

VOL. XXXIV

POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

JUNE 1997



OFLAG 64 REUNION Newport, RI, Sept. 2-5, 1997

* * *

You are the survivors of the world's greatest war. You are one of fourteen hundred unique survivors of a German prisoner of war camp in Poland. Many of you made a forced six hundred kilometer march across northern Germany in the dead of winter. Many of you (700) made it to Hammelburg where you were liberated by Patton's army, but unfortunately the freedom was short lived and it was another trip to Moosburg, Germany. Others found their way across Russian soil to freedom by boat.

All of you are survivors of Father Time, and he is catching up. So we gather once more to share memories of an everlasting comradeship.

Because this may be our last reunion, then it may also be the last opportunity for us to meet the many buddies who have survived--and also commemorate those who have already passed on.

We will gather in Newport, Rhode Island, at the historic Viking Hotel for a busy and exciting time beginning on Tuesday, September 2nd. The four-day

program has been essentially outlined at the end of this article, but what follows are some details and suggestions to help make your trip more enjoyable.

The historical 4-1/2 hour tour by boat and bus will end up with a grand tour of one of Newport's most famous mansions. It begins at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, September 2nd. Therefore, if you are not coming by car so that you can be at the hotel by noon, you should make your reservations at the hotel for the evening of September 1st.

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Your hotel is a National Historic Landmark combining old world charm with modern amenities. Their banquet rooms and other facilities are elegant. The service and personal attention of the staff have made the Viking famous.

The hotel is located in the center of town and within walking distance of the harbor. Many of the unique shops and eating places overlook the sailboat and yacht mooring area. Tall ships are frequent visitors.

In order to promote and encourage socialization and conversation, the Hospitality Room will be open from 7:30-9:30 each morning when coffee and donuts will be served. It will be open from 7:00-10:00 each evening and complimentary assorted drinks will be available.

There will be short bus rides to all of the major events, including a real New England Clambake, a trip to Battleship Cove with many other museums available in the area, and a tour of the Naval Undersea Warfare Laboratory which explores the latest in submarine technology. It may be expedient to have some people with cars follow the bus to these events.

In order to get people from the Providence Airport to the Viking Hotel, I am organizing a volunteer motor pool to meet those coming by plane at the airport. I will need to have your time of arrival, the flight number and name of the airline, and the number of people in your party. In case we cannot make connections, there is a Newport Shuttle (run by Cozy Cab Co.) that runs every hour and costs \$15 per person.

For those of you who plan on spending time in the area after the reunion, there will be available only ten rooms (first come, first served) on Saturday and Sunday, September 6 and 7, at the Viking at the special rate of \$119 plus tax. I have made arrangements to handle any overflow at a Best Western Hotel located in Newport. They will accommodate any others at \$98 for weekends and \$89 weekdays. You should know also that we have only 60 rooms reserved at the Viking Hotel. No reservations will be taken after July 18th, so get your reservation in now!

Following the Memorial Service on Friday, we will have one bus to take people to the Providence Airport by 1:00 PM. Others who may want to go to other hotels in the vicinity of Providence can also take this bus.

A final note—those of you who have been to New England know how much there is to see between New York City and Maine. Those of you who have not visited here should make arrangements to explore the other attractions, including Boston and other places like Plimoth Plantation, Mystic Museum, Cape Cod, and Acadia National Park.

The month of September has the most pleasant weather of the year. You may need a light jacket for evening.

If you have any questions or problems regarding your attendance at the reunion, or otherwise, please feel free to call or write Walter and Gloria Heisler, 222 Prospect Road, Wakefield, RI 02879-7060 (tel. 401-783-5597).

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OFLAG 64 REUNION
September 2-5, 1997
Schedule of Events

MONDAY - September 1

All Day Hotel check in

TUESDAY - September 2

7:30 - 9:30 Hospitality Room - Coffee 'and'
9:00 - 4:00 Registration
1:00 - 5:30 Historical boat and bus tour of Newport with
visit to mansion
5:30 - ??? Dinner on your own
7:00 - 10:00 Hospitality Room - Beverages

WEDNESDAY - September 3

7:30 - 9:30 Hospitality Room - Coffee 'and'
9:00 - 2:00 Late Registration
10:15 - 11:45 Trip to Naval Undersea Warfare Lab
1:30 - To clambake site for fun, games, socializing, food
Transportation via school bus, vans and car pooling
3:00 - Clambake bell rings
Clam chowder to watermelon (including a choice of
lobster OR steak
5:00 - On your own - explore the waterfront, etc.
7:00 - 10:00 Hospitality Room - Beverages

THURSDAY - September 4

7:30 - 9:00 Hospitality Room - Coffee 'and'
9:00 - 10:30 Business meeting
9:00 - 10:30 Something for the Ladies
11:00 - 4:00 Battleship Massachusetts Tour - Lunch (on your own)
available on the Battleship
4:00 - 6:00 On your own
6:00 - 6:30 Cash bar
6:30 - ??? Banquet
9:00 - 11:00 Hospitality Room

FRIDAY - September 5

7:30 - 10:00 Brunch and Memorial Service

GOOD-BYES

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REGISTRATIONS FOR NEWPORT REUNION AS OF MAY 31:

Chris Heisler (2)
 Herb Garris (1)
 Don Lussenden (2)
 Clarence Meltesen (2)
 George Juskalian (2)
 Thomas Miller (2)
 Matthew Smith (2)
 Ray Klinkenborg (1)
 William Gray (2)
 Robert Oshlo (2)
 William Warthen (2)
 Edward Batte (2)
 Irving Yarock (1)
 O. L. Bradford (1)
 H. Randolph Holder (2)
 F. Eugene Liggett (2)
 John Slack (2)
 Lewis Lowe (2)
 Martin Keiser (1)
 Leonard Warren (2)

TO OUR MEMBERS: we are in the planning stage of creating bronze memorial plaques to commemorate the existence of Oflag 64 and 64Z. The plaques will feature in relief the drawing of Oflag 64 by Jim Bickers with a simple factual statement of time and place below honoring the Officers and Enlisted Men of Oflag 64 and 64Z. One of the plaques will be on display at Andersonville on April 9, 1998, which is the date of the Dedication of Andersonville. We are presently engaged in discussions with The Presidio and Carlisle Barracks to have the plaques displayed there, as well. For the benefit of all, we have included a photo copy of the plaque on page 9 of this issue.

THE EDITORS

ANDERSONVILLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE: FRED thank you for all the arrangements you are making to provide space for the Oflag 64 Historical Plaque. We are very pleased with the computer designed model, and a photo will be sent to you for planning purposes. If arrangements can be made with Amanda Rhodes for a continuation of the Oflag 64 interviews as we have proposed, we would be most grateful and the history records would be more complete. **FRED BOYLES, SUPERINTENDENT**

LEESBURG, FL: JACK and LYNNE thank you for the pretty card and your generous donation to the Postage Fund. Yes, we will see you in Newport. **JACK AND LYNNE VAN VLIET**

HIGHTSTOWN, NJ: ANNE thank you so much for your nice note and the check for the Postage Fund. We do hope you will consider joining us at the reunion in Newport, RI September 2-5. I know that you will enjoy yourself. **ANNE RUDEL**

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL: RALPH we are certainly pleased to learn you are getting so much satisfaction from your Purple Heart miniature pin. Thanks for the photos and your nice long letter with the generous check for the Postage Fund. We do enjoy your calls and your many letters. **RALPH TEDESCHI**

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WAKEFIELD, RI: GLORIA and CHRIS we do hope that your request to the Service Journals and your personal letters to the Oflag 64 Kriegies living in the New England states have produced an enthusiastic response!
GLORIA AND CHRIS HEISLER

UPPER ARLINGTON, OH: DODY thank you for sending the obituary of Tuck's death. We were able to inform our members of his passing in our last issue and his obituary is included in this June issue. **DODY BROWN**

OCEAN SHORES, WA: JOANNE we have received your beautiful letter describing your life with Hugh. We will print his obituary in this issue of the *Item*. **JOANNE HARRIES**

HENDERSONVILLE, NC: JOHN thank you for your reminiscence of Milt Jellison in Oran, and yes, he was a fine guy. We are pleased to learn you plan to join us in Newport this fall. We are publishing Louise Bailey's *Five Walnuts*, even if we don't recall anything about a walnut tree. **JOHN CREECH**

BANGOR, ME: DOT your recent card and that of the First Baptist Church of Bangor is greatly appreciated.
DOROTHY JELLISON

