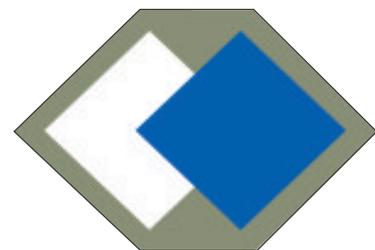




Online at 96thdeadeyes.org

DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association • Fall, 2012

It's Sunny San Diego for 2013 Reunion

*Submitted by Don Klimkowicz,
President, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association*

After a lot of searching and with the help of Arnold Gonzales and his father Joe, we have found a hotel for our 2013 reunion in San Diego, California! In order to accommodate work schedules for our family members who accompany their Deadeyes, we kept the reunion date to late July.



The reunion will be held from Friday, July 26, to Monday, July 29, but we may offer tours on Thursday, July 27, before the official reunion starts. The membership

voted on San Diego as their first choice and it was a real chore to find a hotel at this time of the year that could hit our budget, but we did. San Diego is a beautiful part of the country and offers some of the best places to see and to visit. You can take a boat tour on San Diego Bay, visit the world famous San Diego Zoo, visit Bazaar Del Mundo, the old town village with loads of shops, or the Embarcadero, which has a lot of shops and restaurants. How about an aircraft carrier tour? *San Diego has it!*

All these sites and the wonderful climate while catching up and enjoying time with your Deadeye buddies. We will publish all the reunion information in the Spring Dispatch. Don't miss this reunion – it's shaping up to be fantastic!



The blue Pacific and majestic mountains frame the San Diego skyline

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2012 Deadeye Reunion Attendees in Colorado Springs, Colorado last July

TAPS.....Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before Us

Oscar John Chapaton
Sterling Heights, MI
HQ Company, 383rd Infantry
July 9, 2009
by wife Jean

Alvin E. Cryder
Skiatook, OK
Company G, 383rd Infantry
September 18, 2009
by wife Betty Jo

George Custer
Fife Lake, MI
Company I, 383rd Infantry
March 19, 1985
by son Wayne

Clifford A. Green
Livonia, MI
Company H, 381st Infantry
February 13, 1996
by Lance Cpl. Evan Green

Richard G. Haglund
Steilacoom, WA
Company E, 381st Infantry
June 4, 2012
by Jim Black

Charles A. Kepp
Philadelphia, PA
Company E, 382nd Infantry
December 11, 2011
by Vernon Duncan

Allen A. Klenn
St. Joseph, MI
Company I, 381st Infantry
January, 2012
by Arden Pridgeojn

James W. Knoff
Bellefontaine, OH
96th Infantry Division
July 8, 2012
by Bill Cooper

Robert E. Kompf
October 31, 2010
96th Infantry Division
Syracuse, NY
by daughter, Linda Schoonmaker

Francis Kubnline
Shelton, WA
96th Infantry Division
November 19, 2011
by Joseph Kubnline

Lawrence C. Johnson
Company C, 321st Infantry
Naperville, IL
July 21, 2011
by son-in-law, Bob Gasperik

Jay Lavern Lampen
Hudsonville, IL
3rd Battalion, 393rd Infantry
January 19, 2010
by Donald Van Doornik

Stanley McKowage
Scranton, PA
763rd Tank Battalion
May 21, 2012
by son Michael

Alfred Olson
96th Infantry Division
May 4, 1994
by daughter Wanda

Melvin "Art" Parrish
Commerce City, CO
Company G, 382nd Infantry
January 4, 2012
by step-son-in-law Arnold

Franklin P. Rose
Company F, 382nd Infantry
Oak Harbor, OH
August 5, 2012
by Amanda Liske

Gordon Ryzenga
Company I, 381st Infantry
February 13, 2011
by Donald Van Doornik

Myron Sidlo
Menahga, MN
96th Infantry Division
February 28, 2012
by Nephew Daniel Yrjo

Celell Stephens
Mount Olive, AL
96th Infantry Division
Sept 24, 2010
by wife Blanch

Luis J. Strom
Bellevue, NE
96th Infantry Division
September 19, 2011
by son Eric

Frank E. Switzer
Danville, IL
Companies B and C, 383rd Infantry
July 19, 2012
by wife Sylvia

Andrew "Bud" Vogel
South Holland, IL
96th Infantry Division
February 24, 2011
by wife Evelyn



Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication
of the

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association

• Fall 2012 Edition •

Update your Address

For changing your address

Diane O'Brien
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI
54661-0034
ddbrien@triwest.net

Submit info to the Dispatch

Scott Buffington
c/o MainStreet Newspapers
PO Box 908
Jefferson, GA 30549
706-367-2485
scott@mainstreetnews.com

Deadeyes Online at
96thdeadeyes.org/

Watch our
web site
for updates
and changes

2012 reunion
photos
are on
pages 6 & 7

How to submit a name for Taps

Our Taps information comes from a variety of sources, including emails, notes from family and friends and returned mail from the U.S. Postal Service. We apologize for any information that may be incorrect or incomplete.

