

Artist's drawing of Camp 64 without barbed wire, towers and guards.
drawn by Jim Higgins

POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

SPRING 2001

SPOKANE 2001

Herm Littman has about firmed up on the details to the reunion at Spokane.
Date: Wed Sept 5, 2001-Arrival
Sun. Sept 9, 2001-Departure
Place: Doubletree Downtown

He has an interesting schedule of side trips while we are there. Details of the trips are shown on the agenda in this issue.
The hotel is aware that several of our members are in need of handicapped facilities and these will be taken care.
If you have a special need, please contact Herm and inform him of it.
Herm's phone no and address is on page 2.

COLUMBUS, GA 2002

Bill Warthen has been working on the reunion at Ft. Benning and has about firmed up on the details.

Date: Wed Oct 2, 2002- Arrival
Thurs Oct 3, 2002- Side trips, etc
Fri Oct 4, 2002- Side trips, etc
Sat Oct 5, 2002-Side trips, etc
Sun Oct 6, 2002-Departure

Place to stay: Sheraton Hotel
Columbus, GA

Ft. Benning is ready for the return of all the OCS Graduates.
Bring all your children and show them where you grew up in the early 40's.

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
Oflag 64 Audio Tape \$ 5.00
Original Roster-Oflag 64 \$10.00
Tribute to TF Baum (Paperback) \$15.00
Hammelburg Roster \$ 7.50
 Make check out to Oflag 64 PF and
 mail to the Editor.

In the Presence of Mine Enemies \$10.00
 Make check payable to and send to:
 Mrs. Rose Daniels
 5100 Sharon Road. Apt 603
 Charlotte, NC 28210-4720

Escape to Russia \$35.00
 Make check payable and send to:
 H.Randolph Holder
 383 Westview Drive
 Athens GA 30606-4035
 Pho. (706)549-3337

Americans Behind the Barbed Wire
 By Frank Diggs \$24.95
 Plus shipping 3.75
 Total \$28.70

Contact: Vandemere Press
 P.O.Box 5243
 Clearwater, FL 22205

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 Errol Johnson
 Jim Sherman
 Herm Littman
 Bret Job
 Albert Cecil
 Marcia Kanners
 Bob O'Neill
 Bob O'Neill
 Vernor Siebert
 Alvin Robin
 Wilbur Bishop
 Curtis Jones
 Leonard Warren
 Ed Rooney
 Jim Bates
 Rosa (DeFrancesco)Lee
 Abe/Eileen Baum
 Dorothy Johnson
 Stan Segal
 John Peetz
 Robert Galloway
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 Gottfried Dietz
 Reid Ellsworth
 Jim Sherman
 Warren Waters
 Robert Rivers

John Peetz
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A Little Company Business

- Duane promised us a very thrifty reunion at Laughlin and it turned out to be just that. Duane counted up the money left over from the reunion expenses and he had about \$5,000 left. He sent Joe Seringer a check for \$5,000.00 to be added to our bank account. We now are very solvent. We are all grateful to Duane for his efforts in putting on the Laughlin Reunion. He lives next to Phoenix and it is a long drive to Laughlin. He must have made quite a few trips and we are all grateful to him.
- During the business meeting at Laughlin, Joe Seringer mentioned that there are at present two men on the signature card for our bank account. These two men are Joe Seringer and Bob Thompson. Due to the advanced age of all our men he thought it would be wise to place two other men on the signature card that were in a lesser age bracket. There was some discussion about other means of handling the bank account, but the group settled on adding two men to the signature card. A vote was taken and it passed, The two other men selected were: Pat Waters, Gen Waters son, and Bret Job, Ray Holmquist's son-in-law. These two men agreed to have their name placed on the signature card. A vote was taken and it passed.
- After the reunion and everybody went home, the 4 men on the signature card discussed (via e-mail) the thought of sending Herm Littman \$2,000 to help defray some of the expenses of the Spokane reunion. It was agreed that this was an acceptable expenditure and it will be done.
- Our reunions are becoming more of a family affair as the years roll by. It is becoming more difficult for our men to make it to the reunion on their own, so a lot of them are bringing members of their family. The family members add a lot to the reunion in enthusiasm and energy and are a most welcome addition. We contacted several of our members and requested their thoughts as to encouraging everybody to make our annual gatherings a family reunion. The response was positive so we are encouraging everybody to make our reunions a family affair. So gather up all your children and grandchildren and in-laws and come on to the gathering in Spokane.
- The Hammelburg Affair has been getting a lot attention lately, at least as far as e-mail traffic is concerned. There has been a lot of people inquiring about their fathers and grandfathers that were in the raid, either as a POW or as one of Abe's men. The relatives do not know much about what happened and are becoming very interested and are asking a lot of questions. Answering the questions has become a time consuming effort. In order to meet the demands of the e-mail that has been received we asked Erick Eastes to make up a list of all the people that have inquired about the raid and put them on an e-mail list. This list will then be sent to all persons on the list and when anybody has a question or just wants to make a statement they will have the list and everybody on the list will get a copy of their comments. Erick was a an officer in the 1st Inf Division stationed at Schweinfurt several years ago and became very interested and spent a lot of time while in Germany going over the route of Abe's men. He agreed to be the point man in the e-mail list and we gratefully accepted his offer. If you would like to be included on his list and become involved oin the correspondence regarding the Hammelburg Affair, please contact Erick at eastes@yahoo.com and ask to be placed on the list. If your name appears on the list and you want it removed contact Erick and ask that it be removed.
- Robert Galloway's video tape of Offag 64 is ready and mailing should begin this month (Feb). He has made arrangements with Public Broadcasting System to have it aired sometime this summer, probably in June. You will have to keep a close watch on your local stations to know exactly when it will be shown in your area.

MAIL CALL

Irv Yarock has been reading your mail again,

Charles Wilkinson, Model, CO— still cattle ranching but has given up on horses and now uses an ATV. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

Frank Diggs, Arlington, VA- writes to say his book is still available but the source has moved. Order "American Behind Barbed Wire" by making out a check for \$22 to Vandemere Press, P.O. Box 17446, Clearwater, FL 33762.

M.E.Harrison, Embarcadero Marina, P.O. Box 249, Dana Point, CA 92629- was with us at Hammelburg, got away during the Raid, got picked up a few days later to return to XIII B just after we left. His unit was the 423rd Inf- would be happy to hear from friends.

Robert Rivers, Orcutt, CA- another guy from California. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

Bob O'Neill, Santa Maria, CA- has been doing some recruiting, i.e.Harrison and Rivers.

Warren Walters, Columbus, GA- "Bucky" should be a good candidate for the 2002 Committee. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

John Peetz, Northridge, CA-another "guest" from XIII B who is already planning on Spokane. Thanks for the Postage Fund donation.

Jim Sherman, Oakland, CA-one of our "old" faithfuls along with his son. How about rounding up our California contingent and descending (ascending?) on Spokane en mass? Thanks for your Postage Fund donation.

Gottfried Dietz, Baltimore, MD-still in the Political Science Dept, at Johns Hopkins and a German enlisted man in Otag 64 who a few of our friends, led by COL Goode, helped bring over here in repayment for kindness back when we were enemies. My (Y) grand-nieces husband was doing research at the school and she was working in their infirmary. I asked him if he knew Gottfried, and the answer was "no", but she chimed in with "I don't know him but I processed his records through the infirmary yesterday".

