

Post Oflag 64 Item

4th Quarter 2011

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ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

2011 Oflag 64 Reunion, Oct 13-16

ONE OF THE BEST...



CONGRATULATIONS and MANY THANKS to hosts Arlene and George Rosenthal and their co-host Annette Secor Nelson who went all out at the reunion in St. Petersburg. They worked tirelessly to make sure that we all had a wonderful time. As has been the case each year, the St. Petersburg reunion was a HUGE success. Arrangements for the hotel, tours, meals, speaker, etc. were top notch and we're grateful for the time and energy that was devoted to putting things together. (Please see Pat Bender's comprehensive report on pages 2-4 of this ITEM.)

No reunion location or date for next year was announced by reunion's end. Several factors need to be taken into consideration for future reunions, but everyone was in agreement that if we're able, we should continue reunions as long as we can. We hope to announce a 2012 reunion location and date by March 2012.

If you would like to host a reunion next year, please let me know. I will fill you in on details. For travel purposes, it was suggested that future reunions be held in a central location and near an airport.

Best Regards,
Elodie Caldwell, ITEM Editor
(Daughter of the late Kriegy Reid Ellsworth)

A LITTLE COMPANY BUSINESS **2011 St. Petersburg Reunion Report**



The 2011 Oflag 64 Reunion in St Petersburg, Florida, was joyous and educational. Great Florida weather greeted us upon our arrival on Thursday, October 13th. After checking in with our hosts, George and Arlene Rosenthal, at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel, we made plans to take the hotel shuttle to the Columbia



Restaurant on the Pier. With Spanish/Cuban cuisine, this restaurant offers a spectacular panoramic waterfront view. We had a large, boisterous table of over 25 people and an enthusiastic and very patient waitress. The food was pretty good, too. After dinner, we met in the hospitality suite where we toasted Brad Bradford with Crown Royal whisky as requested by his daughter, Gail Brown, who was unable to attend.

On Friday, October 14th, after a quick breakfast and a short business meeting, we boarded a bus for the Florida Holocaust Museum where we had a very special tour by its premiere docent, none other than Arlene Rosenthal. We were briefly joined by the museum director and two interns who welcomed us to the museum.

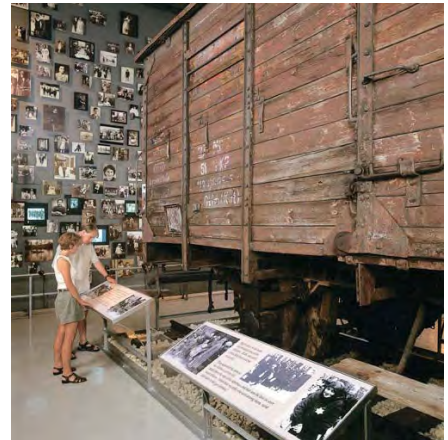


The Florida Holocaust museum was influential in mandating Holocaust education in the Florida schools. As we entered the building, we spotted trunks labeled with different grade levels. These trunks are filled with educational materials and loaned to schools all over the state for a period of

one month.

The first floor of the Holocaust Museum is dedicated to History, Heritage and Hope. Among its holdings are photographs of Holocaust survivors and victims, artifacts, histories, biographies, and videos detailing the history of Semitism from ancient times until the present. On one wall were patches of the different military divisions that helped to liberate the concentration camps.

One of the museum's more chilling exhibits is Boxcar #113 069-5, and its original rails used by the Nazis to transport Jewish victims to Treblinka. Currently, the second floor of the museum has a special exhibit, A Legacy of Courage, Vision and Hope - African Americans in the Legal Community of Pinellas County.



After lunch, we set out for the Salvador Dalí Museum. This beautiful museum overlooks Tampa Bay and has over 15,000 original works collected by A. Reynolds and Eleanor R. Morse. A wonderful docent-led tour focused on specific works by the surrealist and explained the many complex symbols and themes in his works. On Friday night, we split into smaller dinner groups. Some reunion attendees went to a Greek restaurant, Acropolis, where they were entertained by belly dancers; others went to Olive Garden or Cassis where they sat at a large table and dined on good old American cuisine.



On Saturday, October 15th, we enjoyed a breakfast buffet at the hotel, and then caught the bus for a tour of MacDill Air Force



Base arranged for by reunion co-host Annette Secor Nelson. Airmen Shelby and Ellis gave us a bus tour around the 7000 acre base, pointing out its 2 golf courses, elementary school, movie theater, pool, commissary, marina, library, medical clinic, chapel, airplane runways, workspaces, and living quarters for over 5000 people. MacDill also houses a NOAA Aircraft Operations Center and supports our coalition partners in the war against terror. MacDill's Base Commander, Col. Lenny Richoux, along with two coalition officers, Brigadier General Jens Praestegaard from Denmark, and Col. Dylong from Poland, spoke to our group during lunch. Tech. Sgt. Nathan Hackney briefly outlined his duties with the 6th Air Mobility Wing.



There was some time to rest up between the base visit and

Happy Hour. At six o'clock, we met in the hotel's Demens room for cocktails where we were entertained by the Hudson Middle School Jazz Band, conducted by Mr. John Keon. This band, also arranged for by Annette Nelson, had only been together since August, but they played popular tunes like *In the Mood* and *Rock Around the Clock* like pros.



At seven o'clock, we went into the banquet room for dinner and a talk by Mr. John Loftus, a Board Member of the Florida Holocaust Museum, and the author of several books about espionage, the Nazis, and terrorism. Mr. Loftus is the author of *America's Nazi Secret: an Insider's History* (2010) and *The Secret War Against the Jews: How Western Espionage Betrayed the Jewish People* (1994) as well as other books on similar topics. He



spoke about the Arab-Nazi connection and the Muslim Brotherhood founded in 1928 by Hasam al-Banna, a religious fanatic and admirer of Adolf Hitler. Mr. Loftus painted a grim picture of possible terror attacks that could shut down our country's power systems and return the United States to the Stone Age.



At Sunday's Memorial Service on October 16th, the colors were presented by members of a local chapter of Rolling Thunder, the motorcycle veterans' group dedicated to raising consciousness about POWs and MIAs. The service was conducted by the spiritual leader of the Rosenthals' Temple, Zel



Savitz, who opened the service with military marches, anthems, and a recording of God Bless America by Kate Smith. After George Rosenthal sang a blessing in Hebrew, his wife, Arlene, read the names of those Kriegies who have passed on since our last reunion. We then enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast before saying our goodbyes and departing for our various homes.

Only six Kriegies attended this year's reunion: George Rosenthal, Jimmie Kanaya, Sid Thal, Herm Littman, Doc DiFrancesco, and Ray Klinkenborg. With family members, the attendee count was just under 50. We do not have a site or a volunteer for next year's reunion.

We would like to thank the Rosenthals, and especially Arlene, as well as Annette Nelson, for one of the best reunions ever. We enjoyed ourselves immensely.