CENTREVILLE, VA: GEORGE we received your notice of the passing of Jerry Long and a copy of his obituary via Tom and Sue Lawson. Thank you, George, and we look forward to seeing you at Newport.
GEORGE JUSKALIAN

DES MOINES, IA: BOB we were certainly sorry to learn of the heart attack of Col. Dick Moss. We hope his condition has improved at this time. We thank you for the copy of Timothy Grover's article *Camp Dodge*. The 26-page article is a bit much to include in the *Item*, but we will publish a summary. The entire article will be available for perusal at Newport.
BOB ECKMAN

DES MOINES, IA: KAY and MICHELLE the members of Oflag 64 share with you the loss of Tom. Our visit to the Museum was greatly appreciated by all of us and the Museum is a tribute to the 34th Infantry Division and its record in WWII.
KAY and MICHELLE BOLTON

ROCK RAPIDS, IA: RAY thank you for the kind note and your contribution to the Postage Fund. So happy your wife and daughter enjoyed the Des Moines reunion. We are certain they will enjoy Newport, as well.
RAY KLINKENBORG

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SHERWOOD, AR: BESS we now have Billy's obituary and it is included in this issue. For Billy's many friends from Oflag 64 who share your loss, we are including your new address. We all hope that you will join us in Newport this fall for what may be our final gathering. 106 Lagru Drive, Sherwood, AR. 72120
BESS BINGHAM

DENVER, CO: JACK we are glad you received the Rennion Registration forms. We hope that you will again bring daughter Julie with you to Newport. We all enjoyed meeting her.
JACK RATHBONE

TULSA, OK: BOB thank you for your generous check to the Postage Fund. We look forward to hearing more about your revisiting the Anzio beachhead and the battle place at Magliano when we meet again in Newport.
BOB THOMPSON

OAKLAND, CA: JIM we are pleased with our discussion with Mr. Broyles at Andersonville. For your and all members information, Clarence Meltesen's new book is completed. The title is *After the Battle: Ranger Evasion and Escape From the Days of Anzio on to Oflag 64 and Liberation*. The book is \$15.00. One may call Clarence at (415) 584-7537 or write him at 810 Gonzales Drive, 4D, San Francisco, CA 94132-2221.
JIM SHERMAN

LOUISVILLE, KY: BILL we were happy to hear from you and to forward your note to Russ Ford at his new address. We hope to see you in Newport this fall. **BILL CORY**

HOUSTON, TX: TED we are so glad to have had a chance to respond to your concerns. We do hope you will join us in Newport in September.
TED ROGGEN

VALLINGBY, SWEDEN: CLAIRE and **HENRY** we are happy that our address system is now in place. Your advice re. the gifts is well taken, and we have taken action in another direction. We look forward to having you join us in Newport. **CLAIRE and HENRY SÖDERBERG**

NORTH TONAWANDA, NY: LILLIAN and **RICHARD** thank you for the Postage Fund check and your nice note. We are pleased that you enjoy the *Oflag Item* and our staff appreciates your interest. **LILLIAN and RICHARD MANTON**

KINSTON, NC: MARION our deepest sympathy and condolences to you over the loss of your brother Tom. He lived a fine and prosperous life filled with service to others. He will be greatly missed in his community. We are including his obituary in this *Item*. We hope that you can be with us and the Heislars in Newport this September.
MARION PARROTT

VIDALIA, GA: BILL thank you for your note and the enclosures. The tribute to Ellen Bryan is super, and we are including it in this issue of the *Item*. Our members who attended the Atlanta reunion will remember the sweet little lady we met there and enjoyed her company. **BILL WARTHEN**

KAUFMAN, TX: HELEN and ROY thank you for your note regarding the passing of Billy Bingham. We will have the list you requested at Newport. **HELEN and ROY CHAPPELL**

BLOOMFIELD, NJ: PADRAIG thank you for your contribution to the Postage Fund. We were sad to learn of the loss of your wife of 54 years last September. We learned from your note of your long and interesting military service. We certainly wish you would join us in Newport this September. **PADRAIG ODEA**

ANNANDALE, VA: JOHN so glad you enjoyed the *Task Force Baum* in the last issue. Thank you for the nice Postage Check and be certain to take Herb up on his luncheon offer when next he visits his daughter. See you in Newport. **JOHN DAVIS**

SAN JOSE, CA: LLOYD thank you for your letter. We are so pleased that the floods and bad weather did not directly affect you. Please make a real effort to meet with Ralph and all the rest of us at Newport in September. **LLOYD BROWN**

NEWPORT NEWS, VA: BROOKS many thanks for the two letters describing our transportation by the Germans from Normandy to Rennes and from there by train to Stalag XII at Limberg. Especially interesting is the kindness shown by the French, who gave us food along the way. **BROOKS KLEBER**

TULSA, OK: BOB we are so grateful for your efforts in the production of *The Italy Story*. Our members will be equally impressed with the efforts of Alberto and Giovanni and the other Italian citizens in the research in putting this presentation together. *The Italy Story* will be available to read in the Hospitality Room in Newport. **BOB THOMPSON**

ALEXANDRIA, VA: ELLENOR and NAT thank you for your generous check to the Postage Fund and especially for the "Letters to the Editor" from folks like us and the weak reply by Lanouette (in re. to the controversy of the exhibit of the *Enola Gay*). *For our members, Nat is a volunteer in the Smithsonian and is therefore knowledgeable of the controversy. We are glad to see this coming to an end.* **ELLENOR and NAT HOSKOT**



CENTERVILLE, VA: GEORGE
 thank you for the enclosure of Richard Demirjian's thoughtful notes on the review of his book. In the process of getting Jim Bickers approval to use his drawing of Oflag 64 on the plaque, we have learned that he has mostly recovered from his medical problems. However, Emmy Lou will be under medical supervision until close to the date of the Newport Reunion. He hopes that they will be able to attend, as do we, as well!
GEORGE JUSKALIAN

SAN RAFAEL, CA: BEL and MATT
 thank you for your generous check to the Postage Fund and most of all for the beautifully written obituary of Thomas Davidson Drake II, son of our Senior American Officer in Oflag 64.
BEL and MATT SMITH

LARGO, FL: RUSS thank you for "Newport Revisited". We look forward to seeing those lovely homes described therein. Please give it a try to get to Newport. For the friends of Russ, his address is: The Homestead, Room 213, 750 Starkey Road, Largo, FL. 33771, telephone (813) 585-0685. **RUSS FORD**

DECATUR, AL: THE FAMILY OF G.H. MUNGESTER, we have only a brief note on your loss and send our condolences to your entire family. He was one of our own, and we would greatly appreciate it if you could send a copy of the obituary and eulogy, so we can include them in the next issue of the *Oflag Item*. **G.H. MUNGESTER**

SAN DIEGO, CA: PAT another graduate sent us the well-written appreciation of Thomas by Frank Kane, and it is included in this issue of the *Item*. Ed Saxby, a classmate of Tom, sends you his very best. **PAT DRAKE**

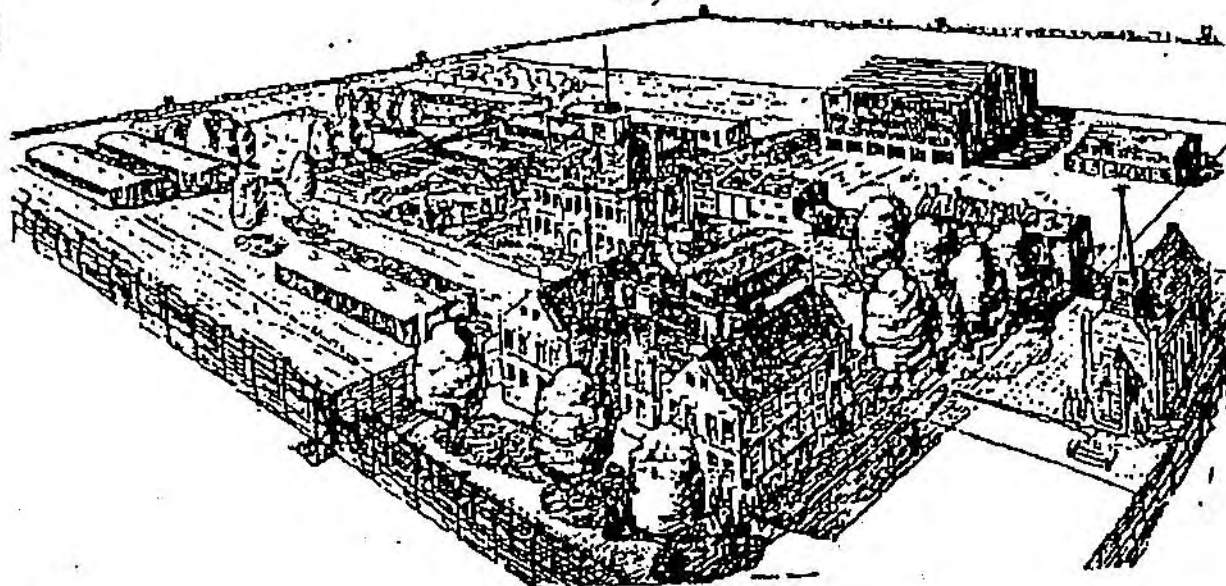
LAWTON, OK: MARTY thank you for your note and extracts from "The Cannoneer." Things are looking up for the enlisted soldier (see included article from the *Fort Sill Cannoneer*.)
MARTIN KEISER

SEE YOU IN NEWPORT!!

