

Artist's drawing of Oflag 64 without barbed-wire fences or guard towers.
Drawn by Jim Bickers

3RD QUARTER 2012

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ELECTION TIME IS AROUND THE CORNER

REMEMBER TO VOTE!!



This is a very important time in our nation's history. Let us do our part to keep our nation free. Vote November 6, 2012. Don't forget!!

Best Regards,

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

A LITTLE COMPANY BUSINESS – TREASURER'S REPORT

Month	Beginning Balance	Deposits	Item	Misc	Ending 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
Sept 1 2011	\$12,827.14	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$12,827.14	Sept 30 2011
Oct 1 2011	\$12,827.14	\$330.00	\$0.00		\$13,157.14	Oct 31 2011
Nov 1 2011	\$13,157.14	\$100.00	\$457.57		\$12,799.57	Nov 30 2011
Dec 1 2011	\$12,799.57	\$35.00	\$0.00		\$12,834.57	Dec 31 2011
Jan 1 2012	\$12,834.57	\$525.00	\$592.52		\$12,767.05	Jan 31 2012
Feb 1 2012	\$12,767.05	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$12,767.05	Feb 28 2012
Mar 1 2012	\$12,767.05	\$100.00	\$0.00		\$12,867.05	Mar 31 2012
Apr 1 2012	\$12,867.05	\$230.00	\$467.96		\$12,629.09	Apr 30 2012
May 1 2012	\$12,629.09	\$700.00	\$0.00		\$13,329.09	May 31 2012
Jun 1 2012	\$13,329.09	\$125.00	\$0.00		\$13,454.09	Jun 30 2012
Jul 1 2012	\$13,454.09	\$0.00	\$382.63		\$13,071.46	



MAIL CALL



JOHN ALBREE from Columbus NC (Aide-de-Camp to General John K. Waters) recently sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with some photocopies of photos taken of General Waters and others stationed in Korea during the war. In a separate email he sent compliments and mentioned that he and Pat Waters would be getting together for a visit soon. *Thank you so much, John, for your kind words, for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund, and for the photos. We look forward to hearing about your get together with Pat. Best to you.*

DAVID ANDERSON (son of the late Kriegy Everette R. Anderson) wrote as he learned of the recent passing of two of our Kriegies: "This great generation is slipping away. So much experience, courage and wisdom leaving us one by one. It is very sad." *Thanks, David, for your thoughts. It certainly won't be the same without our Kriegies from the greatest generation.*

TY ANKROM from Circleville OH (nephew of the late Kriegy Ernest D. "Snap" Ankrom) commented after hearing about recent Kriegy deaths: "With each obituary that is posted, I am amazed at the post-war lives these heroes lived. They are role models for today's youth and other adults." *Thank you, Ty, for your thoughts about our Kriegies. They certainly have lived heroic, exemplary lives. We can learn much from them.*



PAT BENDER from Philadelphia PA (daughter of Kriegy Vincent J. "Doc" Di Francesco) sent word of the passing of Kriegy Don Graul along with a link to his online obituary (See the TAPS section). Don passed away in June this year, his obituary was posted in August. *Thanks, Pat, for the news of Don and for the link to his obituary. Condolences along with thoughts and prayers have been extended to the family on behalf of the Oflag 64 Association. We will miss Don.*

DON BIRKELAND (nephew of the late Kriegy Ray E. Holmquist) contacted us through Bret Job and asked to be added to the email list. *Thank you, Don, for contacting us and welcome to our Oflag 64 Family. We greatly enjoy getting to know new "family" members and hope you find information of interest to you through our website as well as through our other family members.*



KATHY EZELL from Coral Gables FL (daughter of the late Kriegy William D. Warthen) recently emailed after hearing of the death of Don Graul. She also reported on the health of her dear mother,

Dorothy. She mentioned, after the St. Petersburg trip with Ellen, that trips are tiring but also invigorating for her. *It was good to hear from you again Ellen. Thanks so much for the update on your mom. Our best to her and to you as well.*



JULIE GIONFRIDDO from Ft. Collins CO (daughter of the late Kriegy John H. "Jack" Rathbone) recently sent photos of past reunions and also a short narrative she transcribed about her father's war experiences.

Thanks so much, Julie, for all the photos, which we will put together with some similar photos and add to our website as time permits. Thank you also for your dad's narrative. It's always interesting to read the thoughts, feelings, and experiences expressed by our Kriegies.

DAVID GLENDINNING from Washington D.C. (son of the late Kriegy John A. Glendinning) after recently looking at our website, wrote that he could identify his father in two photos. We have recently posted the changes to our website. *Thank you very much, David, for identifying your father in the photos and for your kind wishes. We apologize for taking sooooo long to post the photos and appreciate your patience.*

CHARLES T. GRAUL (son of the late Kriegy Donald O. Graul) sent thanks for thoughts sent to him after his father's death, and commented: "Patriots they surely were and all of them will be missed. He also sent a copy of his father's obituary. *Thanks, Charles, for contacting us and for sending the obituary. It's difficult news to hear each time we get word of another Kriegy passing. Our best to you and your family.*



BRET JOB from Minnetonka MN (son-in-law of the late Kriegy Ray E. Holmquist) recently sent word of the passing of Boyce "Boo" Nunnally along with a link to Boo's online obituary. He also sent a copy of the most recent

Treasurer's Report, included in this ITEM. *Thank*

you, Bret, for your continued great job at “keeping the books”. Thanks also for sending Boo’s obituary (See the TAPS section). We have sent thoughts and best wishes to his family on behalf of the Oflag 64 Family. How sad it is each time we learn of the passing of another Kriegy. Such great men they were.