Patricia Di Francesco Bender



Standing l-r: Kriegies George Rosenthal, Ray Klinkenborg, Sid Thal.
Seated l-r: Kriegies Jimmie Kanaya, Vincent "Doc" Di Francesco, Herm Littman

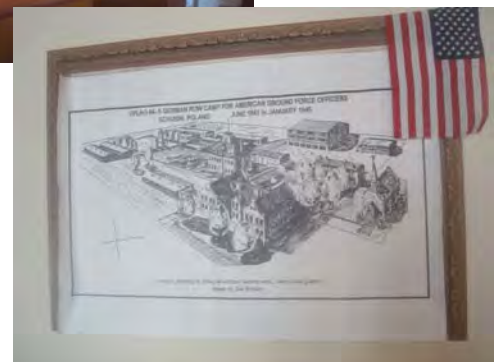
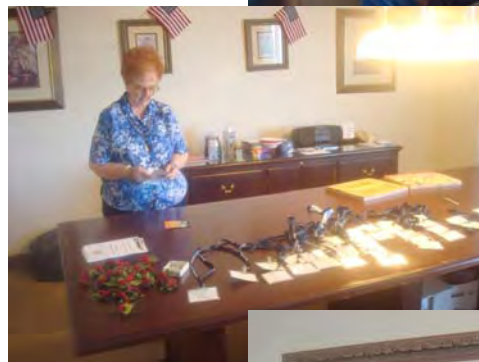
2011 St. Petersburg Reunion Attendees

In alphabetical order with Kriegies in all CAPS

Pat Bender
Jeff Bender
Bill Caldwell
Elodie Caldwell
Maria Christmann
Pat Cochran
Susan Dana
VINCENT "DOC" DI FRANCESCO
Janet Ellsworth
JIMMIE KANAYA
Lynn Kanaya
Marcia Kanners
Nancy Klinkenborg
RAY KLINKENBORG
Ann Kreutzer
Tom Kreutzer
Rosa Lee
Carole Lester
Phil Lester
Christopher Littman
HERMAN LITTMAN
James Littman
Michael Littman
Annette Nelson
Arlene Rosenthal
GEORGE ROSENTHAL
Karen Rossi
Conner Skidmore
Tiffany Skidmore
Tyler Skidmore
Walt Skidmore
Willow Skidmore
SIDNEY THAL

Dinner Guests

John Loftus – Speaker
Alec Paul – Guest of George and Arlene
Donna Paul – Guest of George and Arlene
Richard Peterson – Guest of Rosa and Pat
Jackie Savitz – Guest of George and Arlene
Zell Savitz – Officiated at Memorial Service
Elaine Schafer – Guest of George and Arlene
Isabel Schafer – Guest of George and Arlene
Easton Feist – Guest of Marcia Kanners
Lindsey Feist – Guest of Marcia Kanners
Troy Feist – Guest of Marcia Kanners



More reunion photos of St. Petersburg at www.oflag64.us





Oflag 64 Treasurer's Report
From 12/1/08 to 8/31/2011

(Submitted by Bret Job)

Month	Beg. Balance	Deposits	Item	Misc.	End. Balance	Month
Dec 1 2008	\$12,979.28	\$2,485.00	\$5,416.94	\$395.02	\$9,652.32	Sept 30 2009
Oct 1 2009	\$9,652.32	\$260.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,912.32	Oct 31 2009
Nov 1 2009	\$9,912.32	\$25.00	\$1,343.66	\$0.00	\$8,593.66	Nov 30 2009
Dec 1 2009	\$8,593.66	\$540.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,133.66	Dec 31 2009
Jan 1 2010	\$9,133.66	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,133.66	Jan 31 2010
Feb 1 2010	\$9,133.66	\$165.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,298.66	Feb 28 2010
Mar 1 2010	\$9,298.66	\$1,175.00	\$441.38	\$53.14	\$9,979.14	Mar 31 2010
Apr 1 2010	\$9,979.14	\$400.00	\$0.00		\$10,379.14	Apr 30 2010
May 1 2010	\$10,379.14	\$150.00	\$0.00		\$10,529.14	May 31 2010
Jun 1 2010	\$10,529.14	\$461.50	\$437.79	\$28.83	\$10,524.02	Jun 30 2010
Jul 1 2010	\$10,524.02	\$380.00	\$0.00		\$10,904.02	Jul 31 2010
Aug 1 2010	\$10,904.02	\$195.00	\$0.00		\$11,099.02	Aug 31 2010
Sep 1 2010	\$11,099.02	\$590.00	\$504.54	\$24.59	\$11,159.89	Sep 30 2010
Oct 1 2010	\$11,159.89	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$11,159.89	Oct 31 2010
Nov 1 2010	\$11,159.89	\$200.00	\$0.00		\$11,359.89	Nov 30 2010
Dec 1 2010	\$11,359.89	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$11,359.89	Dec 31 2010
Jan 1 2011	\$11,359.89	\$300.00	\$482.92		\$11,176.97	Jan 31 2011
Feb 1 2011	\$11,176.97	\$125.00	\$0.00		\$11,301.97	Feb 28 2011
Mar 1 2011	\$11,301.97	\$660.00	\$0.00		\$11,961.97	Mar 31 2011
Apr 1 2011	\$11,961.97	\$0.00	\$430.96		\$11,531.01	Apr 30 2011
May 1 2011	\$11,531.01	\$1,460.00	\$0.00		\$12,991.01	May 31 2011
Jun 1 2011	\$12,991.01	\$125.00	\$0.00		\$13,116.01	Jun 30 2011
July 1 2011	\$13,116.01	\$0.00	\$538.87		\$12,577.14	July 31 2011
Aug 1 2011	\$12,577.14	\$250.00	\$0.00		\$12,827.14	Aug 31 2011

Month	Deposits	Credit-Item	Credit-Misc.
Totals Oct 2009 to Oct 2010	\$7,461.50	\$4,180.12	\$106.56



MAIL CALL



LYNNE FORD BRONSON from Ft. Collins CO (daughter of the late Kriegy Russell Ford) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. She expressed thankfulness that she was able to find our website and share it with her children. She also noted that her dad's name was not included on the online TAPS list. *Thank you Lynne, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. We are always so happy to welcome another family member to our group. Thank you also for your kind words and for your dad's death date. He has now been added to the online TAPS list.*

JAMES FORSYTH from Manchester CT (Kriegy) sent a donation to be split between our Postage and Reunion Funds. He also sent thanks for the ITEMS that he's received. Jim, as you may remember from the last ITEM, has been interviewed by author PJ Wilcox, who is collaborating on a book with General Rowny. *Thank you, Jim, for your thoughtful and generous donation to our funds. We're thankful for all the support we receive. Thank you also for your nice note. We hope you are recovering nicely from your surgery. Keep us posted on the book.*

ROBERT GALLOWAY from Charleston SC (one of our Oflag 64 family members) recently donated several of his Oflag 64: POW Odyssey videos and asked that the monies received from them be donated to the Oflag 64 Postage Fund. *Thank you so much, Robert, for your thoughtful and generous donation to our Postage Fund. And thank you for providing such a well-done and informative video. Our best to you.*

MARILYN GIBSON from Stillwater OK (widow of the late Kriegy Harold L. Gibson) sent a donation to our Postage Fund along with a nice note. *Thank you very much, Marilyn, for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund. Much appreciated. Thank you also for your kind words about the ITEM. We understand not being able to attend reunions. It gets more and more difficult as years go by, but we hope you are well.*

JOHN D. GROEN from Seattle WA (son of the late Kriegy John A. Groen) recently discovered our website and asked to be added to our email list. He also expressed appreciation for the information he found. *Thank you, John, for contacting us. We welcome you to our Oflag 64 Family. We love*

hearing from the families of our dear Kriegies. We hope you find many more things on our site that are of interest to you. Please feel free to share any information you may have with us as well.