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND USE: Postage Fund checks should be sent to one of the Secretary-Treasurers and letters with news or general information to the Secretary-Treasurer or the Guest Editors. Please make checks payable to Oflag 64 Item.



James Bickers

**IN HONOR OF THE
UNITED STATES ARMY**

Officers and Enlisted Men
As Prisoners of War
in OFLAG 64 and 64Z
Szubin Poland and Schokken Poland

6 June 1943

21 January 1945

SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICERS

Col. Thomas D. Drake

Col. Paul R. Goode

Lt. Col. Doyle A. Yardley

Col. Hurley E. Fuller

Liberations at
Moosburg, Germany and Odessa, Russia

The Atlanta Journal / The Atlanta Constitution

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Devoted leader shares love, lore of Girl Scouts

By Paula Schwed
STAFF WRITER

At the age of 93, Ellen Nowell Bryan has outgrown neither her Girl Scout uniform nor her devotion to the organization that celebrates its 85th anniversary this month.

"It's been my great joy," Bryan said. "That hasn't changed."

Long a leader of Girl Scouts in the South and on the national board, she still goes to board meetings and celebrations for the organization founded in Savannah by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912. It's estimated that there are 50 million former Girl Scouts living in the United States. Many of them still make donations, attend meetings and train their descendants in the lore they grew up with.

"Women like Ellen Bryan are devoted to Girl Scouting. They bleed green blood," said Judi B. Bargo, marketing director for the Northwest Georgia Girl Scout Council.

But the Girl Scouts need more adult volunteers in an era where working mothers have created a shortage of women willing to lead troops. Recruiting efforts

have widened to include women who are not necessarily mothers. Emphasis on earning badges in homemaking skills has shifted to computer facility, car care, wildlife expertise and more. Special attention is paid to the role an all-girls organization can play in strengthening confidence.

"Girls are different now, but Girl Scouting keeps changing all the time, and it still trains girls," said Bryan, who lives in Burkhead. Her late husband, Wright Bryan, once was editor of The Atlanta Journal and her grandfather was mayor of Atlanta. She has three children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The web of friendships formed from her earliest days with the Girl Scouts, in the late 1920s, is what means the most to Bryan. She was instrumental, as commissioner of Atlanta's Scouts, in operating the organization to black youth in a segregated era. "In those days, you just didn't mix," she said. And she speaks with great verve of the fight to raise enough money to keep Girl Scout founder Low's stately birthplace in Savannah from being razed.

"I'm very proud of that. It was going to be a parking lot!" Bryan said with disgust.



Social

Ellen Nowell Bryan (center) with Newell Tozzer (left), Keeley Sullivan Jurgovan.

Northwest Georgia Girl Scouts

Twenty counties are part of the Northwest Georgia Council of the Girl Scouts, and about 30,000 girls belong. A recruitment drive begins this spring to encourage more adult volunteers to lead troops. For information call 404-527-7667 or see the Girl Scouts home page, <http://www.gsusa.org>

Media with a message

Times-News

VOLUME 119, NUMBER 357

Hendersonville N.C./Sunday, December 22, 1996

ALONG THE RIDGES

Given were five walnuts, a special symbol



LOUISE BAILEY

The Christmas spirit is everywhere. Brilliant lights shimmer across spacious yards; doorways and windows are framed in gold and silver tinsels; shopping bags fairly burst with gifts for the traditional underscoring of love and caring among families and friends.

It's an exciting time, but more than that, a meaningful time, renewing the age-old message of hope. It's a time for remembering people whose determination to bring cheer to others has kept the Christmas spirit alive under the most difficult circumstances.

One of those people was Dr. John Creech, a resident of Flat Rock for some years now, but once a lieutenant serving in World War II. He was captured in North Africa and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp in Poland, and that was where he and some 1,500 other officers were at Christmas.

Lt. Creech had been there only a short time when he noticed an abandoned greenhouse and he persuaded the Germans to let him put it to use. Little did they know he was already considered one of the most accomplished greenhouse authorities and horticulturists in America, and that his knowledge of specific environmental requirements of plants was boundless. He went right to work in that isolated building, and although his hours were long and lonely, nowhere did he feel more at home than in a greenhouse, and his cheerfulness as he worked among his plants seemed to permeate the entire camp.

But the undertaking was not without problems. In the dead of winter, nighttime temperatures dropped to 30 and 40 degrees below zero and the plants could not survive without some way to keep them warm.

Lt. Creech was not long finding a way. He traded cigarettes to his German guard for black market — or stolen — coal. Then, in the dark of midnight when few people were stirring, he slipped over to the greenhouse to stoke his fires.

Lt. Creech had fellow prisoners ask their families back home to send packages of seed to be germinated in the greenhouse and ultimately planted in garden plots outside. The Red Cross in France and Holland, as well as in America, even the Royal Horticultural Society of London, sent seed.

There was the problem of spading the ground, for the men had no gardening tools. But the problem was short-lived when Lt. Creech and others convinced the Gestapo that something was hidden underground in the garden plots. A garrison promptly marched in and went to digging.

When they overlooked an area, the prisoners laughed and joked and made gestures indicating the Germans had missed the treasure they were expecting to find. Thereupon the diggers rushed to the spot and worked feverishly, unearthing no treasure, but leaving behind them a well-spaded garden with every inch suitable for planting.

The growing season was short, food packages from home arrived too irregularly to be counted on, and additional POWs came into camp, so the success of the garden was vital.

Lt. Creech had divided the space into plots, each plot the responsibility of a different group of men, and not a single space was left idle. The work was backbreaking and the men were weakened from hunger, but they knew the dire need to grow vegetables enough to supplement their starvation rations.

The venture proved successful, and so much so that John Creech was later awarded a Bronze Star for his contribution to the health and nutrition of his fellow prisoners.

As Christmas drew near, space in the greenhouse had necessarily favored vegetables, but Lt. Creech by no means set aside his flowers.

He put his fresh flowers in the chapel for each Sunday service, and he made wreaths for the graves of fellow prisoners. A flowering plant was sent to the bedside of every

And something extra was added for the Christmas season. A collection of tulip bulbs sent by the Dutch had been forced in the greenhouse and were in their full glory on Christmas Day, cheering the hearts of men who longed for home and family. Along with the tulips were potted plants from the greenhouse, some so large and luxuriant a man could carry only one at a time as he plodded through two feet of snow on the way to the mess hall. Music welcomed men who had no assurance they would live to see another Christmas.

The meager rations offered that day bore no resemblance whatever to a traditional Christmas dinner. Yet, in a simple, unmistakable way, the Christmas spirit was there.

Men who had kept vigil over a walnut tree, collecting the nuts as they ripened and fell, had stashed them away until Christmas. Then, at each fellow-prisoner's plate was laid five English walnuts, a symbol of the traditional giving of gifts that has a special meaning at Christmastime.

Louise Bailey, a native of Henderson County, lives in Flat Rock. She is the author of several historical books on the people of Henderson County and writes from a lifelong interest in the history of the area.

THE PILOT-Southern Pines, NC

Monday, April 21, 1997

Parker Was First In, Last Out

LAST MAN OUT: A PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF THE VIETNAM WAR

By James E. Parker Jr.
John Collier and Sons,
Camden, S.C. 29020, 1997,
\$23.95.

BY HERBERT L. GARRIS

Close to three million Americans served their country in the Vietnam War. One of the first in, and the last American out, grew up in Southern Pines. He attended Sunday School at the Church of Wide Fellowship on Beaufort Street, went to what is now the Southern Pines Middle School, and as a teenager hung out on weekends at the Clam Box. He was not a "prize winning child," but rather a tow headed, rowdy youngster known for doing unordinary, rambunctious things.

