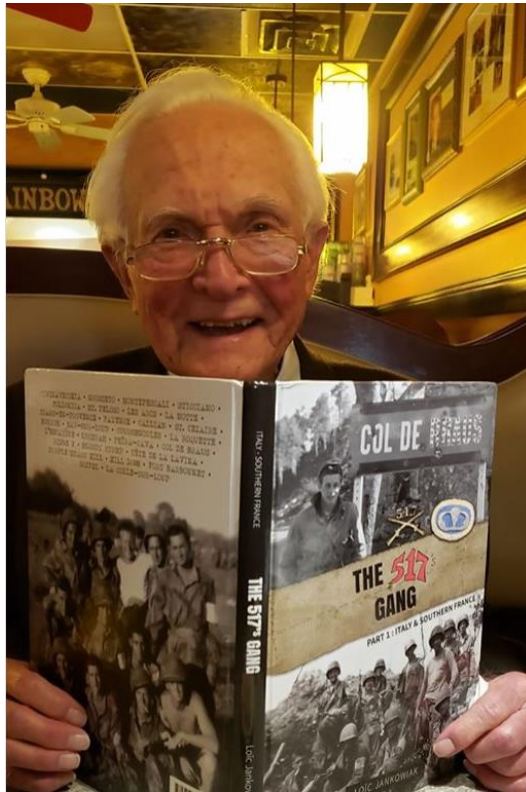
PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2437

March 8, 2020

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

MailCall News



It's HERE!!!

Fantastique!! Bravo, **Loic Jankowiak!!**

- **K. Allan Johnson, 596th PCEC**

Order yours at: <https://1stabtf.com/en/boutique/the-517ths-gang-us-eng-version/>

I received the three books (for my children) and am extremely happy. It is a great book!!

Loic, thank you very much for all the work you put into it. It is a heritage book for their father **Ignacio (Nacho) Vasquez**.

Thanks,

Nila Vasquez Gott



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From *The 517th's Gang*, by **Loïc Jankowiak**, Pg 92.

Cpl. Richard Kachalsky of B Battery tells us about his night jump: *"We were given very precise instructions on what to do when we landed. We were to gather our 75, look up to the moon and go to the right. On the edge of the field we were to set up our guns. The flight to France was routine. However, after we flew over the coast, we immediately received the green signal to jump. When we landed, all was quiet. We found our 75 but couldn't put it together because a wheel was missing. About six from our place were able to get together. When we looked up there was no moon to be seen because of the heavy cloud cover. We finally located a farmer, and with our maps we were able to tell that we landed 20 miles from our drop zone. With the help of a French farmer we went over back roads and reached our outfit in about 12 hours."*

I'm sending the information about my neighbor [Jordan Cornett] who recently graduated from airborne training at Fort Benning. He jumped with the 517PRCT Challenge coin and is now in Advanced training as a Rigger.

There are 3 video's; Jump Video 2 I sent with this email. Jump Video 1 and Jump video 3 will be sent separately due to size.

He provided video of his training and they are is fantastic! Wonder what the members of the 517th would think of the parachutes Jordan used to make his 5 jumps!

Mike Wells

www.517prct.org/mailcall/2437/cornett_jump_video_1.mov
www.517prct.org/mailcall/2437/cornett_jump_video_2.mov
www.517prct.org/mailcall/2437/cornett_jump_video_3.mov





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RE: Wow. I was seriously behind.

Good afternoon, Bob! I have just caught up on this year's Mail Calls - good grief, two months' worth! I had fallen way behind.

First things first -I'm so sorry to hear that **Bob Amerlan** has made his final jump, and so happy he was able to contribute to the latest project by **Loic Jankowiak** before his death.

Although we were able to congratulate Loic in person last summer on his amazing new book, we are thrilled to do so once again in this forum, and for the newly released English version. Tons of photos and testimonies - the depth and breadth is fantastic. Dad's copy arrived and he dove right into it, delighted to see the finished product. We cannot wait to see Part 2!

And Bob, your photo of the 517 books showed me that I still have a few to collect as well.

I need to email **Tom Cross** and wish him a happy belated 101st! His contributions have been so important to preserving the history of the outfit and we're so lucky to have him in our ranks.

