

## POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

WINTER 2000

### SPOKANE, WA 2001

Herm Littman is working hard to make the arrangements in Spokane outstanding for the reunion in fall of 2000.

He is in the process of dealing with the Downtown Doubletree on the river. Some literature about the hotel is included in this issue of the Item.

More details will be supplied as the year rolls by.

Herm extends to you a very special invitation to attend the reunion in Spokane

### Columbus, Ga 2002

Bill Warthen has been working diligently for some time now preparing for the 2002 reunion in Ft Benning GA. This should be a very special place for the majority of our men. Most of our men were Infantry and Ft Benning was their starting place on their military career.

?????????? 2003

The selection of our meeting place for 2003 is not imminent, but some thought should be given and maybe discuss it next year in Spokane.

PUBLICATIONS

**POSTAGE FUND DONORS**  
Winter 2000 to Winter 2001 issue

*The Waters Story* \$19.50  
*My Tour of Russia* \$ 5.00  
*The Men of Oflag 64* \$ 20.00  
*The Oflag 64 Directory* \$ 3.00  
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*Original Roster-Oflag 64* \$10.00  
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 Make check out to Oflag 64 PF and  
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 Pho. (706)549-3337

Americans Behind the Barbed Wire  
 By Frank Diggs \$24.95  
 Plus shipping 3.75  
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 Contact: Vandamere Press  
 P.O.Box 5243  
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 Rosa( DeFrancisco) Lee  
 Abe/Eileen Baum  
 Dorothy Johnson  
 Stan Segal  
 John Peetz  
 Robert Galloway

The book "RAID" about Abe Baum's dash to  
 Hammelburg has been reissued and is now  
 on the shelves at your local bookstore.  
 Richard Baron is the author

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Offlag 64 Reunion 2000

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Roy J. Chappell	Helen	400 South Houston St. Kaufman, TX 75142-2324	Lewis W. Lowe Charles Lowe (son)	Janet	1513 W. Berridge Lane Phoenix, AZ 85015-2058
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Marcia K. H. Kanners		32035 Waltham Drive Beverly Hills, MI 48025-3926	George P Waters	Martha	412 Rice Hope Dr. Mt Pleasant, SC 29484
David A. Kanners	Sue	1141 Pine Ridge Court Rochester, MI 48306	Irving J. Yarock		51 Barclay Street Worcester, MA 01604
Ray J. Klinkenborg		2645 9th Street Rock Rapids, IA 51246-7702	Robert L. Cheatham		1112 Mc Dowell Rd. Asheboro, NC 27203
Abe Baum	Eileen	12061 Senda Acantilada San Diego, CA 92128	John H. Rathbone	Julie R. Glonfriddo	648 Fairfax St Denver CO 80220
Robert Galloway	Heather	236 Oak Point Landing Drive Mt Pleasant, SC 29484	Jim Morrow		3000 Rivermont Ave. Apt. Lynchburg, VA 24503
Herman Littman	Lucy	2928 W. Gardner Spokane, WA 99201-1539	Elizabeth G. Owen		3000 Rivermont Ave. Apt. Lynchburg, VA 24503
			Vinton Thomson	Donna Warriger	734 Woodlake Dr. Jackson, MS 39208
			Bill Warthen	Dorothy Ellen	1204 Loop Road Vidalia, GA 30474

# MAIL CALL

Irv read all your mail and says,

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**Frank Diggs, Arlington, VA** - Miss his first reunion in at least 10 years, but health problems at home intervened. He thanks the many kriegies who bought his book and apologizes if you got an early copy with typographical errors.

**Herb Garris, Pinehurst, sc** - regrets missing Laughlin but was overwhelmed locally. However, he attended the State Convention at Ft. Bragg and got elected State Junior Vice Commander. Their group participates in a Survival Course at Camp Mackall which brings about 60 people from around the world into a really tough course that ends up with up with 3 days in a mock POW Camp. His outfit provides 3 eX-POWS for each class as a sounding board.

**Ed Rooney, Spokane, WA**- sends a contribution for the Postage Fund. Herm, a good prospect for your committee for next years reunion?

**Curtis Jones, Swarthmore, PA**- hoped to make it to Laughlin, but inasmuch as I (IY) haven't seen a list yet, I don't know whether he made it or not. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

**Joe Seringer, Wooster, OH**- says he'll definitely be at Laughlin. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

**Robert O'Neill, Santa Maria, CA**- did make it to Laughlin and enjoyed himself. How about next year in Spokane?

**Len Warren, Cocksackje, NY**- couldn't make it to Laughlin but sends his regards. He appreciate receiving the ITEM, and he knows all the old timers . Len was among the first picked up when his reconnaissance party was given the "all clear ahead" by an American MP. It was all clear except for the Germans. Thanks for the Postage Fund donation.

