

POST OFLAG 64 ITEM

SPRING 2002

COLUMBUS REUNION 2002

Bill Warthen has firmed up on the details for the reunion in Columbus.

The telephone no. for the hotel is on the agenda page.

You must make your own reservations. You must also provide for your own transportation to the reunion. Any questions? Contact Bill Warthen.

REUNION 2003

We are still in contact with the people in Minneapolis about the reunion there in 2003. Bret Job lives in Minneapolis and has agreed to help prepare for the reunion. We will report as information becomes available.

PUBLICATIONS

<i>The Waters Story</i>	\$19.50
<i>My Tour of Russia</i>	\$ 5.00
<i>The Men of Oflag 64</i>	\$ 20.00
<i>The Oflag 64 Directory</i>	\$ 3.00
<i>Oflag 64 Audio Tape</i>	\$ 5.00
<i>Original Roster-Oflag 64</i>	\$10.00
<i>Tribute to TF Baum (Paperback)</i>	\$15.00
<i>Hammelburg Roster</i>	\$ 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

Vic Kanners Diary----FREE
Contact- Dave Kanners
1141 Pine Ridge Court
Rochester, MN 48306

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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SPRING 2002 TO WINTER 2002

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Dick Whitaker of Los Gatos, CA is a good friend of Abe Baum's and is an author of military articles that have appeared in several military publications. He is very interested in Task Force Baum and made a trip back to Germany on the 50th Anniversary of the raid to write an article for "After the Battle" Magazine. He feels, like a good many of us do, about the Congressional Medal of Honor that Gen Patton promised Abe, but for some reason was unable to award Abe the medal. He is going to initiate a program to have Abe's DSC upgraded to a CMH. He would like to have the input of the members of our group that were at Hammelburg during the Raid, and maybe include the comments in his presentation concerning the CMH. He would appreciate hearing from you with your comments about what he is trying to accomplish. His address is:

Richard Whitaker
17462 Pleasant View Ave
Los Gatos, CA 95031-3320
e-mail: RWhit0007@aol.com

Bill Warthen is in the process of ordering a brass plaque to be installed at the Infantry Museum at Ft Benning GA commemorating Offag 64. The plaque is very similar to the one installed at the Andersonville.POW Museum. Changes in the plaque from the one at Andersonville will be:

1. The addition of the name of LTC John Waters
2. The addition of the name of COL George Millett
3. The addition of liberation places as Hammelburg and Luckenwald

Plans are that the plaque will be dedicated during our reunion at Columbus in Oct. 2002

The expenditure was approved by the group of 4 that were appointed to make decisions of this sort. There have been several men offer to donate money to pay for the plaque. If you would like to donate some money to help pay for the plaque please send the money to Bill Warthen, PO Box L, Vidalia, GA 30474. Any additional money needed to pay for the plaque will be taken from the Postage Fund.

It appears that the plaque will cost about \$1800.00

This is not company business, but it seemed interesting! It was in the book "From the Beaches to Bavaria" and was about the 4th Armored Division.

NOTE TO ABE BAUM—Did you teach this to tankers at Ft Knox, or did they just figure it out for themselves?

A medium tank commandeered by Captain Murray W. Farmer, commanding the 25th's "F" Company, encountered a German Mark V only 30 yards down an Avranches street. Captain Farmer ordered the Sherman's driver to ram the Panther before the German tank could bring its high velocity 75mm gun to bear. The two armor-plated giants crashed together with a metallic clangor. The Sherman struck the Panther full in the flank and the muzzle of the medium's 75 almost touched the German turret. The Panther's crew tried vainly to swing their tank gun against the Sherman, but the long barrel would not clear the medium. Sergeant Edward A. Rejrat, Scranton, Pennsylvania, of the 66th, fired four 75mm He and AP shells pointblank into the Panther. The explosions rocked the men in the Sherman, but as the dazed survivors of the Panther's crew tried to climb out of their tank, Captain Farmer shot them with a submachine gun. With one last heave, the Sherman tried to push the heavier Panther over and knock it completely out of the fight. Instead, the straining Sherman overturned into a ditch with its tracks up in the air. The medium began burning, but the crew wriggled away from the two tanks and dodged safely through scattered German infantrymen.

Description and dates of Tours to be offered at Columbus

PLEASE CONSIDER, MAKE SELECTIONS, CHECK NUMBER AND MULTIPLY AGAINST PRICE SHOWN. THEN WE CAN TAKE THIS INFORMATION AND MORE THOROUGHLY PLAN THE TIME AND EXTENT OF THE TOURS OFFERED. CALL ME TO LEARN MORE OR TO ESTABLISH SPECIFICS OF ROUTES , TIMES, AND ETC.

