



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

MailCall No. 2451

November 1, 2020

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

MailCall News



On this November 1st, All Saints Day, a thought for the American soldiers who rest at the Rhone Memorial American cemetery.

In these times when all our health staff are very mobilized, Nurse Lieutenant Aleda E Lutz first officer woman killed on the European front, Distinguished Flying Cross, Purple Heart and Air Medal with Four Oak leaf Clusters and Doctor Captain William "Bill" Steinhurst, rest in Draguignan. DIA 76 years ago on 11/1/44.

Since 1968, The Franco-American Society has honored the memory of 860 American service members who sacrificed their lives for liberty and forever rest in Provencal ground at the Rhone American Cemetery in the heart of the City of Draguignan, France.



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

From: JoAnna Novak <joannahnovak@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 27, 2020 9:44 PM
To: webmaster@517prct.org
Subject: Edward Stromski

Hello,

My grandfather was **Edward Stromski**, a member of the 517th. I recently found a photo of him with **Julian Halverson**, and I'm wondering if Julian is still alive. I would love to reach out and see if he has memories of my grandfather--and learn more about his story, too.

Many thanks for your help--

JoAnna

--

JoAnna Novak

www.joannanovak.com

Hi JoAnna,

I see that your grandfather used to be on the mailing list for the old Thunderbolt newsletter, sometime before 2008.) He was listed with I Company. The T-Bolt is no longer being produced for a few years now, as the 517th Association has been retired. (I also see that he died in 2010.)

I also see Julian Halvorson was on that T-Bolt roster, listed as part of the Service Company, but on the December 1944 Christmas roster, I see Halvorson listed with I Company at that time, so I suspect that's how they knew each other. Unfortunately, Halvorson passed away on 8/11/2011 in Burnsville, MN.

Do you know where the phot was taken? I would love to have a copy of that photo, or any other war-time photos or stories for the 517th website.

Regards,

Bob Barrett

MailCall@517prct.org



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Hello Bob,

John Krumm here in Stockholm, Wisconsin. Now that I am more retired and have a bit more time, I had a couple of pictures duplicated of my father, **John H. Krumm** in his uniform. He was in the Second Battalion, Company E, Third Platoon, First Squad. He began as a private and eventually was promoted to sergeant. His squad leader was **Gene Brissey**. My wife, Irene, and I had the good fortune of going to France, Belgium and Bergstein, Germany with Gene and his wife, Eddie on two different trips. These trips were taken in the 1990's, and were, of course, absolutely amazing. We also attended two 517th reunions with them after going on the two trips. My father passed away back in ~~1972~~ 1982 at the age of 58. I am wondering if I could mail you one of the pictures to be put on the 517th website at your convenience. I would need your mailing address to send it to you. I would include the status information I have given in this email. If there is something different I need to do to get his picture posted, please let me know.

My wife and I reside at N2075 Main Street, P.O. Box 615, Stockholm, Wisconsin 54769. Our land line telephone number is xxx-xxx-xxxx.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. I certainly would appreciate whatever you can do to get his picture posted.

John Krumm

Hi John,

Yes, we would love to have the photos and info for the website.

My Mom and Dad went on a couple of Europe trips in the 90's, including one to Belgium in 1994. I finally went to Europe – France and Belgium – once in 2009 with my Dad and several other 517th troopers. And I met wonderful **Gene Brissey** several times at reunions.

Bob Barrett

Thank you so much Bob. I will mail it in the next day or two. I'll bet your trip with your dad was incredible. One of the things that really caught my attention on the trips we took with **Eddie and Gene Brissey** was how much the people in Belgium appreciated Gene as a liberator. Even the young people at a youth hostel showed that appreciation. We stopped at a hostel to get some directions, and a few of the adolescent youngsters came out of the hostel to meet Gene and give us some directions. They characterized him as a liberator. They were appreciative of what he had done as a veteran after all the years that had gone by. Perhaps you experienced something like that too. Those two trips with the Brissey's were highlights in my life.

John Krumm

Gene Brissey →

PS: Gene Brissey's detailed wartime biography, "What did you Do in the War, Daddy?", is on the website:

http://www.517prct.org/documents/brissey/brissey_history.htm





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

Enclosed is the photo of my father, **John H. Krumm**. He was in the Second Battalion, Company E, Third Platoon, First Squad. He started as a private and ended up being promoted to a sergeant. His squad leader was Gene Brissey.

In my original email to you, I mentioned he passed away at the age of 58 in 1972. I made a typo error on that information. He passed away in 1982. He did not have a father as a child and adolescent, but he was an excellent father to his six children and he was good to his wife. He always worked hard to take care of his family.

Thanks for sending out another outstanding Mail Call. It is always special to get a Mail Call from you. That **Robert Smathers** was another amazing, unassuming veteran. **Irma and Arnold Targnion** are such impressive, giving and fun supporters of the 517h They came and stayed at our place a few years ago. Thanks for the information on Cole's book about what took place in the Ardennes. I downloaded it and will be reading it. Those items **Glen Helms** sent you are really interesting, too. **Ray Helms**, Glen's father, was a buddy of **Gene Brissey's**.

