

# POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

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## SUMMER 2001

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### SPOKANE, WA

Everything is **GO** at Spokane. All the hotel arrangements have been handled, the tour arrangements have been handled and all meetings, meals etc have been scheduled. The program and registration blanks are included in this issue of the Item. Please fill out the registration form and mail it back to Herm with the proper amount of funds. You must make all arrangements with the hotel for your rooms. All air schedules will be your responsibility. There will be shuttle bus service from the airport to the hotel and a courtesy phone is available at the airport. Remember, Spokane is near Canada, so bring some warm clothes.

### FT BENNING, GA

Bill Warthen has just about completed his arrangements for our visit to GA. He will bring everybody up to date about the 2002 reunion during our stay in Spokane.

### 2003

If we intend to have a reunion in 2003 we should talk about it in Spokane and start making arrangements. We will bring this up for discussion at the business meeting.

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) 499-3337

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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 Jim Sherman  
 Albert Cecil  
 Marcia Kanners  
 Vernor Siebert  
 Alvin Robin  
 Wilbur Bishop  
 Curtis Jones  
 Leonard Warren  
 Ed Rooney  
 Jim Bates  
 Rosa (DeFrancesco)Lee  
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 Dorothy Johnson  
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Jonel Hill  
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 Peter Domes  
 Alan Dunbar  
 Vincent White  
 Hiram Wright  
 Herb Garris  
 John (Linda) Slack-to Joe  
 Bill Cory-to Joe  
 Lorainne Glendenning-IMO  
 Todd Trotter  
 Royal Lee  
 Pat Waters-to Joe  
 Jane Graffagnino  
 Fred Livingston  
 Ray Klinkenborg  
 Rose Daniels  
 Victoria Pough

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## MAIL CALL

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**Irv Yarock** is busy this month with preparations for Memorial Day parades, speeches, meetings, etc and will not make the responses to your letters. He will be back for the next Item issue.

**Betsy Goode Owens**, Lynchburg, VA. Betsy will be in Avignon this year with friends and will not make the reunion at Spokane. She passes along her best wishes to everybody and says maybe she can make Ft. Benning next year. Betsy ordered Oflag 64 videos for her family members and they are all fascinated by it.

**James Yamazaki**, Los Angeles, CA, writes that he found an old friend **Jimmy Kanaya**. They were both at Hammelburg and hadn't seen each other for quite a few years. He was a member of the 100<sup>th</sup>/442. This was the Japanese American unit that distinguished themselves in several battles. The 100<sup>th</sup>/442 rescued a battalion of the 36<sup>th</sup> Division that was surrounded and being decimated by the German Army near Remiermont France, in the fall of 1944. Jimmy Kanaya was captured in this vicinity, as I was, (Bob T), at about the same time.

**Bob O'Neill**, Santa Maria, CA, wishes to make a correction to a statement in the last Item. He didn't recruit Bob Rivers, Bob Rivers recruited him. Either way, we are pleased that both of you are now corresponding with us and hopefully will make it to Spokane this fall.

**Marcia Kanners**, Beverly Hills, MI, is going to have a busy fall will be in Spokane on the 5th of Sept. She asked that her son, David, be placed on the mailing list, which was done. Welcome, David. we are pleased to have you with us.

**Linda Slack**, Sinking Springs, PA writes that John has been in a rehabilitation facility for physical therapy on his leg. She hopes he will be back to walking soon. Linda sends a donation to the postage fund which we appreciate, Thanks, Linda and give John our best.

**Bill Cory**, Louisville, KY, checks in with a generous donation to postage fund. Thanks, Bill. I think the horse that won the KY Derby this years was owned by a man from Tulsa. They raise a lot of quarter horses around Tulsa, but I didn't know they also raised thoroughbreds. Good to hear from you, Bill.

**Herb Garris**, Pinehurst, NC. Herb is going to be real busy this Memorial Day with speeches at the Kiwanis Club and the VFW. Bob Cheathem is also attending. Herb is appearing at a Vietnam Grave site with the Ft. Bragg Band where Martha Raye was buried. Thanks, Herb, for the generous donation to the postage fund.

**Hiram Wright**, Winnfield LA sends a donation for the postage fund. Thanks Hiram. Next time write us a note and tell us how you are.

**Vincent White**, Arlington, TX checks in with a donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Vince.  
We would also like to hear from you with a note.

**Alan Dunbar**, Las Vegas, checks in with the good news that he and Lilo will be in Spokane. He also mentions the bad news that his dog, NIKKO, had to be put down because he was paralyzed and couldn't walk. He also sends in a nice donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Alan. We are looking forward to seeing you and Lilo in Spokane in Sept.

**Tony DeSanto**, RI and Germany, checks in with a donation to the postage fund. Tony and Renate are moving to near Munich to start working as baby sitters Their daughter, Linda, lives there and has an 8 year old son.

## MAIL CALL

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**Peter Domes**, Germany is now on our mailing list. Peter is a major in the German Army and is a professional soldier. He is intently interested in the Hammelburg affair and has spent a lot of time in the last few years researching the event. He corresponds with quite few of our men via the e-mail route and answered a lot of questions that were unanswered all those years since the event. Peter also sent on a donation to the postage fund. We had to enlist the services of Tony DeSanto and route Peters donation through the electronic banking system in Germany and the Internet to transfer the money, but it worked. Thanks, Peter and welcome to the group.

**Les Edsell**, Colorado Springs, Co sends in a donation to the postage fund. He also ordered one of Robert Galloway's video tapes and enjoyed it. He sends his congratulations to Robert and is going to find out when it will air on TV. Thanks, Les, for the donation to the postage fund.

**Jonel Hill**, Pasadena, Ca writes that he will be in Spokane this fall. He also sends in a donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Jonel, and we will be looking for you in Spokane.

**Fred Livingston**, Hilo HI, states that he will probably not be able to make the reunion in Columbus ( health problems) but maybe he can get his son (who is a retired Major and lives nearby in Midland) to attend in his place. Fred graduated from the OCS there in 1941. Fred also sends in a donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Fred.

**Newton Lantron**, Mesa , AZ, sends in a donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Newt.

**Glenn Brooks**, Aberdeen, NC sends in a donation to the postage fund. Thanks, Glenn

**Ray Klinkenborg**, Rock Rapids, IA is trying to get me (Bob T) a job as an agent for the Oklahoma Sooner quarterback. Ray, he was drafted way down the list, somewhere around 150, I think. I heard that he cannot throw the ball hard enough for the pros! Oh, well, you can't win them all. See you in Spokane and thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

**Rose Daniels**, Charlotte, NC, writes that she still has some copies of "*In the presence of my enemies*" for sale and would like to continue the listing of it in our Item. We will be delighted to keep the listing, Rose. Rose sends in a donation to the postage fund and we thank you for it.