**Vernon Siebert, Nipomo, CA**- haven't heard from him for several years, though he does appreciate receiving the ITEM. They were involved in a freak accident in South Carolina 9 years ago. A log came off a truck and through his windshield, catching his wife, who has been ailing since. At POW-MIA Day at Vandenburg AFB he met a couple ex64ers but can't remember their names. He's not the only one. I (IY) met a fellow who served under Captain Wilbur Sharpe in Korea and I was going to tell Wilbur, but I can't remember the man's name. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

**Errol Johnson, New Haven, KY**- enjoys the ITEM. Was with us at Hammelburg. He attended the 53rd reunion of the 88th Division and noticed that the crowd is getting smaller. Sound familiar? Thanks for the Postage Fund donation.

Postage Fund Donations picked up at Laughlin- **Alvin Robbins, Jim Sherman, Herm Littman and Anonymous**, whoever you are. Many thanks.

## MAIL CALL

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These letters are being answered by Bob Thompson. We ran out of time again!

Abe and Eileen Baum, San Diego, CA wrote that they appreciated the violin that was presented to them by Carroll "Higgie" Higginbotham. Higgie made this violin in his shop. Higgie did a good job of playing "Lili Martene". Abe and Eileen made a donation to the postage fund in honor of Higgie. They are also making plans to be in Spokane. Thanks for the donation.

Carl Christensen, Whispering Pines, NC received a check from P.D. Lampru for the postage fund back in March ,2000. Somehow it got lost in the shuffle and he just recently found it and sent it in. Sorry about that! We do appreciate the donation.

John Peetz, Northridge, CA writes that he was talking to Bob O'Neill and saw a roster of the Hammelburg POWs and his name was on it. He ordered a copy of the roster which we promptly sent and invited him to join our group. Our next get together is in Spokane, John, why don't you plan to come on up and see a bunch of your old comrades?

Robert Galloway, Mt Pleasant, SC writes that he is about through with the polishing up his documentary and will put out a message as to how to obtain a copy. Thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

Dorothy Johnson, Northhampton, MA writes that even tho' she lost her lifetime friend , Wilbur, she still enjoys reading the Item. Thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

Joe Serringer, Wooster, OH writes that he received a postage fund donation from Stan Segal, Jim Bates and Rosa ( DiFrancesco ) Lee. Thanks to each of you for the donation.

Betsy (Goode) Owen, Lynchburg, VA writes that she was very appreciative of the warm welcome she was given at Laughlin and how much she enjoyed meeting and visiting with the men that shared her father's experiences so long ago. Betsy, we hope to see you next fall in Spokane.

Tom and Sue Lawson, Grand Junction, Co wrote that they were disappointed that Irv was unable to be at Laughlin, but they would see him in Spokane next fall. Thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

Alan Dunbar, Las Vegas, NV writes that he is planning to be in Spokane and bring some of his family members. Alan said his dog is spoiled and won't go out in the rain. Maybe the dog doesn't know what rain is and he is afraid of it!

Higgie Higginbotham, Fallon, NV sent a copy of a video made of him making a violin! I will send it to Abe when I am through with it! Thanks, Higgie.

Bill Warthen , Vidalia, GA is still researching and is finding material and people that really contribute to the preparing the Item. He has found a man , Irving Solonoff, who was Abe Baum's interpreter on the Task Force Baum. Bill sent in the official documents about the bombing at Limburg during Christmas week in 1944. Lots of our men came through Limburg and were lucky to not be in there when this happened. The barracks that was hit was the one the officers occupied. Col Goode was there for awhile and left for Schubin a few weeks before the bombing.

# Lest we forget



Jane Scully/Times

**World War II veteran** and former prisoner of war Vern Siebert of Nipomo salutes the flag during a Friday observance at the POW/MIA Memorial on Vandenberg AFB. An honor guard placed a wreath of yellow roses at the memorial, and base commander Col. Steve Lanning reminded those in attendance that freedom isn't free — its cost is high. The annual event was sponsored by the local chapter of the Air Force Sergeants Association.



This photograph was taken of LTC and Mrs Schaefer in Poland during our trip to Schubin in 1971

This is an account of the capture of LTC Schaefer in Sicily from the book "The Rock of Anzio-The 45<sup>th</sup> Div by Flint Whitlock

*An account of the first days on the beaches in Sicily.*

That afternoon, McLain ran into General Middleton, whose jeep had been strafed by an enemy plane while he had been looking for one of his units on the road above Scoglitti. Middleton informed McLain that one of the battalion commanders—Lieutenant Colonel William H. King Kong" Schaefer, the C.O. of the 180th's 1st Battalion—was missing. Schaefer, who had repeatedly drilled into his men the idea that they must do everything possible to avoid being captured, had himself been taken prisoner by the Germans in the early hours of the invasion.<sup>2</sup> According to Bill Whitman, a lieutenant with B Company, 180th, Schaefer received his nickname after his face had been burned early in life. Whitman wrote, He was the ugliest-looking man in the U.S. Army, maybe the Navy and Marines as well. He referred to us in his battalion as his knotheads.' He was a brilliant tactician. He knew von Clausewitz from cover to cover." Another member of the 180th called Schaefer "one of the two greatest officers I have ever known." He went on to say, "What a man he was. Had he been C.O. of the 180<sup>th</sup>, he probably would have ended his military career as major general instead of as a POW.