Elizabeth Owen, 3000 Rivermont Aye, Apt 10, Lynchburg, VA 24502- Betsy is **COL Goode's** daughter. She came to Laughlin and was overwhelmed by the kindness shown to her. She particularly enjoyed the many stories about her father and the documentary that **Bob Gallagher** put together. She was particularly impressed by the kindness shown to her by **Bob Gallagher**, and **Bob and Gladys Thompson**. So what? That's just normal treatment from people in our group. That's what keeps us together.

Alan Dunbar, Las Vegas, NV-health permitting, is a sure bet for Spokane. They have a son and family and **Lilo** has a sister there. Alan mentions a certain box car trip that brings a story to mind. Those of you who knew **Len Feldman** and **Paul Games** (the closest of friends, in fact Len was Godfather to Paul's children) know they argued about anything at the drop of a hat. After a fairly lengthy argument about what Hemingway meant in Hemingway's book "The Man and the Sea", a stranger across the way said "I don't think that's what he meant". Len & Paul then lit into the stranger until he said "that isn't what he told me, I'm **Jack Hemingway**."

Additional Postage Fund Donors- **Gottfried Dietz**, Baltimore, MD; **Ormond Roberts**, Worcester, MA; **George Juskalian**, Centreville, VA; **Reid Ellsworth**, Chandler, AZ; **James Monaghan**, Birmingham, AL; **Jean Gever**, South Yarmouth, MA; In, **Yarock**, Worcester, MA. Many thanks.

Tom Lawson, Grand Junction, CO— has located another "lost" kriegie. He's **George Rosenthal** 216 Cypress Ln, Oldman, FL 34677. We have him in Clearwater so he may not have received our mailing. Any of you who may be travelling to the freezing South might look him up.

Herb Garris, Pinhurst, NC- write to let us know that **Marion Parrott**, a fellow Ofiag 64 kriegie and his friend in high school and National Guard days has passed away. On being liberated, Marion rejoined his unit, the 101st Airborne, and stayed behind after V-E Day on occupation duty. If you'd like to contact his wife, Lillian, she's at 1202 Sweet Briar Center, Kinston, NC 28501.

MAIL CALL

As usual, time catches up with us and the responses to your letters must come from Bob T. in Tulsa.

Carroll Higginbotham, Fallon, NV sends his best wishes and a check to the Postage Fund. We thank you for both.

Richard Parker, Washington, DC sent in some interesting literature that is in this issue of the Item. He also sends in a donation to the Postage Fund. Richard is a friend of the Col Goode family. Thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

Ormond Roberts, West Boylston, MA, writes to comment on the photo of the Lts picture that was in the last issue of the Item. He thinks the ID of the men is incorrect. We referred him to Bret Job and hopefully they worked it out.

Clarence Meftesen San Francisco, is about ready to go to the printers with his latest revision of "Roads". He is in the process of looking for a printer and binder to bid on the job.

Alan Greenspan, Washington DC writes—*"I know you believe you understand what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant"*
This was in a magazine and was too good not to pass along.

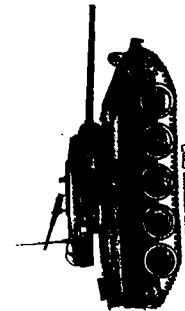
Mel Rappaport, Douglaston, NY sent in the information about the German and American armor in this issue. Mel is a "friend" of Oflag 64 and Oflag XIII-B and was in an armored division in WWII. He is very knowledgeable about Hammelburg and is an active correspondent with members of the Oflag 64 group. Thanks for your contribution, Mel.

Nancy "Millett" Zelenack, Escondido, CA. Nancy is **Col Millett's** daughter. Col Millett was our Senior American Officer @ Oflag 64 after Col Drake and before Col Goode. Col Goode outranked him by date of rank and Col Goode assumed command as SAO. Col Millett was Commander of the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment for the drop on D-Day minus one on Normandy. He was captured shortly after the drop and spent the time @ Oflag 64 until he escaped on the first night out on the long march. Nancy has sent in a lot of material on Col Millett. She sent in the photograph on the page which shows Col Millett and another paratrooper from the 101st, evidently a Capt., shortly after their capture. This photograph was evidently taken by a German photographer, because the writing on the back of the photograph is in German. The writing is shown next to the photograph. If anybody recognizes the other officer with Col Millett we would like to know who he is. Nancy's mother was one of the nurses on Bataan when it fell and she spent the war in Japanese POW camps.

Jonel Hill, Pasadena, CA. Jonel called and was inquiring about the Oflag 64 group. He was an enlisted man at Oflag 64 and came in rather late. He was sick when he got there and stayed at Oflag 64 when we left to go on the long cold march. I assured him we would be more than pleased to see him in Spokane this fall. Jonel is now on our mailing list.

Bob O'Neill, Santa Maria, CA- Bob ordered a couple more copies of LTC Waters Oral History. He had one, loaned it to a friend and his friend forgot he had it. Anyway, he wanted a couple more and they will be sent. He says he will be in Spokane. Bring some more of those men from CA and we will have a good crowd.

Marcia Kanners, Beverly Hills, MI. Marcia is planning on being in Spokane in Sept. for the reunion. She has a lot of other places to be around the same time, but she is working hard to make everything come out right so she can be in Spokane for our gathering. She also sends in the obituary of Harris Machus. We are pleased that you will be in Spokane, Marcia.



ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT TANKS, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK.
 Mel Rappaport, a friend of Oflog 64, sent these two pages in. He was a tanker in WWII
 Thanks, Mel.

U.S. VERSUS GERMAN TANKS DURING WORLD WAR II (PART II)

TYPE	WEIGHT IN SHORT TONS	MAXIMUM ARMOR	PRINCIPAL ARMAMENT	TYPE	AMMUNITION	
					MUZZLE VELOCITY	ARMOR PENETRATION AT 1,000 YARDS
Medium Tank M4A1 (Sherman)	33.25	3 in. (76 mm)	75 mm M3 (L/40)	APCBC	2,030 ft. (618 m.)	2.36 in. (60 mm.)
Medium Tank M4A3 (76 mm) (Sherman)	35.58	3 in. (76 mm)	76 mm M1 (L/55)	APCBC	2,600 ft. (792 m.)	3.54 in. (90 mm.)
Panzerkampfwagen IV Ausf F2 (SdKfz 161)	26	2.95 in. (50 mm.)	75 mm KwK40 (L/43)	APCBC	2,450 ft. (747 m.)	2.84 in. (72 mm.)
Panzerkampfwagen V Panther Ausf D (SdKpz 171)	43	4.72 in. (120 mm.)	75 mm KwK42 (L/70)	APCBC	3,070 ft. (936 m.)	4.76 in. (121 mm.)
Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger Ausf B (SdKpz 181)	62.72	4.33 in. (110 mm.)	88 mm KwK36 (L/56)	APCBC	2,660 ft. (811 m.)	3.98 in. (101 mm.)
Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger II Ausf B (SdKpz 182 Königstiger)	76.88	7.28 in. (185 mm.)	88 mm KwK43 (L/71)	APCBC	3,340 ft. (1,018 m.)	6.65 in. (169 mm.)

EXPLANATORY NOTES

(1) "L" as in "L/40" indicates the length of the barrel in calibers - (2) APCBC = Armor-Piercing Capped, Ballistic Capped - (3) The penetration data apply to homogenous armor plates at 300 from the vertical.