WED. NIGHT—5:30—Bused to VFW Banquet facility , number of tickets _____ @ \$15.00 \$ _____

THURSDAY TOUR TO ANDERSONVILLE AND AMERICAN POW MUSEUM
it's an hour trip to Andersonville, at arrival, group will probably be divided, One portion visiting Museum and seeing documentary. The remainder Will tour the POW Site with a narrator. Then these groups will exchange places. (The Theater has limited seating) Then lunch at 1893 Windsor Hotel, Americus, and briefing on History of HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, View some of the results, then on to Plains and possibly a visit to Jimmy Carter birthplace if time allows. Tour includes Lunch - Number (_____) @ \$35.00 \$ _____

Thursday Tour for those who have previously visited Andersonville. Tour takes Group to Warm Springs , Roosevelt's Little White House, cross last and most Southern Mountain in the Appalachian Range to 27,acre Callaway Gardens for Lunch Then 3 hour tour of garden, arboretum, Butter fly house, Birds of Prey Museum and Exhibit, and possibly time for the Snake Museum and Exhibit, before return to Columbus. Tour includes Lunch ---Number (_____) @ \$35.00 \$ _____

Thursday night on own

Friday Tour of Ft. Benning Infantry Post, participate in memorial presentation at the Museum, lunch at Officer Club, then over to Harmony Church Area where Inf. OCS was established during W.W. II.

Friday night on own

Saturday --Group Breakfast and short meeting, then we will try to arrange local town tours of City, old homes, museums , Restored Springer Museum and etc. Costs for this tour not established . We will need to know how many will be Participating.

Also possible Tour group to WESTVILLE, 15 miles S. Columbus (This is a historically Established 56 bldg. Town, (all buildings 1859 vintage, moved from all over Georgia.) Price for this will be reasonable but will have to learn how many are interested. If interested , check here _____ (please give number of people)

Also on Saturday we will attempt to arrange a Tour to Warm Springs, Callaway Gardens, and etc. as done on Thursday, for those who chose to go to Andersonville that day. If interested please check , lunch included, show number tickets Price \$35.00 & Total For you and your family. (_____) \$35.00 (\$ _____)

REGISTRATION FORM
 OFLAG 64 ANNUAL REUNION
 COLUMBUS, GA., WED. OCT 2ND—6TH

(print your names as desired on name tags)	(wife;s name)
(address)	(address)
(other guests)	(other guests)
(addresses)	(addresses)
(other guests)	(address)

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK OF \$125.00 FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO OFLAG 64 REUNION 2002.. THIS WILL INCLUDE WED. NIGHT DINNER AT VFW BANQUET ROOM, MEETING BREAKFAST & MEMORIAL BREAKFAST , SAT. NIGHT BANQUET AT HOTEL AND OTHER AMENITIES.

REGISTRATION FEE—NUMBER (____) @ \$125.00 _____
TOTAL

OUR HOTEL IS FOUR POINT SHERATON—COLUMBUS, AIRPORT ROOM RESERVATIONS \$79.00 (plus tax). CALL 1 706 327 6868 DESIGNATE “OFLAG 64). THE \$79.00 ROOM FEE HOLDS THROUGH SEPT. 1ST.

GREAT TOURS LISTED ON SEPARATE PAGE OF “THE ITEM” PLEASE PERUSE & MAKE CHOICES SO WE CAN PLAN AHEAD.

PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO :OFLAG 64 REUNION, ATTN. BILL WARTHEN, POST OFFICE BOX L, VIDALIA, GA. 30474. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL: BILL WARTHEN 1 912 537 4430 , VIDALIA, GA.

FOR NAME TAG INFORMATION

UNIT _____ ---WHERE & WHEN CAPTURED _____
 WHERE & WHEN LIBERATED. _____

MAIL CALL

Here we go again. I've (Irv Yarock) had a long vacation. As you recall, Bob Thompson sent me a big batch of letters which must have hit the east coast at the time of the bombings in New York city on September 11, 2001 and somewhere in the confusion a lot of mail disappeared. I don't know whether the loss discouraged some people because the mail is extremely light. Of course it's possible that you've all got computers and are resorting to E mail. I'm still holding out and am using my electric typewriter. I'm also having a little trouble with my memory, and am starting to get letters from people whose names I don't recognize. However, here goes— **Ted Roggen** 101 Westcott St. #306 Houston, Texas - we seem to have lost Teddy and he lost us which seems strange in that he's in the Public Relations business. I don't recall, but he may have come to our first one, which I think was in New Jersey. Who remembers that one? We were invaded by Texans. They spent a couple hundred bucks on telephone calls (a fortune back then) and finally got to the Secretary of the Air Force who authorized their travel on a military transport going on a cross-country training flight. Wouldn't the press have loved to get that one? Anyway, welcome back, Teddy, and we hope to see you in Columbus, GA this year.

Margaret Greene of Fredericksburg, TX- who reminded us that her husband **George Greene** had passed away. She sent a copy of his Obit as well as a contribution to our Postage Fund. Many thanks.

O. L. Bradford, Grove City OH- sends a letter complimenting **Herm Littman** on the job he did in Spokane. He also wrote to Herm. Frankly, I wasn't surprised. What Else would you expect from Herm? I (IY) always remember Brad's trade-mark at camp, his wool knit GI cap. I don't think I ever saw him without it. Probably slept with it on. It looks like he'll drive to Columbus, and from the sounds of intra-family talk, he may need a bus. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

Richard Manton, North Tanawanda, NY- Dick and his wife have some physical problems that keep them from travelling too much, but he does like to receive the ITEM and he keeps up some corresponding with **Ried Ellsworth**. As he puts it "by e-mail and snail mail" He was in the 36th Division fiasco in Italy. Thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

Joe Sennger, Wooster OH. Joe spends the winters in Florida. Joe occasionally gets Postage Fund donations which he forwards to Bob Thompson. He sent a couple to him just before taking off- **Jack Stewart** and **Donald Vermette**. Many thanks for the contributions.