Although still suffering from a leg injury sustained in a fall during the practice landing at Oran, Schaefer had led his battalion inland toward the Biscari airfield. Running into a company of Tiger tanks and two infantry battalions from the Herman Goering Panzer Division, Schaefer tried to make a stand. Scattered and outnumbered, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion found itself in an untenable position, hammered by machine guns, tanks, mortars and artillery and strafed by aircraft. A number of officers became casualties and the Germans forced the battalion to withdraw south if Highway 115. Schaefer and several officers took cover in a culvert and watched helplessly as German troops infiltrated the area. Schaefer was in bad shape. Supported by First Lt. Russell P Blissman and First Sgt Don F Croft, the battalion commander left the protection of the culvert and tried to make it to friendly lines that had been set up by an olive grove. The trio never made it. Captured by the Germans, the three spent the duration of the war in POW camps.

Date: 9/22/00 2:27:24 PM Central Daylight Time  
From: antonya@antonya.aec.co.uk (Antony F Anderson)

Dear Bob Thompson,

In "Colditz the Full Story" by P.R. Reid published by Macmillan in 1984 (ISBN 0 333 342690) there is the following information on pages 252, 254, 269 and 289, my comments in brackets.

On 6 December [1944] a fourth American arrived in Colditz Castle from the camp at Schubin - a man in serious trouble. He was Lieutenant Colonel W.H.Schaefer, 45 Division US Army. As acting Senior Officer in Schubin he had supported a Lieutenant Schmidt who had stood in the way of a German NCO trying to post a notice entitled 'Escaping is no longer a game.' (The notice confessed, in effect, that the German Military could no longer enforce the Geneva Convention rules about escaping prisoners. Civilians and other elements - were liable to kill runaways on the spot.) Under German military law, any soldier interfering with a German soldier carrying out his order may be court-martialed and sentenced to death. His new captors put him in solitary confinement outside the regular POW section to await the court-martial.

Duke [Col Florimund Duke, American Signals Corps, Senior American Officer] got permission to take the Colonel his one meal a day. Lieutenant Alan 'Black' Campbell [Now Lord Campbell of Alloway], the British barrister in civilian life, framed his defense, which Duke sent off to the OKW. They also notified the Protecting Power [Switzerland]. Having by then some idea of how the war might end, the [German] Kommandant took no initiative in the matter....

Colonel Schaefer left under escort for court-martial at Schubin on Christmas Day 1944. He was returned on 29 December under sentence of death. Lieutenant Schmidt, who had obstructed the Unteroffizier, was also sentenced to death....

[Padre] Platt records [in his diary, now in the Imperial War Museum London] that the only signs Schaefer gave of discomposure were a slight paleness and a failure to keep his cigarette alight. The following day he lodged an appeal against the sentence, drafted by Black Campbell, but it never appeared to get to its destination. Hitler was the last recourse of appeal.

Eggers [ German Security Officer] says that Hitler himself had been advised of the affair and had himself ordered the death penalty. The Swiss representative visited Schaefer during his last visit to Colditz on 6 February 1945. Schaefer suffered the enormous anxiety of uncertainty....26th February Padre Platt records in his diary: "...Col Schaefer has been in solitary confinement seven weeks yesterday."....

[On Saturday 14th April 1945] Colonel Schaeffer, Peter Tunstall and others in solitary were immediately released. [ This was the day before the Castle was liberated by the 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry in the 69th Infantry Division, 1st US Army].

Lord Campbell of Alloway is still alive and it may be possible to find out more information about the preparation of Schaefer's defense. There may well be more information in Padre Platt's diary. It seems likely that he was confined in one of the solitary cells that were in the north exit from the outer courtyard see right hand of three pictures on page 9 of the Colditz tour. The cell would have been very similar to that illustrated by my father's watercolor, also on the same page. See: <http://www.colditz-4c.com/tour/p09/p09.htm>

I hope that this information may be of use to you.

If you should write something up, then I would very much appreciate receiving a copy.

Best wishes,  
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This is an abbreviated account of the trial of LTC Schaefer and LT Schmidt for the crime of interfering with a German soldier in the performance of his duties.  
From the book "Kriegsgefangener" by Clarence Furgeson

On December 28, 1944 Lt Schmidt in the company of Col Goode, Capt Ferguson, Hauptmann Zimmerman, Commander of the guards, and Capt Barker ( interpreter) were sent from Schubin to Greneisen. LTC Schaefer had been removed to Colditz Castle, a high security prison for unruly prisoners. They were being sent to Greneisen to stand trial.

Capt. Ferguson was the defense attorney for the two Americans When they arrived at Greneisen they were required to remove their shoes and give them to the guard. This was to prevent them from escaping. The temperature was way below zero outside.

They were taken to the building where the trial would take place and were led to LTC Schaefer's cell and allowed to enter the LTC's cell. They were not allowed to talk in private. They visited about fifteen minutes and then returned to their quarters.

The complaint against the two Americans was read and Capt. Ferguson was allowed to question 2 German soldiers.