COMMENTS

As it can be seen from the above specifications, the Sherman with the 75 mm gun was able to knock out a "Panzer-kampfwagen IV Ausf F2" even during a frontal confrontation but was itself vulnerable to the superior 75 mm gun of that German tank. However, after the German defeat in North Africa and the early days of the invasion of Italy, the Germans introduced several new types of tank which, in firepower and armor thickness, were far superior to even the Sherman with the 76 mm gun... a weapon which was not only outclassed by the British 17-pounder (3 in. - 76.2 mm.) but even by the British 57 mm anti-tank gun. That discouraging situation was mainly due to the Chief of the Army Ground Forces, Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, an artillery officer without combat experience who had convinced himself and managed to convince others that tanks should be used to support the infantry in spite of the fact that he obviously knew that it was primarily due to the use of their "Panzerdivisionen" as a mobile mass of firepower that the Germans had been able to conquer most of Europe. Due to McNair's shortsightedness, the U.S. Army opted for quantity rather than quality... a decision for which countless U.S. tank crews paid a heavy price which, unfortunately too often, was the ultimate one.

Pierre C.T. Verheye

December 19, 2000

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT TANKS, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK.
 Mel Rappaport, a friend of Oflag 64, sent these two pages in. He was a tanker in WWII
 Thanks, Mel.

U.S. VERSUS GERMAN TANKS DURING WORLD WAR II

TYPE	COMBAT WEIGHT IN SHORT TONS	PRINCIPAL ARMEMENT	ARMOR THICKNESS	SPEED (ROAD)	RANGE (ROAD)
Light Tank M5 (Stuart)	16.5 tons	37 mm gun	10 to 64 mm (0.375 to 2.5 in.)	36 mph	100 miles
Light Tank M24 (Chaffee)	19.37 tons	75 mm gun	12.7 to 38 mm (0.5 to 1.5 in.)	34 mph	175 miles
Medium Tank M3 (Lee or Grant)	30 tons	75 mm gun and 37 mm gun	12.7 to 57 mm (0.5 to 2.25 in.)	26 mph	120 miles
Medium Tank M4A1 (Sherman)	33.25 tons	75 mm gun	25.4 to 76.2 mm (1 to 3 in.)	24 mph	120 miles
Medium Tank M4A3 (76 mm) (Sherman)	35.58 tons	76 mm high velocity gun	25.4 to 76.2 mm (1 to 3 in.)	26 mph	100 miles
Heavy (Medium) Tank M26 (Pershing)	46.17 tons	90 mm high velocity gun	13 to 102 mm (0.51 to 4 in.)	20 mph	75 miles
Panzerkampfwagen III Ausf N (11/2N) (Sdkfz 141/2)	23.48 tons	75 mm gun	16 to 70 mm (0.63 to 2.76 in.)	25 mph	93.3 miles
Panzerkampfwagen IV Ausf H (Sdkfz 161/2)	27.56 tons	75 mm high velocity gun	10 to 80 mm (0.39 to 3.14 in.)	23.6 mph	124 miles
Panzerkampfwagen V Panther Ausf G (Sdkfz 171)	44.43 tons	75 mm high velocity gun	13 to 120 mm (0.5 to 4.72 in.)	28.4 mph	124 miles
Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger Ausf B (Sdkfz 181)	62.72 tons	88 mm high velocity gun	25 to 110 mm (1 to 4.33 in.)	23 mph	72.7 miles
Panzerkampfwagen VI Tiger II Ausf B (Sdkfz 182 Königstiger)	76.88 tons	88 mm high velocity gun	40 to 185 mm (1.57 to 7.28 in.)	24 mph	68.4 miles

NOTES: Such names as "Stuart", "Chaffee", etc. were first given by the British Army to its U.S.-made tanks and later adopted by the U.S. Army since it was easier to identify a particular tank as a "Sherman" than as a "Medium Tank M4A3". All versions of the Medium Tank M3 were named "Lee" except the original if adapted for British use and the final version. Out of a total of 310 "Pershing" tanks shipped to Europe, only 20 were in actual combat and, after the war, the "Pershing" was reclassified as a medium tank.

Pierre C.T. Verheye

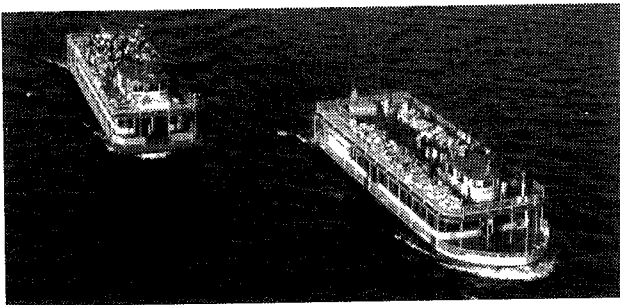
Revised on December 21, 2000

SPOKANE, WA 2001

About the Spokane Reunion:

Herm has set the dates for the Spokane reunion as : Wed. Sept 5-----Arrival
Thurs, Sept 6--- Business meeting, etc.
Fri, Sept 7--- Day trips. Etc
Sat, Sept 8---- Day trips, etc
Sun, Sept 9-----Memorial Service and departure

He has made arrangements with the Doubletree Downtown for a place to stay.
He has made arrangements with the Fairchild Airbase for a luncheon at the Officers Club.
He has made arrangements for a dinner cruise on Lake Coeur D'Alene and a laser light show and barbecue at Grand Coulee Dam.

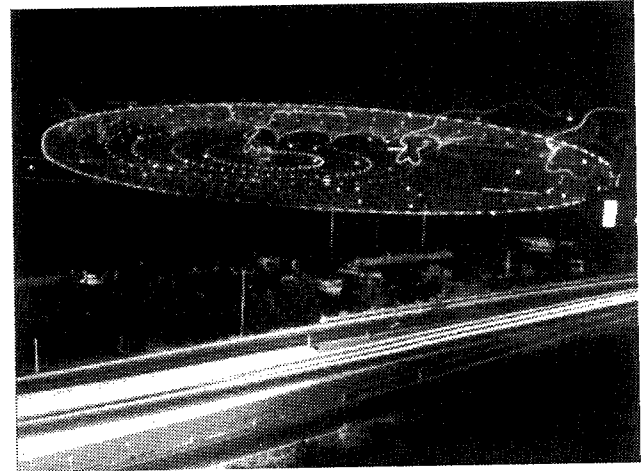


Lake Coeur d'Alene Cruise

Travel to Idaho where you'll board one of the "Fun Fleet" for a cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene, said to be one of the most beautiful lakes in the world. Along the way, pass by the now famous floating green at the Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course. You have the option of a public or private cruise. With the private cruise, you'll have the boat to yourself and we can add a meal along the way. The boats are climate controlled, so cruises are available year around.

Time: 4 hours.

We suggest you add one hour free time to look around Coeur d'Alene and make it a 5 hour tour.