WILLIAM JONES from Knoxville TN (son of the late Kriegy William K. Jones) recently ran across an article written in Polish that mentioned both Oflag 64 and Col. John Van Vliet in relation to the Katyn Forest Massacre of 1943. He emailed: “Something about information related to the [Katyn Massacre of 1943](#), which Van Vliet may have learned about (or witnessed?). And then, something about whether this information might have been passed on by him to US Forces via encoded letters home from Oflag 64.

http://wyborcza.pl/1,91446,12489342,Piorkowska_szyfrowane_listy_zrodlem_informacji_o.html?as=2&st_artsz=x

My father, Captain William K. Jones, served with (or near) Col. John Van Vliet, Jr. in Tunisia when they were both captured - perhaps at the same time and place. Eventually they both ended up together at Oflag 64. I am unaware if there is any connection between my father and the Captain John B. Stewart mentioned. [And I have no suspicion that my father was in any way involved with any encoded letters or had any knowledge of this massacre.]” *Thank you, William, for sending this most interesting article along. (Anyone interested in his web translation of the article can contact Elodie Caldwell). One of our Oflag 64 family members from Poland, Krystyna Piorkowska, has been working on this project for quite a while. She has published a bilingual book about this event.*



NANCY KLINKENBORG from Rock Rapids IA (wife of Kriegy Ray Klinkenborg) wrote that she missed the email notification that the last ITEM was available online. We have reentered her email address into our system and all seems to be working now. She also sent compliments on the ITEM. *Thank you very much, Nancy, for your email and for your kind words about the ITEM. Glad that the email is working again now.*



ANNE KREUTZER from Woodbridge VA (daughter of the late Kriegy Nathaniel R. Hoskot) wrote in relation to the death of Don Graul. She was glad to know that we were aware of his death and were able to notify the Oflag 64 Family. She first met Don on the shuttle bus on the way to the Ft. Collins reunion. *Thank you very much, Anne, for following up with information on Don’s death. We were happy he was*

able to join us in Colorado, but greatly missed him at subsequent reunions. We continue to miss him.



ROYAL LEE from Mankato MN (Kriegy) sent a contribution to the Postage Fund not long ago. *We thank you, Royal, for your thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage Fund. We greatly appreciate such wonderful support. Best to you.*



F. EUGENE LIGGETT from Vancouver WA (Kriegy) responded to the request by James Wignall in the 2nd Quarter ITEM about the rings in question. Gene wrote: “As for the rings, I am guessing that his Uncle came over on a ship and landed in Casablanca and he bought the rings from some of the Arabs at railway stops when going to Oran. I went that route and at the frequent stops along the way the Native Arabs would try to sell all kinds of rings and swords and knives, etc. to the Americans. In 1943 I bought several of the rings that were made from melted down American silver and nickel coins. Any engraving was probably done afterward in Oran or in Italy.

The German Identification tag has been broken apart so one half could be left as identification with the body and the other taken for records. I don’t know why this one had been broken apart. Our American tags were made separately so that one could be left with the body and other taken.

Maybe others have better explanations for the rings and tags etc.”

In a separate email Gene sent a 9/11 excerpt from his memoirs. *Thanks so much, Gene, for writing and for all the information you sent. Great connections are made when people share information such as you have. Best to you.*



HERM LITTMAN from Spokane WA (Kriegy) sent a contribution to the Postage Fund along with a note saying: “I’m alive and kicking. Am enclosing a little money to sweeten the pot.” *Thank you very much, Herm for your thoughtful and generous contribution to the Postage Fund “pot”. We much appreciate the great support we receive from our Oflag 64 family members. We are also more than happy that you are alive and kicking. Our best to you.*

PENNY MARRIOTT (granddaughter of the late Kriegy Harold S. Spurgin) emailed that she was able to identify her grandfather in one of our website photos. *Thank you, Penny, for contacting us and for identifying your grandfather in the photo. The information was published to our website a short time*

ago. *Please contact us again if you have any other information to share.*



ANNETTE SECOR NELSON from Hudson FL (widow of the late Kriegy Richard W. Secor) sent a box of Oflag 64 memorabilia recently, which included articles, photos, ITEMS and reunion mementos. *Thanks very much, Annette, for the box of "goodies". We will get things scanned and put on our website as soon as possible. We appreciate everything you saved for future generations to experience. Best wishes to you.*



ROBERT O'NEILL from Prescott AZ (Kriegy) recently wrote about a telephone conversation he had saying: "I had a great conversation with Bob Thompson today. I keep in touch with him by telephone - quicker and it results always in a good conversation. I asked Bob if he had seen the picture of me and his great grandson in the last Item. He hadn't. Following that, I learned that he receives the Item via Email." *Thank you very much, Bob, for writing and for updating us on your conversations with Bob Thompson. We love to hear that our Kriegies are staying connected even though we didn't have a reunion this year and even though it's difficult for many to attend. We have sent you an email with the report of our findings about Bob Thompson's 2nd Qtr. ITEM. We hope he will continue to receive them at his new Texas address. Our best to you and to him.*

KRYSTYNA PIORKOWSHA from Poland (researcher and author of a new article on the Katyn Forest Massacre) recently emailed the following: "Just wanted to let you know that the research I started some 2.5 years ago has born fruit in a bilingual book about the *English-speaking Witnesses to Katyn* which was issued by the Muzeum Katyńskie of the Muzeum Wojska Polskiego.

I am enclosing a file containing an extract from the intro covering the major points I have covered in my research and in the book.

To summarize - it will probably be surprising that John H. Van Vliet, Jr. and Donald B. Stewart as well as the South African Colonel Frank Stevenson, were not originally meant to go to Katyn, as they were not the senior officers. I've also identified the civilian who was a POW and who accompanied them. Just a few of the tidbits in the book.

