



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



PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM

**MailCall No. 2452**

November 8, 2020

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

### *Veterans Day - November 11, 2020*



Election or not we will never forget our heroes, it's our duty, even more a few days before Veterans Day.

Les gouvernements passent, qu'importe, nous n'oublions pas nos héros, surtout à la veille du 11 novembre.

-- **The Franco-American Society of Draguignan, France**



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.



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### MailCall News



Dear friends of America,

every year on « All Saints Day » , our daughter, Christine lay flowers in Soy-Hotton, at the US monument. Sorry, the picture is a bit dark ! This monument was dedicated in may 1992 by **Major FRASER and Sheila BOYLE** ; **Bruce CHESTNUT** came to choose the stones in a quarry and about 12 veterans (and wives) attended the ceremony **Charlie KEEN** would have wished this monument for a long time !(quatre bras) This year, we are so sorry because all the patriotic érémonies are cancelled (even Armistice Day) - in private committee, we shall go to pay homage at the US monuments with flowers. We do not know yet if we will be able to celebrate our annual ceremonis in january because of the virus. We do hope you are OK.

Best wishes from Belgium. God bless you.

**Irma and Arnold TARGNION**, Trois-Ponts

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Bob: Beautiful way to remember our heroes on All Saints Day. Thank you for this Mail Call. Hope you and your family are healthy and safe. We are mainly operating out of the house, though I go to the courthouse for my zoom hearings — everything is done remotely until our numbers go down, the ventilation system is brought up to specs and our new procedures for social distancing in reconfigured courtroom are completed. It has been a challenge but reminds me of our American spirit to think of new ways to do the job safely and effectively when an invisible enemy is attacking.

**Pat Seitz**



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

On Nov 7, 2020

Good morning, 517 friends.

Dad has had a very rapid change in condition in the past week, no longer able to stand and walk with his walker. Hospitalized on Sunday, he came home Thursday and is now in home hospice. The sudden and rapid deterioration is heartbreaking.

He's still having some good moments, and we enjoyed a glass of wine with pizza on Thursday night.

I'll keep you posted. You've all been such an important part of his life, and he's so proud of being in the 517. Airborne all the way!

Much love,

**Claire Johnson Giblin**

Daughter, **Kaare Allan Johnson, 596.**

Apologies for incorrect email addresses or recipients inadvertently omitted. Thank you.





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

Hello Joanna

I am the grandson of **Norman L. Ross Jr.** Grandpa was in the same 30 cal. crew with Julian, and both were both in 3rd platoon of I Co. throughout much of the war. My grandfather affectionately called Julian "Swede" even though he knew that Julian was of Norwegian decent and it drove him nuts. After the war, he would routinely call him to keep track of his goings on until Julian's passing. Grandpa also passed about 2 years ago.

I'm sorry to say that Grandpa did not talk about many of the other members of the unit besides Julian. The name **Edward Stromski** does not ring any bells with my conversations with Grandpa. I could ask my uncle to see if he may have heard of the name and if Grandpa told him stories of Edward.

I am curious as to the picture you have with your grandfather and Julian. Is it just of those two, or were there others in the photo?

Feel free to email me.

### Scott Ross

Hi Scott, Hi Bob:

Thank you, Bob, for responding, and I'm sorry for the slow response. I appreciate you connecting me with Scott.

I've attached the picture of Julian and my grandfather, **Edward Stromski**. I know that at the time of enlisting, my grandfather was boxing under the name **Eddie Star** (or maybe Starr—I've seen both). That's what the inscription on this photo says.

My grandfather never spoke about his time in the 517th, or in the war, for that matter. I have heard that perhaps he was injured in training before ever serving in combat. But I know the 517th was important to him: 517 was on every license plate he ever drove.

I would be grateful to you asking your uncle about any stories having to do with Star or Eddie Star—or, perhaps, Jake. Many people called my grandfather that (I think it was a childhood nickname).