No one suspected that a few short years after leaving the Sandhills that he would lead men in jungle combat and be decorated for valor; that he would later join the CIA, and with his wife from Sanford accept an undercover assignment to return to the Orient, fight with hill-sitbe guerrillas near the China/North Vietnamese border and eventually evacuate sensitive CIA agents as tens of thousands of North Vietnamese soldiers were bearing down his back.

He would reflect on his 10 year involvement in the Vietnam War standing on the bridge of the merchant marine ship sent to get him. This is what he wrote in the last chapter of "Last Man Out:" "I shut my eyes and heard the familiar sounds of battle--bombs going off, bullets whizzing overhead, helicopter blades whirring noisily above me, men screaming. I remembered the surges of adrenaline as my body tensed when I heard noises in the jungle night. I remember holding Goss when he died and saw the young North Vietnamese soldier struggling gallantly to live. I smelled the dead from the ARVN

21st Division morgue. I felt the tight confines of the tunnel at Cu Chi when I knew a wounded VC was nearby, underground, in the dark. I saw the VC coming up out of the hole and I saw the muzzle blast as he fired at me. I heard Slippery Clunker Six reciting poetry, and I remembered standing by his body bag at Minh Thanh. And always the civilians--the children huddling next to their mother in Can Tho, the farmers refusing to make eye contact, the orphans playing at Vi Thanh, and Loi protecting my body. I saw the Oriental moon through layers of jungles and the sun rising in the mountains and setting over rice fields. I could taste the lukewarm, iodinated water from my canteen and Castro's C-rations stew, and I could smell putrid sweat and feel the rain and the heat and the pain and the anguish and I heard myself yell at Patrick not to die.

"My mind was briefly out of control. Everything I had seen or heard or thought or done in this war merged together and then into the chaotic scene before me and I stopped and looked at the Vung Tau harbor and the thousands of South Vietnamese refugees who were trying to follow us home.

"What was the value to all this?" This local boy lived an amazing life of danger, drama, humor and adventure in Vietnam. He wrestled with imponderable moral questions. In his second memoir (after "Codename Mule: Fighting The Secret War In Laos For The CIA"), he treats us to 431 pages of his reflections, and it is all too short. He is a master story-teller and although he does not wander from his passionate thesis that the legacy to our involvement in Vietnam is the unrequited dedication of the young American men who fought the war--his book is action packed entertainment. You will remember Paxitales Swan and the "professor" and the insurance scam and his mother running her trembling fingers over his lips when he came

home. You will remember Peterson's death and the trip to the 93rd Hospital and the Monte Carlo casino and Kim Novak and meeting "that" girl in Sanford and the war protester at Chapel Hill and adopting the children and the draft dodger in Vi Thanh and the bodyguard taking spears in the chest and angry



James E. Parker Jr.

General Hai and burning the money and the Pioneer Contender and driving the landing boat up the coast of Vietnam the day after the American Embassy was evacuated. You will live the whole Vietnam war through his eyes and through his wonderfully relaxed, unpretentious prose. His writing style never gets in the way of the action and the humor. But be forewarned, he is graphic in his war reportage.

You will like "Last Man Out" especially if you served in Vietnam because it tells the story of the war--your story--in a positive, straightforward, dignified way. And you will like "Last Man Out" if you did not serve, because it makes this war an understandable human event. But mostly you will like "Last Man Out" because the author, James E. Parker Jr. is one of us, the product of our community, who served us proudly, with humility and humor. He behaved in a way we want someone from our town to behave in the surreal insanity of war--where men go out to kill other men. His

examination of the fragile, trusting loving, hating, doubting human foibles in the Vietnam War is ir. aighful and inspiring. And the unusual start-to-finish scope of a native son's experiences in Vietnam and his candid insider look at CIA field operations is truly unique. No one else, no other book, has reported the last days of the American involvement in the Vietnam War in quite the same way. "Last Man Out" is a wonderful book: the best I've read on Vietnam, maybe the best memoir ever to be written about that war.

My heartfelt admiration to Parker and his wife Brenda, for what they accomplished over there. Although giving credit to others who served and died in Vietnam, Parker was also describing his and Brenda's contributions when he said, "In time of shifting values, they reaffirmed the ageless principles of duty and country...They kept the faith...God bless them every one. Amen."

Armenian-Americans: Forgotten Heroes

TRUMP AND GLORY: ARMENIAN

WORLD WAR II HEROES

By Richard M. Deminjian
Asarat Heritage Publishing
Co., P.O. Box 396, Merced, Calif.
94566-0396, 1996.

BY HERBERT L. GARRIS

This is a book which has as its focus the legendary traditions of a minority people who have sought peace, a right to their religion and culture, and lived for hoped for freedom and independence.

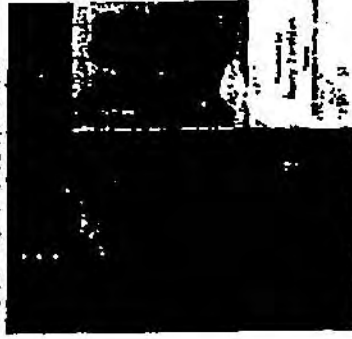
This heritage of the Armenians has deep roots over many centuries and has required them to suffer much oppression and harsh rule with the resultant loss of all but their dignity and pride for them to find homes in America. The most striking characteristic as judged by the reviewer is their resilience and strong determination to make a successful integration into the mainstream of American society. As early as Jamestown, Va., in 1618 they have served this country loyally and well in all the wars throughout its more than 200 years of history. Several of the heroes depicted in the first book were successful military careers.

My highest esteem goes to Richard M. Deminjian, the author, for his wide and professional research, mainly for the fine personal interviews of the subjects themselves, and complemented by input from the media and family members. His goal was achieved and it shows good taste, elegant writing style and an unparalleled dedication to his countrymen, and these heroes particularly.

in the majority had to flee from the unbearable Armenian persecution inflicted upon them in Turkey and Russia especially. What remains they showed, as these closely knit families came to America and here found and continued a love of God and their native country with a willingness to do hard work and succeed. They like many others of

TRUMP AND GLORY

ARMENIAN World War II Heroes



our new arriving ethnic groups, came here and, soon, adapted to some degrees of assimilation; yet became good students and were brought up with high moral standards of conduct. They stood tall today as an example for us to be proud of.

The readers will enjoy the demonstration of the exceptional patriotism and sacrifice with some of the individuals shown here.

Some examples are: the U.S. Marines and soldiers who were caught and made the Bataan Death March, and those who fought along with the sailors both on the surface and in the submarines and carriers. The pilots of the U.S. Army Air Corps nearly decimated in the Philippines and the Marine Pilots in their respective roles form the core and had made quite a contribution to the total effort, which terminated with the dropping of the two atomic bombs from the Enola Gay and V-J Day shortly thereafter. The roles of WAC's and Army nurses are given full appropriate treatment for their call to duty and service.

The second section deals with the activities of North Africa, Sicily, Italy, Southern France, Normandy and the Banks of the Rhine. The role of the pilots and crews in their daring daylight raids from England into the heart of Germany are well shown and cleverly narrated.

It is truly one of the finest books this reviewer has seen recently and it leaves me with a feeling of pride so well deserved by these highly respected members of our population--the Armenian-Americans. Certainly the author made the finished product such a fine work. It is a "job well done" in the highest standards of historical writing. It is highly recommended for acquisition by high schools and colleges for the fine treatment it gives for scholars of military history.

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THOMAS DAVIDSON DRAKE II - '45 NO. 15126 • 24 Aug 1923 - 26 May 1996

Died in San Diego, CA • Interred in Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery,
San Diego, CA



Tom was born in Parkersburg, WV, to Thomas and Hilda Drake. His father, a career Army officer, took young Tom with him on many maneuvers and military exercises. Tom knew early in life that he wanted to be a career soldier like his father, a highly decorated hero of both world wars, and attend the U.S. Military Academy.

He prepared for the entrance exam at Sullivan's West Point Prep School in Washington, DC, carrying on his father's tradition in Army service with proud distinction.

His classmates admired Tom's sense of humor, quick

wit, and athletic prowess. He achieved the highest physical aptitude score in Company E-1. He had many friends at the Academy from his years as an "Army Brat" and made many more through his personal charm and cheerful personality. His somewhat sarcastic humor appealed to those of us enduring the rigors of the "Old Corps."