I'd like to thank the Oflag 64 Family as the late Bob Tiemstra's letter was most helpful in determining the march-route of the POWs from Szubin." *Krystyna, thank you very much for sharing your work with us. There is so much knowledge to be gained even after all these years. It is through research done by people like you who help put the pieces of the puzzles together.*

TED ROGGEN from Houston TX (Kriegy) recently sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with a short note. He wrote: "Thank you for a wonderful job with our publication. It is easy to understand why a reunion would be canceled. Many of the original Kriegies have left this good earth. Don't let this ever stop the memory of Oflag 64. Thank "goodness" we have relatives, and grandchildren to carry on this tradition of one of World War II's magnificent pieces of history, bitter cold, lack of food, and survival, and that is what Oflag 64 will always represent." *And thanks to you as well, Ted, for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund as well as your thanks for the ITEM. Best wishes to you.*

PEGGY SMITH from Brownwood TX (daughter of the late Kriegy Leonard W. Spence) recently wrote that she could identify her father in one of the Kriegy Wartime Photos. She also wrote: "I will look through my photos and see what I have. I have my father's POW identification card as well as his dog tags. Also I have two maps that he carried out of prison camp. He escaped about 3 or 4 nights after they starting marching the prisoners back toward Germany in January of 1945. He and some others ultimately walked across Poland into Russia, hopped a ride on a railroad car and ended up at Odessa Russia. *It was great hearing from you, Peggy. Thanks so much for writing. Thank you also for identifying your father in the wartime photo. We have since updated the photo including his name and have published it to our website.*



JANICE TURNER from Meridian TX (daughter of Edwin J. "Jim" Betts) recently sent an email about The Town of Pilsen (Pizen). Many of you may have seen it before. It contains several pictures, one of which includes our own Pat Waters. You can access this story by going to the following website:

<http://hivets.com/in-the-town-called-pilsen/>

Thank you very much, Janice, for sharing this story. It's interesting to read about the gratitude other nations feel for the service given by our nation's military.



DARWYN E. WALKER from Springfield MO (Kriegy) has sent information regarding an organization that puts together reunions in Branson MO. For anyone who is interested in hosting a future reunion, this might be a good avenue to follow. *Thanks very much, Darwyn, for sending the reunion information. A few people have expressed an interest in continuing our reunions but on an every-other-year basis. We will have to do another survey soon. Best to you.*

PAT WATERS from Mt. Pleasant SC (son of the



late Kriegy John K. Waters) wrote regarding the sad news of our recently deceased Kriegies saying: "The good thing is we have had all these years with these HEROES and I am thankful for that...God bless them all." He also

asked for the phone number of Helen Chappell which we supplied. Additionally he sent compliments for service done for our Kriegies. *Thank you very much, Pat, for your email and for your kind words. It's always good to hear from you.*



P. J. WILCOX from Florida (author) sent an email recently with the following information: "Thanks for keeping us in the loop, let me give you some good news, Colonel Forsyth is doing well. We visited and he provided so much more

info about his work during the war. He gave me correspondence that he mailed and was received here in the states. The Colonel's health is ok. I wanted to take him to the driving range but his daughter said Jim's balance might be an issue so we watched golf on TV. We have met 2 times in the last few months and both times were fun. The food was pretty good at his place. I have copies of original mail that he sent. Some of the postcards reveal a very interesting side to Oflag 64." *Thank you, P. J. for your updates on Jim. It would be amazing to sit with each Kriegy and learn about everything they experienced during the war. We would love to have copies of the postcards if possible.*

MARIUSZ WINIECKI from Poland (researcher, writer) continues to send great information. He has also sent a number of new photos and is asking for help from the Oflag 64 Family in supplying correct information. He has had considerable help from Cindy Burgess and Wilbur Sharpe and is getting ready to begin a new project soon. *Thanks so much, Mariusz, for your continued information. As we work together the information that can transfer back and forth can be limitless. Please check the Kriegy Information section of this ITEM for more information.*

Heroes Die for Me **by Jamie Burns**

I am the flag
I look down upon this land called America .
I have been here since this great nation was
formed,
I have seen each battle fought
I have seen the heroes die for me, for my country

Thank you all those of you
Who have kept me flying in the breeze
Keeping this country united as one.
Thank you those of you who have sacrificed your
lives,
Giving up all that I may still fly,
Watching over the citizens of this nation.
Thank you all those of you who have ever fought,
I am ever grateful for you.

You risked everything; you faced death each day,
Faced fear, faced many terrible things.
And because of you, my thank you's ring out,
Filling the sky, echoing from the hills
They find their way to the graveyards,
And to all of you still living,
You are a special kind of person.
To anyone who has ever served this country,
And to those serving today
Thank you.

As I watch life from atop my flagpole,
As I think of all you've done,
My feelings become too powerful for words
And all I can say is thank you.



Postage Fund Donors

THANKS to all who have generously donated to the postage fund. Without such thoughtful contributions, mailing the ITEM and other materials or information would not be possible.

John Albree
Royal Lee
Herm Littman
Ted Roggen

If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to Oflag 64 Postage Fund and mail your donation to:

<u>Bret Job</u>	or	<u>Elodie Caldwell</u>
4240 Trail Ridge Ln		2731 Terry Ave
Minnetonka MN		Longview WA
55345-2554		98632-4437

KRIEGY NEWS AND INFORMATION

Written narrative by Jack Rathbone, transcribed by his daughter Julie Rathbone Gionfriddo (verbatim with errors)

It seems to me that in all the tales and reports of the various POW camps permanent and temporary, I have never seen mention of the POW hospital at Wollstein (Lazert) staffed by British medical personnel. In reading General George Waters taped interviews I noted in particular his descriptions of the wonderful treatment and help given to the Americans by the people at the British camps. His comments concerned British Oflag our group spent months at Oflag IX AZ, in Roternberg, German. Here also the British contingent took our people into their confidence and gave them the skinny on what they could get away with, how to get and use radio parts, how to organize the internal workings and contacts with the guards etc.

At Wollstein the British ran the officers hospital for the allied prisoners at the POW camps. The same spirit of sharing information, secrets etc. prevailed there.

The camp (Lazerette) at Wollstein was a prison camp with wires, guards etc. but was a little looser perhaps. At this camp were several personnel who I will always remember. The commanding officer was Dr. Cameron, a Britisher with a Scottish background. Dr. Lesmnovich was the dentist. Two noncoms (Sargents) who were outstanding: Sargent Owen Thomas and Sargent Cook. Thomas, I kept in contact with as long as he lived. Sargent Cook, usually referred to as "Cookie" was a unique person. He was the son of a wealthy English grain importer. He had spent a year each in France and Germany learning the language to learn the local dialects and idioms. After a time in the POW system after his previous studies (in preparation for becoming one himself), Cookie could switch from regional dialects and idioms, double meanings, off-color jokes, , probably more fluently than most of the natives.