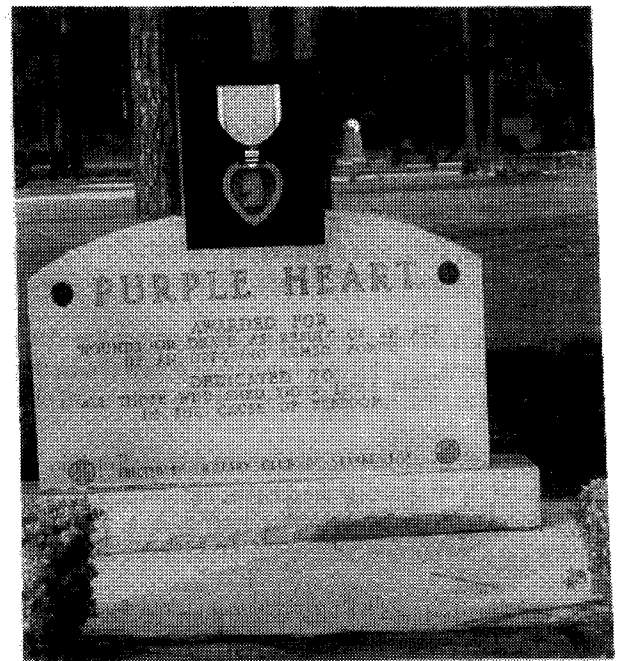
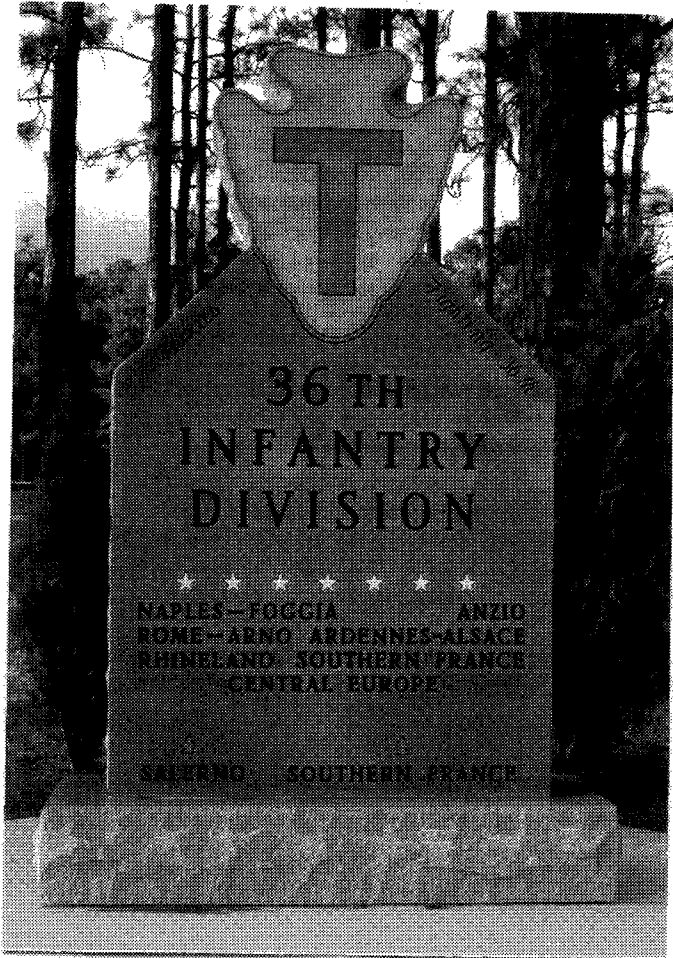
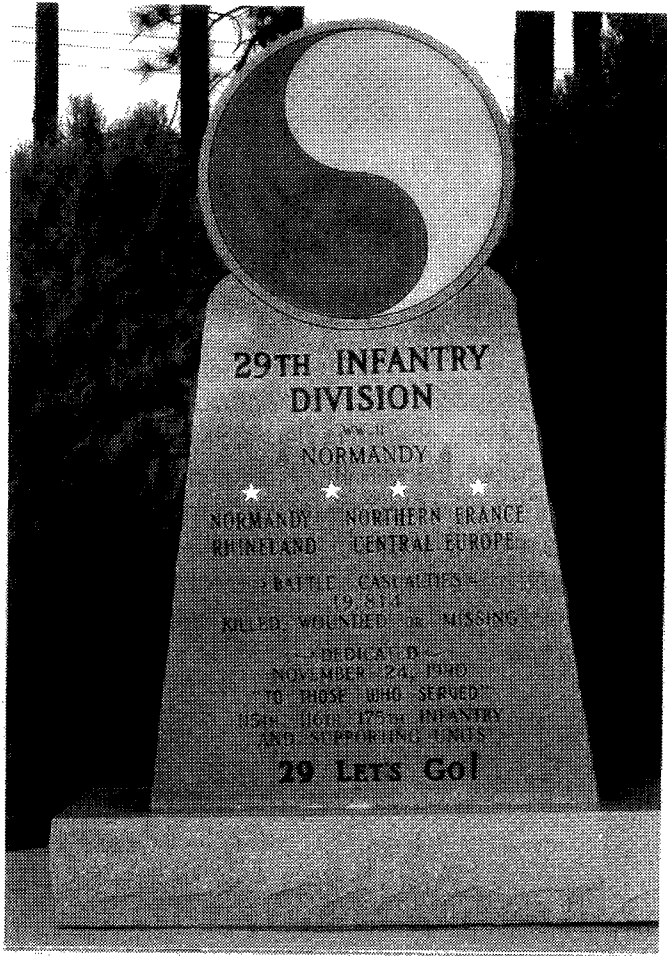
Western Dinner and the Spectacular Laser Light Show on Grand Coulee Dam

Travel through the rich farming country of Eastern Washington to Grand Coulee Dam. Stop for a barbecue dinner overlooking the Columbia River. After dinner continue on to Grand Coulee Dam to see the world's largest Laser Light Show on the spillway waters of one of the world's largest concrete structures. The show is narrated and accompanied by music and you'll be seated in the bleacher seats by the Visitor Center. It is a sight you'll never forget.

Time: 7 1/2 hours.

Option: Add an hour and try your luck at the Tribal Casino.

This tour can also be done during the day. It includes a visit to the Visitor Center, a ride down the incline elevator into the dam and a stop at amazing Dry Falls, the skeleton of one of the greatest waterfalls in geological history; by comparison, Niagara Falls would be dwarfed by Dry Falls.



These monuments are at the entrance gate of Camp Blanding, Florida. There were others, but these were the ones most familiar to men of Oflag 64.



The VA built a new Outpatient Clinic in Tulsa and it was opened in Dec 2000. Peggy McClure, the wife of our Commander (Ex-POW) Clint McClure thought it would be nice to make a display of everybody's shoulder patch and place it in the lobby of the clinic. The picture is of the display as it is installed in the clinic.

A special notice from Robert Galloway about his video "OFLAG 64"

A big thanks to all who have ordered a copy of "Oflag 64, A POW Odyssey." Please know that your order has helped towards our production expenses, which ended up well over \$200,000 in the year and a half process. Many of the postcards were returned, so if you didn't get one, you can send a check or money order for 29.00 plus 4.00 shipping/handling, per video, to Galloway Productions, PO Box 2254, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. Sorry for the delay in the shipping, but it took quite awhile to get the duplications. Also, as you will see with my note in the package, there was a mistake in the narration regarding the death of Capt. Richard Torrence, Jr in January of '44. The narrator says '43. This will be corrected in the 2nd run of tapes. Whoops.

PBS has accepted the one hour version as part of the PBS Plus programming for this summer. While there is no funding for it either from them or corporations, I thought I should go ahead and air this since they're interested enough to accept it. It is not easy to have a program accepted by PBS, so all of you "kriegies" should realize how special and unique your story is.

The only catch to all this is the stations around the country, including your area, while they will be offered the program in late March for airing during Memorial Day and D-Day, they don't have to take the program. And we will have no way of knowing who in fact did decide to air it. Without nagging the stations, I will try to find out who is carrying it and when they plan to air it. I will work with Bob Thompson on getting the word out and letting folks know if there's anything that they could do to help "inspire" the stations to air it in your area.

Perhaps if I can obtain the information from the 300 stations around the country beforehand, we can put the cities in the next item that are planning to air it. We'll keep you in touch. Nevertheless, check your local PBS station listings for late May and early June (Memorial Day Week and D-Day week).

On behalf of Heather "Waters" Galloway, Pat and Martha Waters, let me once again thank all of you who helped make this video a reality, and we hope that each of you who see it find it a useful aid to show your family, and that you remember how strong each of you were during that unique part of your life.