BLAKE HUNKINS (grandson of the late Kriegy Robert W. McBride) recently found our website. He is looking for other means of getting information on his grandfather's time at Oflag 64. In a subsequent email, he asked for a copy of Clarence Meltesen's book "Roads to Liberation from Oflag 64". He has shared website information with his mom and uncles has found it a fun experience. *Thank you, Blake, for contacting us. Your book has been sent. Please let us know if we can help provide more information.*

ARTHUR W. LESAGE, JR. from Hermantown MN (son of Kriegy Arthur W. LeSage, Sr.) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He commented that he would love to hear more about Oflag 64 where his dad was a POW. *Thank you, Arthur, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. We are always excited to find another family member of one of our great Kriegy heroes. Please contact us again anytime.*

ROBERT E. LEVIN from Southern Pines NC (Kriegy) after receiving the 3rd Quarter ITEM, noticed that Herb Garris was not listed in our TAPS section and called with information to include in the 4th Quarter ITEM. *We are thankful to you, Bob, for sending that important information. We had not previously*



heard the news. Herb held a special place in the hearts of many of our Oflag 64 families and we will miss him. Our heartfelt condolences go to his family along with thoughts and prayers as they grieve. We appreciate his service.

LUCY LUSSENDEN from Livonia MI (widow of the late Kriegy Don Lussenden) wrote just before our October reunion to express regrets at not being able to attend this year. She and Charlene Drozdak sent their love and best wishes to everyone. *It was so good to hear from you, Lucy. We certainly missed you and Charlene at our St. Petersburg reunion. Hope to see you both at the next one.*



TOM MERRILL from Haverhill MA (researcher) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He is researching Norman W. Rogers of Rockland Massachusetts. Norman was a POW and a corporal in the US Army at the time of capture after the Battle of the Bulge. *Thank you for contacting us, Tom, and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. We have a great group of people all willing to share what information they have. We have checked our database for Norman's name and regret to tell you that he wasn't at Oflag 64 but possibly held at another camp. Please let us know if he may have been at another camp that we can help research.*

KEVIN NAUGHT from Yakima WA (grandson of the late Kriegy John F. Lanzendorfer) recently discovered our website and sent information about his grandfather's death in 1989 in Sunnyside WA. He also asked to be added to our email list. *Thank you very much, Kevin, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. More and more Kriegy grandchildren are finding us. We're thankful to be able to share information with every generation. Thank you also for sending us information about your grandfather. His name has been added to our online TAPS list.*

FRANCIS NOLAN from Jenkintown PA contacted us recently about locating information about James O'Boyle Lyons. Lt. Lyons' commanding officer was Capt. Huyett who was interned at Oflag 64. He wrote: "I had done some searching on the internet and came up with Mr. (Bob) Thompson's name as a person possessing a roster of officers incarcerated in Oflag 64 and 13B. Lt. Lyons was incarcerated in 13B. He made it home, but died shortly thereafter as a result of starvation. Mr. Thompson told me on the telephone that he in fact had possession of three rosters and that he would search for Lt. Lyons' name and let me know whatever information he could find out. I am looking forward to receiving copies of those rosters.

Mr. Thompson said in his email that he believed that Capt. Huyett was Lt. Lyons' CO. I have seen an independent roster compiled from Div. 106 personnel that seems to confirm this. Lt. Lyons was in L company, 423 Brigade.

Any info that can be compiled on Lt. Lyons would be of immense interest. If any info can confirm that Lt. Lyons was wounded, that would be of particular interest. We have come across a hand written document which we believe was written by Capt. Huyett (but is unsigned) attesting to Lt. Lyons' conduct during the Battle of the Bulge which recites that Lt. Lyons was wounded but took care of his men first, and then sought medical attention, and was captured while receiving the medical attention.

Thank you for taking the time to address this request and for supplying any info that you can. My name and address is Francis X. Nolan, Capt. (JAGC) USNR (RET), 1622 Madeira Ave., Jenkintown, Pa., 19046." *Thank you, Francis, for contacting us. Copies of rosters in our possession have been sent to you. We hope you are successful in your search.*

KAREN ROBERTS from England, but presently teaching History in the U.S. ended up riding in the same shuttle as Lynn and Jimmie Kanaya who were on their way to the reunion in St. Petersburg. Karen was participating in a conference at the same hotel in St. Petersburg where the reunion was being held. She became interested in much of the WWII information that we had available and spoke to several of our Kriegies who attended. She purchased a couple of Robert Galloway's DVDs and was able to take a copy of Clarence Meltesen's book with her as well. *Karen, it was a joy meeting you and sharing information. Thank you also for your contribution to our Postage Fund. Best wishes to you in your pursuit of further historical information.*



JOHN RODGERS from Pensacola FL (Kriegy) sent regrets that he was not able to attend the St. Petersburg Reunion and expressed that he is no longer able to travel very well. All he could say was "so near and yet, so far". *John, thank you very much for writing. It was good to hear from you again. We can certainly understand the frustration of being near, yet far. We hope all is well with you.*

TED ROGGEN from Houston TX (Kriegy) recently sent a short note along with a donation to the Postage Fund. *Thank you so much, Ted, for writing and for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund. Thoughtful contributions like yours keep the ITEM alive. Thank you also for your kind words.*

BRIAN ROSE from Kansas City KS (grandson of the late Kriegy Robert J. Rose) recently emailed with a question. He wrote: "I wanted to ask about a detail surrounding Oflag 64 and its treatment of prisoners.

One of my uncles (and R. J.'s sons) insists to me that a few officers at the camp "disappeared," and has recently begun to claim he's seen a now declassified report stating the camp gassed a few individuals. It would not make sense that such details would be classified at all if indeed true, as it stands to reason that if a Nazi POW camp was gassing American officers, that would be a major propaganda story, and the subject of a war crimes proceeding. And it would seem without precedent given I've heard of no such occurrences inside other camps for American/British POWs, and when Allied

POWS were killed, such as those of Jewish background, or escapees (such as the Stalag Luft 50), they were executed elsewhere, or transferred to one of the specially designated camps. Never inside the camp, at least, when Americans and British POWs were concerned.

I even remember asking my grandfather about this years ago, and all he said was there were a few he knew of who were called away and never returned. He did not have an explanation for what happened to them, and he did not rule out the most likely answer, which was they were transferred to another camp.