**Gordon Smith**, Baton Rouge, LA called and reminded me that Nancy Zelenacks step mother was a nurse on Bataan, PI at the beginning of WWII and was thrown in prison just as her father, Col Millett was. Gordon and I ( Bob T) lost a good friend about a year ago. Jack Reynolds , our friend, was a golf playing buddy of Gordon's in Baton Rouge and was a friend of mine since 1938 when we both started to college. We were parted during the war and our friendship was renewed when the war was over and we enrolled in college and finished at the same time with the same degree. We both worked for Phillips Petroleum Company as engineers in west Texas and Oklahoma. Gordon and I will miss our good friend. Nancy Zelenack will be in Spokane next Sept and Gordon we hope you can make it. We would be delighted to see you.

**Martin Jones**, Lawrence, KS was a POW at Hammelburg when the raid took place and has written several articles to the Item about his experiences. One has been included in this issue. Martin has been very active in the affairs of the University of Kansas and still volunteers a lot of time to the University. Martin has joined us and is now on the mailing list. Welcome, Martin!

**Frank Diggs**, Arlington VA, asked that anybody that knew **Lt Francis Hellner**, a latecomer at Oflag 64 who was captured at Merode, Germany get in touch with his widow **Virginia Hellner**. She would also like to locate his friend, **Lt Free**. Lacking her address, you are asked to write to **Jeff Woodward**, 2121 11<sup>th</sup> St, Port Neches, TX 77651, or e-mail [jwoodward4417@aol.com](mailto:jwoodward4417@aol.com)

**Royal Lee**, Mankato, Mn says he and Harriet will be at Spokane and are looking forward to seeing all their long time friends there. He learned that **Robert Galloway's** video will be shown in his neighborhood. Royal sends in a nice donation to the postage fund and we appreciate that. See you in Spokane, good friend!

**Pat and Martha Waters**, Mt Pleasant, SC send word that they are looking forward to being in Spokane in September. Pat and Martha sent in a very generous donation to the postage fund and we thank them for that. See you in Spokane. Bring some warm clothes-South Carolina, it isn't.

**Robert Galloway**, Mt Pleasant, SC sent in the schedule of showings for his video on another page of this issue. There will be a lot more showings that are not on this list, so you should contact your local PBS Station to find out the correct day and time.

**Jane Graffagnino**, Hamilton, GA sends in a donation to the postage fund. Always good to hear from you Jane and hope you can make it to Spokane. Maybe next year at Ft Benning where it won't be such a long trip. Thanks for the donation to the postage fund.

**Todd Trotter**, Bozeman, MT, son of 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Mac Trotter, would like to hear from anyone that knew his dad. His dad was an artist and evidently drew portraits of some of the prisoners at Luckenwald while they were there. Todd contacted us asking for information about the Oflag 64 camp. We sent him some of the back issues of the Item and through that he contacted some men that were at Oflag 64. He also joined our group and sent in his donation to the postage fund. On another page of this issue is a portrait that his dad drew of somebody named Jack, but nobody knows who Jack is. Can you help? If you know who Jack is contact: Todd Trotter, 28494 Norris Rd, No 10, Bozeman, MT 59718. Todd, it is not much a drive to Spokane from where you are, why don't you fill out the reservation forms in this issue and come on to Spokane.

### ODDS and ENDS

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The Item has been published almost continuously for about 63 years, beginning with it's birth in Oflag 64. How many more years will it last, who knows? Maybe we should try to preserve all that is available of the copies that are still around in somebody's dresser drawer or in a shoebox under the bedroom dresser.

I talked to Clarence Meltesen about this and he had some copies that he sent to me. These copies cover almost all of the 1980's and the 1990's. If all that are interested would check around and see what you can find I will make copies of them and have them bound and send them to anybody that is interested, for the cost or copying and postage, just like we do all the other publications.

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There are several men that have computers and are interested in the e-mail craze that send letters back and forth to an internet group called HammelburgPOWs. This group is called the Hammelburg Forum. The men that have something to say, send it to this e-mail address, and it is put on the internet and is available for anybody to read that is interested. It seems that the groups that came home through Odessa and the group that came home through Luckenwald might be interested in getting together with something like the Hammelburg group does. It does require somebody to monitor the group, as to who is on it and who is not. The monitor does not make the decision as to who will and who will not be on it, but does see to that they are either on it or not on it.

Tony Cipriani has a website on the internet about Oflag 64. If you are interested, you might give him a call and ask him about it!

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Maybe we can bring these things up at the business meeting in Spokane and if there is any interest we can start the ball rolling.

REGISTRATION FORM

OFLAG 64 ANNUAL REUNION  
WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER TO SUNDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2001

Name, as desired on name tag \_\_\_\_\_ Wife's name, as desired on name tag \_\_\_\_\_

Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

Guests attending \_\_\_\_\_

Your home address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Date and time of arrival \_\_\_\_\_

By car \_\_\_\_\_

By plane \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ENCLOSE A CHECK FOR \$125.00 FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING  
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO - OFLAG 64 REUNION 2001. REGISTRATION  
INCLUDES TWO BREAKFASTS, ONE FORMAL DINNER AND A DINNER  
CRUISE. LUNCH AT FAIRCHILD AFB WILL BE PAID BY GLOBAL FEDERAL  
CREDIT UNION

REGISTRATION FEE: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$125.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

TOURS: We need a minimum of 30 people to go or money back

Green Bluff Orchards and

Arbor Crest Pie eating & Wine \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$18.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Coulee Dam Western Dinner &

Laser Show \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$39.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Age of Elegance (Historic Spokane Tour) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO:

Oflag 64 Reunion 2001  
C/O Herman Littman  
2928 W Gardner Ave.  
Spokane, WA. 99201

HOTEL RESERVATION ARE UP TO YOU!! CALL:  
DUOUBLE TREE HOTEL  
509 455-9600 OR FAX 509 744-2343

## Oflag 64 Reunion - Itinerary

### Day 1: Wednesday, September 5, 2001

Arrival, Registration

Hospitality Room opens at 4:00 PM for snacks and soft drinks

### Day 2: Thursday, September 6, 2001

9:00 AM Breakfast Buffet

10:00 AM Posting of the Colors and business meeting

Noon Optional tour (Green Bluff Orchards and Arbor Crest Wine Tasting)

5:00 PM Dinner cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene

### Day 3: Friday, September 7, 2001

Breakfast on your own

9:00 AM Tour of Fairchild Survival School and Tanker Flightline

Noon Lunch at Club Fairchild - Guest Speakers

5:00 PM Optional Tour (Grand Coulee Dam Laser Show and Ranch Dinner)

### Day 4: Saturday, September 8, 2001

Breakfast on your own

10:00 AM Optional Tour (Age of Elegance - Spokane City Tour)

5:00 PM Open Bar in Hospitality Room. Individual Pictures -if desired

5:30 PM Group Photo

6:00 PM Farewell Dinner and Auction

8:30 PM Entertainment

### Day 5: Sunday, September 9, 2001

9:00 AM Sit-down Breakfast followed by Farewell Service and Retirement of the Colors. Services at Riverside, weather permitting.

UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!

## ACHTUNG !!

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Did you ever expect to see Oflag 64 on Broadway? Maybe now you can!!

A Broadway-quality musical play is on its way, scheduled for production this September, opening at the University Of Pennsylvania theater in Philadelphia. It is a true World War II Love Story entitled

### **“I’LL BE SEEING YOU”**

The locale is Oflag 64. The hero is a Kriegy. The cast is chosen, the theatre is reserved, the script written, the music is outstanding.

The plot center around the romance between our man **Don Waful** and the pretty nurse (**CASSIE**) he met in Ireland before the North African landings, who he kept in touch with all during our Kriegydom days and later married when we were liberated. Great idea for a musical play, eh? It’s all set except for the last \$15,000 of financing. Don thought this might be covered if maybe 100 ex-kriegies could donate about \$100 each to the cause-about a tenth of what attending our annual reunion costs or (**EVEN A BIT MORE**) if the idea interests you. Please call **Don Waful** for details at 652 Cumberland Avenue Syracuse, New York 13210 — phone 315-472—3559.

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## BLUE~SPADER NEWSLETTER

### First Sergeant Pascal Poolaw, Co C, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 26<sup>th</sup> Inf

At the Oklahoma Indian Museum at Anardarko, his home town,, stands the bronze statue of Pascal Poolaw, a full-blooded Kiowa who served in three wars. He was First Sergeant of Company C, 1st Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> infantry when he was killed in action at Srock Rung, South Vietnam on Nov 7. 1967.

His 42 awards and decorations, including four Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars, Three Purple Hearts one each for wounds received in Germany 1944, Korea 1951 and Vietnam 1967— and an Air Medal make ISG Poolaw the most decorated Indian soldier in US history.

After attending Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, 60 miles SW of Oklahoma City, he joined the army on August 27, 1942. He rose through the ranks and earned a battlefield commision, which he later rescinded.

Coming from a family of soldiers, Pascal Poolaw fought in World War II while his lather, Ralph Poolaw, Sr., and his two brothers were also serving. His grandfather, 'Kiowa George' Poolaw, was a member of the famed all-Indian Cavalry Toop L at Fort Sill from 1893-1895. in Vietnam, and had just completed 25 years of service when he died for his country. He was buried in Fort Sill post cemetery on 17 November 1967 with full military' honors.

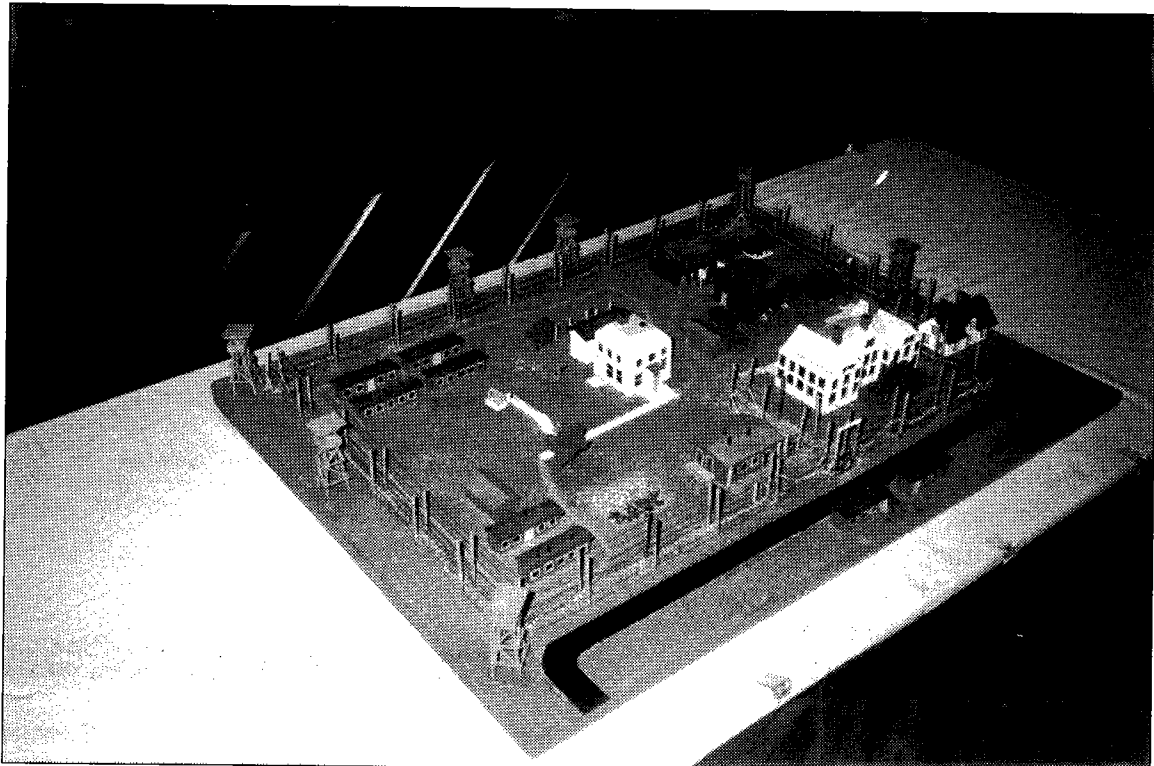
His widow was presented a corsage and a surprise title from the local United Services Organization as its "Mother of the Year" in May of 1968.

At this event only son Pascal, Jr., 25, was present. Son Donnie, 21 . was in Vietnam and his brothers, Lindy 20, and Lester, 27, were in Germany. Pascal Jr., was undergoing treatment at Brooke Army Hospital, San Antonio, Texas, having lost a leg lighting the Viet Cong. A spokesman there said lie wants to remain on active duty despite the loss of his leg.

We salute a heroic family that gave more than full measure. [Adapted from a museum pamphlet received from Ray and Laura Calvert and an article from the Pacific Stars and Stripes, May 14, 1968)

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Below is a picture of a scale model of OFLAG 64 that was on display at Louisville, Ky in 1993.





Todd Trotter sent in this portrait of a man @Luckenwald named "Jack" that his father drew and nobody knows who "Jack" is. If you are "Jack" or you know him please contact Todd Trotter, PO Box 11164, Bozeman, MT. Or, if you knew his father- 1st Lt McKie (Mac) Trotter- he would like you to contact him. His phone no is 406/587-2700

# ENCORE

## Third Reich Underfoot

George Juskalian is a retired Army infantry colonel who lives in Centreville, Va., with his wife, Lucine. He spends his retirement walking and reading anything not written by Adolf Hitler.