Robert Galloway
PO Box 2254
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
(843) 971-0942

Alan Dunbar received the following letter from a friend regarding the intent of a Texas Congressperson trying to change the date of Veterans Day every fourth year to the National Election Day so that people would have a holiday and they could go vote. As you can see, Alan's friend didn't think much of this proposition. This letter is being included in this issue of the Item so that if you feel so moved you can contact this person and make her aware of your opinions. Her e-mail address is at the bottom of the page.

Alan Dunbar
4675 Green Canyon Dr.
Las Vegas, NV 89103-4386

From: B. Donohue <bdbdkd@earthlink.net~>
To: <LittleColonel42@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 09, 2001 12:54 PM
Subject: From Barb

Hi there!

Hope you're doing well! It's been "forever and a day" since I've seen you!

Mom told me she told you about how ANGRY I was with Jackson-Lee... What started is was one of my POW-kid-buddies (I am close to many of them!) sent me an email about what Jackson-Lee was doing. I responded to Jackson-Lee and then sent MY response and the info I got from my POW bud to over 350 on my email list... The following is what I wrote:

To my family & friends....

Sorry for the "group" letter, but I wanted all of you to know that Ms. JACKSON-LEE of, Houston, Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform. Although this is just the "gist" of the text, in plain English, she wants to move Veterans Day on 11/11 to be "lumped" on Election Day during the election years

A BILL

To amend title 5, United States Code, to establish election day in Presidential election years as a legal public holiday by moving the legal public holiday known as Veterans Day to election day in such years, and for other purposes. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION DAY IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEARS AS A LEGAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

Section 6103(a) of title 5, United States Code, is amended--(1) by inserting the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in 2004 and each fourth year thereafter, and after 'Veterans Day' and (2) by inserting 'in any other year' after 'November 1'. SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING TREATMENT OF DAY BY PRIVATE EMPLOYERS. It is the sense of Congress that private employers in the United States should give their employees a day off on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November in 2004 and each fourth year thereafter to enable the employees to cast votes in the Presidential and other elections held on that day.

Needless to say.... I am ticked off I've been notified by several "POW Kids" like myself who have already written her scathing letters. I wrote HER the following letter and also made a hard copy and mailed it to the people I named including President Bush, etc.

To my family & friends who are Veterans, spouses of Veterans, friends of-YOU have to get this woman to stop. You can send her an email at: tx18@mail.house.gov.

Richard B. Parker
3317 P Street NW
Washington, DC 20007
Tel:(202) 342-6543, FAX (202) 342-0954

January 1, 2001

Bob Thompson
7448 E 68th Place
Tulsa, OK 74133

Dear Bob:

Thank you for sending me the Fall and Winter issues of the Oflag 64 Item. I was on the mailing list for the Item until 1988, when for some reason I was dropped. I suspected that Betsy Goode had given you my name when I received the Fall issue and saw that she had been at the reunion. She confirmed my suspicion.

The Goodes had lived across the street from us at Ft. Leaveworth in 1940 and Betsy and I went to high school together. It would be hard to say which of us was the more surprised, Pop Goode or I, when I walked into the Oflag in January 1945, fresh from the battle of the Bulge, and found him the Senior American Officer.

My stay at Oflag 64 was very brief, and I was among the 200 or so officers who remained behind at the farm called "Wegheim" after the first day's march back to Germany. My wife and I went back to Schubin, now Szubin, in 1990. The camp had been converted to a reform school and they were about to demolish the administration building which appears on your masthead. I don't know whether they carried through with those plans, or whether you have more recent news from there. We tried to find Wegheim, but could not.

As of possible interest, given the attention paid to the Limburg bombing in your Winter issue, I enclose a copy of the RAF report on that raid, obtained for me by a friend in the RAF historian's office. You will note that the target was the marshalling yards and the crews thought the attack was "very successful." Had it been so, the two trains full of POWs in those yards, instead of the POW camp up on the hill, would probably have been hit. Fortunately for some of us, they missed.

My check for \$25.00 as a contribution to your mailing and editing costs is enclosed.

Sincerely,



BOMBER COMMAND REPORT ON NIGHT OPERATIONS

23/24th DECEMBER, 1944

Limburg M/Y: Sieburg M/Y: Bremen, etc.

SUMMARY

Limburg 50/52 Mosquitos attacked the marshalling yards at Limburg through cloud varying from 0-7/10ths. The marking was good throughout, and the bombing was concentrated. Crews considered the attack very successful. No aircraft was lost on this night, although 2 crashed on return.

Sieburg 38/40 Mosquitos bombed the marshalling yards at Sieburg. The target was clear of cloud, but haze prevented any assessment of results. The aircraft attacked in 4 waves, mostly aiming at T.I.

Bremen-Hannover-Osnabruck-Munster. 7/7 H2S Mosquitos carried out training flights, all bombing Bremen, Hannover, Osnabruck and Munster. None of the targets was obscured by cloud, but haze made it difficult to estimate the accuracy of the bombing. No incidents were reported.

Bomber support etc. 100 Group provided a MUNDREL screen W. of the battle area, through which a WINDOW force struck eastwards to Mainz and then turned south. Gruppen of night fighters reacted; but, on finding that no large bomber force was present, these E/A were diverted to tactical missions against ground targets from Verdun S. of Florennes. Long range intruders claimed a Ju.88 and a Me.110 destroyed, and probably also a second Ju.88, as well as causing evident trouble to the German fighters. Other aircraft carried out signals patrols, met. recce flights and special operations. No losses were sustained.

WEATHER FORECAST

Bases Low cloud and fog.

Targets Little cloud over Germany: visibility 1-2,000 yards.

STATISTICS

No. of aircraft despatched.....	162
" " " reported attack on primary area.....	153
" " " " " alt. area.....	1
" " abortive sorties.....	8
" " aircraft missing.....	0

OTHER EXPERIENCED

Clear at Sieburg, Bremen, Hannover, Osnabruck and Munster, except for haze. Little cloud (0-7/10ths) at Limburg.

DEFENCES

Fighters reacted strongly to the WINDOW spoof, and to our intruders, but failed to intercept the Mosquito bombers. Flak was everywhere slight.

ACCIDENTS

No aircraft was lost; but 2 were wrecked and a third seriously damaged in landing accidents.

PART I - PAGE 4.B.C.(Contd).4. 23/24 DEC - NIGHT OPERATIONS.

157 aircraft were detailed on the following operations:-

→ LIMBURG Railway Centre (22 miles E. of KOBLENZ)	52 Mosqu
SIEGBURG Railway Centre (7 miles N.E. of BONN)	. 40 Mosqu
BREMEN, HANNOVER, OSNABRUCK and MUNSTER.	7 Mosqu
Bomber Support	58 (incl
	27 Mos
	<u>157</u>

5. PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION.

A preliminary interpretation of photographs taken on 22 Dec. shows -

POLITZ Synthetic Oil Plant (Attacked Night 21/22 Dec). Much oil smoke from fires burning in the S.W. Corner of the target. Further fires are burning in huts and small buildings at Northern extremity of the target. Elsewhere the target is partly obscured by an active smoke screen, but a few points of new damage are seen. One of the tall chimneys of the boiler house has collapsed and pipe lines have been severed.

EIGHTH U.S. AIR FORCE.1. 23 DEC - DAY OPERATIONS.

417 aircraft, comprising 304 Fortresses and 113 Liberators were despatched to attack railway marshalling yards and communications centres between BONN and SAARBRUCKEN between 1220 and 1255 hours.