I thought I might run this by you, because if there is truth to what my uncle says, surely you would have heard tell about it, one way or another. So any info you have would be very helpful." *It was good to hear from you again, Brian. It would be interesting to know the "truth" about this story. Will keep you posted on what we hear one way or the other.*



KAREN ROSSI from Panama City Beach FL (great niece of Col. Thomas Drake) recently wrote about her visit to the National WWII Museum in New Orleans LA and about the inscribed brick she had made for her great

uncle. A photo of his brick in front of the museum is included in the Kriegy Information section. *Thank you very much, Karen, for sharing the photos. What a nice tribute to your great uncle. We are certain he would be honored by it.*

MATTHEW SIMES (grandson of the late Kriegy Gardner M. Simes) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He reported the death of his grandfather in 1992 and also found his grandfather's name on one of the galleries pages on our website. *Thank you, Matthew for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. It thrills us to connect with new Oflag 64 family members. We have added your grandfather's name to our online TAPS list and hope you will visit our site often.*

LESLIE LEVY SULLAM from Frederick MD (daughter of the late Kriegy Solomon Levy) recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. She also asked for a copy of Robert Galloway's Oflag 64 DVD and sent a donation. She has sent us several photos by email, some of which have already been uploaded to our website. One question she asked was how to search for names on our website. An explanation will follow in the "Kriegy News and Information" section. *We're happy you have found us, Leslie, and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. It's thrilling to hear from children of our Kriegies and to share information. Thank you for*

your contributions of photos and funds. Your DVD has been sent by US Mail.



BOB THOMPSON from Tulsa OK (Kriegy) wrote not long ago that he would be unable to attend the St. Petersburg reunion due to some ongoing health issues, but expressed hopes of attending future reunions.

Bob, we were so sorry to hear of your health problems and that you would be unable to attend the reunion this year. We hope your health improves and that we'll see you again at the next reunion. You were definitely missed.



DARWYN WALKER from Springfield MO (Kriegy) recently sent a much appreciated donation to the Postage Fund. *Thanks to you, Darwyn, for your thoughtful contribution. We're thankful to you and others for great support.*

MARIUSZ WINIECKI from Poland has been doing some work for a Museum in Szubin. He has written a lengthy article (in Polish) and has taken information from old ITEMS and photos we have on our website. His focus has been primarily on The Little Theater Group, The Glee Club, The Swing Band, and Orchestra at Oflag 64. He has asked for permission to use this information and to submit it to the museum in Szubin. At our St. Petersburg Reunion, those attending the business meeting were asked for permission, which was subsequently granted. Mariusz would also like to write to any of our living Kriegies about their experiences. Those he would like to contact include: Tom Holt, Robert Rankin, Wilbur Sharpe, Sid Thal, and Don Waful. If others of you have information to share, please contact me and I will forward your contact information on to him. *Mariusz, thank you very much for writing. We commend you on your comprehensive work and would like to read your manuscript.*

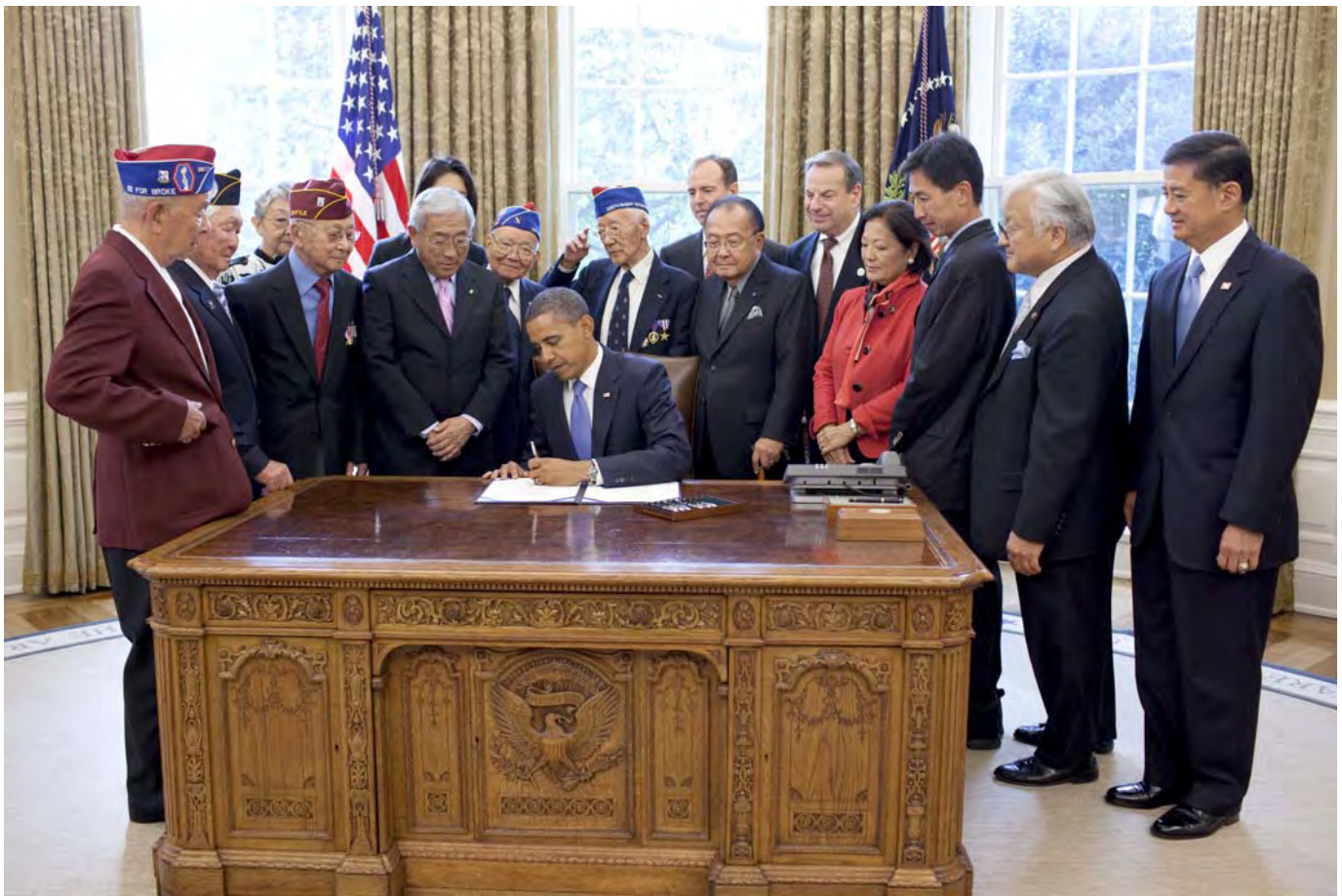


JOSEPH ZELAZNY from Indio CA (Kriegy) sent a donation to be split between the Postage/Reunion Funds along with a nice note and a copy of "My Most Memorable Christmas" written by him. It was published in The News Tribune on 20 December 1977 and was a winning entry. It will be found in the "Kriegy News and Information" section of this newsletter. *Thank you so much, Joe, for your generous and thoughtful contribution to our Postage and Reunion Funds. Greatly appreciated. Thank you also for sharing your touching Christmas story.*

KRIEGY NEWS AND INFORMATION

This afternoon (October 5, 2010) the President signed legislation to grant the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team in recognition of their dedicated service during World War II.

The 100th Infantry Battalion, which was later incorporated into the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, was made up of predominantly Nisei (second generation Americans of Japanese ancestry) members of the Hawaii Provisional Infantry Battalion. The 442nd became the most decorated unit in United States military history for its size and length of service. Combined, the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team received 7 Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, 4,000 Bronze Stars, 22 Legion of Merit Medals, 15 Soldier's Medal, and over 4,000 Purple Hearts. From the government, the President was joined by Secretary Eric Shinseki of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Senator Daniel Inouye -- himself a member of the 442nd -- and several other Members of Congress.