While in Oflag 64 I developed a skin infection or outbreak, on my hands that our medical staff could not do anything with. This resulted in several visits to German doctors in Posen, with no improvement (despite several Wassermans they could not diagnose the problem). Finally I was sent to Wellenstein for a memorable visit. The British gave me a warm welcome, and made me sing (if you could call it that) the Star Spangled Banner. I got to know the staff. I can't say enough about how well I was treated. The hands didn't respond, however, but cleared up gradually on their own schedule. (NOTE from Jack's daughter..I remember when I was a teenager in the 1960s my Dad's hands still "broke out" occasionally).

Two small episodes involving the Englishmen, particularly Cookie are worth recalling. Dr. Bergeson (sp?) from Oflag 64 also had an interlude at Wollstein. Bergie was part of the 168th division and was from Des Moines. Someone came up with an introductory book to the Swedish language. I don't remember where it came from. Bergie might have gotten it. A French officer captive in the camp knew some Swedish and he began to teach Bergie Swedish. One day Cookie appeared while they were struggling to make Bergie a Swede. He picked up the book, thumbed through it and asked to borrow it for a day. He returned it a day or so later and came in jabbering in Swedish to Bergie who just threw his hands up. Before the war changed his plans, and everybody else's, Cookie had been slated to go to Spain to digest Spanish.

I lost contact with Sergeant Cook after the war but corresponded with Owen Thomas as long as he lived. He confided to me that Cookie was not a Sergeant but was actually an officer in the intelligence branch of the Army. Until the Germans broke through and picked him up (with many others) he had been used as an agent disguised as an enlisted man (a Sergeant). He had followed a routine of dropping in at various nights spots in the French back country, where he hid his language fluency and might hear various references to schemes and secret plans.

* * * * *

Extract Introduction from Krystyna Piorkowska's New Book (on the Katyn Forest Massacre)

My interest lies firstly in the restricted area of the circumstances involved with the German announcement of the Soviet crime, and more specifically, the visit of the English-speaking POWs to Katyn. This issue has been treated as an aside until now, and no complex attempt has been made to answer the following questions:

- Is it possible to determine what the initial German concept, which lay at the basis of sending the POWs to Katyn, and how did this concept alter as a result of circumstantial occurrences,

- How was the group formed, who were its members initially, and ultimately who were the members,
- What occurred during the trip to Katyn and the visit to the burial sites, what conclusions did the POWs reach as to the guilty party (and in the most human of ways how did they respond to what they had seen there),
- Why did not German propaganda utilize the POW visit to disseminate information about Katyn.

Closely related to this matter is the 1944 visit of English-speaking correspondents to Katyn, which was organized by the Soviets. Here my research concentrated on the following questions:

- Who were the journalists who went to Katyn,
- What was the content of the articles which they sent after their visit'
- Did these correspondents write or state anything on the subject of the Katyn massacre, in addition to their wartime reports and their testimony to the Madden Committee.

The third matter which requires an in depth description, is involved with the issue of what the governments of the United States and Great Britain knew about their citizens presence in Katyn. In this case, the questions were as follows:

- When did the Western Allies discover that their soldiers had witnessed the crime of Katyn,
- When and under what circumstance did these governments receive the first confirmation (reports) from the witnesses themselves – and more specifically, did these testimonies reach the „powers that be” prior to the end of World War II,
- Which members of the POW group made reports and how did these reports define the issue of responsibility for the crime.

The fourth set of issues is involved with the post-1945 period. During the immediate post-war period the Western powers were completely uninterested in delving into the Katyn massacre, and only in the early 1950s, in an altered political situation, did a serious investigation into the matter, which was conducted by a special Congressional Committee, generally known as the Madden Committee. Although the creation of the Committee is well known, the set of circumstances which lead to its creation have been described only minimally. As a result, what needed to be studied was:

- What were the specific steps undertaken in the United States, which preceded the creation of the Committee which studied the Katyn Massacre, and who undertook them, and how did they influence the procedures leading to the formation of said Committee,
- How much of the Administration's and Department of War actions during 1939-45, were disclosed by the Madden Committee,
- Did the Katyn witnesses participate in the work of the Madden Committee, and if so how,

How did the British government approach the work of the Madden Committee.

* * * * *

September 11th has an additional meaning for me. On September 11th in 1944 I became Prisoner of War of the Germans. The following is taken from my Military Memoirs – No, Not Yet". Go to: <http://www.45thinfantrydivision.com/index18.htm> (scroll down past the photos for *the rest of the story!*)

My memory of September 11th (in 1944)

By Gene Liggett

On the night of September 10, 1944, I was with Lt. Van Barfoot and his platoon of I Company of the 157th Bn of the 45th Infantry Division. We knew the Germans were up ahead of us, but we didn't know where.

Leaving my FO party and Van's platoon behind, he and I took a sound-powered telephone and strung a wire as we went. In the middle of the blackest, darkest night imaginable, the two of us moved cautiously through the forest to see where the Germans were. Every little twig we stepped on sounded like a herd of elephants out there. Once we saw a small luminous spot ahead and Van raised his gun to shoot, thinking it was a man's wristwatch - and it did look like it could be. However, I had seen this type of thing before and thought it was probably some free phosphorous from an old dead and decaying tree. Luckily, I grabbed his arm and stopped him before he shot. Going up toward it, it did turn out to be phosphorous, so we avoided alerting the Germans by shooting at the tree. We kept going until we came to the edge of the clearing and though we still hadn't encountered any Germans, we waited there until it started getting light.

Down the hill and about 500 yards from us was the little town of Abbenans. There was the usual cleared area below us with a stream in the bottom. There was also a road with a bridge that crossed the stream and led into

the town. We could see a lot of Germans in the town so, using the sound-powered telephone, I started firing artillery on them. All the houses had red tile roofs and the artillery shells hitting them sent up a cloud of red dust. One Frenchman came out waving a sheet indicating he didn't want us to shoot up his house, and I really couldn't blame him. After firing around and on the town for an hour or two, suddenly about 60 to 70 ambulances left the town. We had our doubts that they were all carrying wounded people but we didn't shoot at them.