Escort and support was provided by 560 Mustangs and 56 Thunderbolts.

RESULTS.

<u>Target.</u>	<u>Aircraft Attacking.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Results.</u>
EHRANG marshalling yard.	148 Fortresses	285 H.E. 64 I.B.	Good.
KAISERSLAUTERN (EINSIEDLERHOF) marshalling yard.	40 Fortresses	152 H.E. 15 I.B.	Fair to good
<u>Communication Centres.</u>			
JUNKERATH	31 Liberators	66 H.E.	Good.
DAHLEM	27 Liberators	64 H.E.	Good.
AHRWEILER	48 Liberators	127 H.E.	Good.
HOMBURG	97 Fortresses	208 H.E. 29 I.B.	Fair to good

SECRET

BY TELETYPE

: Headquarters, Bomber Command. 241630/A.
: Air Ministry Whitehall Nos 1 3 4 5 6 7 8 91 92 93 100 Groups
and all Bomber Command Bases and Stations in those Groups
1 2 3 Bombardment Divisions E.A.A.S. Manby.
Info Admiralty.

BOMBER COMMAND INTELLIGENCE NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS NO. 974.

23rd December.

TRIER. 150/153 Lancasters of 3 Group attacked the target in clear weather between 1428 and 1456 hrs. The target was identified visually and the bombing was concentrated and accurate. The whole town and marshalling yards were enveloped in smoke, many explosions being reported. Defences were moderate H.F. but no fighters. 1 a/c is missing.

COLOGNE. Gromburg H/Y. 20/27 Lancasters and 1/3 Mosquitoes of 8 P.F. Group attacked in clear weather with good visibility, in three formations. As the target was identified visually, leaders instructed a/c to bomb visually. Bombing was accurate, numerous bursts being seen on the marshalling yards. Smoke quickly obscured the target. Moderate to intense very accurate H.F. reported. Numerous enemy fighters seen in target area the second formation being strongly engaged. 2 a/c are missing. T.O.T. 1254-1303 hrs.

at 23rd/24th December.

SIEGBURG H/Yds. 58/10 Mosquitoes of 8 P.F. Group attacked in clear weather, 4 formations led by a/c carrying special navigational aids. Results were observed. Slight Heavy Flak was encountered. T.O.T. 1728-1750 hrs.

LIMBURG H/Yds. 50/52 Mosquitoes of 8 P.F. Group attacked in conditions of nil to 7/10 cloud. Marking was good and bombing appeared concentrated. Fires and explosions were reported and the attack was considered by crews highly successful. Slight H.F. is reported. T.O.T. 1805-1831 hrs.

SIREN TOUR. 7/7 Mosquitoes of 8 P.F. Group completed a siren tour of Bremen-Danmover-Osnabruck-Munster, without incident from 1748 to 1826 hrs. This was a training flight. Weather throughout was clear. Slight to moderate H.F. but no fighters were encountered.

6/6 a/c of 3 Group carried out a special operation successfully and claim 1 JU.88, 1 Me.110 destroyed and 1 JU.88 probably destroyed. 1 Mosquito of 8 P.F. Group completed a Net. Race flight.

BOMBER SUPPORT.

100 Group - 11/12 Mosquitoes carried out High Level Intruder Patrols of W.Germany, in the course of which 1 JU.88, 1 Me.110 were destroyed and 1 JU.88 damaged.

15/15 Mosquitoes carried out Low Level Intruder Patrols of A/Fs in W.Germany, attacks on flying bombs, railway junctions, and rolling stock.

Mandel Screen was operated by 8/12 a/c in support of our bombers.

18/18 a/c completed Window and Jostle operations on Germany.

Special Investigation Patrols were carried out by 5/5 a/c.

Distribution
for previous narratives.

[Signature]
Air Commodore,
Chief Intelligence Officer.
241630/A.

244.



GEORGE VAN MILLETT, JR.

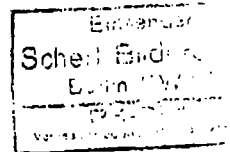
*Fifth District, Missouri
Kansas City, Missouri*

“FOUND in two subjects. Boy, they sure are out to get me.” Yes, Zip has just returned from another writ. But regardless of his pessimistic chant, Zip is still with us and has only been turned out four or five times.

Second Class Thanksgiving found him one of the mainstays of a victorious “Goat” team. He has tried many of the fair sex, too, but after having received several very prettily engraved wedding announcements of favored ones, has decided that he is off “wimmen” for life. He can’t fool us, though.

His greatest ambition is to get his wings. Well, we wish you luck, Zip. Some other branch’s loss will be the Air Service’s gain, for he is a good man and a fine friend. Behind his veneer of indifference there are concealed all the requisites of an able leader and a fine soldier.

Goat Football (2), Rifle Marksman.



AVZ 111 6 5 8
Aus dem Lesebogen in die
Gefangenschaft

Ehe sie Gelegenheit hatten,
mit ihrer Truppe die Verbindung
aufzunehmen, fielen dieser
Oberst und Hauptmann der 82.
und 101. Amerikanischen Luft-
landdivision zusammen mit
vielen hundert Angehörigen
ihrer Formationen in deutsche
Hand.

Achtung PK-Aufnahme!

Bei Abdruck nennen:

PK-Kriegsbericht Kell (Sch)

3.7.44 J 27053

A A A

FROM THE CARGO PLANE TO POW

Before they had an opportunity
to contact their regiment,
this Colonel and Major of the
82. and 101. American Paratrooper
Division were taken prisoner by
the Germans along with hundreds
of other members of their division.

Attention: PK-Photo

If copy needed, please call
PK War Reporter Kell (Sch)

July 7, 1944 J27053 (File#)

George Van Millett, Jr.

NO. 8732 CLASS OF 1929

DIED NOVEMBER 8, 1955, IN FRANKFURT, GERMANY, AGED 51 YEARS.

ZIP MILLETT was a man's man. He understood the true meaning of friendship and was unalterably loyal to those of us who were fortunate enough to be his friends. He was a de-bunker of fakes and had no patience with evasiveness or vacillation. He practiced integrity in everything he did. Zip was honest with himself and with everyone else, but in spite of this ingrained quality, he was a skilled diplomat.

His courage was of the quiet and enduring kind which inspired those around him and reflected so well the qualities which the United States Army holds in the highest esteem.

He was an outstanding representative of his country and its Army both at home and abroad. His life spanned a period during which the world was in an almost constant state of upheaval and in which his talents and interests were both needed and used.

His family and friends can well be proud of Zip's outstanding life of service and of his part in helping to maintain the security of our country, on the battlefield and in the international diplomatic arena.

George V. Millett was born in Kansas City, Missouri on April 10, 1904. After attending Kansas City Junior College, he was appointed to the United States Military Academy of West Point, from which he was graduated in 1923 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Military Engineering. Initially, Zip wanted to be in the Air Corps and after graduation from USMA he volunteered for flight training at March Field. In spite of a tremendous effort on his part, he was "washed out" after six months, and the Infantry was the gainer. From company officer in the 17th Infantry at Fort Crook and Fort Omaha, Nebraska, Zip went to Panama for service with the 33d Infantry at Fort Clayton, and then to the celebrated 3d Infantry at Fort Snelling.

Zip was a company commander with the 3d in 1935, the year he was made First Lieutenant. It was a squad from the 3d Infantry which fired the last salute as Zip was finally laid to rest in Arlington.

From 1936 to 1939, Zip served at Fort Benning, Georgia, first at the Infantry School, then with the 29th Infantry.

His second tour in Panama came in 1940 when he was given command of a company in the 14th Infantry at Fort-Davis.

