

Hello Everyone,

The 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team Association (“517th PRCT”) is at a crossroads, and the members need to make a very important decision regarding its future. Please read this information carefully and print and return a signed ballot using the information below.

The Association is technically a Massachusetts corporation and has obligations to the state and IRS with annual filings. The federal government recognizes the Association as a non-profit veterans group, a 501(c)(19) under IRS regulations. Because the membership of the veterans has been rapidly deteriorating due to age, the 501(c)(19) is not viable long term, and we do not have people who are able to step up to take over the administrative burdens.

To keep operating, the Association will need to restructure to a more general public charity under Massachusetts law and re-register under a different IRS category, all of which has even more bureaucratic obligations. Some of the veterans’ adult children have stepped in to help keep the organization running to date. But it is a lot of work, and we simply do not have the manpower to handle the administrative burdens moving forward.

Because the corporate structure is not sustainable with the resources we have today, the officers and board members decided at the Association’s business meeting in New Orleans to put forth a vote to the members to dissolve the Association. The Board recommends dissolution, but does not believe that that dissolution will impact the most important aspects of how we all interact as individuals.

If the membership votes for dissolution, the board approved a committee, chaired by Rick Seitz, to research where to transfer the Association’s assets to best preserve the history of the 517th. We will have the recommendation from that committee soon about where they believe the Association’s assets are best distributed.

The ballot contains two questions. The first asks if you agree with the Board and vote to allow the Board to proceed with a dissolution. The second asks if you will permit the Committee to choose where the Association’s assets should be distributed. The ballot also requests your permission to count your vote via mail, email, or over the phone without calling a physical meeting. We also ask that you please provide information about who you are and whether you are a veteran who has served honorably, and particularly as a member of the 517th PRCT.

Thank you for understanding. If you have any questions, please reach out to any of us via MailCall or any other way that is convenient to you.

Sincerely,

The Directors and Officers of the 517th PRCT



**517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team Association, Inc.
BALLOT**

Due by November 9, 2015

MEMBER FIRST & LAST NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER (if any): _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (if any): _____

Did you serve honorably with the 517th Parachute Regimental Combat Team? Yes No

If not, are you a current or former member of the U.S. Armed Forces? Yes No

QUESTION 1: Do you authorize the Board to seek dissolution of the Association?

Choose one: Yes No Abstain (The board recommends that you vote "yes.")

QUESTION 2: Whether or not you voted "yes" for dissolution above, in the event that members vote to dissolve the Association, do you authorize the Association to distribute its assets to a non-profit charity dedicated to the history of World War II and the memory of the veterans who served in that war, as chosen by the advisory committee established by the directors?

Choose one: Yes No Abstain (The board recommends that you vote "yes.")

I expressly permit the Association to record the vote in writing via mail or email or over the phone without convening a physical business meeting. (Please check the box.)

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

FULL NAME & TITLE _____

(when signing on behalf of a member as attorney or guardian)

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Return to Joanne Barrett, 517th PRCT, 70 Pleasant St., Cohasset, MA 02025 or via email at addiejb@gmail.com. You may also vote via conference call at the Business Meeting on November 10, 2015, at 19:00 ET. Please call (712) 775-7031 and enter code 852442.

The Thunderbolt Newsletter

15303 Indian Paint Circle
Bluffdale, UT 84065

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Email: MailCall@517prct.org

Website: 517prct.org

Webmaster: Bob Barrett

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Editor Claire Giblin

The Thunderbolt issue at Camp Mackall, N.C. March 1944

First Anniversary Edition

THE THUNDERBOLT



Published By The Men Of The 517th Parachute Combat Team

Volume 1 Camp Mackall, N. C., March, 1944 Number 6

Look Out Below . . .



Men Of 517 Finish First Year Of Sweaty Preparation

Toccoa, Benning, Mackall Taken In Stride By Walshmen

In the first issue of the THUNDERBOLT Col. Walsh's biography was presented to the Men of 517. It pointed out the number of times the regimental commander had come so close, and yet his Irish luck had always held. Maybe it is appropriate, that on March 15, 1943, his regiment should have been activated, so near the day celebrated for the Patron Saint of his so-called luck. But the luck angle becomes an arrow at that point . . . and the arrow points straight to one thing . . . work. Luck is nice to



A YEAR AGO TODAY

Organization Day and we are one year old—a year of high hopes and strong resolve—a year that presents a bold challenge to the future. All of us, Infantry, Artillery and Engineers, now are welded together into a compact, fighting unit, ready to join our comrades overseas and do battle with our enemies. Welded by hard, shared work, indur