To submit a name for Taps, please contact one of the following:

Fran Huff
6320 Woodwind Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46217
Phone: 317 784-5174

Pat McMillan
Email: pmil45@yahoo.com
4402 Chapman AV
Springdale, AR 72762
Phone: 479-200-1841

Scott Buffington
Email: scott@mainstreetnews.com
PO Box 908
Jefferson, GA 30549
Phone: 706-367-2485

Don Dencker
Email: dizzydon@aol.com
128 N. Musket Ridge Dr
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
Phone: 608-837-7479

Deadeye Mailbag...*Letters from across the nation*

Congratulations, Colonel Jolly

Dear Editor:
Phil Jolly has been selected for promotion to the rank of Brigadier General and will be assigned as the commander of the Army Reserve Sustainment Command in Birmingham, Alabama. The good news is that Phil has been selected for a well deserved promotion and the bad news is that he will be leaving the 96th Sustainment Brigade to take on the new assignment.

Congratulations Colonel Jolly, and best wishes as you continue your Army career. We are all proud of you and we hope that you will stay part of the 96th family.

Sincerely,
Jim Collins
Vice President, 96th Infantry
Division Deadeye Association

Deadeye receives kind gesture in Oregon

Dear Editor:
Imagine my surprise in reading our Medford Mail Tribune on May 16, 2012, to see a letter to the Editor mentioning the 96th Division.

This was written by a daughter, Carol Yates, whose father was in that Division during WWII

I followed up with a phone call and talked to the gentleman, who is 91 years and lives here in Medford. He was in Cannon Company, 383rd Infantry, joining at Camp Adair, Corvallis, OR. Any buddies from that company could contact him at this address:

Evon "Bud" Pennington
587 Driftwood Place
Medford, OR 97504
(541) 734-0047

He was at two of the reunions many years ago, now has lost touch with the 96th, but as was mentioned in his daughter's letter, those WWII memories are a source of great pride.

Joyce Confer
Wife of Ben Confer, (deceased
January 16, 2012)

P.S. Scott, you might want to 'pull-up' the above mentioned letter from the daughter. I'm sure you can access this through the Mail Tribune, here in Medford.

(Below is the original letter to the editor from the Medford, Oregon Mail Tribune dated May 16, 2012)

Thanks for kind gesture

While shopping at the south Fred Meyer, my dad was handed a card by a gentleman. He told Dad someone had asked him to deliver it.

The card was a gift certificate along with a note thanking him for his military service. He served in the 96th Division during World War II and is a Purple Heart recipient. At 91 years old, he still tells the stories of that war as if they happened days ago. More often than not, he is seen sporting a hat to show his pride in service.

Your gift card and personal note meant more to him than you probably realized. Your thoughtful words are shown to everyone that enters his home. You have reminded me how much an acknowledgment means to our veterans, young and old.

From my family and myself, thank you.

Carol Yates, Medford, OR



Soldier's personal journal and Leyte documents discovered

Dear Editor,

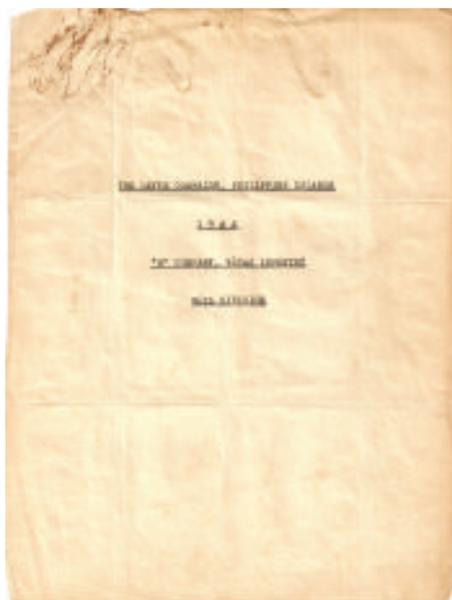
On April 14, 2012 my father-in-law, Joseph H. Nunan, Jr., sadly passed away.

He fought in Leyte and Okinawa with Company B, 382nd Infantry, 96th Infantry Division.