Jimmie Kanaya, Veteran

Mr. Kanaya was born and raised in Clackamas, Oregon. He volunteered for the Army in April 1941. He volunteered to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team as a cadre First Sergeant of the Medical Detachment and received a battlefield commission in Italy, September 1944 from General Mark Clark. Kanaya was captured in France while assisting the 100th Battalion evacuating casualties in the Voges mountains and taken to a German Prisoner of War Camp, Oflag 64 in Schubin, Poland. He hiked 400 miles from Poland to Hammelburg, Germany in the winter of 1945 to escape. In July of 1946 Kanaya received a regular Army commission. Mr. Kanaya also served in Japan and Korea in the Military Intelligence Service, the occupational forces in Japan and Germany and served as a military adviser in Vietnam. He retired from military after over 33 years of service. Mr. Kanaya currently lives in Gig Harbor, Washington. **(Photo submitted by Lynn Kanaya)**

Congressional Gold Medal Ceremonies Washington DC November 2-3, 2011

“The Congressional Gold Medal, the nation’s highest civilian award was bestowed, collectively, on the U.S. 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service for their extraordinary accomplishments in World War II on November 2, 2011. The men in these units, comprised almost entirely of persons of Japanese ancestry, fought with uncommon bravery and valor against our nation’s enemies on the battlefields in Europe and Asia and even while many of their parents and kin were held in internment camps.” Their record demonstrates an abiding faith in the American dream and provides an indelible testimonial to the meaning of American patriotism. Eighteen thousand medals for heroism and service were awarded to four thousand Nisei who served in the most decorated unit in the history of American Military in their size and length of service. There were 9486 Purple Hearts, 21 Medals of Honor, and an unprecedented eight Presidential Unit Citations. The original 4000 men had to be replaced nearly three and one half times, in total over 14,000 men served in the 442nd.

Three thousand Army trained linguists served in the Asia Pacific Theater in the Military Intelligence Service. Another Three thousand served in the occupation to build Japan as a democratic power allied to the US. It was said that they shortened the war by two years and saved one million allied soldiers. They broke codes, interrogated prisoners, and translated millions of documents.

Jimmie Kanaya, Col. USA Ret. and wife, Lynn was fortunate to witness President Obama signing the bill in the oval office on October 5, 2010. Jimmie was a medic in the 442nd was captured in 1943 in France, sent to Oflag 64 in Poland, and then served in the MIS in Occupational Japan. The Bill 1055 was sponsored by Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Cal and Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Pasadena. Other signees were Rep. Ralph Hall, D-Texas and Sen. John McCain, R-Arizona. The Congressional Gold Medal Ceremony was held at the US Capital Emancipation Hall in Washington DC. Speakers participating in the ceremonies were Speaker John Boehner, Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader Harry Reid, Democratic Leader Representative Nancy Pelosi, Senator John McCain, and Honorable Erick K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Senator Daniel K. Inouye, President Pro-Tempore, accepted the Medal and gave Words of Thanks in behalf of the 100th BN, 442nd RCT and MIS. The Gold Medal will be stored in the Smithsonian and Bronze replicas were given to over 350 veteran honorees and families of deceased veterans.

The medal was designed by the United States Mint and features Nisei soldiers and the 442nd color guard. The inscriptions on the outer rim are NISEI SOLDIERS OF WORLD WAR II and GO FOR BROKE. The reverse depicts the insignias of the 100th INF BN, 442nd RCT, and MIS. The 100th INF BN insignia features a taro leaf and a traditional Hawaiian helmet both of which are emblematic of the units’ Hawaiian roots. The “Go for Broke” Torch of Liberty shoulder patch represents the 442 RCT. The MIS insignia is represented by the sphinx, a traditional symbol of secrecy. The inscriptions on the outer rim are the titles of the three units represented on the medal-the 100th INF BN, 442nd RCT and MIS. In addition, the years 1941-1946 with a decorative ribbon connecting the outer rim with the inscription ACT OF CONGRESS 2010.



Kanayas traveled with Southwest Airlines who sponsor Honor Flights for 300 WWII Veterans to the Nation’s capital. We were greeted on the tarmac by a fire engine spraying arches of water over the plane. At the gate they were greeted by the Honor Flights Ground Crew of volunteers to waved flags, clapped and helped us to retrieve our luggage. It brought tears to my eyes to think that people remembered what the Nisei sacrificed in WWII. At exit door a group like the Rolling Thunder stood at attention as honor guard. There were over 1250 attendees staying at the Washington Hilton and were accommodated in the presentations and banquets held in their meeting rooms. It took twenty-eight buses to transport honorees and families to the WWII Memorial and to the Capital. There were six shifts of loading/departure times. The 100th 442D Infantry Regiment from Hawaii and the United States Army Old Guard from FT Meyers were present to assist all the honorees on busses and at the US Capital Visitor Center. The 442nd presented the colors at the WWII Memorial and looked so proud and sharp! Flower wreaths were presented for the KIA and deceased veterans from the three units being honored. There was a special Memorial Event for the KIA and Bronze Star Presentation. Over forty veterans did not receive the Bronze

medal that they earned in WWII. They or a family member of a deceased veteran received it from General Odierno, Army Chief of Staff.

A Gala Dinner on was held on Nov 2, 2011 for Honorees and families. Honorees were defined as veterans, widows, next of kin of a KIA, next of kin of a deceased veteran, and one living veteran representative. Over 3,000 veterans and families participated in the celebration with guest speakers and special participants. The co-mistress of ceremonies was Sachi Koto and Ann Curry. The Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veteran Affairs, whose uncle was in the 442 RCT, spoke at the event which commemorated the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal. In addition, the Honorable Daniel K. Inouye, Senator from Hawaii, who is currently serving his ninth term in office spoke to his fellow veterans and families. Twenty-five Nisei Veteran and Civic Organizations formed a national coalition to plan and implement the three-day event. What a magnificent job they did in organizing this event honoring the Nisei.

Jimmie Kanaya felt truly by the activities of the three days. He said the felt like his war experience had come full circle. From a twenty-year old farm kid whose country treated him and his family as undesirable enemy aliens, a ninety-year-old man with thirty-four years of military service was acknowledged as an American patriot, warrior and hero. Harry Truman said, while addressing the 100th/442 Regimental Combat Team, July 14, 1946; "You are to be congratulated for what you have done for this great nation of ours...You fought for the free nations of the world along with the rest of us...You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice and you have won. Keep up the fight and we will continue to win."



Oldsmar veteran recalls World War II, plans POW reunion

By Elaine Markowitz, Times Correspondent

St. Petersburg Times

In Print: Thursday, October 13, 2011

(Reprinted with Permission)



Rosenthal, left, salutes a U.S. Army general moments after being awarded a Purple Heart in April 1945 in Naples, Italy, in a ceremony for soldiers liberated from Nazi prison camps.

(Photo Submitted by George)

OLDSMAR — George Rosenthal sits in his living room with his wife, leafing through handwritten pages detailing two years of his life — from April 1943, when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, until October 1945 when he sailed home from Italy.