About that time a tree that was right out in front of us, only about 200 feet away started moving. It was a well camouflaged anti tank gun with a five-man crew. They pushed it down the hill and, as they were crossing the bridge, I got a direct hit on them. They flew in all directions. The bridge was also pretty well demolished.

At about noon we didn't see any more German activity in Abbenans so we called my FO party and the platoon of infantry to come and join us as we went into town. There were no more Germans there.

Lt. Barfoot's platoon was then relieved and they went back in the company's reserve. After having been with Barfoot's platoon most of the time since we landed in Southern France, this was the last time I was to see him until many years after the war. A few weeks later Lt. Van Barfoot was awarded the Medal of Honor for extraordinary heroism while at Anzio and was sent back to the States to receive it from President Roosevelt. He was a remarkable individual and excellent soldier. Van was half Choctaw Indian and about 6 ft. 6" tall. He would rather go prowling around at night behind the German lines than stay back on our side.

My FO party moved out with the rest of I Company and headed out across the clearing on the other side of Abbenans and up the slope toward the wooded area at the top. Some of the Germans who had withdrawn from the town had taken up positions in the woods above us where we couldn't see them, and were firing down on us. As we advanced up the hill, I walked along beside the company commander, Frank Mather, whom I had known since we were both patients at the same time in the hospital in Naples. He always carried a pistol instead of a rifle. I always carried a carbine. I remarked to him that someday he would be identified as an officer because he carried only a pistol and might get shot by a sniper. It wasn't 15 minutes later that, as we walked side-by-side talking to each other, he stopped right in the middle of a word. I looked over at him as he fell to the ground. He was dead - having been shot by a sniper from the trees above.

The rest of us kept going and late in the afternoon we got to the top of the hill. Lt. Howard Litske's platoon was supposed to be out ahead of us. I joined the battalion commander, Major Merle Mitchell, who had come up to temporarily take command of I Company since Lt. Frank Mather was killed. Other officers with him were Captain Henry Huggins, another Lt. and a Frenchman. With them, we looked at our maps and tried to find a road that went down on the other side of the hill, but couldn't find it. After deciding what to do, I left Major Mitchell and the other officers all standing in a group, and started walking back to my FO party. About 10 or 15 seconds later, I had gone only 50 to 75 feet when the Germans opened up with a machine gun, firing in our direction. Major Mitchell and all the other officers who were standing there with him were killed.

Right where I needed it, and when I needed it, there was a shallow depression inside of where the walls of an old building apparently had been. My FO party was already in it when I jumped in with them. The Germans continued firing directly over us while our tanks from behind were shooting back over us at the Germans. I set up the radio and was directing artillery fire in a semi circle in front of us just by the sound, as I didn't dare stick my head up. As it got nearly dark our tanks pulled back, which was customary, and the Germans quit shooting too. A few minutes later when everything was quiet, we heard a German tank coming toward us real slow and with very little noise. All we could hear was the clank-clank-clank of the track as it came closer. I told my men that it was time we were getting out of there and that I would try. If I made it, they were to follow. I got out and had to go across an open area of about 150 feet to get to the trees beyond the clearing. It was practically dark then. When I got out in the open, they started shooting at me from all across the front of the trees ahead of me as I headed back toward our lines. I raised my hands and gun and hollered at them to stop shooting. They answered back in German! There I was out in front of a whole line of Germans and in the open with no place to go or way to get there. I had no choice except suicide or be captured.

They came out after me and took my carbine out of my hands. Believe me, that was a traumatic experience with a feeling of helplessness when they took my gun away from me. A couple of nights before, I had lost my binoculars so borrowed a pair of real good German binoculars from one of the infantrymen. I had them around my neck. Also I had a little German pistol on my belt. If we ever caught a German with any American equipment on him, we killed him, and they normally did the same thing. Having no time to get rid of them, I figured this was going to be the end. However, to my surprise, they acted like a bunch of little kids to see who was going to get them. Later I found out that they were some of the German Luftwaffe ground force that were put up in the infantry and this was their first fighting.

Again Lady Luck looked at me and smiled from ear to ear. One of the first things the Germans did was to take my glasses off and stomp on them to break them. After finishing searching me and taking my cigarettes and lighter, money, and jack knife, they made me lay down with my head on a big rock. A rifle was held against it on the topside until they finally captured the rest of my men. Later, Dick Borthwick told me they didn't know that anything had happened to me, and came out one at a time only to be captured too. None of them were wounded, but the Germans did shoot through the radio while Smith had it on his back. After they got all of us, they fed us some real

good beef stew with potatoes, carrots, onions, etc. that they, too were eating. This was probably the best meal I was to get from the Germans while I was a POW.

My Lt. bars and insignia were on my shirt collar, but I had them covered so they didn't find out that I was an officer or I might not have been treated as well. Lt. Howard Litske, a platoon leader, and one of his men were also captured, apparently before I was, as his platoon was supposed to have been out ahead of us.

A German soldier had been shot through the stomach and without a stretcher, the six of us had to carry him about ¾ mile down the hill on a shelter-half, holding it tight so his middle didn't sag down. Every time we let it sag down, a guard would jab us in the back with his bayonet. The Germans took us down a trail on the back side of this hill to what appeared to be like a Regimental Headquarters. When they had searched me, they had failed to find my map that I had inside my shirt next to my chest. It had our unit's location etc. on it. As we were going down the hill, I managed to hide it in some bushes next to the trail. At the headquarters we were turned over to an old German Captain. He had learned to speak English while he was a POW of the English in World War I. With an English accent along with his German accent it was rather comical, but he was a pretty good old guy and gave us some good advice on things not to do. Then we were put in a truck and taken to a schoolhouse where we slept on the floor that night, thankful that our lives had been spared so far.