Being a veteran myself, he related many stories to me about the difficulties he encountered. These were stories never told to his wife of 65 years, nor to his daughter or son.

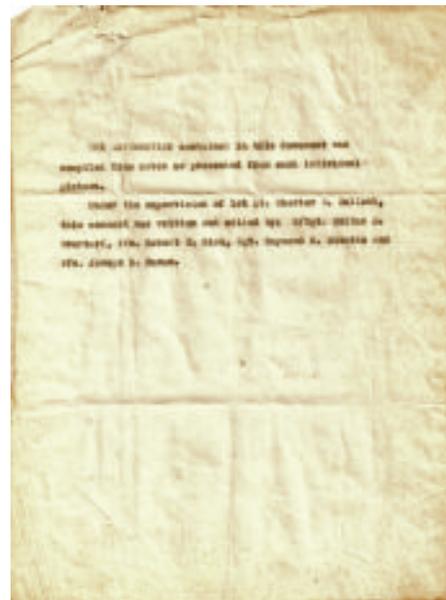
However, in going through his possessions this past week, his wife came upon a folder with approximately 35 typewritten pages. Enclosed also was an envelope with the address of the recipient - that address was to Joseph Nunan Sr. Interestingly, the address was Joseph senior's office address in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and not his home address.

The return address on the envelope was my father-in-law's name, rank, serial number, APO number, San Francisco, California.



The very interesting part of all this is the 35-page report (it looks like a second copy on onion skin paper). The report title is, "The Leyte Campaign, Philippine Islands, 1944, 'B' Company, 382nd Infantry, 96th Division'.

The first page of the report states, "The information contained in this document was compiled from notes as presented from each individual platoon. Under the supervision of 1st Lt. Chester W. Bullock, this account



was written and edited by: S/Sgt. Kellus D. Overturf, Pfc. Robert C. Rice, Sgt. Raymond A. Gientke and Pfc. Joseph H. Nunan." (Joseph H. Nunan being my father-in-law.)

The next 34 pages goes into what I consider to be understated, very descriptive day-by-day report of the campaign from boarding the ship "U.S.S. CAMBRIA" in Honolulu, the shipboard 'skuttlebutt', preparations for the landing, and the Leyte landings on October 20, 1944 of the

units attached to "XXIV Corps" and "X" Corps.

This entire report is single spaces, is in a very delicate condition (being approximately 67 years old) and ends abruptly in mid-sentence when reporting on the dates Nov 17-18-19-20.

I will be scanning the documents onto my computer for safe keeping - the originals being very delicate to handle except with the utmost of care.

I do not know if you are interested in the contents of this document.

If so, please let me know.

Regards,

William H. Smeck
Springfield, Pennsylvania

(Editor's Note: The Deadeye Dispatch will publish excerpts of Mr. Nunan's journal in this and in coming issues. The first installment is on page 9 of this issue.)



Deadeye News & History

2012 Colorado Springs Reunion Committee Chair Report

Submitted by
Annie Moroz Duncan

I am pleased to report that despite a few obstacles, the 55th Annual 96th Infantry Deadeye Association reunion was successfully held at the CrownePlaza Hotel in Colorado Springs in July 2012. Many individuals helped make this reunion a success. Don Klimkowicz was helpful throughout the year and especially at the reunion, helping with the tours and many other details. The hotel was accustomed to hosting groups of all size and was extremely responsive to any requests and last minute changes. A bulletin board in the registration area posted updates to members.

A special thank you to Diane O'Brien for the many hours she spent organizing the registrations. She rolled with the changes and did a beautiful job. The History Room proved to be a popular area once again; thank you to Don Dencker for his devotion and hard work. This year embroidered reunion t-shirts were available at \$13 per shirt, pre-ordered with registration.

Thank you to Joe Boyack for taking pictures at the reunion.

The reunion started Thursday, July 19, with a morning bus tour of nearby Manitou Springs, where members were given time to enjoy the town, with our terrific bus driver providing a slight detours to point out local attractions.

The Thursday evening tour was to a Sky Sox minor league baseball game, starting with a delicious barbeque buffet. The WWII Deadeyes were given a special introduction and hearty round of applause by those in attendance and our group was also visited by the team mascot to the

delight of all.

Friday, July 20, started with a tour to Fort Carson where we met Lt. Crystal Blohm and Lt. Evelyn Young as well as Capt. Joshua Echols, all members of the 423 rd Transportation Division who currently wear the double diamond patch.

The base tour included the opportunity for our members to enjoy a stop at the base's welcome center museum; a stop at the SSG Mark Lawton, 1st 96th RSC unit memorial; a ride-along in a humvee and a meal at the mess hall, for an economical \$5 per person.