Tom followed his father, then a heroic prisoner of war, into the Infantry. After the Infantry officers course at Ft. Benning, Tom served with the 19th Infantry of the 24th Division during the first years of the Japanese occupation.

He married the lovely and talented Patricia Herbert in 1947. He had known her at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, where their fathers had served together in the 1930s. They met again and fell in love when Tom was a young second lieutenant at Ft. Benning in 1945. Together they raised 4 children: Robyn, Thomas, Charles (Pete), and Shelley. Family life continued at Ft. Benning, where Tom was an instructor in the Weapons Department of the Infantry School.

Completing the Advanced Course, Tom served in the Korean War as an infantry company commander and battalion S-3, 2d Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment, 40th Infantry Division, earning a Silver Star for gallantry in action, the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star, and Army Commendation Ribbon. Returning from combat, he served as Assistant PMS&T at UCLA, Los Angeles, CA. Following his graduation from the Army Command and General Staff College in 1956, he served in the Office of the Army Comptroller in the Pentagon.

Moving to Germany, Tom was in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations in Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe, Heidelberg, for two years. After promotion to lieutenant colonel, Tom commanded the 2d Armored Infantry Battalion, 48th Infantry Regiment, 3d Armored Division. This was Tom's most gratifying year in Germany and he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for this period of outstanding service.

Tom and his family returned to Ft. Benning, GA, where he worked on future Infantry organization for the Army Combat Development Command. He was instrumental in developing the Starlight scope now used extensively in the military and civilian community for night time operations where stealth is essential.

Pat kept busy with church and social activities while she and Tom raised their maturing children. It was a happy time for the family with many old friends, classmates, and an active social life.

Another very happy year followed Ft. Benning when Tom was selected to attend the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, PA. Many old friends and classmates joined the Drakes in social pleasures along with high-level studies at the college. Tom earned a master's degree in international relations from George Washington University.

In 1966, after graduating from the Army War College, Tom again went to war serving with J-3 in MACV, Saigon. Pat and the children stayed in Carlisle for the year, and daughter Robyn started studies at Dickinson College.

After Vietnam, Tom was G-3 of Ft. Gordon, GA. Tom and Pat took Pete and Shelley with them to Iran in 1969 for an enjoyable 5 years. Taking many trips throughout the Middle East, they restocked their home with beautiful rugs. Shelley became a noted horsewoman, performing in shows in front of the Shah of Iran. Tom was J-2 and J-3 advisor. He later developed and launched a new Iranian National Defense University and Armed Forces Staff College for the Iranian Armed Forces to train Iranian officers for high-level command.

They returned to the Presidio of San Francisco. Robyn, who had joined them in Iran, stayed in Iran with her husband and daughter Megan. Tom retired on 1 Aug 1975 and moved to San Diego, where they bought a house and managed Tom's father's estate.

Tom III gave up his military career and also moved to San Diego. When Robyn and her husband arrived, the family was together again.

Eventually all their children married, and babysitting grandchildren became a frequent pleasure for their later years. Tom cared for both his mother Hilda and stepmother Quincy until they died. Patty became a Cuisinart consultant and continued choir and other church activities.

Tom suffered a heart attack in 1977 and had a pacemaker implanted. In 1989, he underwent open-heart surgery for 6 bypasses. None of this curtailed his active life, with hobbies including golf, extensive travel in their RV and gourmet cooking. Active in community and church affairs, he was a vestryman in the Episcopal church. Tom and Patty organized a wonderful mini-reunion for the Class of '45 in San Diego in 1993.

Tom was a special friend to many of us and a loving husband and father to his beautiful family. We will miss him as a dear friend who is not able to be replaced.

Frank Kane, classmate

He was instrumental in developing the Starlight scope now used extensively in the military and civilian community for night time operations where stealth is essential.

OBITUARY OF BILLY BINGHAM

JOSEPH TUCK BROWN

NO. 12528 CLASS OF '41

Died 24 Sep 1996 In

Inhume Union Cemetery, Columbus, OH

Joseph Tuck Brown was born in Plymouth, IL, on 6 Aug 1918, the son of Clyde and Fernie (Tuck) Brown. He attended school in Plymouth and in various rural Illinois schools.

To prepare for West Point he went to Marion Military Institute in Marion, Alabama. Before leaving for college he and Dorothy (Dody) Shaffer promised to write to each other. This promise was kept by both for the next 5 years.

Tuck entered West Point with a congressional appointment. While there he was on the track team and enjoyed swimming, ice-skating and dancing (especially when Dody could come to the hop).

After graduation, and the commencement address by the Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, Tuck attended the last horsedrawn basic Artillery course at Ft. Sill.

Then it was off to East Orange, NJ where he married the love of his life, Dody. They spent a glorious honeymoon driving to San Antonio, TX, to join the 2d Division Artillery.

After the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, Tuck was sent as cadre to the 36th Division. There he became a Field Artillery Battery Commander less than a year after graduation from West Point.

Following 5 months in North Africa, Tuck waded ashore in Italy on D-Day morning 9 Sep 1943. Later, Tuck was near the small town of Alta-Villa, one of the 5 times it changed hands. With two other officers Tuck was trying to stop a German attack when his companions were killed and he was captured.

Tuck was sent to Oflag 64 (a POW camp for American officers in Poland). The first person to greet him there was LTC John K. Waters, '31. LTC Waters had been Tuck's Tactical Officer for 3 years. In prison, LTC Waters was Camp Executive and Security Officer. Soon he assigned Tuck to be in charge of dirt disposal for the new tunnel project. This tunnel went down 40 feet before it headed toward freedom. During the next 8 months, Tuck's crew hid many tons of dirt in the attic of his barracks. The tunnel did get beyond the barbed wire, but work was stopped by order of the U.S. Government when 50 British Officers were executed by the Germans

for participating in a mass escape.

After WWII Tuck got a masters degree in electronics at the University of Illinois. He taught at the Field Artillery School until being sent to Korea.

In 1951, he was in KMAG with the task of establishing a Korean Military Academy. It was to be as much like West Point as possible. Tuck selected Chinhae as the temporary site, and stayed with the Academy as Advisor to the Dean for 18 months. At long last he got an assignment in Japan where he could be with his beloved wife and family.

After 3 years in the Army Research Office, Tuck was assigned as head of the planning group establishing the U.S. Army Limited War Laboratory. The laboratory was established at Aberdeen Proving Ground in 1962. Tuck was the Chief of the Operations and Analysis Division of this laboratory until retirement.

After retiring from the Army, Tuck joined Battelle in Columbus, Ohio. The primary sponsor for the research he managed there was the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. From 1964-70, he managed the Remote Area Conflict Information Center. In 1970, he broadened its scope and changed its name to the Tactical Technology Center. Tuck was proud to say that with Battelle management support from 1964-82 all of his many contracts were completed successfully and the Government was never asked to pay for an overrun.

After retirement from Battelle, Tuck and Dody traveled, played tennis and bridge, danced, and visited children, grandchildren, and friends. To keep his mind active and contribute to his community Tuck joined Kiwanis, working on committees for this worthwhile club. Tuck and Dody also worked on the "SOS" committee at church.

Tuck and Dody had 2 daughters, Sandra Jo and Pamela Faye, 2 sons, Joseph Jr. and Randolph Clyde, and 9 grandchildren.

He was a loving, devoted husband and father and a loyal friend. All who knew him and loved him miss him very much.

Portions of this were self-written with additions by Mrs. Brown

LONOKE - Billy Bingham, age 77, died on March 28, 1997. He was a retired farmer and member of the community since 1951. Bill Bingham was a World War II Army veteran who was awarded the Purple Heart. He was a prisoner of war who was captured at the Battle of Kasserine Pass in North Africa and spent two years in a German prison camp, from which he escaped and walked across Poland and southern Russia to freedom. During the Korean Conflict, Mr. Bingham served as an administrative officer on the staff of Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Japan. He was a Christian, a 32nd Degree Mason, and a Shriner. He was a former president of the England Kiwanis Club. He was a former member of the State Judicial Building Commission. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Martha Bess Bingham; a son and daughter-in-law, John Biscoe Bingham, and Marcia Bingham of Sherwood; a daughter-in-law, Julia Bingham of Fayetteville; a sister, Lola Sparks of McKee, Kentucky; four grandchildren, Sally and Billy Burton Bingham of Fayetteville and David and Daniel Bingham of Sherwood. He was preceded in death by a son, Billy Bingham, Jr. His funeral will be at 1 p.m. Monday at Caney Baptist Church in Pettus; interment will be at Roselawn Cemetery in Little Rock. Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association or your favorite charity. Arrangements by Boyd Funeral Home of Lonoke.