Ormond Roberts, Worcester, MA- I(IY) spoke to him on the phone and will visit him first chance I get. He sounds chipper as usual, but is pretty well restricted in that he doesn't drive anymore. We haven't seen too much of him because he doesn't like to fly, but he did come to the reunion in Newport. In fact we drove down together. I'm sure he would like to hear from any of his old friends. Address is Ormond Roberts 70 Bnarwood Circle Apt #220, Worcester, MA 01606 By phone it's (508) 852-7001. Thanks for the donation to the Postage Fund.

Jack Rathbone, Denver, CO- keeps in touch with Ormond Roberts and wanted to make sure that Bob Thompson had Ormond's new address.

Edward Alexis, Pittsburgh, PA sent along Bill Luttrell's obituary.

Don Frederick, Minneapolis, MN- Either we lost track of him or he lost track of us, but he wrote asking for rosters. He was one of our Ranger representatives. Maybe he can make it to Columbus and visit his alma mater, when we go to Fort Benning.

Robert Galloway, Mt. Pleasant, SC, named his new son, **John Mercer Galloway**. The John is from LTC **Waters** and the Mercer is from **Gen Mercer**. Gen Mercer was a revolutionary Gen under **Geo. Washington** and was an ancestor of **Gen George S. Patton**. That little boy had better end up a Gen. or he will have to come up with a good excuse!

MAIL CALL

Bret Job, Minnetoka, MN, entered the hospital in early Feb with a back problem. Hopefully the problem has been solved and he can return to a normal routine. Bret and his family plan to go to Don Waful's play opening in Philadelphia. Bret has offered to help in the conduct of the reunion in 2003 in Minneapolis.

Tony DeSanto, Munich, Germany. Tony and Renate continue the treatment for Renate's eye problem. It appears that the problem won't be solved completely, but she will be able to read with strong eyeglasses. Hang in there, good friends.

Herb Garris, Pinehurst, NC. Sent in a newspaper article about Bob Cheatham. Bob is very active in community affairs and the article gives him recognition for it.

Dave Kanners, Rochester, MI, Vic's son writes that he will send anybody that asks, a copy of Vic's diary, free of charge. Vic wrote his diary as soon as he arrived back home and it is recognized as one of the best diary's of the time we spent in prison. It begins at Limburg and ends up at Mooseburg. Dave said he is looking forward to seeing everybody on Columbus this fall. Thanks for writing, Dave. We will list Dave's name and address on the second page of the Item for anybody that would like to have a copy of the diary.

Pat Bender, Dr.. Di Francesco's daughter sends in this nice letter. We attended a delightful second night performance of "I'll be Seeing you" on Friday, February 15th. My father, (**Vincent Di Francesco**) attended with me, my sister, **Maria Christmann**, and my daughter, **Jessica Bender**. **Don Graul, Don Waful & Family, John Slack, his two daughters, one grandson and one son-in-law, Boo Nunnally & his wife** were also there. Before the play started, the "kriegies" in attendance were asked to stand and were applauded by the audience. Unfortunately, The Philadelphia Inquirer did not give the play a good review, but we enjoyed it immensely. After the play, we were invited to a reception at a restaurant across the street with the writer, producer & actors. The actors sat with our "kriegies" and asked them questions about their experiences. We all had a great time and stayed out very late.

Pat Bender

Bob-

There was a woman from Minneapolis at the play - her father, a kriegie, died about a year and a half ago. I did not get her name, but she's been to several reunions. I think her Dad was a good friend of Don Waful's. (Note from Bob T. I think this must have been **Lisa Job, Bret Job's wife**. Her father was **Ray Holmquist**, who was good friend of **Boo Nunnally**. I knew Bret intended to go to the play, but I think his back operation probably interfered)

Herb Garris, Pinehurst, NC has put us in touch with **Suzy Parker**, McLean, VA, who is the daughter of **Capt. Robert S. Scott**. **Capt Scott** was a paratrooper chaplain that was captured in Holland on Sept 19, 1944. This was about the time of the operation "Marketbasket" Suzy is looking for somebody that knew her father and can tell her about what happened to her father and the circumstances of his prison life. If you would like to contact her she can be reached at:

Suzy Parker, USA Today Graphics, 7950 Jones Branch Dr, McLean, VA 22108

Dear Friends,

Holiday greetings from Reading, Pennsylvania! I am now living on the main street of downtown Reading, a city of over 300,000 that is showing encouraging signs of revitalization. Actually, I'm only about ten minutes from my former apartment in Wyomissing, but it was unfortunately no longer meeting my needs. Reluctant as I was to leave the many friends I'd made there over the past five years, I decided to move in mid-May to the Manor at Market Square. It is a senior citizen building providing three meals a day and lots of activities. My current place is larger, sunnier, and wheelchair accessible, which is important now as I need to use both a walker and a wheelchair. To assist me, I am lucky to have wonderful caregivers who are all from the same lovely family, originally from Jamaica.

Just outside my first floor window, the street is always animated. In fact, I recently had a front row seat for the annual holiday parade that came right past our building. Only a block away is the brand new Sovereign Center where I saw the "Kenny Rogers Christmas Spectacular" and will see "Champions on Ice" and perhaps the Reading Royals ice hockey team. Across the street from the Center, the first building mural, which depicts Reading's history, is being painted, with nineteen more to follow around the city.