The year 1941 was a significant one for Zip. He volunteered and was accepted into the Army's parachute effort which was just beginning at Fort Benning, Georgia. There Zip was among the first in the Army to win his wings as a qualified parachutist. He became successively S-2 and S-4 of the Provisional Parachute Group.

In August 1942 Zip was given command of the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment and was promoted to Colonel, AUS on September 25, 1942.

Zip's regiment was attached to the 32d Airborne Division for the Cross Channel in-

vasion of France. At 0230 hours on the morning of June 8, 1944, he parachuted with his unit into the Normandy Peninsula in the vicinity of Amferville.

The citation for Zip's Silver Star tells part of the story of what happened, as follows:

SS from Hq 82 Airborne Div 16 Oct 45
For Gallantry in action on 6-8 Jun 44 in Normandy, France. Having landed by parachute before dawn D-Day and finding force badly scattered in the jump Colonel Millett regtl comdr personally led 4 off 20 men in effort to accomplish primary mission reft capture of Amferville. After capturing 25 of enemy, neutralizing several machine guns and capturing two ammunition trucks being vastly outnumbered disengaged and established defensive positions on the main highway to town. There he finally assembled almost 400 men and held out three days against constant enemy attacks in great strength and under artillery fire thus denying the enemy the use of this important road to reinforce their attacks on the Merderet River Bridges. His courageous leadership and inspiring fortitude setting enviable example for his men.

Only when its ammunition had been exhausted did Zip's force withdraw to the



area east of Amferville, but during this withdrawal on June 9, Zip was captured by the enemy and evacuated to Schubin, Poland where he was imprisoned in OFLAG Number 64.

On January 21, 1945, Zip managed to escape from the OFLAG and made his way across the Ukraine to the Black Sea Port of Odessa a little less than three months later.

He arrived in Naples on March 23, 1945 and back in the United States on April 2.

Zip's post-World War II service began with his command of the 4th Infantry at Fort Benning. In 1946 he moved to the command of the Airborne School Regiment of the Airborne School, and the following year, he became senior instructor of the 100th Airborne Division at Louisville, Kentucky.

It was while serving in the above capacity that Zip was suddenly sent on temporary duty to the Middle East as the Senior United Nations Observer on the United Nations Mission to Palestine.

The words of Brigadier General W. E. Riley, USMC are at once simple and eloquent and describe the Zip we knew:

Brigadier General W. E. Riley, USMC, C/S, letter report: "Outstanding services rendered; cannot speak too highly of him, tireless efforts to keep orgn on even keel, will always carry out directives as issued,

his loyalty, industry & common sense make him invaluable on mission of this kind, pleasure to serve with him." Add dy as Dpty C/S Halfa for part of period.

General Riley further documented his views concerning Zip's contribution in a commendation which read in part:

Comm From Brigadier General W. E. Riley, USMC, Sr Obsvr & C/S UN Mission to Palestine 20 Apr 49. For outstanding performance dy 22 Aug 48-10 Mar 49, filled positions of high responsibility as Sr. Obsvr in Trans-Jordan Area in highly commendable manner under conditions of great danger; later as C/S UN Hq Iifaifa; performed all dys with intelligence, initiative, thoroughness & forcefulness, leadership, loyalty; ability to work in harmony w/mixed gp of off & EM that included all branches of armed svs of the US, France & Belgium.

Returning to the Kentucky Military District, Zip pondered the challenging problems of the Middle East with which he had briefly come to grips, and decided to go back. He returned to that area early in 1950 as the US Army Attache to Lebanon, where his services continued to be of great value to his country.

Following the tour in Lebanon, Zip returned to the Airborne business as a member of the Joint Airborne Troop Board at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The Middle East still held fascination and great interest for him, however, and in early 1955 he returned to the area again, this time as US Army Attache to Jordan. He was serving in this important job when he was stricken with leukemia. Zip died in Germany, November 8, 1955 on his way back to Walter Reed.

Zip gave everything he had to the service of his country, his friends and his family. He was an airborne pioneer, a gallant soldier, an able diplomat, a good husband and father. His name will live in our memories.

—Wm. P. Y.

T A P S

Ray Edward Holmquist was born November 24, 1920, in Lancaster, Minnesota, the son of Alfred Carl and Ida Isadora (Lindgren) Holmquist. He was called from this life on Monday morning, February 12th, at his home. He attained the age of 80 years, 2 months and 18 days.

Ray was baptized and confirmed in the Christian faith in Lancaster, Minnesota. He attended grade school in Lancaster and graduated from high school in Hallock, Minnesota. Ray continued his education at the University of North Dakota and the William Mitchell School of Law. Ray served his country in WWII as a 1st Lt. in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946. He fought in the battle of Normandy and was captured at Mortain, France on August 7, 1944. He was interned at a prisoner of war camp in Schubin, Poland until his escape on January 22, 1945. After his escape, he made his way through Russia, and from there to Naples, Italy where he was returned to the United States.

On April 18, 1949, Ray was united in marriage to Bette Kirby in Grand Forks, North Dakota. To this union five daughters were born. Ray and Bette were able to share in 51 years of marriage.

Ray began practicing law in 1949 in Warren, Minnesota until 1961 when they moved to Benson where he joined his twin brother Roy in the practice of law. After retirement he and Bette wintered in Arizona and spent their summers at Lake Minnewaska.

Ray was one of the original founders of Student Project For Amity Among Nations (SPAN), an organization to send college students to study abroad. It is still in operation in many Minnesota colleges today. He was a very active member of his church serving as Sunday School Superintendent and as a teacher for over 26 years. He had a strong commitment to his community while serving on the school board and city council in Warren. He was the legal representative to the council in Benson.

Among the things Ray enjoyed were the Arts, horses, gardening, cross-country skiing and philosophy.

Ray is survived by his wife Bette, five daughters: Elizabeth (Thomas) Lang of Benson, MN, Kristen (Robert) Fulford of Mora, MN, Susan (Jeffrey) Kramer of Blooming Prairie, MN, Judith (John) Moritz of Springfield, MN, and Lisa (Bret) Job of Minnetonka, MN; 16 grandchildren: Heather, Sarah, & Michael Lang, Jennifer, Benjamin, & Emily Fulford, Rachael, Bryan, David, & Thomas Kramer, Katy, Rebacca, Andrew, & Christopher Moritz, Lauryn & Nikolas Job; one brother: Roy (Jeanette) Holmquist of Starbuck, MN.

Ray was preceded in death by his parents, four sisters and three brothers.

A thoughtful act or a kind word may pass in a moment, but the warmth and care behind it will stay in our hearts forever. Thank you for caring and showing that you do. The love and thoughtfulness that was shown during the passing of our beloved Ray will never be forgotten. Words cannot express how each of you have touched our hearts.

The Holmquist Family

Harris Machus: War hero also owned metro eateries

By JOEL THURTELL
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

Harris Machus was a war hero whose devotion to discipline helped him escape twice from the Germans in World War II and later guided him in building a nationally ranked chain of restaurants and bakeries.



Harris Machus

Mr. Machus died of cancer Tuesday in a Naples, Fla., retirement home. He was 92.

Although his flagship restaurant, Machus Red Fox in Bloomfield Township, won many national dining awards, the name Machus Red Fox recalled for most people the last place Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa was seen alive in 1975.

Mr. Machus didn't like that kind of notoriety. "It just drove him nuts," said his son, Robert Machus of Birmingham. "He thought people would think he was running a place for gangsters."

"My father was a very old-fashioned, very focused, very straitlaced kind of guy."