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Daily World - 10-4-96**Hugh J. Harries**

OLYMPIA — Sixteen-year Ocean Shores resident Hugh James Harries, 75, died of leukemia Friday, Sept. 20, 1996, in St. Peter Hospital.

He was born Feb. 10, 1921, at Broadwater, Neb., to William Arthur and Jennie (Stewart) Harries. He grew up in Kansas, graduating from Hays High School at Hays in 1939.

He attended Ft. Hays State College, also at Hays, and enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1942.

Harries was a B-24 pilot during World War II, having flown 23 missions — just two short of the required 25 for a period of leave — when he was captured by German ground troops in France. He suffered severe facial burns when he parachuted after the bomber exploded in the air June 10, 1944, four days after D-day.

Six of his fellow crew members on the plane perished; three others survived in addition to Harries.

He was moved to various prison camps and was freed in April of 1945 at Moosburg, Germany, near Munich, when Gen. George Patton arrived at the camp, following a contingent of U.S. Army tanks, Harries' family said.

In 1946, he enlisted directly into the Air Force Reserve, retiring in 1981 as a lieutenant colonel.

He moved to the Seattle/Tacoma area in 1946 and had lived at Ocean Shores since 1980.

He married Joanne E. Ibsen at Tacoma on Oct. 4, 1980. She survives at the family home at Ocean Shores.

Harries, who had worked for years in health-related fields, had served for eight years as administrator of the Franke Tobey Jones Home, then a private, lifetime retirement care facility, at Tacoma. He retired the spring of 1980.

Harries was a charter member of the Ocean Shores Eagles, a member of the Ocean Shores Elks No. 2581 and the American Association of Retired Persons, also at Ocean Shores.

He had served as president of the Washington Association of Homes for the Aging; as a member of the American Association of Homes for the Aging and had worked for the Olympic Area Agency on Aging in Aberdeen.

He had also been a volunteer on the Crisis Line through the Evergreen Counseling Center, then in Aberdeen.

Military organizations Harries had been a life member of included the Disabled American Veterans, Harmony Chapter of Tacoma; Hogan's Corner Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 8956 and the national groups, American Ex-Prisoners of War; Military Order of the Purple Heart; the Retired Officers Association; the 8th Air Force Historical Society and the Caterpillar Association for military personnel who have made emergency parachute jumps.

He also belonged to the Liberator Club for former B-24 personnel; Stalag Luft III, for former prisoners at Moosburg; the Second Air Division Association; the Air Force Museum Foundation out of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base at Dayton, Ohio, and the Tower Association at Seething, England, the air base he had flown out of during World War II.

Harries enjoyed gardening, and shared vegetables with his family. "His garden is still giving to us," said his stepson-in-law, David Van Vleet of Kent.

He also liked garage sales and hunting for antiques, was a World War II history buff and had traveled extensively with his wife after they moved to the Harbor.

In addition to his wife, Harries is survived by a son, Raymond A. of Tacoma; a stepson, Christopher L. Ibsen, also of Tacoma; two daughters, Linda D. Stafford of Anchorage, Alaska, and Deborah J. Oline of Tacoma; two stepdaughters, Jodi L. Van Vleet of Kent and Jennifer L. Robbins of Helena, Mont.; six grandchildren; five step-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A brother, George, died before him.

There will be no service.

Cremation was under the direction of Cascade Services of Washington.

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WILLIAM THOMAS PARROTT, JR.

KINSTON - William Thomas Parrott, Jr., M.D., 80, of 1703 Cambridge Drive, passed away at his home Friday, December 27, 1996, after a courageous battle with cancer. Dr. Parrott was graduated from Grainger High School, and thereafter attended Darlington School in Georgia. In 1929, he was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of the Zeta Psi fraternity. He was graduated from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in 1941. During WW II, he served as a Captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps and was Battalion Surgeon in the 28th Division in the Battle of the Bulge. After his Army service, Dr. Parrott became a resident in Internal Medicine at Duke University Medical School, training under Dr. Eugene Stead. Dr. Parrott practiced internal medicine in Kinston from 1949 until his retirement in 1980. He was the last in a line of Parrott family physicians who have served Kinston and eastern North Carolina continuously for the past 101 years, beginning with Dr. Jim Parrott in 1895. "Doctor Tom", as he was affectionately known by his patients, will be remembered by his old fashioned genuine love and concern for others and for his

unselfish dedication of his life to the medical profession. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, the Kinston Elks Lodge, and numerous medical associations. He was honored by the Kinston Rotary Club by being named a Paul Harris Fellow. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 30, at the First Baptist Church with Dr. Aubrey Jones and Rev. Camille Edwards officiating. Burial will follow in Maplewood Cemetery. Survivors include Shirley Hines of Kinston; four sons, William Thomas Parrott, III, and wife, Katharine of Vienna, VA, Charles Sellers Parrott and wife, Elizabeth of Raleigh, Robert Johnson Parrott and wife, Dida of Raleigh, and George Saxon Parrott of Beaufort, NC; a brother, Marion Arentell Parrott and wife, Lillian; and housekeeper and special friend of over 40 years, Doris Lawson, all of Kinston; and four grandchildren: William Thomas Parrott, IV and David Walker Parrott, both of Vienna, VA, and Robert Johnson Parrott and Elizabeth Merrick Parrott, both of Raleigh, NC. The family will receive friends from 7 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 29, at Howard-Carter & Stroud Funeral Home, and afterwards from 7 to 9 p.m. at Dr. Parrott's home at 1703 Cambridge Drive.

Jerry Long, 82, dies

Gerald "Jerry" Long, 82, of Centreville, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 1997, at Baptist Hospital, Pensacola, Fla. from complications of a stroke.

Long was born in Christiansburg, Va. and moved to the Washington area in 1945 following his military service. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving in World War II and achieving the rank of first lieutenant. During his military service, he was captured in North Africa and was a prisoner of war there and in Europe for approximately 26 months. He was a recipient of The Purple Heart for wounds received in action on Feb. 16, 1943. A golf professional since 1938, he was a pro and golf teacher at numerous Washington metropolitan golf and country clubs, including East Potomac Golf Course, Washington, D.C., Head Pro at Cedar Crest Country Club, Centreville, and Pro Emeritus at Chantilly National Golf and Country Club, Centreville.

He was a Master Mason, a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Post No. 240, Pensacola, Fla., and a lifetime member of the Middle Atlantic Professional Golfers Association.

Survivors include three sons:

Gerald W. (and Gloria G.) Long of Pensacola, Fla., James O. Long of Panama City, Fla. and John S. Long of Centreville; one daughter, Jo Anne Horton of Centreville; two brothers, Walter N. Long of Falls Church, and Robert G. Long of San Diego, Calif.; one sister Lena Shuster of Fairmont, W.V.; his grandchildren, Edward Long, Charles E. Houtz, Robert D. Houtz, Shawn A. Long and his step-grandchildren Yvonne Burleson, Royette Tague, Tyrone Tague, Shelley Burleson, Elizabeth Richmond, Erik Richmond and Stephanie Richmond.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, Feb. 9, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Lee Funeral Home, 8521 Sudley Road, Manassas, where funeral service will be held on Monday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m., with pastor Steve Reynolds officiating. Interment will follow at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, with full military honors.

Send expressions of sympathy to the American Heart Association, Prince William Division, 8735 Plantation Lane, Manassas, Va. 22110, or American Cancer Society, Virginia Division Inc., Northern Virginia Area, 124 Park Street, S.E., P.O. Box 699, Vienna, Va., 22183-0699.

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Camp Dodge

Excerpts From an Article by Timothy Grover
(With Brief Summary Statements by the Editor in Italics)

In 1917, a "city" of 40,000 rose almost overnight in the countryside northwest of Des Moines. For hundreds of thousands of Midwesterners, this army encampment was their first home away from home on their way to fight the Great War of 1914-1918.

In 1996, the Oflag 64 reunion was held at Des Moines, Iowa. As guests of the Director of the Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge, we were given a tour of the Camp. Members of the Iowa National Guard gave us a demonstration of the most amazing communication system one can imagine. The entire state is tied together with a network that includes every police location, municipal organization, nearly every school and all National Guard offices. It is designed in a manner that all locations can both see and hear each other simultaneously as in phone conversation. This permits the state offices, school systems and special educational and informational offices to disseminate important data to all points in the state in the most expedient manner.