"It was part of the atmosphere," he said of enlisting at age 18 to fight in

World War II. "All my friends who were physically able were going."

In early 1944, the New York native landed at Anzio Beachhead in Italy, unprepared for what awaited him. The Allied forces had invaded Anzio, the site of one of the war's bloodiest battles and the place where Rosenthal was captured by German soldiers — "the most intense experience of my life," he recalled.

Nearly 70 years later, he and his wife, Arlene, live in the East Lake Woodlands community and are organizing a reunion of survivors of Oflag 64, a Nazi POW camp in Poland. It's this weekend at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront. Hundreds of survivors attended earlier reunions, but now only six remain. Rosenthal, 86, is the youngest.

One incident looms large among Rosenthal's war memories, the first of many that he wants to convey to his six children and 13 grandchildren.

At Anzio Beach, his squad was surrounded by German soldiers. He and nine other squad members, at the instruction of their sergeant, ran for their lives through a clearing. Under a barrage of gunfire, the men were ambushed and told to put up their hands. Rosenthal was shot in his left hand.

"I kept thinking of the Bible," said Rosenthal, who is Jewish and carried a small Bible with Hebrew text in his back pocket. "Somehow I got the nerve to slowly lower my hand into the pocket and then drop the Bible into the sand." In the semi-darkness, the young soldier discreetly buried the sacred book with his foot and was not caught.

The hand injury and a subsequent chest injury, wounds that earned him two Purple Hearts, necessitated quick medical care. Accompanied by a German guard, Rosenthal walked to a small medical facility and passed out. He was later transported by boxcar, along with wounded German soldiers, to hospitals in Florence and then Venice. Rosenthal couldn't believe his good luck, especially having been a Jewish soldier in the company of Germans.

"No one ever looked at my dog tags or asked my religion," he said, "until I got to Venice." In the hospital there, a German officer questioned his name, posted at the foot of his bed.

"Are you Jewish?" he asked.

"Yes," Rosenthal said nervously, but nothing more was said.

His memories of Venice, where he was sent to his first POW camp, are filled with images of suffering.

"It was a real hellhole," he said. "Hundreds of American soldiers arrived, many missing legs or in terrible physical condition."

Rosenthal was in pain and itching from lice. "Lice accumulated under the cast on my arm, but at 18 I thought I could put up with anything."

During 1944, he spent time in four more POW camps. He was packed into a truck or loaded onto straw in a boxcar going from camp to camp, including two in Germany: Stalag 11A and Stalag 2B. At the latter camp, he gathered cigarettes and traded them for food from Belgian soldiers.

When German soldiers realized he wasn't sturdy enough for hard labor, like working in coal mines, they deemed him of "limited service" and sent him to another camp — Oflag 64 — in Szubin, Poland.

He was in luck. This camp had been established for captured officers. Rosenthal was one of about 30 enlisted men working for 1,200 or so officers. He spent several months there, cleaning and mixing huge vats of soup in the kitchen.

A sequence of memories follows: Waking at 4 a.m. to begin a 10-day march through the snow to another camp in Poland, Oflag Z. Exhausted fellow soldiers dropped along the way. Some nights, the squad bedded down on hay in barns. They spent one stormy night in a one-room schoolhouse where Russian soldiers seeking Germans burst in.

The prisoners' German guard fled. The Russians loaded the freed prisoners onto boxcars headed to Odessa on the Black Sea. There, in March 1945, the 20-year-old Rosenthal and other surviving troops welcomed the sight of American naval vessels bringing their first real supplies.

Several days later, an English ship took the soldiers to Naples, Italy, where they boarded an American ship and headed home.

"I couldn't wait to see the Statue of Liberty when we got to New York," Rosenthal said, "but we docked in Boston instead."

The young private, who later opened his own retail shop in upstate New York, was still grateful. "When we got off the ship," he said, "I kissed the ground."



George Rosenthal poses for a picture while aboard a U.S. Coast Guard-manned troop transport in the Atlantic while returning to the United States after being liberated from a Nazi prison camp.

(Photo submitted by George Rosenthal)



Photos submitted by Karen Rossi, great niece of Col. Thomas D. Drake, after a recent trip to The National WWII Museum.



PATRIOTS ALL World War II veterans honore



George Myron's daughter, **Susan Bonner**, sent the photo at the left with the following explanation: The American Legion had a dinner for WWII vets, and we were surprised to find ourselves on the front page of the "Mailbag" and also the "Tuckerton Beacon". Dad wore his old uniform to the dinner, and we wore some of his hats. You will recognize Dad, of course, and Nancy and I, who have come to the reunions in the last couple of years. My youngest sister, Mary Lou was going to come this year....Maybe we'll be able to come next year – when Dad is 100!!!

This is a photo of my dad in his tomato garden at Pennick Village in Southern Pines, NC, with his Texas A&M flag in his tomato patch.

He really enjoys reading his Oflag 64 newsletter.

He was recently interviewed by a high school student who is planning to write a book about the POW's of WWII.

I found a lot of old books & booklets about their imprisonment & evacuation in the snow to copy & give the young man.

My dad was 90 on Feb. 4, 2011. His generation is passing on, so it is nice that someone young wants to write about their experiences while they can still tell their stories.

While researching material for the interview, I discovered a few things in the material that I was not really aware of. My dad did not talk about his experiences for decades! So the research experience helped clear up some details for us. I just wanted to pass this on to you and send you a photo of my dad. **(Photo submitted by Margaret Batte Moore, daughter of Dr. Edward Batte)**



RESTRICTED

WAR DEPARTMENT

The Adjutant General's Office
Washington 25, D. C.

AG 383.6 (24 Mar 45)OB-S-B M

CJM/glg 2B-939 Pentagon

29 March 1945

SUBJECT: Publicity in Connection with Escaped, Liberated, or Repatriated Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries.

TO: The Commanding Generals,
Army Air Forces
Army Ground Forces
Army Service Forces
The Commander-in-Chief, Southwest Pacific Area
The Commanding Generals,
Theaters of Operations
Defense Commands
Departments
Independent Commands under War Department
Military District of Washington
Base Commands
The Commanding Officers,
Base Commands
Director, Bureau of Public Relations
American Military Attaches in All Foreign Countries

1. Letter AG 383.6 (31 Jul 43)OB-S-B-M, 6 August 1943, subject: Amended Instructions Concerning Publicity in Connection with Escaped Prisoners of War, to Include Evaders of Capture in Enemy or Enemy-Occupied Territory and Internees in Neutral Countries, is hereby rescinded and the following is substituted therefor.

2. Publication or communication to any unauthorized persons of experiences of escape, release, or evasion from enemy or enemy-occupied territory, activities or equipment in connection therewith, internment in a neutral country, or release from internment, furnishes useful information to the enemy, jeopardizes future escapes, evasions and releases, and under Army Regulations, must not be disclosed to anyone except to military officials specifically designated.

3. a. Personnel who have evaded, escaped, or have been released from LIBERATED AREAS may relate stories of their experiences after clearance with WDBPR, but no reference may be made to:

(1) Existence of unannounced organizations established to assist evaders, escapers or to methods employed by the organizations.