I see that **Mike Wells'** neighbor Jordan Cornett, PFC, did qualifying jumps at Benning in late January, and I thank him for honoring the history of the 517 as well. Welcome to the Airborne Family, extended version!

Reading the **Team Rossi** trip summary of our August Adventures brought back great memories. Spending time with them made our trip so much fun!

Finally, I see Charlie O'Neil's request for patches and coins. Please email me personally and we'll see what we can do.

Bob, thank you so much for the friendship gift of Mail Call. Like Ben, we report into you and get news from you. We truly appreciate your ongoing service to the outfit and the family we've become.

hugs all around –

Claire Johnson Giblin
daughter **K. Allan Johnson**, 596



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Then and Now.

C Battery/460th Parachute Field Artillery
Battalion

Les Arcs-sur-Argens
Southern France

D day - August 15, 1944





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

In Memorium – Richard Kachalsky, B Battery, 460th PFAB

Submitted by	Comments:
Name: Lowell Kachalsky From: Yonkers, NY E-mail: defmpihe@yahoo.com	I am writing to inform the 517th of my father, Richard, passing on February 20, 2020. He was part of 460th Battery B. One of many stories my dad told me was one of coming across a Polish women's concentration camp. He recalled that they looked like animals. The guys tossed rations to them, but after a few minutes realized that they made a mistake, as the women were killing each other for the food. Does anyone's dad recall this incident?
Added: March 3, 2020	

From: <https://www.weinsteinchapels.com/schedule-of-services/richard-kachalsky/>

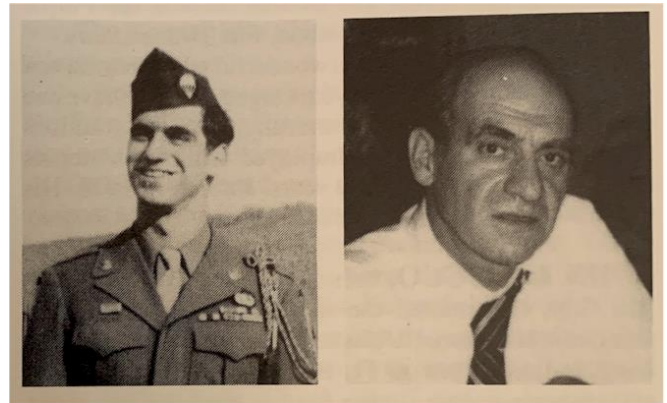
Together again. Born on July 15, 1924, **Richard Kachalsky** was reunited with his beloved wife, Lillian on February 20, 2020, to be together forever in the House of the Lord.

The son of Etta and Philip Kachalsky, Richard was preceded in death by his sisters, Florence Schneider (Melvin) and Gloria Lefkowitz (Seymour). Beloved father of Diane Sori (Manuel) and Lowell Kachalsky, and proud grandfather of Michael and Andrew Sori.

Another WWII veteran of the Greatest Generation is now laid to rest...Richard will live on forever in the hearts of those he loved.

From *517th Parachute Combat Team*, Turner Publishing, 1998:

Richard Kachalsky, born July 15, 1924 in New York City. His family moved to the Bronx in 1926. After graduating high school, he entered the Army and volunteered for the paratroops March 1943. He attended jump training at Ft. Benning, GA for three weeks in 1943. In April he was sent to Camp Toccoa, GA and assigned to Battery B, where he remained until discharged in October 1945.



He participated in campaigns at Ardennes, Central Europe, Rhineland, Rome, Arno, and southern France.

He was awarded the EAME Service Medal with Bronze Arrowhead, Purple Heart, and good Conduct Medal. He was honorably discharged Oct. 31, 1945 at FT. Dix, NJ.

In January of 1946, he entered New York University where he graduated with a BS and then MA. He entered the teaching profession as a junior high school mathematics teacher in 1949 and after 40 years, retired in 1989.

Lillian and he were married in 1950 and moved to Yonkers, NY where they still reside. They have two children, Diane and Lowell and two grandchildren Michel and Andrew. Their retirement years have been wonderful, and they hope it can continue this way for many more years.



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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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"Ya must've missed Headquarters on the way up. It's halfway between where the timber stops growin' an' the sojers start shavin'."