High atop Mt. Penn, the 1000-ft. backdrop to the city, sits Reading's symbol, a former luxury hotel (1908) shaped like a Japanese pagoda. To reflect that symbol, white lights in the form of pagodas have been installed all along Penn Street. A new sculpture, a curved ribbon of polished steel entitled *The River Speaks*, reminds those entering Reading of the Schuylkill River, along whose banks the city was founded in 1748.

Following the terrorist attacks, my patriotism and pride in our country have become stronger than ever and my army reunions all the more meaningful. In the fall, I attended the 805 Tanker Destroyer Battalion reunion in nearby Lancaster. The group was small but enthusiastic, and we had a terrific time together. My other gathering with great friends was the Oflag 64 prisoner of war reunion in Spokane, Washington. We had an exciting itinerary that included touring the wonderful city of Spokane and one of the famous northwest fruit orchards

the end of our visit. We also had an outing to a winery where we, of course, were delighted to sample the wine.

One afternoon was spent at the Air Force base there where we veterans learned about current military operations from the new recruits while sharing our prisoner of war experiences with them. Little did we know then that less than a week later they would be on high alert. Our evenings were just as busy with an impressive laser light show at Grand Coulee Dam, a beautiful dinner cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene, and our traditional closing banquet, emotionally moving as always. None of these journeys could I have made without the help of my family and caregivers.

We are fortunate that we not only have our shared memories and treasured friends, but also an outstanding video, *Oflag 64, A PO. W Odyssey*, which documents our life at the officers' camp in Szubin, Poland. We were pleased and proud indeed that the video's excellence qualified it to be aired on many PBS stations around the country earlier this year.

Margie came up from Virginia for Christmas, and we had a marvelous celebration at Linda, Dein, and James' home, which is about twenty minutes away. It's hard to believe, but my grandson, James, is now my height at 6'2", a sophomore in high school, and busier than ever with his activities including guitar, drums, boy scouts, karate, and model UN.

My family joins with me in wishing you all a blessed and peaceful New Year in 2002

All my best,
John

P.S. Don't worry if you've sent mail to me at my old address or in care of my daughters. I will still receive it, but it would be helpful if you could note my new address. I always appreciate and enjoy hearing from you.

The Manor at Market Square

803 Penn Street, Apt. 125
Reading, PA 19601-3617
Tel. 610/374-8224

This is Greetings from John Slack and his daughters, Linda and Margie. It looks like he has a new mailing address, so if you would like to contact John and his family the address is in the text of his greetings.

1996

The Irving J. Yarock Award Committee

The Honorable Raymond V. Mariano
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Dr. Sarah McGee and Alden Bianchi
Co-Chairs

Jordan Levy
Master of Ceremonies

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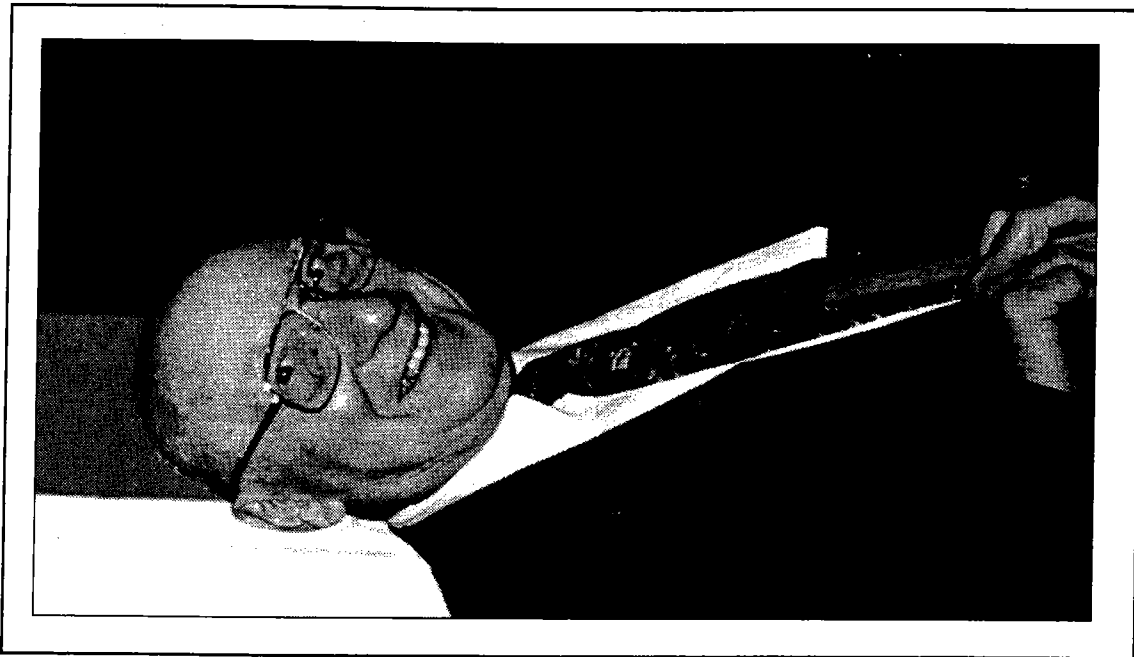
Donald McGowan

Jim Moynihan

Richard Pentland

William Short

Irving J. Yarock
an exceptional community leader



This is the poster advertising Don and Cassie Waful's romance in WWII. The play is to open in Philadelphia in mid-Feb and run for a few weeks. If you would like to contact Don, his address is:

Don Waful
652 Cumberland Ave
Syracuse, NY 13210-2624

I'LL BE SEEING YOU

**A New Musical Play
Based on a True
World War II Love Story**



McCarlyle Productions, Inc. & Retrofit Productions, Inc.