On Friday, April 6, 1917, Congress voted to uphold President Wilson's declaration of war against Germany.

Northwest of Des Moines, an encampment that had its origins during the Civil War would play a pivotal role in training the nation's army. Within the coming nineteen months, the site, known as Camp Dodge, would develop almost overnight into a city of 2,000 buildings. Several hundred thousand troops would pass through its gates to toil in mock trenches and simulated gas chambers. Housing for 40,000 troops, 1,400 officers, and 15,000 horses and mules would be connected by twenty miles of streets and illuminated by 1,500 light bulbs.

America's Army had been in shambles. In 1915, the Army had only twenty-one airplanes, a two-day supply of ammunition, and a thousand obsolete machine guns. The site was surveyed on June 29, 1917, and on July 1, one hundred laborers began to turn cornfields into a training camp. Ten days later, 800 more joined in the task. By July 23, thirty barracks had risen. In less than three more weeks the number swelled to 158.

Except for the hospital and two headquarters for officers, the first phase of the Camp Dodge construction was wrapped up by Thanksgiving 1917. Depending on the source consulted, between 1,200 and 2,000 buildings would stand by war's end, constructed at a total cost of \$3.5 million. Ironically, the final nail was driven into the last building on November 11, 1918—Armistice Day.

Equipment shortages were common in many cantonment camps. A soldier at Camp Grant (Illinois) claimed that he wore out his civilian shoes before being issued army boots. Rifles were in short supply. Many troops trained with brooms or wooden sticks, and several infantrymen were pressed into overseas duty so quickly that they had never fired a gun!

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Morale at Camp Dodge ebbed during the fall of 1917. The cause was the War Department's policy of constantly transferring troops to other military bases. Officers complained that just as soon as soldiers seemed to be making progress in functioning as a cohesive unit, orders for transfer would be handed down. To the disillusioned officers, it appeared as though the 88th might be little more than a replacement division. By December 10, 1917, 13,500 troops had been transferred to three other locations--Camp Cody in New Mexico, Camp Logan in Texas, and Camp Pike in Arkansas.

On July 22, 1918, the War Department ordered the 88th Division activated for combat. An advance detachment of 110 officers and 107 troops left camp on July 28, and many more troop trains rolled eastward during August.

The advance detachment had set sail August 6, landing in Liverpool six days later. Division headquarters were formed August 20 at Semur, Cote d'or, France; by early September, the entire 88th was finally overseas as an intact unit. New recruits arrived at Camp Dodge to replace the departed, forming the short-lived 19th Division.

With the end of the War, the bustling community of Camp Dodge had outlived its purpose. Within a few months after the Armistice was signed, only Iowa National Guard units remained at the camp to utilize its facilities. In May of 1921, the federal government sold much of the camp to the Northwest Lumber and Wrecking Company from Minneapolis. The firm paid \$251,000 for approximately 1,200 buildings. Seven miles of hastily constructed wooden barracks fell to the wrecking ball. (Camp Dodge experienced a revival of sorts when it served as an induction center during World War II.)

Now, nearly seventy years later, only three buildings from the World War One-era remain standing at Camp Dodge. The interurban, like so many railroads, has long since disappeared, and the rifle range lies submerged beneath Saylorville Lake.

The great-grandsons and great-granddaughters of the 88th Division train at Camp Dodge, but their number never exceeds one thousand at any given time. Colonel Al Rolfe (retired), archivist and director of the camp's Gold Star Museum, says the post is now used by the Iowa National Guard, various ROTC and Reserve units, and the Iowa Academy of Law Enforcement. "The camp doesn't have the numbers of terrain it once had, and they no longer conduct anything but small arms firing," comments Rolfe.

It seems reasonable to assume that Camp Dodge will never again experience the prominence it knew during World War I. It was a community unto itself, a military melting pot that affected the lives and fortunes of countless people--Iowans and non-Iowans alike. With each passing year, the number of people who have first-hand memories of what it was like to be there, training to fight the "War to End All Wars," grows smaller. Someday, their memories too will be a part of history.

ENOLA GAY

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Letters

BOOK WORLD / MARCH 23, 1997

Fateful Flight

IN THE BOOK review of Martin Harwit's *An Exhibit Denied* (Book World, March 2) by William Lanouette, we are once again confronted by a distortion and denial of the central issue in the controversy of the abortive Enola Gay exhibit. The actions of Harwit, the curators and [Smithsonian secretary J. Michael] Heyman revealed a misguided allegiance to historical revisionism and moral superiority in an effort to condemn the Enola Gay mission. Moreover, the exhibit designers charged their critics with excessive patriotism and a desire to suppress the horror of Hiroshima's victims.

Most of the criticisms leveled at the Enola Gay exhibit had nothing to do with any patriotism or suppressing the horrible consequences of the bomb's destructive, apocalyptic power. The criticisms were focused on the arrogant attitude of curators who shaped the exhibit into a mixture of distortion, half truths and fantasies such as the assertion that the Japanese were defending a "unique culture" while Americans were bent on revenge of Pearl Harbor. The script for the Enola Gay exhibit contained many such unbalanced political statements. Revision after revision of the script failed to satisfy critics. The reviewer calls them "militant critics" including veterans who "consciously misquote the exhibit's text" and journalists not interested in "scholarly insights."

Lanouette can only be pitied for his ignorance.

The exhibit's original text was loaded with inaccuracies and contained a running instructional theme that condemned the American decision for that fated flight. In the face of criticism, Harwit and Heyman refused to abandon their political agenda, until forced to by public opinion. It is no surprise that Harwit's book blames everyone else for cancellation of the exhibit. He is quoted as defending "academic integrity" against "patriotic orthodoxy." Academic integrity, indeed. But Lanouette apparently has been sold. He buys the notion that Harwit and his colleagues had the right message but picked the wrong place and time.

Such is the continued distortion of Enola Gay in the guise of academic integrity. The wrong message at the right time.

ROBERT A. HAUPT
Arlington

I must take issue with William Lanouette's ending statement, in his review of *An Exhibit Denied* by Martin Harwit, that "Harwit and his colleagues had the right message but picked the wrong place and time to tell it." Any time would be wrong!

What is the right message?—that historical scholarship documents that the decision by President Truman to use the A-bombs was "morally ambiguous, diplomatically complex, and militarily uncertain." Sure it was! I'm certain that Truman and his advisors lost many hours of sleep over that horrendous decision.

Have Messrs. Harwit and Lanouette learned from documents that War Is Hell? Were the Japanese attack on the Philippine Islands, the death march from Bataan and Corregidor, or the Kamikaze suicide attacks on our Navy ships morally unambiguous? Does the author discount the fact that prior to the use of the A-bombs, the islands of Japan were being fortified against a sea attack? It is not "patriotic orthodoxy" to assert that the use of atomic weapons was instrumental in the unconditional surrender by Japan. I know that the soldiers in our 17th Airborne Division and other divisions who fought a savage Battle of the

Bulge in the ETO in 1945 were not looking forward to invading the Islands of Japan.

Based on all facts, the decision by President Truman to use the most effective weapons we had was historically correct.

EDWIN A. MORGENSTERN
Silver Spring

I have just finished reading the review by William Lanouette of *An Exhibit Denied*. While I have not read Harwit's book, and cannot comment on the quality of Lanouette's book review, I am quite familiar with the milieu surrounding Harwit's original plan for exhibiting the Enola Gay. That familiarity prompts me to suggest an additional concern that was not specifically mentioned in Lanouette's review, though it was raised several times throughout the year(s) preceding the August 1995 exhibit date. To Wit:

Whether deliberately or inadvertently, the thrust of the Enola Gay exhibit, as it was evolved by Harwit and his small planning cell, was so constructed that it resulted in putting the entire (onus) of the emotional, intellectual, and humanitarian "baggage" of the world-wide nuclear issues directly on this respected WWII bomber aircraft and on B/Gen. Paul Tibbets and his heroic military B-29 aircrew.

Many of us saw this as naive, arrogant and unwarranted—we still do! I, personally, voiced this concern to Harwit on more than one occasion. I recognize and appreciate the seminal issues involved in nuclear warfare, and find no fault in the conduct of serious debate and international dialogue concerning these matters—but at the right time and place.

Lanouette's summary is "on target" when he opines that Harwit's ill-fated Enola Gay exhibit "tried to teach a reluctant public some unwelcome history—in a hardware barn where technology had been celebrated, not chastised."