Thanks again for all of your time and effort on our behalf. We appreciate the Mail Calls as well as your help on getting our dad's picture on the 5 17th website.

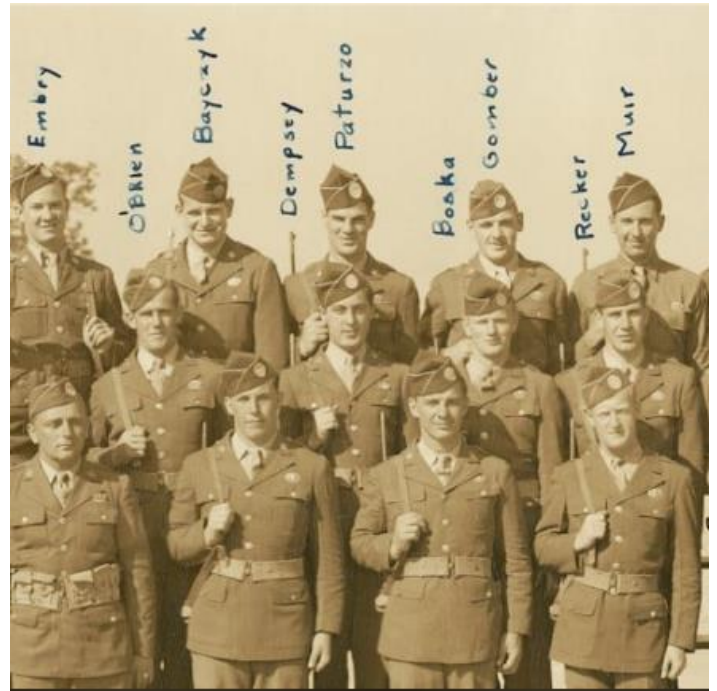
With our best regards,

John B, Krumm





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

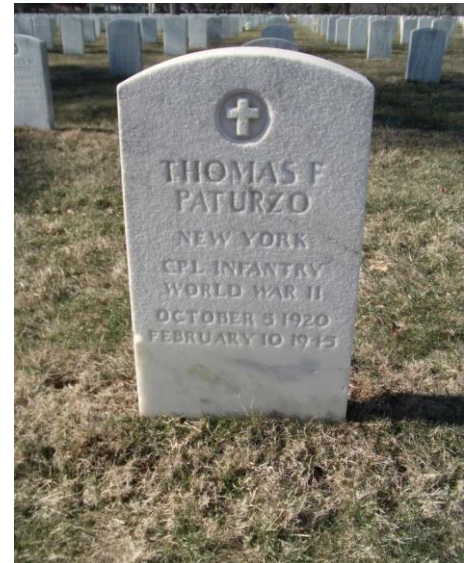


a jacket M42 having been worn by the **T/5 Thomas F Paturzo** as n 32654917 of HQ 3/517 parachute infantry regiment .

He died on February 10, 1945 following his injuries during the counter-offensive in the Ardennes

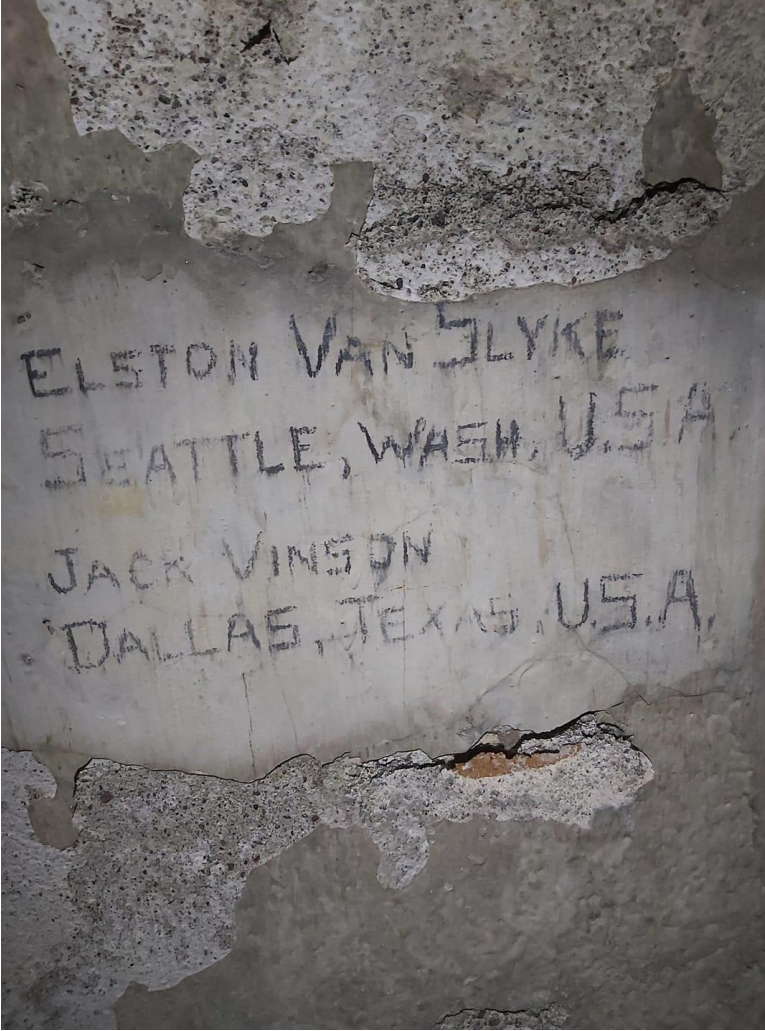
number present in the multi-seat jacket

Posted on [517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team - Families & Friends](#)