The 423rd unit members enjoyed meeting our group. The afternoon tour to the Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Later Friday evening, members and 18 current soldiers joined the fun at the annual Beer Bust. This year's theme was "Happy New Year", and we were lucky to enjoy a visit with Father Time carrying Baby New Year.

All adults attending received a \$5 ticket for their first beer. Members also voted on their recommendation for next year's reunion site.

Saturday, July 21, began with the memorial service held at the hotel. Chaplin Glen Stewart did a wonderful job organizing the memorial service.

We were fortunate to have the El Jebel Shrine Pipe Band provide music. This group raises funds for the Shriner Hospitals and has played at previous Colorado memorial services. The soldiers of the 423rd attended the memorial service and also provided a color guard. Liz Moroz Harper was the keynote speaker, and she shared her

memories of "Lessons I have learned as the daughter of a Deadeye." After the memorial service the soldiers were encouraged to visit the History Room to the delight of all!

A delicious and fun Ladies' Luncheon was held in The Gardens, an open area of the hotel courtyard. Mary Eleanor Smith provided the program, "Costume Jewelry," which was presented by Becky Shumaker and Rachel Mushrush. Fond memories were shared by all in attendance.

A group picture of WWII Deadeyes was taken just before the cocktail hour. The El Jebel Shrine Pipe Band provided music for the cocktail hour and guests enjoyed browsing our merchandise table as well as bidding on costume jewelry donated by the ladies of the association in a silent auction for the benefit of the Deadeye Scholarship Fund. The silent auction raised \$237; our thanks to all who donated and participated.

Diane O'Brien did a terrific job organizing the banquet details. The banquet speaker was Col Phil Jolly who spoke about revitalizing the 96th Sustainment Brigade and the legacy of the Deadeyes.

A special presentation was made during the banquet by five current soldiers each portraying a Deadeye Medal of Honor winners - Seymour W. Terry, Beaufort T. Anderson, Clarence B. Craft, Edward J. Moskala, and Ova A. Kelley.

It was an inspiring and informative presentation. The members left with many happy memories and looking forward to more fun in San Diego, CA in 2013.

2012 Deadeye Reunion Attendees Held in Colorado Springs, Colorado

Joseph R. Becky, M.D.....	321st Engineers
Karel Knutson.....	261st FA Btry B
Val M. Heinrich.....	361st FA Service
Roman Klimkowicz.....	361st Btry B FA BN
Virgil (Bub) Simmons.....	381st 1st BN HQ
Louis Canedo.....	381st E Co
William C. Draper.....	381st E C Inf
Bob Siefert.....	381st E Co Inf
Richard Hageboeck.....	381st L Co Inf
Joe Gonzales.....	381st M Co
Russell Watts.....	382nd AT Co Inf
Paul Johnston.....	382nd F Co Inf
Edwin Wright.....	382nd K Co Inf
Kermit Ellis.....	382nd K Co Inf
Donald Dencker.....	382nd L Co Inf
Michael Moroz.....	382nd L Co Inf
Daryl Haerther.....	383rd A Co Inf
Jim Black.....	383rd B Co Inf
John Ryan.....	383rd C Co Inf
Orville Caspers.....	383rd G Co Inf
Glenn Stewart.....	383rd K Co
Raymond B. Strenski.....	383rd K Co Medic
Marvin Reames.....	383rd K Co
Howard Bantley.....	383rd 3rd BN HQ Inf
Nels Olsen.....	383rd 3rd BN HbC
Neil Groftefon.....	96 Div HQ Inf
Calvin Clements.....	96th Signal Company
MG(R) Jim Collins.....	HQS 96th RRC



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"It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome."

-- William James --

"Deadeye Ready"

Check out the
96th Sustainment Brigade Web Site at:
www.96thsbde.com



Deadeye News & History...

William Hill's WWII Honor Flight

Submitted by William Hill

Veterans, Deadeyes and close relatives of Deadeyes.

It was my pleasure to have taken a WWII Honor Flight to DC on the 10th of September. This was all free of charge and included all our meals. There were 79 vets from the Indianapolis area. We each had a chaperone to wheel us around. We arrived in DC around noon and made three stops in three busses.

Our crew placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in an impressive ceremony.

The WWII Monument is at least 100 yards wide and with several columns with wreaths on each side, and impressive in detail, bronze and water flowing. One area had a star for each 1000 that died in the service of our country.

We were met at the Baltimore airport by an Army General, and inside the terminal by Naval Officers. On our return to home base at the National

Guard Armory we were met by hundreds of well wishers and patriotic people.