It was a bitter cold day in late January 1945. The night before, winter had heaped another layer of snow on the sea of white that covered the Polish landscape. The war in Europe was moving to its close. The Battle of the Bulge was over, and the Allies on the Western front were once again advancing.

On the Eastern front, the Russians had overrun Warsaw, crossed the Vistula River, and now were pushing rapidly westward. They were less than 100 miles from the POW camp in Poland in which I and about 1,000 other Americans were being held.

Our hopes surged! In a matter of days, perhaps even hours, we expected to be liberated. But our hopes plummeted when the German commandant ordered us to break camp in a few hours and start the journey on foot to Germany. We scrambled to gather up our belongings, including every piece of clothing, whatever morsels of food we had hoarded, cigarettes — they were as good as gold for barter — and any memorabilia we thought worth saving. All of us started the long trek overloaded. It was better to take too much than too little.



By midmorning, the long column of prisoners, flanked by guards on either side, was trudging through deep, powdery snow, heading west, away from the fighting front. In the crisp air we could clearly hear the crack of distant cannons to the east.

We prisoners were marching in a column of twos, and before we had pushed many miles, fatigue began to sap us. In the extreme cold, every breath left a vapor trail, and tears ran down our cheeks and froze. We wrapped scarves or towels around our faces and ears and doubled our fingers into fists to help keep them from freezing.

Those who had overloaded themselves began unloading. They never threw out food, clothing, or cigarettes and rarely discarded diaries or letters; it was books or bric-a-brac.

Perhaps never before or since had the Polish countryside been so littered.

My buddy, Pete, called my attention to a fellow POW up ahead who was struggling to pull something out of his homemade knapsack as we continued plowing through the snow. Finally, he jerked it out. It was a hardcover book. Apparently without a second thought, he tossed the book into the snow. As I drew alongside, I read the title: It was Adolf Hitler's *Mein Kampf!*

Just then, an armed guard who was marching alongside me stomped squarely on the book with his hobnailed boot. I doubt he knew what he had done, but I did. He had signaled the imminent death knell of the Third Reich. ★

EDITED BY LT. COL. WILLIAM C. ANDERSON,  
USAF-RET., Fairfield, Calif.

Robert Galloway sent in this partial listing of the places and times the "Oflag 64" tape will be shown.  
 You should contact your local PBS Station to find the time at your particular location.

06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WABW	ALBANY GA
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WACS	ALBANY GA
05/27/2001	9:30 PM MT	KENW	ALBUQUERQUE- SANTA FE NM
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	KLPA	ALEXANDRIA LA
06/07/2001	9:00 PM ET	WCML	ALPENA MI
06/14/2001	10:00 PM AT	KYUK	ANCHORAGE AK
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WGTV	ATLANTA GA
06/14/2001	11:00 PM ET	WPBA	ATLANTA GA
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WCES	AUGUSTA GA
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WEBA	AUGUSTA GA
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	WLPB	BATON ROUGE LA
06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KOAB	BEND OR
06/24/2001	4:00 PM ET	WSKG	BINGHAMTON NY
06/02/2001	8:00 PM ET	WSWP	BLUEFIELD-BECKLEY-OAK HILL WV
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WNED	BUFFALO NY
06/07/2001	4:30 AM ET	WNED	BUFFALO NY
06/08/2001	8:00 PM CT	WILL	CHAMPAIGN - SPRINGFIELD - DECATUR IL
06/10/2001	3:00 AM CT	WILL	CHAMPAIGN - SPRINGFIELD - DECATUR IL
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WITV	CHARLESTON SC
06/02/2001	8:00 PM ET	WPBY	CHARLESTON- HUNTINGTON WV
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WNSC	CHARLOTTE NC
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WCLP	CHATTANOOGA TN
06/03/2001	10:00 PM CT	KTNE	CHEYENNE WY-SCOTTSBLUFF NE-STERLING CO
06/06/2001	9:00 PM CT	WYCC	CHICAGO IL
06/10/2001	10:00 PM ET	WPTO	CINCINNATI OH
06/13/2001	9:00 PM ET	WPTO	CINCINNATI OH
06/15/2001	11:40 PM ET	WCET	CINCINNATI OH
06/16/2001	5:00 PM ET	WPTO	CINCINNATI OH
06/02/2001	8:00 PM ET	WNPB	CLARKSBURG- WESTON WV
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WRJA	COLUMBIA SC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WRLK	COLUMBIA SC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WRLKD	COLUMBIA SC
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WJSP	COLUMBUS GA
06/02/2001	8:30 PM CT	KQCT	DAVENPORT IA- ROCK ISLAND-MOLINE IL
06/02/2001	8:30 PM CT	WQPT	DAVENPORT IA- ROCK ISLAND-MOLINE IL
06/11/2001	10:00 PM ET	WPTD	DAYTON OH
06/11/2001	9:00 PM MT	KBDI	DENVER CO
05/27/2001	5:00 PM CT	WDSE	DULUTH MN - SUPERIOR WI
06/07/2001	1:00 PM ET	WQLN	ERIE PA
06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KEPB	EUGENE OR
06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KOAC	EUGENE OR
06/14/2001	10:00 PM AT	KUAC	FAIRBANKS AK
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KFME	FARGO- VALLEY CITY ND
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KGFE	FARGO- VALLEY CITY ND
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KJRE	FARGO- VALLEY CITY ND
06/14/2001	3:00 AM CT	KFME	FARGO- VALLEY CITY ND
06/05/2001	10:00 PM ET	WDCP	FLINT- SAGINAW- BAY CITY MI
06/05/2001	10:00 PM ET	WDCQ	FLINT- SAGINAW- BAY CITY MI
06/07/2001	9:00 PM ET	WCMU	FLINT- SAGINAW- BAY CITY MI
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WHMC	FLORENCE- MYRTLE BEACH SC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WJPM	FLORENCE- MYRTLE BEACH SC
06/06/2001	8:00 PM ET	WFWA	FT. WAYNE IN
06/07/2001	4:00 AM ET	WFWA	FT. WAYNE IN
06/06/2001	11:30 PM ET	WGVK	GRAND RAPIDS- KALAMAZOO- BATTLE CREEK MI
06/06/2001	11:30 PM ET	WGVU	GRAND RAPIDS- KALAMAZOO- BATTLE CREEK MI