Fortunately, the Enola Gay perturbation in the otherwise illustrious 25-year history of our Nation's great Air and Space Museum is now behind us. A superb team is on board and in charge at the Museum. The future is as exciting as the air and space achievements preserved and showcased there for all to see and enjoy.

RUSSELL E. DOUGHERTY
General, U.S.A.F. (Ret.)

The whitewashing, fawning review of *An Exhibit Denied* distorts the record, giving "history" as only the left-wing professors (who never wore a uniform in wartime) can. Using Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick's phrase, they "Blame America First."

As a fellow astrophysicist, and as a Navy veteran who served in the Western Pacific Ocean area in 1945, I warned Martin Harwit three times in letters and phone calls how he was being deceived by the lies of the radical curators and professors, in order to smear the honor of veterans who fought and died for their country against the fascist, Imperial Japanese war machine.

Harwit ignored my warnings, choosing to believe such nonsense as an estimate that only 21,000 Americans would die in the planned invasions of Kyushu and Honshu islands. Experts examining the enormously powerful defenses Japan had erected (5,000 suicide planes hidden in caves) concluded the blood bath would have resulted in many hundreds of thousands of American casualties, and millions of dead Japanese!

Every American in the Western Pacific cheered mightily when atomic bombs were dropped. I too would have probably been killed or maimed if the stupid civilian professors of history of today that Harwit used had their way. The Harwit Enola Gay exhibit was NOT "to teach a reluctant public some unwelcome history," but a deliberate attempt to falsify and distort the record of history to fit left-wing anti-American biases.

HOWARD D. GREYBER
Potomac

... Continued over ...

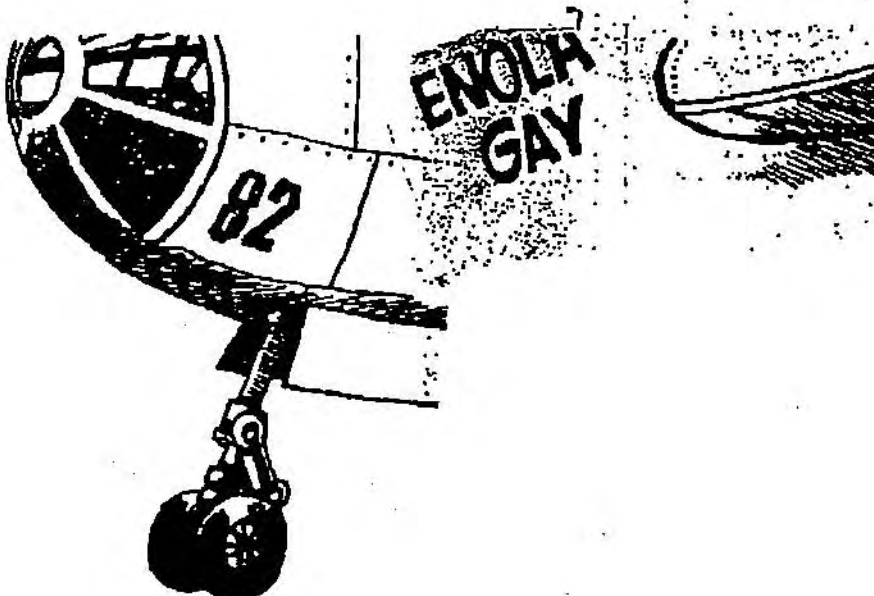
- 21 -

William Lanouette replies:

In its own way, each of these letters demonstrates anew the sources of frustration that Martin Harwit recounted in his book. Robert Haupt still quotes the "unique culture" phrase although it was dropped after the first draft; Edwin Morgenson would refuse to permit any exhibit that challenges his own views; Russell Dougherty reclaimns the National Air and Space Museum to showcase "achievements" we should "enjoy"; and Howard Greyber attacks as "politically correct" and "anti-American" the work of scholars he happens to dislike. The "message" that Harwit and his team were never allowed to deliver is that history is complex and ambiguous but can be understood through research and reflection.

It's a pity that these correspondents never had the chance to see Harwit's exhibit. If they had, Haupt would have learned that those who first practiced "historic revisionism" weren't professors but President Truman and Secretary of War Stimson; they revised upward the estimated casualties from the invasions of Japan planned for November 1945 and March 1946 in order to justify Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Morgenson would have learned that Japan's surrender was not "unconditional" but depended on

retention of the emperor. Dougherty would have learned that the Enola Gay's crew was never given the "onus" for the decision to use atomic weapons. And Greyber would have learned that the Japanese atrocities that so deplores were vividly represented in that's history.



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Newport, Rhode Island
September 2-6, 1997

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TOTAL _____

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Wakefield, RI 02879-7060
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Date of Arrival: _____ (Our Check-In time is 3:00pm) What is Your Time of Arrival? _____

Date of Departure: _____ # Rooms Requested: _____ # of Guests: _____

Room Preference: _____ 1 Bed _____ 2 Beds _____ 1 Bed with Rollaway
_____ Smoking _____ Non-Smoking

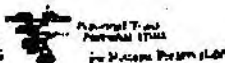
The following has been reserved for the OFLAG 64 Reunion:
Sixty (60) Guest Rooms per night for September 1,2,3 and 4, 1997 at the special nightly rate of \$89.00 plus 12% tax. Ten (10) guest rooms per night for September 5 and 6, 1997 at the special nightly rate of \$119.00 plus 12% tax. Additional guest rooms for September 5 & 6, 1997 are subject to availability with a nightly rate range of \$179.00 plus 12% tax to \$229.00 plus 12% tax. To qualify for the rate your reservation must be made by July 18, 1997. First night's deposit (check) or credit card # _____ Exp. _____ must accompany the reservation.

Please be aware that each guest is responsible for guarantee of their reservations by credit card number or check in the amount of one night's room rate and taxes. If guaranteed payment is not received the reservation will be canceled without notice. This payment is only refundable if cancellation is made 72 or more hours prior to arrival. A cancellation number is required in order to receive a refund. For reservations canceled less than 72 hours in advance, a cancellation fee equal to the first night's deposit will be charged and the reservation will be canceled.

*The Hotel reserves the right to specify room types and assign guest rooms accordingly, unless a request is made by the guest, at which time we will do our very best to accommodate.

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The Cannoneer - April 24, 1997

Single soldiers move into brand new quarters

By Spc. TONYA L. RILEY-RODRIGUEZ

Monday morning, after a one-stop briefing, 117 soldiers moved to occupy positions and maintain control of an area — specifically, Building 3411.

The objective was simple: to seize comfort, gain a homelike atmosphere and enjoy more privacy.

Brenda Pike, chief of Single Soldier Housing, said the mission is a success.

Building 3411 is the first of the four newly constructed two-story buildings ready for residents. The \$4.75 million Major Construction Army project is a keystone in Fort Sill's overarching commitment to meet or exceed the Army's One Plus One standard, said Pike. The soldiers who are unpacking in their new homes this week are from the 212th Field Artillery Brigade.

Pike and inspectors accepted the building and contents from contractors Friday, after a lengthy delay.

"These soldiers have been waiting a long

time," she said. Refusing to delay a moment longer, Pike pledged to work through the weekend to welcome them "home" Monday morning.

Working with the command and service providers, Pike and her staff hosted a one-stop move-in briefing. They explained all the policies, answered questions, discussed maintenance, responsibility, services, cable, telephone options and more.

Just as soldiers in family housing do, the single soldiers signed for their quarters. In addition, they signed for the furnishings and electronic room keys, and signed up for housekeeping and common area cleaning services.

Pike said she wants single soldiers to be treated like married soldiers — but explained that more privileges meant more responsibility. She works with commanders and soldiers closely to effectively match soldiers with facilities.

"We do not do centralized management, we

do consolidated management. I know the buildings, and the command knows the soldiers. They help with room rosters, soldier matters," she explained. For example, from the list of soldiers the command provides, Pike asks them to fill out a questionnaire about personal habits. From that, she can easily do such things as pair smokers with other smokers.

She is confident that with the command's input and her office's initiatives, the soldiers will be proud to call the new quarters home. The building boasts a large laundry room, a lounge, private storage areas, an electronic-key entry and security system, private entrances to quarters, and a "mud-room" to wash muddy gear and boots before tracking it into the living areas.

Pike said common kitchen facilities are planned. Each mini-apartment boasts two sleeping areas, a bathroom with shower and tub, walk-in closets, and built-in shelving.



Photo by Don Stewart

Spc. Robert Lockett watches Callie Driver, Single Soldier quarters inspector, input the card key code.