Capt Ferguson presented his case to the court and sat down to await the verdict. The clerk stepped forward and read the verdict GUILTY for each man with the penalty to be DEATH. When the verdict was read LTC Schaefer stiffened and became very erect. His face showed no emotion. He reeled ever so slightly as if he had been struck by a tremendous force. He paled noticeably and dark blotches appeared on his face. He could not recover his composure and suddenly his knees began to buckle. Capt Ferguson asked permission to help him and reached LTC Schaefer just in time to keep him from falling. The trial was over and two guards appeared and removed LTC Schaefer from the room. Capt. Ferguson never saw him again. Capt. Ferguson considered both himself and Col Goode as prime subjects for execution

They were returned to Oflag 64 and LT Schmidt was separated from the others and placed in a maximum security ward to await execution.

The Russian Army was nearing and Oflag 64 was evacuated on Jan 21, 1945. Lt Schmidt was in the group as they left and arrived at Hammelburg in good shape.

This text is a shortened version of the trial and it's aftermath as presented by Capt. Ferguson in his book titled " Kriegsgefangen" published by Texian Press, Waco, Texas. Copyright 1983. The text in Clarence Ferguson's book used 20 pages and in the interest of economy it was shortened so it could be placed in our newsletter " The Post Oflag 64 Item "

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Here's some information from Herm about next fall reunion in Spokane.

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I wonder if you have or know who has pictures of our kriegie days at OFLAG 64. My daughter Carole is having one of her History classes doing a project about the men of our camp. She will scan the pictures and return them posthaste. If you can help let me know.

Everything seems to be falling into place. Fairchild has agreed to do everything I've asked. I went over the area we will dining in. The ball room is huge. Part will be partitioned off for the hospitality room. I have been assured that all of our rooms will be close to the elevators. I will send you a listing of the side trips available. All that remains is for people to tell me that they will be coming and what side trips they want. The tour and dinner cruise at the Coeur d'Alene Resort and dinner cruise will be in the itinerary. So is the tour at Fairchild and a free lunch. Carole and her husband are coming here in Feb to set up the computer records for the affair. That's all for now.

Herm Littman

OFLAG 64 POSTAGE FUND  
Joe Springer Treasurer

Statement of Receipts and Disbursements  
From October 11 1999 to October 1 2000

Receipts for the period:

Contributions to the fund	\$ 3009.50
Books sold	847.45
Total cash received	\$ 3856.95

Disbursements for the period:

Copies	\$ 3274.05
Postage	1848.99
Supplies	584.41
Prior reunion cost	179.14
Telephone and bank charge	36.98

Total cash disbursed	\$ 5923.57
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Excess disbursements over receipts	\$ 2066.62
Cash Balance October 10 1999	\$ 11042.50

Balance checking account October 1 2000	\$ 8975.88
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*Joe Springer*



This is a photo of 4 American prisoners that made their way back to the American lines after the Raid on the Hammelburg Camp . The men are: Lt Boo Nunnally ,sitting below the B 16 on the vehicle, Lt Carl Hansen is the man in front of Boo w/ the round glasses, The man w/ the spoon in his hand is Lt Thomas Morton, Lt Pat Ward is behind Boo and is being offered a cup of coffee. The rescuing soldiers are with the 106<sup>th</sup> Cavalry and are near Bamberg, Germany. Bret Job sent in the photo.



This is a photo of Carroll "Higgle" Higgingbotham presenting Abe Baum with a hand made violin. Higgle then proceeded to play his version of "Lili Marlene" Abe and Eileen seemed to be pleased with the gift and the song.



This is a photo of two very special people that were at the reunion. Pat Waters, Gen Waters' son and Betsy Owen, Col Goode's daughter.

Rosa Di Francesco Lee attended the reunion at Laughlin with her father, Vincent Di Francesco, and gathered the following information.

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**Question:** What did you think of the documentary?

**Don Wafu:** "It was synthesized perfectly. I was honest-to-goodness moved beyond any anticipation. I felt like I was truly there again, and it really moved me. It was raw."

**Don Graul:** "It was my understanding that we were seeing a yet-to-be-edited production of a near to factual story. A very great deal of investigative work has made it a fine record of the history of events of its time ... I could volunteer to assist if it was thought I could be helpful."

**H. Randolph Holder:** "I was watching to see if he cheated on any of it, and he didn't."

**Duane Kennedy:** "The film presentation was just outstanding. He underestimated the reception he would receive. He couldn't have done a better job if he'd wanted. (And I'm so glad that everyone is having a great time in Laughlin!)"

**Bob Cheatham:** "I didn't think I'd have anything to contribute that could be used for the documentary, but when I got to Charleston, he had me lined up, and since then, I sent pictures."

**Other Comments:**

**Clementi Holder:** (Overheard in the Hospitality Suite):

"I think it's tremendous and fun that sons and daughters and grandkids are now joining us in the reunions."

**Robert Thompson, Jr.:** (Speaking to an unnamed "gambler") "I won \$90 today." He was seen carrying shopping bags around the outlet mall in Laughlin.