It was that very focused quality of Mr. Machus' character that helped him accomplish the most dangerous feats of his life — his escape not once, but twice from the Germans who captured him after his tank was destroyed in northern Africa, said Robert Machus.

He was awarded a Purple Heart and Silver Star for acting with heroism when his tank was hit. "As he got out of the burning tank, he dragged with him one of his crew," said Robert Machus.

A captive of the Germans, Mr. Machus made his first escape by knocking out the bars of a boxcar window and leaping from a mov-

ing train in the Italian Alps. He hid in the mountains for several months before he was recaptured by the Germans.

He was in a prisoner of war camp in eastern Germany during the Russian advance. Each day, he made a point of walking the camp perimeter to keep in shape. When the Germans marched the prisoners away from the Russian front, Mr. Machus again made a run for it and walked through the Russian lines to freedom.

"He was a very disciplined guy. In the prison camp, which was very stressful, he gave up smoking," said Robert Machus.

A book, "Turmoil to Triumph," by Angus McKellar, focused on Mr. Machus' experiences.

Before the war, Mr. Machus graduated from Michigan State University in 1932. At MSU, he met Elaine Skimin, and they were married in 1934. Together, the couple started a bakery in Birmingham just before World War

II and Elaine Machus ran the business while her husband was a tank commander and later POW.

Eventually, Machus Enterprises ran three bakeries and seven restaurants.

Elaine Machus died in 1999.

Mr. Machus was president of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and received the First Citizen of Birmingham Award. He was a director of Cranbrook Art Academy and received an honorary doctorate from Northwood Institute. He also received a distinguished alumnus award from MSU.

Mr. Machus was president of the National Restaurant Association and served for 10 years as its director.

Besides his son, Mr. Machus is survived by two grandsons.

A memorial service will be Friday at 11 a.m. in St. James Episcopal Church in Birmingham.

Contact JOEL THURTELL at 248-586-2609 or thurtell@freepress.com.

Tony Cipriani passes along the word that Craig Campbell passed away on Feb 21, 2001.

Tony and Craig were captured on the same day in North Africa.

Craig was in the 9th Infantry Division and was part of the cadre for Oflag 64Z.

Duane A. "Andy" Johnson the son of Edward and Irene (Rapp) Johnson was born October 1, 1916 in Red Oak Iowa. He died on Sunday August 13, 2000 at the Montgomery County Memorial Hospital. At the age of 83 years, 10 months, and 12 days

Andy was united in marriage to Ardis Jungferman on June 17, 1950 in Omaha, Nebraska. He served his country during W.W. II entering with Company M 168th Infantry on June 24 1940, and served 5 years. He received his battlefield commission January 30, 1943 during the African Campaign he served in Italy and was taken prisoner in late 1943 and escaped 3 times that later being in December 1944. He traveled east through German lines, fought with the Russian Army, went through Poland and reached Odessa, and returned home in 1945. In 1946 he reactivated the National Guard of Red Oak Iowa of which he served from 1947 to 1957. Andy owned and operated J-D Oil Company from 1948 to 1972. He was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and the VFW of Red Oak

Andy is survived by his wife Ardis of Red Oak, three sons Steve of Red Oak, Mike of Ft. Wayne Indiana, and Ed of Phoenix, Arizona. A daughter Nancy of Omaha and three sisters, Madeline Dahlquist and Rosie Nelson both of Red Oak and Helen Mrs. Mervin Dau of Oakland, Iowa.

May God bless his memory and give strength to those who mourn.

Grave Side Military Rites 1168th Transportation Co. Iowa National Guard.



In Loving Memory Of
Duane A. "Andy" Johnson

Born
October 1, 1916
Montgomery County, Iowa
Entered Into Rest
August 13, 2000
Red Oak, Iowa

Services Held From The
Sellersgren-Lindell-DeMarce Funeral Home
Red Oak, Iowa
Tuesday, August 15, 2000 at 2:00 P.M.

Officiating
Rev. Myron Meyer

Honorary Bearers

Wade Dimmitt Bob Johnson
Homer Focht Vernon Mainquist
Elwin Diehl Marvin Requist

Casket Bearers

Larry Heuer Gary Hartstack
Dick Smith Roger Carlson
Joe Conrad Denny Hartstack

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery Red Oak, Iowa

TAPS

TAPS

The tragic ending occurred when Margot Greene went to wake up her husband George about 6:30 AM Sunday morning and found that he had passed way. She called Emergency Medical Technicians who told her that George had probably passed away as a result of an embolism or a stroke. No autopsy was performed in accordance with George's wishes.

George Inman Greene was born in Highland Park, IL, on 16 March 1921. He married Margot G. Taylor on 6 June 1969 in Baytown, TX. He earned a Bachelors Degree in Dairy Science from the University of South Dakota and a Masters Degree in Bacteriology from Iowa State University. He came on active duty as a commissioned officer in July 1943 and served at Camp Hood, TX until he was sent to England as a replacement. In early August 1944, George was assigned to Company B, 823rd Destroyer Battalion to replace Clyde W. Burton who had been severely wounded while serving as a platoon leader, 3rd platoon, on 26 July. George was captured on 7 August while participating in the defense of the Mortain area against the German attack whose objective was August 1944, to cut off the 3rd US Army at Avranches. According to our battalion history, George was last seen backing into a building, firing a caliber .30 machinegun from the hip. He was taken by the Germans to a prisoner of war (POW) camp in Poland, and kept there until the approaching Soviet Army forced the Germans to evacuate Allied POWs to the west, on foot, during the bitter cold of early January 1945. George and other prisoners suffered

extreme hardship while marching to the west, sleeping in barns, and eating raw potatoes when they were lucky. George told me he weighed around 90 pounds when he was liberated.

When George was released from the Service after lengthy hospitalization in January 1946, his decorations included the Purple Heart, the American Theater Ribbon, the European Theater of Operations Ribbon with three bronze battle stars, the WWII Victory Medal, the Croix de Guerre, and the Prisoner of War Medal. In intervening years George served with the Exxon Company until he retired after a 22 year career. In Fredericksburg, he served in numerous local activities as a volunteer and was especially active in working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Gillespie County Fair and Festivities Association, the American Ex-POW Association, the Hill Country Exxon Annuitants Club and the 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion Association, and was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

George and Margot did many essential tasks for the association. Most importantly, they hauled our extensive memorabilia to reunions and took care of the hospitality room, a considerable task in itself.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sister, Vera M. Newton of Lincoln, AR; ^{his daughter} and numerous relatives. Funeral Services were held on Friday, October 20th. Interment followed in the Greenwood Cemetery, Fredericksburg. Our association sent a floral arrangement with a ribbon which read: "A Comrade of the 823rd TD Bn." Margot has sent a thank you note to me, addressed to all members of our association.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Another POW gone forever

Date: Sat, 17 Feb 2001 17:23:01 EST

From: LoafersP@aol.com

To: JpK@mm.com

I recently received word from Earl Knuth's dau in law, that Earl had passed away in Sept, at his home in Washington State., following a long illness. John was the SSO, 1st Bn, 422nd, and was captured on 19 Dec 44, went thru Bad Orb to Hammelburg and finally on down to Moosburg. Earl, Dick Morrisey (the singer), and I were all buddies- together thru most of our "stay". I was the German- speaker, Dick the morale keeper-upper, and Earl the maker and tender of the smokey joe. How I'll miss him. I'm so glad that I was able to spend a day with him and his wife a few years ago, in spite of living at opposite ends of the country. Earl retired as a light colonel and as a high school teacher in the Yakima Wash. area. I believe he was a member of the association.