Present

"I'LL BE SEEING YOU"

Music, Book & Lyrics by Diane Tauser
Directed by Michael Unger

February 1 - March 3, 2002
For Tickets Call 215-893-1999

World Premiere - February 2002



THE KIMMEL CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

This wanted poster was hanging in the office of my detective friend at the Tulsa Police Department when I returned to work after my hospital stay last summer.



Wanted

By the
Tulsa Police Department

For
Failing to maintain health standards



Robert T. "Bob" Thompson
White Male 79 years old, DOB 112921

Robert T. "Bob" Thompson is wanted by the Tulsa Police Homicide, Major Crimes, and Gray Squads for failing to maintain his health to department standards. He has been seen eating high cholesterol meals with several of the squad members while on-duty.

Thompson is known throughout the Detective Division for the accurate reconstruction drawing of major crime scenes. He is also recognized to have coined the phrase "I came in late, so I am leaving early to make up for it!"

The last report on Thompson's location was on July 11th, when his wife Gladys, of... (well, several years) reported that he had undergone a double bypass surgery at St. Francis Hospital.

PLEASE CONTACT THE TULSA POLICE DEPARTMENT HOMICIDE SQUAD
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Authority of Det. Roy Heim, Homicide
918-596-9156

Ted Roggen, Houston, Texas has written a book that he would like to share with you.
Ordering information follows the description.

Captain (Ted) Roggen a native Houstonian was a member of the 143rd Infantry regiment, 36th. Infantry Division. The landed at Paestum, Italy on September 9, 1943, and five days later his whole battalion was captured by the Germans. He and the rest were transported to Luckenwalde first, and then by train to Oflag 64. He spent 21 months there and met up with friends **Amon Carter, Jr.** and **John T. Jones**. In camp Ted was a newsreader for his barracks. He met nightly at the White House and received the BBC broadcast from **Craig Campbell**. Roggen later read the news to the other Kriegies.

Lt Colonel Waters is credited with saving his life in Oflag when Roggen checked out a "saw" from the tool house and used it to cut off table legs so he could reach the ping pong table. The Germans conducted an investigation, but were never told who did the dirty work. **Ltc Waters** told Roggen the Germans were very upset and indicated that would be a serious offense if they found out the person who destroyed German property. Captain Roggen spent 18 months, off and on, writing "Press Releases" which is an insightful glance into the life one of Houston's most successful advertising and public relations firm. A veteran of fifty years in the business, entrepreneur **Ted Roggen** paints a colorful picture of five decades in the advertising and public relations arena. Roggen not only gives the reader and unforgettable glance into his own life, but also a glimpse of some of the prominent figures who helped to shape the style and glamour of an era. He describes his life in Oflag 64, and tells about being a member of the escape group that tunneled underneath his barracks to an escape route, only to have the tunnel cave in because of seepage from the latrine. Roggen talks about his interment in solitary at Luckenwalde, and the later discovery that the interrogator was from Dallas, Texas, who moved to Germany and became a Nazi officer. Roggen later came down with pneumonia and was hospitalized

at the German Hospital in Luckenwalde and was treated by **Dr. Gabriel Petrovitch**, the former physician to King Peter of Yugoslavia. A few years later Roggen and the late John T. Jones entertained the doctor when he visited Houston, and was a guest in the Roggen home. The Roggen family later discovered that when the doctor departed there were several items of clothing missing from their home.

Major Clarence Ferguson, a member of the 143rd staff, was captured on the same day that the German Panzer division encircled the battalion that Roggen was part of. After his discharge Ferguson wrote a book titled *Kriegesfangener (Prisoner of War)* and dedicated a page in his book, and wrote this about Captain Roggen.

"To **Ted Roggen** whose courage and diligence and valarous conduct in a hopeless battle, about which this book is written in anonymous inspiration to all mankind. He continued to fight when all hope was gone and never relented until ordered by his commander to surrender".

I personally attest to this fact as an eye witness. It is an extreme pleasure to dedicate this volume to Ted, my friend and outstanding citizen of our Great Country. Sincerely,
Clarence Ferguson.

Ted Roggen is a graduate of San Jacinto High School in Houston. He holds a BA degree in Journalism from LSU. Mr Roggen has owned the Ted Roggen Advertising and Public Relations Agency since 1945 and has provided quality advertising and public relations service to a long list of established Houston businesses.

If anyone wants to purchase "Press Releases", the price is \$10.95. My address is:

Ted Roggen

101 Westcott St. unit 306, Houston, Texas 77007.

Phone number: 713\ 426-2314.

e-mail: SRoggen@aol.com

Mark Reardon is a friend of the Oflag 64 group. He has supplied answers to questions that most people couldn't answer. He furnished the After Action Reports of Field Marshall Rommell that were in the hospitality room at Spokane. Maybe some of our men that were in the 30th Division can find the answer to what happened to their units. Mark is stationed at the pentagon and was there when the airplane hit it on Sept 11.