**Peggy (Thompson)** responded: "I didn't win anything but I'll be in Spokane with all my brothers and sisters next year." Rumor has it that Bob Thompson's brother's wife is a former Miss Spokane from when Harry Truman was president, and she will be joining them at the next reunion.

Also seen at the Outlet Mall: **Heather Galloway** and **Martha Waters** purchasing small boy's outfits for their much missed son and grandson, **Tilson**.

An Interview with **Carroll Higgenbotham** by **Rosa Di Francesco Lee** after the presentation of a hand-made violin to **Abe Baum**

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The violin that Carroll Higgenbotham presented to Abe Baum at the Reunion Banquet took about a year to make. It is constructed of maple imported from Bosnia and spruce from Switzerland. It is similar to the one he had given to General Waters at the Orlando Reunion in 1986.

But let's go even further back in time ...

In Chicago during the 1930s, Carroll met some European violinmakers, handled beautiful hand-made Italian violins, and became very interested in the instrument. Prior to World War II, he was a hotel clerk and became acquainted with members of the Chicago Symphony. The Orchestra Conductor needed to fill positions, so he asked members of the press from the hotel to advertise for area musicians.

These ads appeared in local newspapers such as The Chicago Tribune. "We had doctors, lawyers, plumbers - whoever wanted to play," reminisced Carroll. "Membership got as high as 125. We got organized in the ballroom of the hotel and played there. All the money went to charity."

"Then Pearl Harbor broke loose and I volunteered for the service," he said. Carroll was captured at the Battle of the Bulge. When the Symphony found out that he was missing in action and possibly dead, they gave a concert in his and another friend's honor. (His friend was, indeed, killed in the War).

Later, Carroll repaired violins and began carving them. "I was there when Colonel Waters was shot, when Captain Baum came into Hammelberg to rescue all of us. I made it [the violin] in memory of all the POWs," he told me. "I always try to play taps at the end to commemorate those we left behind."

810 Gonzalez Dr, Apt 4-D  
San Francisco, CA 94132

26 September 2000

Dear Bob:

First I must say that I will not be able to attend the Laughlin Reunion. I have had an incomplete recovery and did hope that I would be able to fly nonstop to Bullhead City via American West. That worked in the past but now they have no direct flight.

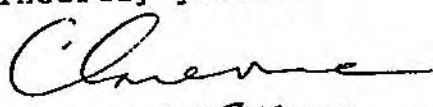
Second regarding the photos of our march. I think that our photographer remains unknown but the distributor, I think was TSgt Carroll Higginbotham. He recently sent me some pix of the last days at Moosburg and I think he inherited camera and film from our unknown at Oflag 64. He was a Bulger from Hammelburg and as you know made violins amongst other skills.

Third regarding the letter that we answered from Mrs Whorley-Winkler. Capt William C. Whorley, 2d Infantry Div was captured 25 June and arrived at Oflag 64 on 17 August 1944. His group of 53 included, Cecil, Cheal, Corley, Graul, Monson, Slanina, John Wood, Mc Cormick, Marble, Mendenhall and Hill. There was also a patch of Free French officers. I assume that they went into Barracks 8, and may also started Barracks 9. I mention the names for it is possible that one or more of them knew Whorley. The Reunion is an opportune moment to find what we can where a relative or spouse has asked questions.

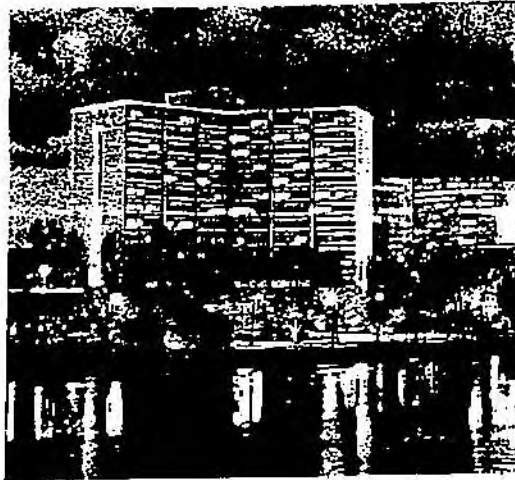
Last. My best to everybody at the Reunion and I will look forward to Spokane as long as United still flies there. I am revising. Roads to Liberation for a 3rd Edition between medical problems. I have reached Chapter 10 with much to add and much to clarify. I welcome any suggestions and material like Bill Warthen and Jerry Alexis are finding, and wish I had more on our enlisted detachment.

So it goes.