06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WNEH	GREENVILLE-SPARTANBURG-ANDERSON SC-ASHVILLE NC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WNTV	GREENVILLE-SPARTANBURG-ANDERSON SC-ASHVILLE NC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WRET	GREENVILLE-SPARTANBURG-ANDERSON SC-ASHVILLE NC
06/05/2001	11:00 PM ET	WVPT	HARRISONBURG VA
06/05/2001	11:00 PM ET	WVPY	HARRISONBURG VA
06/01/2001	11:00 PM ET	WEDH	HARTFORD & NEW HAVEN CT
06/01/2001	11:00 PM ET	WEDY	HARTFORD & NEW HAVEN CT
06/03/2001	3:30 PM ET	WTIU	INDIANAPOLIS IN
06/06/2001	9:00 PM ET	WFYI	INDIANAPOLIS IN
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WXGA	JACKSONVILLE FL - BRUNSWICK GA
06/03/2001	7:00 PM ET	WPSX	JOHNSTOWN- ALTOONA PA
06/14/2001	10:00 PM PT	KTOO	JUNEAU AK
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	KLPB	LAFAYETTE LA
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	KLTL	LAKE CHARLES LA
06/03/2001	2:00 PM ET	WKAR	LANSING MI
06/15/2001	10:00 PM PT	KLVX	LAS VEGAS NV
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KHNE	LINCOLN - HASTINGS- KEARNEY NE
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KLNE	LINCOLN - HASTINGS- KEARNEY NE
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KMNE	LINCOLN - HASTINGS- KEARNEY NE
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KUON	LINCOLN - HASTINGS- KEARNEY NE
06/05/2001	8:00 PM PT	KVCR	LOS ANGELES CA
06/09/2001	3:00 PM PT	KVCR	LOS ANGELES CA
06/08/2001	8:00 PM ET	WKMJ	LOUISVILLE KY
06/06/2001	9:00 PM CT	KTXT	LUBBOCK TX
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WDCO	MACON GA
06/06/2001	9:00 PM CT	WMVS	MILWAUKEE WI
06/01/2001	9:00 PM CT	KAWB	MINNEAPOLIS- ST. PAUL MN
06/01/2001	9:00 PM CT	KAWF	MINNEAPOLIS- ST. PAUL MN
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KBME	MINOT-BISMARCK-DICKINSON ND
06/12/2001	8:00 PM CT	KDSE	MINOT-BISMARCK-DICKINSON ND
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KSRE	MINOT-BISMARCK-DICKINSON ND
06/12/2001	9:00 PM CT	KWSE	MINOT-BISMARCK-DICKINSON ND
06/04/2001	9:00 PM ET	WSRE	MOBILE AL- PENSACOLA FL
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	KLTM	MONROE LA- EL DORADO AR
06/08/2001	11:00 PM CT	WNPT	NASHVILLE TN
06/01/2001	11:00 PM ET	WEDW	NEW YORK NY
06/05/2001	10:00 PM ET	WLIW	NEW YORK NY
06/06/2001	12:00 AM ET	WNET	NEW YORK NY
06/16/2001	8:00 PM ET	WCNY2	NO DMA
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KPNE	NORTH PLATTE NE
06/05/2001	10:00 PM CT	KETA	OKLAHOMA CITY OK
06/05/2001	10:00 PM CT	KWET	OKLAHOMA CITY OK
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KYNE	OMAHA NE
06/13/2001	8:30 PM ET	WFSG	PANAMA CITY FL
06/19/2001	1:00 PM ET	WFSG	PANAMA CITY FL
06/17/2001	6:00 PM ET	WHYY	PHILADELPHIA PA
06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KOPB	PORTLAND OR
06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KTVR	PORTLAND OR
06/01/2001	11:00 PM ET	WEDN	PROVIDENCE RI- NEW BEDFORD MA
06/03/2001	10:00 PM CT	KRNE	RAPID CITY SD
06/03/2001	4:00 PM PT	KNPB	RENO NV
06/03/2001	9:00 PM CT	KSMQ	ROCHESTER MN- MASON CITY IA- AUSTIN MN
06/17/2001	6:00 PM ET	WDPB	SALISBURY MD
06/05/2001	10:00 PM CT	KLRN	SAN ANTONIO TX
06/06/2001	2:00 AM CT	KLRN	SAN ANTONIO TX

06/05/2001	11:00 PM PT	KPBS	SAN DIEGO CA
06/07/2001	1:00 AM PT	KTEH	SAN FRANCISCO- OAKLAND- SAN JOSE CA
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WJWJ	SAVANNAH GA
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WVAN	SAVANNAH GA
06/07/2001	9:00 PM CT	KLTS	SHREVEPORT LA
06/03/2001	11:00 PM CT	KXNE	SIOUX CITY IA
06/04/2001	10:00 PM ET	WNIT	SOUTH BEND- ELKHART IN
06/07/2001	12:00 AM PT	KSPS	SPOKANE WA
06/11/2001	10:00 PM MT	KCDT	SPOKANE WA
06/11/2001	10:00 PM MT	KUID	SPOKANE WA
06/06/2001	1:00 PM ET	WGBY	SPRINGFIELD- HOLYOKE MA
06/06/2001	9:00 PM CT	KETC	ST. LOUIS MO
06/13/2001	8:00 PM CT	KETC	ST. LOUIS MO
06/15/2001	2:00 AM CT	KETC	ST. LOUIS MO
06/01/2001	10:00 PM ET	WCNY	SYRACUSE NY
06/13/2001	8:30 PM ET	WFSU	TALLAHASSEE-THOMASVILLE GA
06/19/2001	1:00 PM ET	WFSU	TALLAHASSEE-THOMASVILLE GA
06/03/2001	6:00 PM ET	WEDU	TAMPA- ST. PETERSBURG-SARASOTA FL
06/07/2001	9:00 PM ET	WCMV	TRAVERSE CITY- CADILLAC MI
06/07/2001	9:00 PM ET	WCMW	TRAVERSE CITY- CADILLAC MI
06/05/2001	10:00 PM CT	KOED	TULSA OK
06/05/2001	10:00 PM CT	KOET	TULSA OK
06/11/2001	9:00 PM CT	KNCT	WACO- TEMPLE- BRYAN TX
06/06/2001	11:00 PM ET	WETA	WASHINGTON DC
06/06/2001	10:00 PM ET	WXEL	WEST PALM BEACH- FT. PIERCE FL
06/05/2001	9:00 PM CT	KPTS	WICHITA- HUTCHINSON PLUS KS

## Battle of the Bulge veteran helps family fill in the gaps of 'reluctant warrior's' life

By PATRICIA CAVANAUGH STUMB  
Times Staff Writer

**O**urs was a quest to find somebody who wasn't there. He had been dead for 15 years.

The pursuit, then, was to find somebody who knew him. Remembered him. Could tell us what his life was like the five months he was held prisoner in a German camp at the end of World War II.

My mother, my two aunts and I met in the lobby of a St. Louis hotel in September to get this deed done. We mingled with a few hundred former POWs from the 423rd Infantry Regiment, 106th Division, at their 53rd annual convention.

That's the outfit my grandfather was with when ordered to put down his rifle and surrender during the Battle of the Bulge.