RESTRICTED

The above historical document was sent by Leslie Sullam, the daughter of Solomon Levy. She also sent a number of other items recently found among Sol's belongings.

My Most Memorable Christmas

**A winning entry written by Joseph Zelazny, Jr.
Published in The News Tribune on 20 December 1977.**



The Christmas of 1944, I was a wounded POW sitting in a railroad station at Limburg, Germany, with numerous other American POWs.

We were awaiting the arrival of a troop train to take us to Stalag XII-A for solitary confinement.

The activity was rush-rush and it was disheartening to realize what we had to look forward to.

At approximately 0300 hours on Christmas day, a train full of wounded German soldiers arrived and unloaded.

While we were together in the station, all of the wounded personnel, regardless of country and status, started singing Christmas carols. The first one was "Silent Night." Then "Joy to the World."

It was a touching moment. Here we were, POWs who were supposed to be enemies, many of us suffering pain. Yet everyone had the Christmas spirit and sang these wonderful songs together.

Every Christmas season since then, whenever I hear the first singing of "Silent Night," I think back to that "most memorable" Christmas day of 1944.

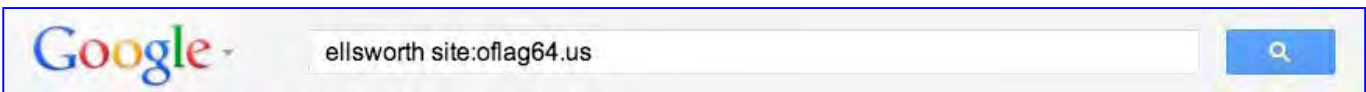
I thank God I am still alive. I am sure that if it weren't for Christmas Day 1944, and the Christmas spirit, I might not have made it back as one of the few survivors of the Martelange Massacre.

Joseph noted next to his article: Being a 1st Lt., Pla Ldr, Co "C", 1278th ENGR © BN was captured approximately 7 a.m., 21 Dec. 44 by German Paratroopers, Unbelievable. Will never forget this, as everyone sings Christmas Carols at Christmas.

Searching the Oflag 64 Website for Kriegy Names

You can use Google to search the Oflag64 website by entering the following in the search field on Google:

Last_name_of_Kriegy site:oflag64.us (example: ellsworth site:oflag64.us)



You can search for any name by substituting it for the last name above.

The results will include mostly modern ITEM entries, because unfortunately, most of the Archives section is not searchable. This is because it is composed of PDFs made from scanned original hardcopy documents. These PDFs are viewed as photographs, not text, and so are not searchable.

We hope to be able to find a way, as time goes by, to search in other ways. But for now, this is a start.

Bill Caldwell, Oflag 64 Webmaster

ITEM COMMENTS

Let us know how we are doing. Constructive comments and criticisms are welcomed and appreciated. Here are some nice comments from some nice folks.



Thank you very much for printing my Dads story in your incredible newsletter. Wow. ~ **Dave Anderson, Albuquerque NM**

I appreciate all your efforts in printing such an informative bulletin, and I enjoy reading about all the activities and the members. ~ **Marilyn Gibson, Stillwater OK**

Thanks for sending me the Oflag 64 ITEM. Very interesting and appreciated. Keep up the good work. ~ **Joseph Zelazny, Jr., Indio CA**

OFLAG 64 WEB CONNECTION

Thankful to find this website and be able to share with my children....Thank you for so many pictures and stories. ~ **Lynne Ford Bronson, Ft. Collins CO**

I just discovered this website and was so appreciative of the information here. ~ **John D. Groen, Seattle WA**

The website is very well done. Thank you for putting the time into it....Coming across your website was so fun for my mom, my uncles, and me.~ **Blake Hunkins**

Found this site and would love to hear and read more about Oflag where he (dad) was a POW. ~ **Arthur W. LeSage, Jr.**

Thanks for maintaining this page. I even found my grandfather's name on the playbill for "Room Service". ~ **Matthew Simes**

New visitors to our website

Lynne F. Bronson – Daughter of the late Kriegy Russell M. Ford

John D. Groen – Son of the late Kriegy John A. Groen

Blake Hunkins – Grandson of the late Kriegy Robert W. McBride

Arthur W. LeSage – Son of the late Kriegy Arthur W. LeSage, Sr.

Tom Merrill – US Army Cold War VET researching a Battle of the Bulge POW

Myrick L. Monroe, Jr. – Son of the late Kriegy Myrick L. Monroe, Sr.

Kevin Naught – Grandson of the late Kriegy John F. Lanzendorfer

Matthew Simes – Grandson of the late Kriegy Gardner M. Simes

Leslie Levy Sullam – Daughter of the late Kriegy Solomon Levy



PUBLICATIONS

The following publications might be of interest to you. Many of them were written by our men. Your local library is a good place to check for availability. If you can't find what you're looking for there, write to the author or publisher or click on the links below. New and used copies are often available from online sites.

1. **Americans Behind the Barbed Wire** by Frank Diggs, Story of Frank's trip across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Vandemere Press, P. O. Box 5243, Clearwater FL 22205 (New price is \$24.95/Hardcover) <http://www.vandamere.com/diggs.htm> or <http://www.amazon.ca/Americans-Behind-Barbed-Wire-Inside/dp/0743474821>
2. **Diary of A Kriegie** by Ed Beattie. Diary of Ed Beattie, A UPI Correspondent captured near the Moselle River in Sept '44. Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York NY <http://www.amazon.com/Diary-Kriegie-Edward-W-Beattie/dp/B0007E4AUA>
3. **Escape to Russia** by Howard "BOOMER" Holder. Story of Boomer Holder as he went across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Iberian Publishing Co., Athens GA http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Russia-Howard-Randolph-Holder/dp/B0006F7X72/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226549191&sr=1-1
4. **Home Was Never Like This.** Diary of Col Yardley. Publisher: Yardley Enterprises. Evergreen, CO. http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=HOME+WAS+never+like+this&x=0&y=0
5. **Justifiable Pride** by William D. Stevens, Jamal Books, 2340 Devoe Drive, Lincoln NE 68506, 402-488-6005 http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Justifiable+Pride&x=13&y=17
6. **Katyn Forest Video** (Beta or VHS). Ray Towers, Jr., 25105 Vista Greens Court, Hayward CA 94541, 415-582-4871
7. **Kriegie** by Kenneth Simmons. Diary of an Air Force Pilot. Publisher: Thomas Nelson and Sons. New York NY. http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Kriegie+by+Kenneth+Simmons&x=0&y=0
8. **Kriegsgefangener 3074 (Prisoner of War)** by Clarence Ferguson. Publisher: Texan Press, Waco TX http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_ss_b?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Prisoner+of+War+by+Clarence+Ferguson&x=16&y=17 or occasionally available at: <http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/SearchResults?an=Clarence+Ferguson&sts=t&tn=Kriegsgefangener&x=43&y=14>
9. **OFLAG 64, 50th Anniversary Book.** Anniversary Committee. Publisher: Evanston Publishing Co., Evanston IL. http://www.amazon.com/Oflag-64-fiftieth-anniversary-book/dp/1879260239/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1226550698&sr=1-1
10. **Passages to Freedom**, Joseph Frelinghuysen, 1990, Publisher: Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan KS 66502-4228, 800-258-1232 (\$17.95, includes S & H) http://www.amazon.com/Passages-Freedom-Story-Capture-Escape/dp/0897451317/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550856&sr=1-1
11. **Oflag 64: A P.O.W. Odyssey**, DVD, Robert Galloway, Osprey HD, 192 E Bay St, Ste 300A, Charleston SC 29401-2701, (\$29.95 plus \$5 S&H - Please make checks payable to Robert Galloway, Osprey HD)
12. **Raid! The Untold Story of Patton's Secret Mission** by Richard Baron, Major Abe Baum, and Richard Goldhurst (paperback) http://www.amazon.com/Raid-Untold-Pattons-Secret-Mission/dp/0440236096/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1254190748&sr=1-1