Sincerely yours,

  
Clarence R Meltesen  
Lt Col USA Ret

c.c. Duane



## DOUBLETREE HOTEL • SPOKANE • CITY CENTER

N. 322 Spokane Falls Ct. • Spokane, WA 99201 • Dial Direct: (509) 455-9600 • Fax: (509) 455-6285  
<http://www.doubletreehotels.com> • APOLLO • SABRE • SYSTEM ONE • WORLDSPAN • CHAIN CODE: DT

### LOCATION

*We're on the scenic Spokane River, right in the heart of the city, 11 miles from Spokane International Airport via complimentary hotel transportation.*

### ACCOMMODATIONS

*Our 379 spacious guest rooms provide all the amenities you'd expect of a first-class hotel, including in-room coffee and coffeemakers, irons and ironing boards, and cable TV. We welcome you with two freshly baked chocolate chip cookies—a symbol of the service and attention that set DoubleTree apart.*

### SERVICES

*Laundry, dry cleaning, valet, concierge and room services are provided for our guests' convenience. We also offer a gift shop, mail, fax and package handling.*

### DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

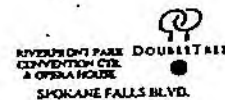
*Enjoy a variety of menu options in our upscale specialty restaurant. The Cityside Cafe offers casual meals all day. When the sun goes down, join the fun at the Lobby Lounge or relax in our 15th-Floor Lounge.*

### RECREATION

*Work out at our fitness center or take a dip in the indoor swimming pool.*

### SURROUNDING ATTRACTIONS

*We're in the middle of the downtown arts, cultural and business area, next to the Spokane Convention Center with its 75,000 square feet of exhibition space on Riverfront Parkway. We're also adjacent to Riverfront Park and the Opera House, and close to the Spokane Arena.*



**DOUBLETREE<sup>®</sup>  
HOTEL**

• SPOKANE • CITY CENTER

**1-800-222-TREE**

Page No 14

COPY

W-Stamler XII A  
Limburg, Lahn  
29 December 1944

Subject: Casualties Prisoners of War

I have the honor to inform you that the undermentioned Officers, Prisoners of War, lost their lives in the bombing of this Stalag which took place at 1900 hours, on the 29 December 1944.

1.	Lubinski, Gen	C-1114930
2.	Shank, Nevins	O-1045249
3.	Dainotto, James	O-1297107
4.	Carrion, William	O-292520
5.	May, John J.	C-551652
6.	Palmon, Richard C.	O-440309
7.	Sperry, Maddin L.	O-1303210
8.	Kramer, John J.	O-1060851
9.	O'Toole, Francis	O-535616
10.	Radwanski, Andrew	C-1177600
11.	Loring, Lane	O-357793
12.	Chateauf, Edward	O-287207
13.	Nichaud, John H.	O-1311090
14.	Taylor, Enslay L. Jr.	W-2106927
15.	Hillo, Camine A.	C-1056411
16.	Stoc, Potor W.	W-2127855
17.	Mc Clelland, Edwin	O-426588
18.	Staub, A. J.	O-1058659
19.	Procoric, S. F.	O-1060934
20.	Heno, Julian A.	O-477319
21.	Wolfs, Robert E.	O-424623
22.	Freas, Russell A.	O-432670
23.	Wombelg, Ernest	O-544944
24.	Black, Clifford	O-2047924
25.	Killenny, John K.	O-551065
26.	Konson, Charles	O-411306
27.	Mondragon, Genuro	O-262199
28.	Dalney, William R.	C-541596
29.	Sompts, James	O-1185132
30.	Lavin, Edwin P.	O-1292719

Subject: Prisoners of War (Cont.)

- 31. Miller, William S. O-1312196
- 32. Hodder, John O-1312768
- 33. Griffen, Henry A. O-322297
- 34. Mahan, John Francis O-1109742
- 35. Prosnick, Leonard O-1032549
- 36. Gelbach Lawrence O-1032549
- 37. Raftery, William O-1032549
- 38. Halpin, William O-1032549
- 39. Campbell, J. Lee O-554644

CO B, 134 REGT, 35 WED

The above listed bodies were identified by:

CURRENT ADDRESS

F. Butler, Captain, R.A.F.C.  
STATIONERY MILL ROAD  
SALISBURY, WILTS  
ENGLAND, SP2 7RZ

MD BRITISH ARMY

Burial took place at P. O. W. cemetery at Diez near Limburg, Lahn, on the 28 December 1944.

7 of these  
officers were  
from the  
1st Inf Div  
COE, 310 Regt

# = 106<sup>TH</sup> INF DIV  
422 INF REGT  
423 " " "  
424 " " "

COE, 310 REGT, 78<sup>TH</sup> INF DIV

AB

On December 23rd at 6 PM a squadron of British Bombers raided an American officer's camp at Limburg. (+7)

The following officers were killed:

Major Wright	O-56743	1st Lt. Michaud	O-131 1090
Cpt. Sperry	O-130 3219	1st Lt. McClelland	O-426 588
Cpt. Monson	O-411 306	1st Lt. Bowman	O-131 6007
Cpt. Fress	O-412 670	1st Lt. Glesch	O-219 5343
Cpt. Mondragon	O-262 199	1st Lt. Baffle	237 981
Cpt. Chateaubouf	O-287 807	1st Lt. Vincent	P 6395
Cpt. Griffin B/134/35 DIV	O-322 297	2nd Lt. Lane	O-387 793
Cpt. Cashron	O-292 520	2nd Lt. Staub	O-105 8659
Cpt. Willmot	O-394 678	2nd Lt. Newman	O-550 095
Cpt. Roberts	O-354 592	2nd Lt. Miller	O-131 2196
Cpt. Wolf, MD. ROBERT		2nd Lt. Shask	O-104 5240
1st Lt. Earnest Wenberg	Medical staff	2nd Lt. Raftery	O-105 4759
Cpt. Kistner	O-131 4930	2nd Lt. Prosnick	O-103 2540
1st Lt. Lubinski	O-541 596	2nd Lt. Procopio	O-100 0934
1st Lt. Dabney	O-523 165	2nd Lt. Kilkenny	O-551 265
1st Lt. Mallette	O-110 9742	2nd Lt. May	O-554 652
1st Lt. Welsh	O-104 9153	2nd Lt. Badwasnaki	O-117 7600
1st Lt. Flewelling	O-104 4414	2nd Lt. Hodder	O-131 2768
1st Lt. Tracy	O-129 2719	2nd Lt. O'Toole	O-535 618
1st Lt. Lavin	O-129 7167	2nd Lt. Kramer	O-106 0851
1st Lt. Delnotto	O-383 429	2nd Lt. Semple	O-112 5132
1st Lt. Halpin	O-131 3088	Wrt. Off. Jr. Stec	W-212 7855
1st Lt. Gelbach	O-105 6411	Wrt. Off. Taylor	W-210 6927
1st Lt. Hillo			

DONALD PULIGHT, CO F, 508 PARA INF REGT 82<sup>ND</sup> AB DIV WROTE THAT  
AVT DTTO ZWINGMAN, COE 508 PARA INF REGT 82<sup>ND</sup> AB DIV WAS KILLED AT  
STALAG 12A AS AN INTERPRETER AND WAS KILLED IN THE RAF BOMBING OF  
STALAG 12A IN DEC 23, 1944



Incl (4) 2

L. Amburg, Lahn  
29 December 1944

314.6 YRS European  
SUBJECT: CASUALTIES Inf 715 Divac

Attached are listed Officers and Enlisted Men who lost their lives in the bombing of 23 December 1944. The officers Barrack suffered a direct hit, and at the time there were 69 Officers and 6 Enlisted Men billeted there. Of the total there were 39 Officers identified dead and 3 EM identified dead. 14 Officers survived, of which 10 were wounded; they were:

- Wounded: 1. Capt. Mc Cord, Robert A. O-373437
- 2. 1st Lt. H. ... ..
- 3. 1st Lt. Suddal, Ivan C. O1325389
- 4. 1st Lt. Mac Kinnon, John B. Jr. O-536973
- 5. 1st Lt. Harley, Thomas O1287707
- 6. 2nd Lt. Frankel, Leon O1057736
- 7. 2nd Lt. Madalinski, Teddy O-672654
- 8. 2nd Lt. Bush, Harland L. O1325472
- 9. 2nd Lt. Stall, Fredrick C. O815417
- 10. 2nd Lt. Harsfield, Raphael E. O2048007

- Unwounded: 1. 1st Lt. O'Brien, William J. O-1287223
- 2. 2nd Lt. Reilly, Robert T. O-549102
- 3. 2nd Lt. Bell, Ralph O-1314084
- 4. 2nd Lt. Barnett, Donald O-1060699

Of the balance there were 11 bodies recovered but these could not be identified; and the rest no trace could be found. The unidentified believed to be:

- 1. Major Wright (British) 56743
- 2. 1st Lt. Barrie (British) 237721
- 3. 1st Lt. Vincent (British) O-83995
- 4. Pfc. Linderman O-372100
- 5. Pfc. Galvina O-3710591
- 6. Pfc. Olson O-3052196
- 7. 1st Lt. Pfeiffer O-393217
- 8. Capt. Kintner P. L. O-467918
- 9. 1st Lt. Bowman, Charles O-1316007
- 10. 1st Lt. Flewelling, E. K. O-1049133
- 11. 1st Lt. Hallette, Arthur O-523165
- 12. 2nd Lt. Reardon, James C. O-550095
- 13. Capt. Roberts, Hall S. O-354592
- 14. 1st Lt. Tracy, Robert L. O-104414
- 15. Capt. Wilnot O-394677

All personal effects of the killed awarded to their next of kin or to their families of H-Stalag III ..

**FILE**  
27 FEB 1947

1293  
Barney ...

For action ... 2/27/47

# TAPS

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October 15, 2000

Dear Bob,

It is with great sadness that we write to you of Martin's death on October 7. Dad had been ill for several months and was recently diagnosed with lung cancer. Fortunately he was not in any pain at the time of his death. As you know, he was a practical man and he was prepared in advance for this eventuality. He even wrote his own obituary (which is included here).

We had a wonderful service for him at the New Post Chapel at Fort Sill on Tuesday, the 10th of October, and he was buried with full military honors in the Old Post Cemetery next to Winnie. Martin would have loved the ceremony, which was complete with a rifle salute and presentation of the flag to Barbara as the sound of artillery practice on the East Range boomed in the background.

We are sorry that in the hectic days following his death we were not able to inform everyone immediately of his passing. He counted you among his good friends and would have wanted you to know as soon as possible. Barb and Dean are staying at his house for a while as we tie up a few loose ends, and Bruce has returned with his family to his home in Roanoke, VA.