We showed these veterans his picture, the one taken shortly before he boarded the Queen Elizabeth with 16,000 other soldiers to join his countrymen in Europe.

Do you recall this face?

Did he sleep next to you on a lice-covered blanket while you waited for the war to end?

Did he mention his three daughters back home?

There was a bulletin board at the registration desk where convention-goers could leave messages for one another.

Aunt Shirley tacked a piece of notebook paper onto the board. It said, "Anyone who knew James Willard Tucker, who was in Stalag IVB, please call us in Room 4053. He was our dad."

### Estranged from children

I didn't have a pet name for my grandfather. I didn't know him. I just thought of him as My Mother's Father.

For silly reasons, we were estranged from him. Not long before he died in 1985, he and my mother made peace. She made a few trips from Mississippi to visit him in Illinois, but I was a busy college student and didn't go with her. He died before I stopped being busy.

My mother, Louise Cavanaugh, didn't know him well. She was a toddler when her parents divorced at the end of the Depression. She and Aunt Mary lived with their mother, while my Aunt Shirley, who has



Shortly before he left for the war in Europe, James Willard Tucker and his mother, Gola Green, posed for this photo.

lived in Huntsville the past 35 years, went with her father.

Even Aunt Shirley didn't see him as much as she should have. She was mostly with her grandmother. When her dad wasn't working at a war plant, he was either working as a DJ at a radio station or singing country music somewhere.

None of the girls had a white-picket-fence childhood, but it would get even worse.

In 1944, their father was drafted and sent to basic training at Camp Atterbury in Indiana. Aunt Shirley said her father didn't want to go to war. He was a poet and a singer; he didn't feel the need to go shoot Germans like a lot of American men did.

"Dad was a reluctant warrior," she said. "But I think it was a defining moment for him. After he came

home, you could sometimes see it in his eyes that he was proud to have served, even though he didn't want to. Even though he wouldn't talk to anybody about it."

He got back to Illinois in late summer 1945. He continued his radio work, and he resumed a vice he picked up as a kid while helping his father deliver moonshine. He didn't talk about the war or anything else that troubled him.

His comfort came from singing and drinking.

I've also heard good stories about my grandfather. He loved people and people loved him. He was a great entertainer, and in later years he found enjoyment in his grandchildren, the ones who came to visit.

I've heard he was funny and kind-hearted and handsome.

I've heard those things from his

daughters. I wanted to hear good stories of him from strangers. I wanted to hear that he was a brave, quick-thinking hero.

We all did. But after reviewing a list at the registration desk at the St. Louis hotel, we learned there was only one man who could help us.

His name is Lloyd Martin Jones. He was the only veteran in the organization who was in Company G, the same company as my grandfather.

And as of Friday night, Jones had not registered.

Our only hope was that he would arrive at the convention before we had to leave Sunday morning. The four of us told ourselves that it wouldn't be a wasted trip even if we couldn't find Jones. We could hear other stories.

We learned that none of the men wanted to talk about their POW camp experiences for years after the war ended. They wanted to get back to working and taking care of their families.

"It would have looked like I was being a crybaby if I'd talked about it," one veteran told me.

Somewhere along the way they figured out it wasn't weak to revisit aloud the events that caused them nightmares. Since the success of "Saving Private Ryan" in 1998, it has become fashionable for us to pay attention to what these men endured.

But watching hardship on the big screen and watching it relived in the eyes of a 75-year-old man aren't the same. Hugh Colbert, a man from Dallas who was in a different regiment than my grandfather, laughed and cried when he talked with me.

He lost 60 pounds during his four-month interment.

"We all had gray skin," he said. "I remember seeing one of my buddies in the shower and thinking how pitiful he looked. I was going to say something to him about it, but then I realized he was probably thinking the same thing about me."

### Sharing his story

Saturday at noon, the men gathered for a lunch meeting while their wives were in another banquet room. Before my mother and my aunts went off with the other ladies, we all said the Pledge of Allegiance with the roomful of veterans.

I watched the three sisters silently cry. There they were. Saying the Pledge with men who might have known their father. Who might have

suffered with him and known a side of him they never did.

The convention coordinator asked all first-timers to introduce themselves to the group. About 20 men walked up to the microphone and said their names. A pleasant-looking man in a striped shirt bent over toward the mike and said his name was Lloyd Martin Jones.

It felt like a gift.

After he returned to his seat, I crouched beside his table and gave him my spiel. He whispered that he'd be delighted to talk to us after the program.

"I'll go ahead and tell you that I didn't know your grandfather," Jones said in a low voice so as not to interrupt the lunch speaker. "But I want to tell you why."

That afternoon we gathered in Room 3086, where Jones told us he was a second lieutenant at the time of the battle. My grandfather was a private first class. Aunt Shirley thinks he got busted down from a higher rank when he sneaked off to see Aunt Mary, who was in the hospital with polio in late summer of 1944.

Jones had 40 men in his platoon, but my grandfather wasn't one of them. He was one of the other 120 men in Company G.

Because the group had such little time together before they were thrown into battle, Jones didn't have the chance to meet all the soldiers in his company.

But he did remember the names of the other platoon leaders. As he spoke, he recounted their hometowns, their quirks, their individual bravery.

It was then that my mother recalled something she had buried inside herself decades before.

"I remember being ashamed anytime anybody mentioned the war," she said. "I knew my dad had been a prisoner of war, and I thought that meant he had done something wrong while he was fighting and they had put him in jail for that.

"I would think, 'I hope my friends don't find out about this.'"

### Held their positions

Jones remembered everything about surrender: what it smelled like, how it tasted, the fear of torture at enemy hands.

The three sisters listened, scarcely blinking. They sat on the edge of a double bed in the room shared by Jones and his wife, Phyllis. Jones sat opposite them on the other bed, giving the chronological account.

At 5:30 the morning of Dec. 16, 1944, the American soldiers were awakened by the sounds of heavy artillery along the border of Belgium and Germany. The

Battle of the Bulge started with a 45-minute barrage along the positions of the 106th and the 28th infantry divisions. Jones said German intelligence knew the targets well; 14-inch guns hit targets nine miles behind the front.

Company G was involved in several attacks. Their rifles were ineffective against German tanks. They became more useless when their ammunition ran out.

My grandfather was one of the men who was shot at but couldn't shoot back. Promised air support didn't come. The skies were heavy with clouds that planes couldn't fly through.

The men were stuck in fox-holes with no food and no bullets and no back-up troops.

"We were surrounded by Germans on the second day of fighting, and we ran out of ammo on the third," Jones said. "Still, for four days, we were told to hold our positions at all costs. I guess we could have thrown rocks at the Germans, but those were frozen in the ground."

"Did you think you were going to die?" my mother asked.

"Not then," he answered, "but there was another time..."