13. **A Ramble Through My War** by Charles T. Marshall, Publisher: Louisiana State University Press, 1999. (\$29.95) http://www.amazon.com/Ramble-Through-My-War-Anzio/dp/0807126365/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226550977&sr=1-1
14. **The Escape Factory** by Lloyd Shoemaker. Story of a secret organization in Wash DC that maintained contact with all POWs in WWII. St Martins Press. New York NY (A few are available on Amazon.com) http://www.amazon.com/Escape-Factory-Story-Mis-X/dp/0312925727/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551149&sr=1-1
15. **The Road To War** by Steven Burgauer. Based on the diary and notes of Captain William C. Frodsham, Jr.; a riveting first-person account of duty and drill, courage and capture. (Available on Amazon.com) http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_ss_i_2_15?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=the+road+to+war+burgauer&prefix=The+Road+to+War
16. **The Water and The Rock** by Charles Jones. Diary of a man captured in Africa. Publisher: Anchor Publishing Co., Northwood, IA http://www.amazon.com/Water-Rock-Charles-L-Jones/dp/B000IXSZHO/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551381&sr=1-1
17. **The Welcome Swede** by Frank Diggs. Publisher: Vantage Press, New York NY (\$11.00) http://www.amazon.com/Welcome-Swede-Thousands-Germans-Prisoners/dp/0533078180/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551448&sr=1-1
18. **33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III** by Albert P. Clark. Publisher: Fulcrum Publishing, 16100 Table Mountain Parkway, Suite 300, Golden CO 80403, 800-992-2908 (17.95 pb) http://www.amazon.com/Months-POW-Stalag-Luft-III/dp/1555915361/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551497&sr=1-1
19. **Tours of Duty: World War II Veterans Personal Stories** by Eleanor Bertrand. Includes stories of Jimmie Kanaya from Oflag 64, Martin Jones from Hammelburg, and Oscar Richard from Stalag I. Publisher: BookSurge Publishing (2/22/08). \$17.99 from Amazon.com, 1-800-201-7575 http://www.amazon.com/Tours-Duty-Veterans-Personal-Stories/dp/141968728X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1226551561&sr=1-1

Other Publications

WRITE DIRECTLY TO THESE CONTACTS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

A Grand Tour of Russia to Odessa, Winter ~ 1945 by Herb Garris, edited by Clarence Meltesen. Now available on the Oflag 64 website.

My Tour of Russia by Herb Garris, P. O. Box 1693, Pinehurst NC 28370-1693 (unknown availability)

Press Releases by Ted Roggen, 101 Westcott, Houston TX 77007 (\$10.95)

Vic Kanners Diary. Don Kanners, 3205 Jennella Dr, Commerce TWP MI 48390-1619, dkanners@comcast.net

Roads to Liberation by Clarence R. Meltesen is available free of charge except for a \$5 per copy shipping fee. Please contact Elodie Caldwell at the contact address on the front page of this ITEM. (Thank you Meltesen family.)

The Waters Story. Contact Pat Waters, 412 Rice Hope Drive, Mt. Pleasant SC 29464-9273

A **1947 Oflag 64 Reunion Photo** is available for a \$5 donation to the Postage Fund. Send your donation and request to Elodie Caldwell at the contact address on the front page of this ITEM. (Thank you Judy Fletcher.)

TAPS

Herbert L. Garriss 1916 - 2011



Herbert L. Garriss, Lt. Col. US
[Army](#) (Ret.)
November 14, 1916 - July 19,
2011, Pinehurst

Herbert L. Garriss (HL), of
Pinehurst and Pennick Village, passed away on
Tuesday, July 19.

He was born on November 14, 1916 to
Ellie Mumford Garriss and Herbert Lunsford
Garriss in Roanoke Rapids, NC.

HL attended North Carolina State
University, worked for Carolina Power and Light,
then joined the Army in 1942. Serving with both
the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions, he
parachuted into Normandy on June
6, 1944. Captured by the Germans,
he was a prisoner of war in an Oflag
in Poland, from which he escaped
seven months later. HL continued
his career in the Army, serving in many states
and territories, as well as in Korea, Panama and
Germany, before retiring in 1967. In his career
he was awarded a [Purple Heart](#) and a [Bronze
Star](#) among many other medals. While in the
Army, he graduated from Omaha University with
a BA Degree.



Following retirement from the Army, HL
earned a Master's and PhD degrees from the
University of Maryland. For the next 25 years, he
taught graduate level political science for both
the University of Maryland and Central Michigan
University.

He continued to serve his country in later
years by participating in Survival Escape
Resistance Evacuation Training at Camp
MacKall.

Mr. Garriss was a member of Brownson
Memorial Presbyterian Church. He enjoyed
serving his community as a docent at Sandhills
Horticultural Gardens. His passions were his
books, gardens, and military organizations.

He was preceded in death by this first
wife, Ethelene Moore Garriss.

HL is survived by his wife of 10 years,
Louise Huntley Garriss, his daughters, Anna
(David) Goiser of Fairfax, VA, and Pati (Mike)
Fekete of Brookeville, MD, and stepchildren,
Beverly Beane of Raleigh, NC, Jim Thomas of
Greensboro, NC, Tricia (Bill) Bissett of Southern
Pines, NC and Annie (Victor) Stephenson of
Apex, NC, as well as several step grandchildren
and great grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held on
Saturday, July 23 at 11:00 a.m. at Brownson
Memorial Presbyterian Church in Southern
Pines.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be
made to Brownson Memorial Presbyterian
Church, 330 S. May Street, Southern Pines, NC
28387.

**Published in The News & Observer on
July 22, 2011**

Read more:

[http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobserver/
obituary.aspx?n=herbert-l-
garriss&pid=152673585#ixzz1YXsfUVtv](http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobserver/obituary.aspx?n=herbert-l-garriss&pid=152673585#ixzz1YXsfUVtv)

Postage and Reunion Fund Donors

THANKS to all who have generously donated to
the postage and reunion funds. We appreciate
the great support of both funds.

James Forsyth
Robert Galloway
Marilyn Gibson
Karen Roberts
Ted Roggen
Leslie Sullam
Darwyn Walker
Joseph Zelazny

If you would like to contribute, please make your
check payable to Oflag 64 Postage Fund, on the
memo line specify Postage Fund, Reunion Fund
or Split, and mail your donation to:

Bret Job
4240 Trail Ridge Ln
Minnetonka MN
55345-2554

or

Elodie Caldwell
2731 Terry Ave
Longview WA
98632-4437