517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team



Also from on [517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team - Families & Friends](#)

(posted sept. 9, 2020)

Two American parachutists from the 517th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Company I, left their tracks in a French book in the Niçois hinterland.

Elston Van Slyke
Seattle Wash, U.S.A.

Jack Vinson
Dallas, Texas, U.S.A.

Both from I Company

Posted on [Currahee Military Museum](#), Sept 9, 2020:

Story from **Joseph Hogan**, grandson of **Bill Young**. Photo from Camp Toccoa.

Charles William "Bill" Young of Glens Falls, NY.

- Bill Young enlisted in Feb. 1943 and was one of the original members of C Co.

- He went AWOL in April 1944 in order to marry my Grandmother, Doris Bates but made it back in time to take his lumps and ship out for Italy. As you well know, he saw his first action on June 18, 1944 near Grosseto, Italy. I believe he was a Cpl. at the time and serving as a radio operator and runner for the 1st Sgt.

- He made the jump into Southern France on August 15, 1944 and sustained a broken ankle. He continued to fight and was evacuated three days later.

- I am unclear on how long he was hospitalized because records regarding his return to the 517 are conflicting. They show anywhere between Oct. 3 and Nov. 11. I tend to believe it was some time in October because he had spoken of action in the French Alps. What is clear is that his rank upon



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

returning was now Pfc. I understand that this was voluntary, in order to avoid being used as a replacement.

- He entered action in the Battle of the Bulge with C Co. and was with them when they became separated and surrounded by the SS.

-He was listed as MIA on December 27, 1944 and did not return to duty until January 11, 1945. During this time I understand that he and several other members of C Co. were linked up with armor and patrolling/providing security for them.

-He apparently remained with what was left of C Co. and participated in the action in central Europe.

-He was hospitalized for jaundice in the spring of 1945.

-He was discharged shortly after VJ Day.

Bill Young returned to Glens Falls and tried to put the war behind him. He and my grandmother raised four children, whom have all raised families of their own. He worked as a union printer until an injury placed him on disability in the late 80s. He was a renowned athlete, and notable welterweight boxer. He was a consummate outdoorsman and spent many, many days trekking across his beloved Adirondack Mountains. He was also a fantastic mentor to young people, teaching them how to hunt, fish, handle a canoe, you name it. He lost his wife to cancer in 1999 and lived alone for the past nine years.

I honestly do not know if he was ever able to truly put the war behind him until today. I do know that the events of the Bulge scarred him deeply and he struggled to speak of them his whole life. There is a story in the family that when he was MIA, alone and scared in the Ardennes, he and my Grandmother shared the same dream (vision?). Apparently my Grandmother could see him there, curled up in the snow. She went to him and held him in her arms. When he returned home he related that he had seen and felt here there with him and could hear her telling him to come home. I find it fitting that he is reunited with her at this time of year.



THIS WAS MY
15th JUMP.
SOME LANDING
THE CASE IN
FRONT OF ME HAD
MY RIFLE IN IT
I PULLED MY RESC.
TO CLIMB DOWN



517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team

MANHAY
(Belgique)
11/12/13
DECEMBRE
2020

CANCELED

Entrée gratuite
Free entrance

Avec la présence des
Manhattan Dolls
Arizona - USA

www.ardennes-history-remember.be
Ardennes history remember 44/45

PROVINCE DE LUXEMBOURG
Wallonie tourisme
CGT

ATLB

Commune de Manhay

War Heritage Institute

MHM

A-ICP

O.D.M.

Doxche

The organisation has done what ever they could to prevent the cancellation of this magnificent event..... A big compliment to them. May 2021 be better!

"It is with great regret and above all great sadness that we have to announce the cancellation of the Manhay 2020 event.

The decision has just been taken following the meeting with the municipal authorities, the latest government restrictions as well as the decisions of the governor of the province of Luxembourg relating to the Covid 19 crisis no longer allow us to organize the event.

Regarding the people who are registered and in order of payment, we suggest that you postpone your registrations for the 2021 edition, you will therefore already be registered and in order for 2021, this also applies for rentals and meals, however you can obviously ask to be reimbursed.

Thank you for your understanding and see you soon.

Le comité Ardennes-History-Remember

<http://www.ardennes-history-remember.be/evenement-2020.../>



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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