Jones unraveled the story slowly, suggesting with intonation that he was about to reach the part that would illuminate all the shadowy spots in our family history. It felt like we didn't know the ending.

The sisters sat on the edge of the bed, taking notes and trying to imagine the snowy, anxious scene this man was describing.

In the 106th Division's first week of war, over 60 percent of the soldiers had been killed, wounded or captured.

After being taken prisoner, the men walked through heavy snow for hours. Two days after



their march started, they were given a few crackers and some cheese. On Dec. 22, they were packed into railroad boxcars for transport to the prison camp in Germany.

The skies cleared Dec. 23, and the British Royal Air Force bombed the railroad yards at Diez, Germany. Jones said many American prisoners — in the boxcars and at a nearby prison camp — were killed in the bombings.

Throughout his story, Jones took shots at Allied leadership for putting the 106th in peril. He said there were plenty of signs that Hitler was going to launch another strike, but they ignored it.

That prompted Aunt Shirley to remember a story about her father. When Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower ran for president, she was way too young to vote, but she walked around the house saying, "I like Ike!"

She told us her assertion was met by her father's opposition: "Well, I don't like the son of a bitch."

### Sent to prison camp

On Christmas Day, 1944, the men — my grandfather included — were let out of the boxcars for the first time in three days. They were all smelly and gross.

"We were packed in there with no room for people to sit down," Jones said. "Have you seen photos of the Jews being taken to concentration camps in those little boxcars, all jammed together and how they threw buckets of urine and so forth out of those cars? Well, we didn't have any buckets."

The prison camp wasn't much better.

"It was a hell hole," Jones said. "There were far too many men in there. There was no food, no bathrooms. Imagine the worst place possible on earth. You aren't even close."

Jones was in the same prison camp as my grandfather from Jan. 11 until March 27, 1945. Jones became part of a group that was made to march across Germany.

My mother and her sisters think their father wasn't one of the walkers. At some point in the war, he was injured, and the injured weren't made to walk.

They know he was injured not because he told them but because he was awarded the Purple Heart, and it was passed on to them after he died.

They don't know if he was treated for his injury or if his months in the prison camp were worsened with pain from a war wound.

Even so, Jones' descriptions gave them something. It wasn't comforting, but it helped fill the holes in the scenery of his life. Maybe that explained his aloofness, his need to be alone sometimes, the way he would disappear for weeks sometimes, the way he would drink when he shouldn't.

My grandfather sent home a handful of war-time letters. The one dated May 8, 1945, was his lone literary reference to being a POW.

"Dearest Mother,

"Just a line to let you know I'm alright. I'm sure you know why I didn't write for so long, so I won't go into that."

He didn't say much more when he got home.

Jones said it took him 40 years to talk with anyone but his wife about his life as a POW. When he finally started talking, it was hard to stop.

"For a long time, we didn't know it wasn't our fault," he said. "More and more, the 106th is being given its due. We weren't bad soldiers. We just went where they told us to go."

When we left his room, he said something we wanted to hear.

"You can be sure your father and your grandfather fought as hard and as well as he possibly could. You can be very proud of him."

### Time for a new search

Our talk with Jones lasted for hours. We learned about history and the strength of the human spirit. It was exhilarating to get close to someone who could have at least seen James Willard Tucker 55 years ago, but there was also undeniable disappointment.

If we couldn't find a direct link to him at that convention in St. Louis, we probably never would.

I might not know exactly what my grandfather saw and felt, but I feel like I know him. Just a little.

It's strange how history can repeat itself. My sisters and I don't know our father, either. Consequently, our children don't know their grandfather.

Maybe the next search will be theirs.

Lloyd Martin Jones, second from left, shows the daughters of James Willard Tucker the place on a map of Germany where their father was held as a POW during World War II. The daughters are, from left, Mary Nagle, Shirley Tucker and Louise Cavanaugh.



Patricia Cavanaugh/Slumb/Huntsville Times

**Personalkarte II: Wirtschaftliche Angaben**Kriegsgefangenenlager: **Oflag 64**Name: **Alexis**Vorname: **Edw. J**

Geburtsdag und -ort:

Staatsangehörigkeit:

Beschreibung der Erkennungsmarke

Nr. **80 546**

Buchstabe

(Anfangsbuchstabe des Namens)

Lager:

Dienstgrad: **Soldat.**

Zivilberuf: Beruf-Ort:

Grad der Arbeitsfähigkeit:

**a) Private Geldmittel**

Datum	Dem Kriegsgefangenen abgenommene Beträge in Valuta	Vorforderungen in Valuta	Gutschrift in		Sierbon ausgezahlt		Bleibt Guthaben		Anerkennungsbetrag der Zahlmeisteri des R.-Ost.	
			R.M.	Stk.	R.M.	Stk.	R.M.	Stk.		

**OUR NATIONAL ARCHIVES - A GREAT RESOURCE**

by Jerry Alexis

A year or so after the end of WWII I was surprised to receive a packet from the Army containing articles which had been confiscated by the Germans when I was captured. I was even more surprised a couple of years ago when I received the above *Personalkarte II* from my good friend Jack Langston. His father, Carroll, had been killed a short distance from me in the same attack in which I was captured on 12 Nov 1944 in the Battle of Hurtgen Forest. He has spent the past decade searching for information about his father through a researcher who knows the ins and outs of the National Archives and other military records repositories. When my name came up in some of the same records as his father's, he had the researcher look for further material about me and the *Personalkarte* was one of them. I wonder how it ever made its way to Washington from Szubin!

Jack Forgy, the researcher, found the Morning Reports for our Co B, 110th Inf, 28th Div for the period 1 - 15 Nov 1944. Carroll's name and mine are on the 14 Nov MR as MIA along with two officers and 38 EM. Other documents include a chronology of operations of the 110th and the Daily Journal for the 110th for 12-14 Nov (there is no Journal for the 13th.) In them, Co's A and B are considered lost as of 1530 12 Nov, the hour of my capture.

Carroll Langston was MIA for two-and-a-half years until his body was found by a German from the nearby town of Simonskall, Peter Schmitt. The subsequent records of the retrieval, details of his mortal wounds, and his burial in the Ardennes Cemetery were given Jack. With this documentation, in May 2000 Jack and his brother went back to the Hurtgen to be shown by Schmitt the spot where he found their father's body. It had taken years to locate Schmitt.

One of the most important documents I got was an extract from the "Master Index Files of POW's in Germany" maintained by the American Prisoners of War Information Bureau of the Provost Marshal General's Office. I can't understand why this document has never been publicized to the ex-POW's who've had such a difficult time proving their POW status. Surely the VA has known about it. Here's my entry line: ALEXIS, Edward J. Pvt 13108177 A+U/2758 1/2/45 80548 Oflag 64 RMO. On the same page above my name are 18 officers with the surname Alexander, only one of whom, 1st Lt William A., is listed as being at Oflag 64.