All best,  
JoAnna

--  
JoAnna Novak

[www.joannanovak.com](http://www.joannanovak.com)





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

I recently ran across this entry on Wikipedia:

## Saints and Soldiers: Airborne Creed

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*Saints and Soldiers: Airborne Creed* is a 2012 war drama film directed by Ryan Little and produced by Little and Adam Abel. It is based on events that took place during the invasion of Southern France in World War II. The film stars Corbin Allred, David Nibley, and Jasen Wade. The film's story has no relation to the events or characters portrayed in the 2003 war film *Saints and Soldiers*. The film was shot in Utah, on a tight budget, saving money by using volunteer World War II reenactors as some of the actors and extras. The film received mixed reviews; many critics found the film mediocre yet still praised the performances and cinematography.

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### Plot [edit]

In August 1944, the Allies have invaded German-occupied Southern France. German Army Second Lieutenant Erich Neumann (Lincoln Hoppe) executes two French men. On the early morning of August 15, paratroopers from the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team land in Provence, France under heavy fire from the Germans. Two soldiers, Corporals Harland 'Bud' Curtis (Jasen Wade) and James Rossi (Corbin Allred) land separately and alone. Curtis is spotted by a German Patrol and quickly surrenders. After throwing a grenade to distract the Germans, Rossi kills the entire patrol and rescues Curtis. The two set off towards their intended landing area before finding an abandoned shelter where they are followed by Curtis's squad leader Sergeant Caleb Jones (David Nibley). The three travel through the French country as quickly as possible to avoid being pursued. They encounter Neumann and they kill his troops, but spare him.

The three soldiers continue making their way to Les Arcs and agree to help French Resistance prisoners escape. They free three prisoners; Philippe, Gustave and Jacques. The group arrives at Les Arcs and Jones

Saints and Soldiers: Airborne Creed



Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Ryan Little
Produced by	Adam Abel Ryan Little
Written by	Lamonte Grey Lincoln Hoppe
Starring	Corbin Allred David Nibley Jasen Wade
Music by	J Bateman
Cinematography	Ryan Little
Production company	Go Films
Distributed by	Purdie Distribution
Release date	August 17, 2012

The movie isn't quite *Saving Private Ryan*, but it's not bad. The cinematography and sound are impressive for a relatively low-budget independent film. It is available on Amazon Prime video or Tubi. And copies available for sale on Amazon and eBay – BB

My father, **Arthur I. Fournie**, jumped with D Battery, 460th PFAB, on 15 August. I have designed a wargame on the 1st ABTF campaign on D-Day and D+1, in which, of course, the 517th PRCT plays a major role. If you think any of your readers might be interested in this wargame, please consider posting the information on your site. The game is described in detail at <http://www.GMTgames.com> on the P500 page.



Thanks,  
**Daniel Fournie**, US Army, COL (ret)



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

Thank you so much for posting the picture of our father, **John H. Krumm**, on the website as well as showing it in the recent mail call. Your assistance with that posting is appreciated very much by our entire family. Our father did not talk about his experiences in the war, but he definitely did his part to end the tyranny at hand in those treacherous days. He did not view war as something glorious, but as something that had to be done. His rigorous training and experiences added a profound dimension to his life as well as to our families lives. That training and experiences are portrayed exceptionally well by his squad leader, **Gene Brissey**, in Gene's booklet entitled "*A Devil in Baggy Pants*." Gene wrote it for his daughters. I am so pleased that he sent me a copy years ago before we went on those two trips to Europe with him and his wife. It was thoughtful of you to note that booklet of Gene's in that recent email. Thanks again for all your time and effort.

**John Krumm**

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**RE:** William Tanona, H Company

Hi Bobl .Sorry for the delay in this reply. Thank you for the info, I have seen the morning reports and also the Christmas card from1944. Wouldn't that be something if your dad and Bill knew each other. Did your dad talk about his wartime experiences? Bill spoke to me a couple of times, usually after a few beers. I wish he had told me more however I have come to understand why he did not want to talk: Lord only knows what those men went through. I recall reading some time ago that the 517th was tasked in tracking down the ss units that committed the atrocity at Malmedy. I remember Bill telling me that he felt sorry for the regular German army guys, but he loathed the ss. His exact words were " We were not gonna waste food on those sons of b---". I often wonder if he felt that way because of Malmedy. If you want, please post the picture on the website.

Best regards.

**Bryden Chirnside**

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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](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.

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Recently, I had a civilian ortho Doctor ask if I had been airborne when I was in the army. Puzzled ( that was 45 years ago) , I told him that I was. He said the he could tell, because I had what he called "paratroopers' knees "

(found on Pinterest)