Victory at Mortain
Stopping Hitler's Panzer Counteroffensive
Mark J. Reardon
March 2002
384 pages, 19 photographs, 16 maps, 6 x 9
Modern War Studies
Cloth ISBN 0-7006-1158-4, \$39.95

A powerful German counterattack in Normandy in August 1944 might have been one of the Wehrmacht's great shining moments in the Second World War. The odds were certainly in their favor. Determined to drive the Allies back to the English Channel, elements of four combat-hardened panzer divisions faced off against a single American infantry division near the town of Mortain. Instead, the Americans held their ground, enabling the Allied armies to secure the invasion and ultimately liberate France.

In a vivid recreation of this pivotal battle--less celebrated than the encounter at the Falaise Pocket but just as decisive--Mark Reardon tells how the 30th Infantry Division held off the German panzer juggernaut, which was designed to drive a wedge between Allied forces. In recounting this showdown, he offers a new perspective on the German defeat in Normandy and a convincing counterpoint to the conventional view of most military analysts that Germany lost the war as a result of Allied matériel superiority or Hitler's strategic meddling.

Through vigorous prose laced with compelling anecdotes, Reardon reconstructs the battle from both sides of the firing line to explain why it evolved and ended as it did. He reveals how professional rivalries and lack of accurate battlefield information hampered the efforts of German generals to execute a successful counteroffensive. He also tells how the U.S. Army profited from the bitter lessons of hedgerow fighting to gain superiority in ground maneuver, fire support, and the use of airpower, logistics, communications, and reconnaissance in the face of more experienced and better armed opponents.

Reardon's riveting tale reveals that Americans GIs could fight as well as their more vaunted opponent, which gave the U.S. Army the confidence it needed to take the war into the enemy's homeland. Equally important, their victory prevented the Germans from retaking strategic points that would have kept the war bottled up in Normandy.

Drawing not only on exhaustive research in Anglo-American and German archives but also on firsthand accounts by more than two hundred American soldiers, Reardon's detailed reconstruction fills an important gap in the history of World War II combat that has existed for more than half a century.

"A richly detailed and stirring tale of American GIs in battle against great odds."--Russell F. Weigley, author of Eisenhower's Lieutenants

"The definitive account of the defeat by the U.S. Army of the best operational counterattack by the Wehrmacht during the D-Day campaign. At its best, the writing evokes Stephen Ambrose. Reardon is able to convey both the epic as well as everyday aspects of Mortain's field of battle."--Dennis E. Showalter, author of Tannenberg: Clash of Empires

"A tightly organized and detailed account of an important battle in Normandy."--Geoffrey P. Megargee, author of Inside Hitler's High Command

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MARK J. REARDON is currently assigned to the Joint Staff as a Deputy Director of Operations in the National Military Command Center. His writings have appeared in a number of professional military journals.

This photograph was taken at the airport in New York the night before we left for Schubin, Poland in 1970.



Irving Yarock and John Creech were in school together at University of Rhode Island

They lived in the same dormitory and played in the same band. John played the "peck" horn and Irv was the band manager They also played in the ROTC band together.

John Creech '41 Rare Plants and Bonsai



In 1941 John Creech, a ROTC graduate with a degree in horticulture, was ordered to the First Infantry Division to fight in the North Africa campaign. While on patrol, Creech was captured. He was sent to Poland to the only POW camp for American ground force officers, where the senior American officer directed him to manage the greenhouse.

With scant supplies, Creech grew tomatoes and other staples. As a result, some 1,500 American officers on starvation diets were able to survive from 1943 to 1945. Creech was later decorated by the U.S. Army for maintaining the health and morale of his fellow officers.

In 1945 Creech was released by the Russians and taken to the USSR. After the war he resumed his studies, earning an M.S. in Horticulture from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Maryland.

After graduate school, Creech joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture and led nine collecting expeditions to Nepal, Japan, Siberia, and Yugoslavia in search of plants with economic, medicinal, and ornamental potential. During his notable 35-year career, he climbed Taiwan's Mt. Morrison, the highest mountain between the Americas and the Himalayas. Although his trip coincided with Typhoon Gilda, he collected rare rhododendrons that occur only above 3,000 meters.

Creech later became the third director of the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., where he negotiated the first gift of bonsai to the country for the bicentennial and oversaw construction of the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum. Without his tenacity, the country's most comprehensive facility devoted to bonsai would not exist.

After retiring to North Carolina, he became the first director of the University of North Carolina Arboretum.

Creech has received every major American horticultural award, plus the British Gold Veitch Memorial Medal. But his most satisfying reward, he says, is that "I helped to put ornamental horticulture into the mainstream."

—Maria Caliri '86, M.B.A. '92

TAPS

This obituary was sent in by: Richard Parker, Washington, DC
Dr. DiFrancesco, Bethesda, MD
Wilbur Sharpe, Bethesda, MD

C6 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2001 S DM VA

OBITUARIES

MILLER, PAUL C. (Age 81)
Of Alexandria, VA, on September 29, 2001. Beloved husband of Marie B. Miller; father of Kathy Haffamier of Atlanta, GA, David Miller of College Park, MD, Ann Hays and Lexie Miller, both of Alexandria. Also survived by one brother, William Charles of Springfield and one sister, Mary Miller of Kentucky. Also survived by four grandchildren. A funeral service will be held on Friday, October 19, 2001 at Ft. Myer Memorial Chapel (new chapel) at 9 a.m. Burial will follow at Arlington National Cemetery. Donations may be made to Covenant Village, in memory of Paul D. Miller, P.O. Box 148, Flintstone, MD 21530. DENAINE P. MILLER, NERVAL HOME, 520 S. Washington St., Alexandria, VA is in charge of the arrangements.