It won't be the same without Martin around, but at least we can keep his memory alive by staying in touch with his friends. Dean will be living at the family home here in Lawton, so letters and phone calls can continue to be received here. As Martin would say, until we meet again ... "aufwiedersehen."

Barb, Bruce and Dean

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2000

THE LAWTON CONSTITUTION

## Obituary

### Martin E. Keiser

Funeral services for Maj. (re-tired) Martin E. Keiser, 84, Lawton, will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the

New Post Chapel, Fort Sill, with Chaplain (Capt.) Douglas Thomison, Fort Sill, officiating.

Maj. Keiser died Saturday in Lawton.



Burial with full military honors will be

in Post Cemetery, Fort Sill, under the direction of Becker Funeral Home.

Martin E. Keiser was born Feb. 28, 1916, in South English, Iowa. His parents were Martin A. and Laura Verna Keiser. He graduated from South English School in May, 1934. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army in June, 1934. He retired Nov. 30, 1957, after 23 years of active service. While serving during World War II, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in July, 1942. He served in North Africa and Sicily. He was captured in Sicily in August, 1943, and taken to POW Camp OFLAG 64 in Poland. He escaped from the Ger-

mans in January, 1945, while being marched back to Germany as the Germans retreated from the Russians. He made his way to Odessa, Russia, and then back to the United States in April, 1945.

He married 1st Lt. Winifred Thomas on March 18, 1946, at Fort Sill. She died Aug. 19, 1984. While in the Army, he served in Austria from 1950 to 1954. He served at Fort Sill from 1954 to 1956, and served in Korea from 1956 to 1957. After retiring from the Army, he worked for Civil Service as chief of the Editorial Division, Field Artillery School, from 1958 to 1978. He also served as property manager for the Sooner Girl Scout Council from 1978 to 1996. While with Civil Service, he was awarded membership in the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara for "conspicuous, long-term service on behalf of the United States Army Field Artillery" and was presented with the Order's highest honor, The Order of Saint Barbara Medallion.

While in the Army, he earned the following awards: the POW Medal, American Defense Service Medal with FS clasp, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal, World War II Victory

Medal, American Campaign Medal, Army of Occupation Medal (Austria), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and Sicily, Tunisia and North Africa service ribbons.

He worked with and received numerous awards from the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America, including the Silver Beaver Award from the Black Beaver Boy Scouts Council and the Thanks Badge from the Sooner Girl Scouts Council.

Survivors include three children: Barbara K. MacInnis and her husband, Brian, Wichita, Kan.; Bruce K. Keiser and his wife, Catherine, Roanoke, Va.; and Dean K. Keiser, Lawton; three grandchildren: Martin Alexander MacInnis, Laura Elisabeth MacInnis and Emily Grace Keiser; a brother, James Arthur Keiser North English, Iowa; and two special nephews: Jimmy Lee Keiser Marengo, Iowa, and Patrick D. Kelley, Waterloo, Iowa.

Memorial contributions may be made to: Hospice of Lawton Area, Inc., P.O. Box 2074, Lawton, Okla. 73502; or to The Sooner Girl Scout Council, 224 S. 14th, Chickasha Okla., 73018.

# TAPS

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A2 - The Free Press / Saturday, October 28, 2000

## **Marion A. Parrott**

Marion Arendell Parrott, 82 of Kinston, died October 27, 2000. He was born in Kinston on August 23, 1918, to Dr. W. Thomas and Jeanette Johnson Parrott. He was a graduate of The Citadel and the University of North Carolina School of Law. During World War II, he served as a paratrooper with the 101st Airborne Division. He jumped into Normandy in the early hours of June 6, 1944 (D-Day). He was captured two weeks later and was imprisoned in Szubin, Poland. He escaped Christmas, 1944, and fought with his division in Germany until the surrender. He was a former member of the N.C. General Assembly. He was one of the founders of Arendell Parrott Academy, which was named for his son who died in 1961. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Lillian West Parrott; a son, Clifton West Parrott of Kinston; three daughters, Susan Parrott Carlton and husband, William Yarborough Carlton, of

Winston-Salem, Jeannete Arendell Parrott, of Kinston and Lillian Arendell Parrott and husband, Francois Brunet, of Paris, France; grandchildren, Tempe Jeannette Arendell Carlton, Arendell Parrott Carlton, William Yarborough Carlton Jr., and Lillian West Parrott Carlton, of Winston-Salem, Charles Marion Kriss and Clifton Forrest West Kriss of Kinston, Marion Augustine West Brunet and Alexandre Brunet of Paris, France. Services will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday Oct. 29, 2000 from Queen Street United Methodist Church in Kinston, with the Rev. Francis Daniel officiating. Burial will follow at Westview Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday Oct. 28, 2000 at 1202 Sweet Briar Circle. Memorial contributions may be made to Arendell Parrott Academy, P.O. Box 1297 Kinston, N.C. 28503. Arrangements by Edwards Funeral Home. (Pd. Obit.)