The next day they took us to another town some distance away where they put me in solitary confinement for a couple of days. Then they took me in another building for interrogation. The officer took me down a hall to a room and showed me a technique they used to get people to talk. Here was an oversize bathtub next to the wall. A sort of post was across the top of the bathtub with one end of it in a hole in the wall on the other side of the tub. On our side, at the end of the post was a crank. The officer indicated they would put a person on this post and tie him down like a chicken put on a rotisserie for a barbecue. The bathtub was filled with water and stinking human excrement. They could then turn the crank and hold a person's head under this crap in the tub for as long as they wanted to, and bring him up when they wanted to. The thought of this technique was very unsettling, as I'm sure it was intended to be. Then he took me to another room where I sat by his desk, while he tried to visit a little. After only giving him my name, rank, and serial number, he picked up a big black book, about 12" by 15" in size, and about two or three inches thick. He opened up the book and found my name. He told me where I came from in Nebraska; when I went into the Army; and every place I had been stationed in the States, when I left the States, and every place I had been since going overseas. I was amazed! Obviously they had this same information on thousands of other Americans.

Even today, I don't know how they got all that information, and much less how they kept it up to date - and without computers. The only explanation I have ever heard was that they had enough people in the U.S. reading newspapers and keeping track of every one in every small town in the U.S. and forwarding the information to Germany somehow. I had given my name, rank, and serial number, and the officer did not press me for any more information. Thank God they didn't put me through the bathtub torture.

The next day we were taken over to Mulhouse, France, arriving there just in time to be rushed into an air raid shelter during an American bombing attack on the town. When that was over, they put us on a boxcar. We were each given one loaf of German bread to last us until we got to wherever we were going. The train headed north, but of course we didn't know where we were going. We traveled at night and sat in the railroad stations during the day to avoid being bombed or strafed by our own American pilots. Their favorites were to catch a train going into a tunnel and bombing the other end of it shut so it would pile up the train in the tunnel. Occasionally we could peek through the cracks of the boxcar and knew we were going north up past the Siegfried line as sometimes we were able to see parts of it.

Our destination turned out to be Limberg, Germany. They let us out of the boxcars and marched us to our first POW camp, Stalag XII-A, which was a distribution center for POW's. This was the last time I was to see Dick Bothwick or Charles Smith. Later I got to see Herman Rodriguez. We were registered into the German POW system and with the International Red Cross in Switzerland. They in turn notified our government in Washington D.C. that we were POW's. The registration process gave us a certain measure of relief, since we were now officially "on the books" as POWs and the Germans had acknowledged responsibility for our care. Until this time there had been no official record that we were in German hands, and they could have denied responsibility for anything that might have happened to us. Each of us was issued a German metal "dog-tag," which was perforated so it could be broken in two, permitting one part to be left with a body and the other half taken for the records. My POW serial number - 87959 - was stamped on both halves of the tag. We officers were photographed with a card showing our serial number and the picture, which was glued onto the identification card. We were instructed to carry this at all times.

* * * * *

The following information was sent by Mariusz Winiecki from Poland. He has been doing a great deal of research and has been sharing his findings with our Oflag 64 family. Quoting Mariusz: "Although initially my paper was devoted mainly to the Polish reader, I'm going to do a version in English for the community of men of Oflag 64

and their families.” He sent an update to Unlabeled Picture 04 published in the last ITEM. He explains that “this is neither a picture of Oflag 64 nor of Oflag XXIB. It is the neogothic Evangelical Church, which is in the centre of town. After the war this church was adapted as a Roman Catholic Church. The next photo is taken from the forecourt of a hotel and restaurant, which was nearby the county jail.”