Jack Langston is on the Board of Directors of the American War Orphans Network (AWON) and provided me with *Touchstones* by Ann Bennett Mix, described as "A Guide to Records, Rights, and Resources for Families of American World War II Casualties." It really is a treasure trove of information. To order, get in touch with American WWII Orphans Network, P.O. Box 4369, Bellingham WA 98227; Phone (360)733-1678; Fax (360)715-8180; E-mail awon@aol.com. Jack Forgy can be reached at 7659 Waterton Farm Road, Warrenton VA 20186; Phone (540)349-4214; E-mail: Hpyjk@AOL.COM. My address is 129 Point Vue Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15237-1883; Phone (412)355-3177; E-mail: ejalexis@juno.com.

# TAPS

B2

WACO TRIBUNE-HERALD

*Sent to Roy Chappell  
from Paul Marable  
of Waco*

## Lorraine Glendenning

John and Lorraine Glendinning's daughter, Tori Pough, sent in information that Lorraine died March 20, 2001. Lorraine was a favorite of our men. She took great pride in her presentation to Henry Sodeberg at the Newport reunion. We are all saddened to hear of this loss and we will all miss her.

## Dr John Thornquist

Royal Lee sends in information that Dr John Thornquist, ( a Dentist) died in California the first part of April of this year. John was a late arrival at Oflag 64, and for this reason he was not very well known.

## Ralph Ball

Maggie Wagner, Ralph Ball's daughter, wrote that Ralph passed way on May 16 at the age of 85. Ralph was a relative newcomer to the reunions. He showed up at Charleston for the first time and enjoyed himself. Several members of his family from Tulsa also attended Charleston and each said they were glad they attended. Ralph made several trips to Tulsa since Charleston and he and I (Bob T.) had a pleasant hour or two each time. We will all miss a good friend.



## **Ruby Cannon**

Ruby G. Cannon, 78, of Waco, passed away Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2001, at her home after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Services will be at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 22, 2001, at Wilkirson-Hatch-Bailey Chapel, 6101 Bosque Blvd. with the Rev. David Story officiating. Burial will follow at Waco Memorial Park. Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 21 at the funeral home.

Ruby lived in Waco her entire life. She graduated from Waco High School. Ruby was a woman of many talents. She worked as a drug store fountain girl, developed pictures at Willis Studio in Sweetwater, Texas, as well as in Waco. She worked at the Waco News Tribune for many years. She wrote articles about returning soldiers from WWII. One of those articles was about the love of her life, Roger Cannon. (Little did she know that one day she would become his bride.) She also was co-owner of three "Hob Nob" restaurants where she "flipped" many burgers and made many root beer floats and malts.

The main job she worked at and perfected for years was being a loving Wife, Mother and Nana.

Besides loving to be with her family and friends, she truly loved to do china painting and ceramic work. She also enjoyed doing volunteer work with her beloved husband at the VA Hospital in Waco. Ruby was always ready for a good time!

Ruby was preceded in death by her loving husband, Roger Cannon. She is survived by her daughter, Carolyn Reat and husband Ronnie, Patsy Swatek and husband Russ; grandchildren, Tricia Rush and husband Ben, Ronnie "Bubba" Reat and wife Karen, Jacob and Elizabeth Swatek; three great-grandchildren, Maigan and Cole Reat and Kinsey Rush. She also had three loving sisters, Orlena Bowles and husband Alonzo, Opal Everett and Prudie Sexton; and sisters-in-law, Valerie Staley, Doll Smith and husband Roy and Elaine Cannon.

Pallbearers will be Truman Martin, Frank Tusa, Donald Cooper, Payne Rucker, Bert Meador and Edward Staas. Honorary pallbearers will be Ronnie Reat, Russ Swatek, Ronnie "Bubba" Reat, Ben Rush, Jacob Swatek and Bill Swenson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Providence Hospice or Richfield Christian Church in Waco.

**WHP**

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## TAPS

# HARVEY D. PATTERSON

Harvey was a good friend Herb Garris  
Herb sent in this obituary on his good friend

### A Memorial Service

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, for Harvey D. Patterson of Williamsburg. He died at home April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2001, in the company of his family.

Mr. Patterson joined the 111<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery of the 29<sup>th</sup> Division and entered active service when the National Guard was called up during World War II. After attending Officers Candidate School in Oklahoma, he was assigned to the 391<sup>st</sup> FA battalion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored "Spearhead" Division.

He served as a forward observer from D-Day, June 6, 1944, until Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944, when he was wounded and captured by the Germans. For his service he received a Purple Heart with clusters, a Bronze Star with clusters for gallantry in action, and a Silver Star.

### At Bruton

He was an Episcopalian and had served in a variety of churches as vestryman, warden, delegate, lay reader, Sunday school teacher and usher. At Bruton Parish Episcopal Church, he was a guide, an usher, Sunday School teacher, member of the Pastoral Care Committee and participated in the clown ministry.

Jim Munday, head usher at Bruton, said, "He and his wife, Anne, ushered together and did many things together as a team." The Pattersons also participated together in the clown ministry.

"We have quite a few people who dress in complete clown outfits and go out to retirement homes," said Munday. "It's just another way to cheer people up while furthering spiritual concepts. Harvey was a charming, wonderful man, always willing ready and able. And he had a wonderful smile."

### Jamestown Recovery

Mr. Patterson also served as a volunteer with the Jamestown Recovery Team.

"He started as a volunteer interpreter," said Jamie May, an archaeologist with the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. "He did a lot of screening for artifacts and actually did some of the digging on the archaeological site.

I think after his experiences during the war, he just wanted to get the most out of his life," said May. "He was always

pulling a lot of good-natured pranks. We called him 'Saint Harvey.'" He was a like another dad to all of us. He was a very special friend."

Bill Kelso, director of archaeology for APVA, said that Mr. Patterson started volunteering at the recovery site soon after its inception. "He was a stalwart volunteer who always displayed enthusiasm, endurance and humor. He was always upbeat and always had a joke. His mind was young, and he was just an inspiration to us."

### Born in Norfolk

He was born in Norfolk and grew up there and in Virginia Beach. He was a member of the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad, a Scout leader and a water safety instructor for the American Red Cross and the YMCA.

He is survived by his wife, Anne F. Patterson of Williamsburg; two daughters, Anne Bemis P. Squires, and her husband, Jeffrey, of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Eleanor Dent P. Giles and her husband, Gregory, of Hood; a son, Harvey D. Patterson of Gainesville, Fla., and his wife, Justine; a granddaughter, Rose Anne Squires of Burlington, Vt.; and two brothers, William Webb Patterson of Suffolk and retired Cmdr. Randolph Fleming Patterson of Seattle.

The service Monday will be held at Bruton Parish church with the Rev. Herman Hollerith officiating.