Army Lt. Col. Paul Miller Dies; Oversaw Military Ceremonies

By RICHARD PEARSON
Washington Post Staff Writer

Paul C. Miller, 81, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and former chief of ceremonies and special events of the Military District of Washington, died of cardiorespiratory arrest Sept. 29 at the ManorCare nursing home in Arlington. He lived in Alexandria.

He began his military career in the Nebraska National Guard in 1937 and was commissioned in the infantry in 1942. During World War II, he served on active duty in the Mediterranean and was taken prisoner by the Germans near the Anzio invasion beaches in Italy. He was liberated from a prisoner-of-war camp by Soviet forces near the war's end.

Col. Miller, who began his Army career as a bugler, worked for a time in counterintelligence after World War II and served in the Korean War. When he retired from active duty in 1960, he was head of ceremonies for the Military District of Washington. He remained in that job as a civilian, retiring altogether in 1986.

A 1986 Washington Post article reporting his retirement said that Col. Miller had directed ceremonies for every president from Harry S. Truman through Ronald Reagan. In 1985, the number of those ceremonies exceeded 8,500. These included official and state funerals, presidential inaugural events and the arrival ceremonies for visiting heads of state and government.

He helped plan and supervise the presidential funerals of John F.

Kennedy, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson. He also had been involved in the planning and execution of ceremonies for the national bicentennial.

Col. Miller told The Post that every president had his likes and dislikes when it came to ceremonies. Eisenhower started the use of herald trumpets, Reagan favored a plethora of colorful flags and Jimmy Carter just seemed uncomfortable being on the receiving end of ceremonies.

Col. Miller not only had to organize marching bands and flags, but he also had to secure the cooperation of horses, the proper detonation of fireworks and the use of such items as arctic clothing for guests at one Carter White House party—outdoors in December.

Not every ceremony came off without a hitch. Col. Miller recalled for The Post the time the Romanian head of state arrived for a visit and was greeted by the wrong song.

"Whoops, wrong tune," a State Department protocol officer told Col. Miller at the time.

It turned out the band had checked out everything with the Romanian Embassy, but the embassy had neglected to inform the band that its country had a new national anthem.

Col. Miller and the band quickly secured the proper music, "and as I recall, we played it three or four times later that day, to show we really knew," he told The Post.

But supervising ceremonies for heads of state and other celebrities was not his only job. He said "the little soldier, with six body-

bearers and a seven- or eight-member firing party and a bugler," deserved his equal respect and attention.

His Army decorations included the Silver Star, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman's Badge. As a civilian, he received the Presidential Citizen's Medal and the Defense Department Civilian Service Medal.

Col. Miller, who had lived in the Washington area since the 1950s, was born to missionary parents in Canton, China, and grew up in Lincoln, Neb. He attended George Washington University and the universities of Maryland and Nebraska.

He had been a member of Downtown Baptist Church in Alexandria for the past two years. He was a past member of Plymouth Haven Baptist Church in Alexandria, which he had attended for more than 40 years and where he had chaired the Deacons Board and had served as a Sunday school teacher and director. For 20 years, he was board president of Covenant Village, a Pennsylvania Christian retreat center that serves congregations and inner-city children from the Washington area.

Survivors include his wife, the former Marie Benzel, whom he married at Fort Myer in 1946 and who lives in Alexandria; four children, Kathy Haffamier of Atlanta, David Miller of College Park and Ann Hays and Lexie Miller, both of Alexandria; a brother, William Charles of Springfield; a sister, Mary Miller of Louisville; and four grandchildren.

TAPS

George Inman Greene, 79, of Fredericksburg, died Sunday, October 15, 2000 in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Funeral services were held Friday, October 20, at 10:30 a.m., in the Schaetter Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Perry Woerner officiating. Marilyn Jenkins was the organist and Rhonda Schaetter, the vocalist. Interment followed in the Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Greene was born in Highland Park, Illinois on March 15, 1921, the son of George Greene and Adelaide Inman Greene. He married Margot G. Taylor on June 6, 1969, in Baytown, Texas.

Greene earned a Bachelor's degree from the University of South Dakota in Dairy Science and a Master's degree from Iowa State University in Bacteriology. He served in the U.S. Army as a commissioned officer from July 1943 until January 1946, and was a prisoner of war in Germany. His decorations and citations included the Purple Heart, the American Theater Ribbon, the European Theater of Operations Ribbon with three bronze battle stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the Croix de Guerre, and the Prisoner of War Medal. He retired from Exxon Chemical Company in Houston, Texas, in 1980 after a 27-year career. In Fredericksburg, Greene participated in numerous local activities as a volunteer, and was especially active in working with St. Vincent De Paul Society, the Gillespie County Fair Association, the American Ex-POW Association, the Hill Country Exxon Annuitant's Club, the 823rd Tank Destroyer Battalion Association, and was a national member of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sister Vera M. Newtown of Lincoln, Arkansas, and her sons Glenford A. Newtown, Jr., of St. Charles, Missouri and his family; and George Newtown of Shreveport, Louisiana and his family; his daughters, Cheryl G. Terry of San Antonio and her spouse Tom; Sandra G. Bass of Rockford, Illinois, and her children Seth and Erin Bass; Dr. Gorganne Greene of Amherst, Massachusetts, and her family Andy and Annie; his step-daughters Kathy T. Carroll of Austin and her son Eric Barker of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Ann T. Harris of Houston, her spouse P. Michael Harris and their children Caitlin and Meredith Harris; and Nancy K. Taylor of Dallas.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Vincent De Paul Society, the Hill Country Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, or to the charity of choice.