Unlabeled – Picture 04

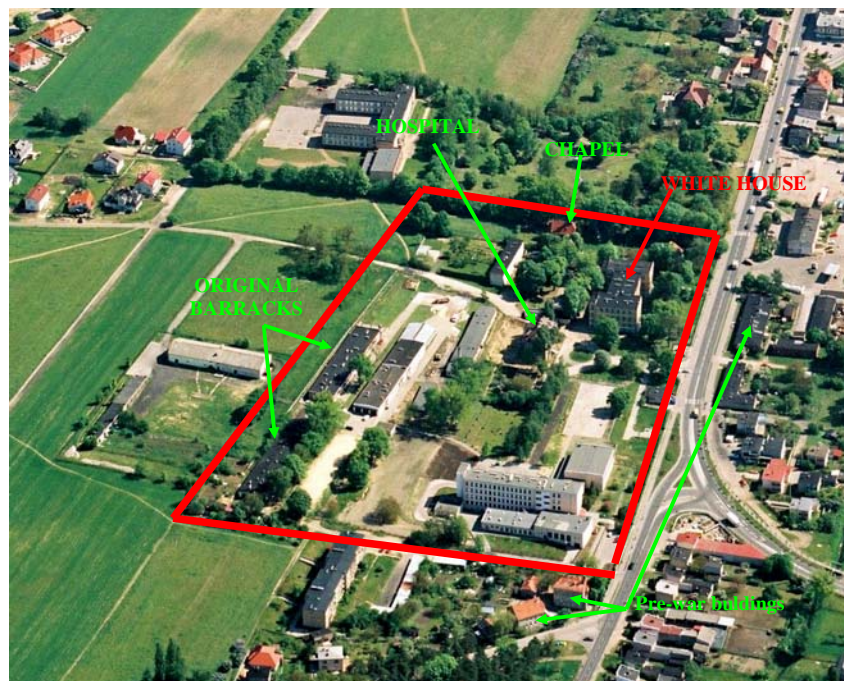
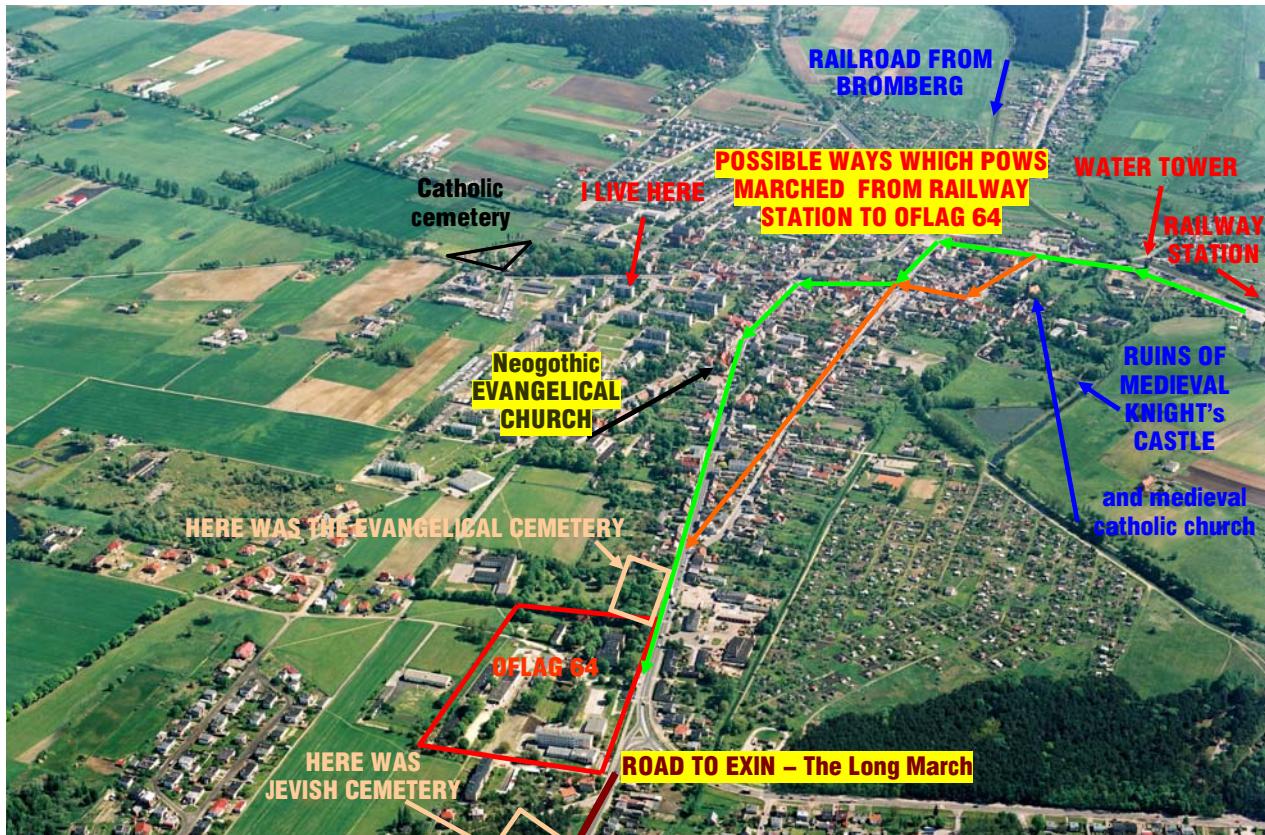
DSC01973



This picture shows the medieval Roman-Catholic Church in the old town square of Szubin. The picture is taken from the railway station near the water tower. As I know Kriegies were transported to Szubin by rail and after that marched via town to the camp. This was the first view of Szubin they were able to see after their arrival.

The maps below will give you an idea of what Kriegies may have seen and which way they may have marched into camp.

The green and orange arrows in "Szubin - bird's eye view" below present two possible ways they were marched. If Kriegies marched by the green way, they have seen the evangelical church from its front as presented in DSC01973 on the previous page. If they were marching by the orange way they have seen it exactly in the same way as presented in "Picture 04" printed at page 07 of the latest Item newsletter. It would be helpful for my project if any of the surviving ex-Kriegies could help to reconstruct the way they were marching from railway station to camp.



These next photos present the Catholic Cemetery, where Capt. Richard H. Torrence was buried. I heard from one of my neighbors, who has lived in Szubin since 1927, that the funeral procession went from camp to the cemetery through the main streets of the town. I also know that pictures of the funeral there exist. I found one in the book "HOME WAS NEVER LIKE THIS".



POWs at Oflag 64 pay tribute to a fellow soldier during a graveside service at the camp.

As you can see in the bird's eye views in my previous email, Oflag 64 bordered the evangelical cemetery on one side and the Jewish cemetery on the other side. I know from Wilbur Sharpe that the tunnel they progressed with was from "Barrack 3A&3B" into the direction of the woods. The picture "Cmenatrz żydowski w Szubinie 02" presents a gravestone with an inscription in Hebrew language that I found two years ago exactly in the same place where Wilbur Sharpe marked the tunnel. I don't know how long the tunnel was, but it was taken about 100-150 meters from the camp. I wonder if they were aware they were digging in the direction of the cemetery.

The next pictures I attach ("01" and "02") are the pre-war buildings (taken in 1917) and marked with the arrow on the second page of "Szubin - bird's eye view" as pre-war buildings. These are the buildings marked with black arrows by me in the picture "03". The Kriegies passed the buildings when they started the long March in the direction of Exin.



Chapter Fifteen - Oflag 64

A Page from the memoirs of the late Nick Rahal

Submitted by Nick's widow, Gail Rahal

Sometime toward the end of April, we were stuffed into 40 x 8 boxcars, capable of holding forty men or eight horses. However, instead of forty men, we had probably twice that number. The cars were not only crowded, but the doors stayed closed the whole trip so that we could not see out to where we were headed. We proceeded to Oflag 64, a former girl's school located on a ten-acre campus in a Polish town named Alzburgund in German, but Szubin in Polish. The formal German name for the camp was Kriegsgefangenen Offizier Lager 64 (Prisoner of War Officer Camp 64). Everybody called it OFLAG 64 and the occupants were Kriegies. I was one of the many Kriegies to be sent there.

We were processed by the Germans first, then the Americans. The Germans checked our name and dog tags. They also took a picture to make up our POW ID cards. I was dressed in a clean uniform for the picture. The clean uniform was then taken away after the picture was taken.

I have a joke that I like to tell about myself. "There are three things I cannot remember: The first is names, the second is faces and what the third is I cannot remember." You would think that these names would forever be burned into my memory, but I cannot remember the names of the faces of the people I lived with. We lived together under such terrible circumstances, and I feel terrible for remembering so little about them individually. But I remember much about the camp itself, and what I did there.

The photo below was sent by LTC John Albee
and was taken in Korea during the war.

LTC Albee is a member of our Oflag 64 family although he didn't spend time at Oflag 64. From left to right are pictured Sgt. Dante Molta - General Waters driver, Brigadier General John K. Waters - Chief of Staff I US Corps, 1st Lt. John Allen Albee - Aide-de-Camp to General Waters, Sgt. Eddie Roninson - Orderly to General Waters.



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!

Thank you for continuing to send me The ITEM. Even though I do not know any of the subjects in the newsletter, I still find it of interest because of my close relationship with Gen. Waters, his son Pat, the late John Creech and Norma Kuhn. ~ **John Albree, Columbus NC**

Thank you for your unwavering work on this project. ~ **Ty Ankrom, Circleville OH**

My very best to you and yours and thanks again, and again (!), for all your wonderful work. ~ **David Glendinning, Washington D.C.**

Want you to know what an exceptional job you do with the Item, and how much you are appreciated!!!!!!! Thank you so much for your hard work and devotion. ~ **Nancy Klinkenborg, Rock Rapids IA**

Thank you for a wonderful job with our publication. ~ **Ted Roggen, Houston TX**

Thank you for your service to these men and God Bless you as well. ~ **Pat Waters, Mt. Pleasant SC**

OFLAG 64 WEB CONNECTION



We are grateful to all who send photos, stories, and other memorabilia to post to our website. We receive quite a few of these each month. Our hope is to add whatever we can to the website and to do so in a timely manner. Occasionally, we may overlook (unintentionally) submissions that should be added to our site. If you have sent information to add and find after a period of time that it has not been added, please contact us again. We appreciate your patience in the mean time.

We're looking for camp stories, escape stories, articles reflecting the author's feelings while in captivity, photos and any other information related to our Kriegies. Please send information to Elodie Caldwell either by email at: elodie@oflag64.us or to the street address on the front page of this ITEM.

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/B0007E4UA>
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

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.)

Donald Ouellette Graul, Sr.

1917-2012

and Dorothy Marie Graul

1923-1998



Major Donald Ouellette Graul Sr. passed away on April 10, 2012 in his home at Green Spring Village, Springfield, VA. Major Graul was born in Detroit, October 18, 1917 to the late Karl and Rena Graul. After high school, and a year at The Detroit

Business College, he worked at a variety of jobs until joining the U.S. [Army](#) in October, 1942. He was trained as a paratrooper and graduated from Officer's Candidate School as a Second Lieutenant of Infantry in September 1942. He was a veteran of D-Day and a former Prisoner of War. After leaving the regular Army in 1945, he remained active in the National Guard and Reserve until his mandatory retirement in 1972.



In civilian life, Major Graul worked in the insurance business, first for Travelers Insurance Company, and then for Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada for 30 years. He was an avid yachtsman, building his first sailboat at the age of 17. Golf, tennis and squash were his other passions. He was a devoted and pious member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Springfield, VA for the last 10 years.

He was married for over 55 years to Dorothy Marie Graul nee Magnuson. Mrs. Graul was born in Algonac, MI on January 9, 1923 and passed away on March 4, 1998 in Columbia, SC where the Grauls had retired in 1980. An avid bridge player, Mrs. Graul spent most of her life as a homemaker.

The Grauls are survived by their sons Donald Jr. and his wife Priscilla, Charles, and his wife Claudia and their son Charlie, and Mrs. Graul's Brothers Charles and Troy Branning and their families.

There will be an interment ceremony for Donald and Dorothy on Monday August 20, 2012 at Arlington National Cemetery at 11 a.m., followed by a reception at Fort Myer Officer's Club. Please assemble at Administration building by 10:30 a.m.

Published in The Washington Post on August 12, 2012

Boyce "Boo" Nunnally,

D.M.D.

1924-2012



Boyce "Boo" Nunnally D.M.D. Boo passed away on Saturday evening, August 12, 2012, at his home with his entire family around him.

Boo was born on November 15, 1924 in Alexandria, LA. He grew up in Baton Rouge, and attended Gulfcoast Military Academy before enlisting in the army in 1941.

He was a 1st Lt. Demolitions Officer with the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion. He made two combat jumps and fought in the Battle of Anzio. In September of 1944, Boo was wounded and captured by the Germans in Southern France near the mountainous town of Isola. He spent seven months as a POW at Oflag 64 in Szubin, Poland. After several escapes and recaptures, Boo was liberated on April 13, 1945 by the 106th Calvary. Boo earned two purple hearts, a bronze star, and a silver star.



After the war, Boo attended Tulane University and LSU where he earned his degree in chemical engineering. Boo married his wife Catherine in New Orleans in 1948, and they had three children. Boo spent several years as a chemical engineer before moving to Louisville where he attended dental school at the University of Louisville. He practiced for 35 years before retiring.

Boo's love and devotion to his family was incomparable. Everyone that knew Boo loved him dearly and highly respected him as man of outstanding character and genuine kindness. His life is an inspiration to all who loved him.

Boo is preceded in death by his father, Boyce Nunnally of Gulf Port, MI and his mother, Minnie Milburn Nunnally of New Orleans, LA. Boo is survived by his wife of 64 years, Catherine Keeney Nunnally, of Louisville; his three children, Judi Christopher, David Nunnally and wife Barbara, and Greg Nunnally D.M.D. and wife Lisa Bauman D.M.D.; his brother Richard Milburn Nunnally M.D. of Baton Rouge, LA; his five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The family will hold a visitation on Thursday, August 16, 2012 from 4p.m.-7p.m. with a memorial service immediately following at Highlands Family-Owned Funeral Home (3331 Taylorsville Road Louisville, KY 40205).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made in Boo's name to the Wounded Warrior Project or the Louisville Ballet.