Irv Yarock writes that John Gleason died Nov 3, 2001. John's son, Tony, wrote in with the bad news. Tony's address is: 496 County Road, Ashby, MA 01431 for anybody that would like to contact Tony.

Herman Littman's brother, Ralph, died Dec 12, 2001 in Dallas. Ralph was a B-24 pilot that was shot down on his 17th mission over Ploesti and recognized Herm when he was marching into Mooseburg. What a strange coincidence Please express our sympathy to the family.

TAPS

LUTTRELL, WILLIAM WALLING - born January 6, 1918 in Knoxville, Tennessee, passed away October 2, 2001 at his



home in West Knoxville. He was a member of Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church and was a man who loved his Lord, his family and his country. He was a graduate of The Knoxville High School and The University of Tennessee, where

he lettered in football and basketball. He played in the 1939 Orange Bowl, the 1940 Rose Bowl and the 1941 Sugar Bowl. He was a member of The 1941 Southeastern Conference Championship Basketball Team. He was a Southeastern Conference Football Official and officiated numerous bowl games. He served as an Infantry Lieutenant in The U.S. Army from 1941 to 1945. He was captured at the Faid Pass on February 17, 1943 and was a German Prisoner of War for 26 months until the end of World War II. He was a recipient of The Purple Heart and Treasurer of The Smoky Mountain Chapter of Ex-POW's. He was Knox County Commissioner of Finance from 1946 to 1953, Tennessee State Commissioner of Safety from 1953 to 1956, Knox County Court Clerk from 1956 to 1966. He owned and operated Luttrell Textile Mill Store from 1966 until his retirement. He was preceded in death by his parents, William Eugene and Martha Walling Luttrell; wife of thirty one years, Margaret Moore Luttrell and their daughter, Laura Evelyn; wife of twenty five years, Hilda Carol Phillips Luttrell. He is survived by daughter and son-in-law, Pamela and Don Salem; sons and daughter-in-law, John M. and Judy Luttrell and Samuel E. Luttrell; step-sons and wives, Ronald J. and Emily Phillips, Anthony C. and Paulette Phillips grandchildren, Laura A. Luttrell, Shaun W. Salem, Adam T. Luttrell, Abby C. Luttrell, Greg Phillips, Jennyfer Norvell, Jeff Phillips, Don R. Salem, Jr., Marie Salem Irish and Mark E. Salem. Family and friends will meet Friday at Woodlawn Cemetery for an 11:00 a.m. graveside and interment service with Full Military Honors by East Tennessee Veterans Honor Guard, followed by a memorial service at 1:00 p.m. Friday at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church, Dr. William R. Barron officiating. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be made to Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church, 3700 Keowee Avenue., Knoxville, TN 37919 or to The American Red Cross, 6921 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37909. The family will receive friends Thursday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at *Rose Mortuary Mann Heritage Chapel*.

From: Tom Holt
31 Timber Ridge Drive
Brandon, Mississippi
6 June 2001

IT IS WITH A GREAT DEAL OF SADNESS AND GRIEF THAT I TELL YOU OF THE DEATH OF MY DEAR WIFE, FORRESTINE, WHO PASSED AWAY ON THE TWENTY EIGHTH OF APRIL, 2001. WE HAD BEEN TOGETHER FOR FORTY SEVEN YEARS.

HER MORTAL REMAINS ARE BURIED IN THE HOLT PLOT, THE OAK RIDGE CEMETERY, OAK RIDGE, NORTH CAROLINA.

SHE WAS BORN IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA, THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MARCH, 1919, THE DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH EARL AND LORRAINE ADAMS WHITAKER. SHE WAS A GRADUATE OF LONGWOOD COLLEGE, ARMVILLE, VIRGINIA, WITH A B.S. DEGREE IN MUSIC EDUCATION AND ORGAN. SHE ALSO HELD A MASTER'S DEGREE AND THE SPECIALIST DIPLOMA IN MUSIC EDUCATION FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' COLLEGE IN NEW YORK. FOR MANY YEARS SHE HAD BEEN THE CONSULTANT TO THE SILVER-BURDETT PUBLISHING COMPANY IN ITS SERIES OF MUSIC EDUCATION BOOKS, K-12, WITH REGARD TO MODERN DANCE RHYTHMS FOR CHILDREN. SHE HEADED THE MUSIC EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT, MEREDITH COLLEGE, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, FOR FOUR YEARS.

SHE IS SURVIVED BY HER HUSBAND, THOMAS M. HOLT (TIM), AS THE OFLAGERS CALLED HIM. TOM WAS AS EX-PRISONER OF WAR, A KRIEGY, AND, WAS A MEMBER OF THE FIRST RANGER BATTALION, CAPTURED NEAR THE BIZERTA AIR TERMINAL, THE FIRST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1942.