One of the assistants on the flight stepped up in front of us on the flight back and asked us what we wanted from home during the war the most. He then announced that they had "mail from home", and began calling our names out, just like they did in WWII on each far away country, base, and ship at sea.

It was a great experience receiving all those heart-felt messages, those coming from our loved ones; from children, and those who wanted to convey your feelings of gratitude. I had my chaperone Paige Wages with me at my side as I opened and read each one. I put all the cards on our fire-place for a collage for all to see.

To the right is a picture of us old codgers in our wheel chairs getting ready for group picture.

This expression is a sample of the greater part of us as



Americans; grateful for the sacrifices made by those who ahead of us who protected us who helped to preserve the American dream so precious to all us, flying in the face of our present blatant differences.

I too am grateful. I am very thankful that I was so honored. It was great.

I will soon have my complete story on the website, www.rememberthedeadeyes.com.

Indy Honor flight can also be found on the internet for a much larger perspective. It is



my understanding that we will be receiving a DVD of the trip. I will write my story soon.

You may wish to visit the Honor Flight website to learn more as it is posted: www.indyhonorflight.org.

*William Hill is a
96th Infantry
veteran and was on
Okinawa in 1945.*

REMEMBER THE DEADEYES



Submitted by William Hill

Be sure to go and visit the other Deadeye website. www.rememberthedeadeyes.com.

Here you will find several items of interest to WWII and present day Deadeyes, and their families.

For an example, the links page has over 30 links to all kinds of information, including the very important link present day Deadeyes soon to be in Kuwait. (They present a very interesting newsletter.)

The leadoff legacy article gives credit to all the dedicated and hard working men and women of our own Division Deadeye Association, and members of the Readiness Command who have been tirelessly working behind the scenes preserving our camaraderie, with our reunions, and putting memorials all over the country.

Donald Dencker has provided us with all the statistics of the sacrifices our men made, as a lead in page of information we should always remember. A synopsis of our

military awards follows his excellent critique.

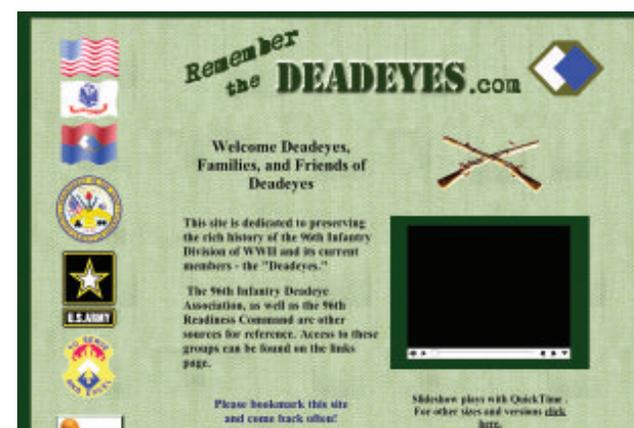
We have a section devoted to all the stories of our Medal of our Honor earners.

On the stories page are twelve excellently written personal stories of WWII, and seven tributes of the deceased are on the Tribute section. We even have a tribute to the US Navy who served us all so well in WWII.

General Buckner, the commanding general of the battle of Okinawa was killed in one of the last days of the battle. We have one of the best collections of his colorful life and his family in the country for your viewing.

References to Fifteen history books tell of our Deadeyes on the publications page. Pass this list on to others in your family.

You may find interesting a list of military terms used in WWII on the glossary page. We have few poems and several other smaller items on other pages, also a bookmark and chaplain cards to download.



On the extras section are many items for younger readers, including who kilroy was. These are included to encourage younger generations to engage and remember what happened in WWII.

This site was created four years ago, is funded and will be maintained into the future for many years by my daughter who is dedicated to keep the legacy of the Deadeyes in the public eye.

The 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Scenes from the July, 2012 Reunion in Colorado Springs, Colorado





Deadeye News & History...



Heritage Fund Update

Submitted by
MG(Ret) Jim Collins

The Heritage Fund has been established now for over a year. There have been some new members as well as donations however we have a long way to go and I need your help. This year we have used the Fund to pay for a new Memorial Plaque at the Nimitz Museum for the War in the Pacific. The Plaque was dedicated on 1 April this year at the Museum in Texas. We have also provided monetary assistance to a soldier in the 96th Sustainment Brigade and we have sent money to the City of Dulag on the Phillipine Island of Leyte to repair a 96th monument. During the next five years we are going to have an opportunity to support the new US Army Museum to be built near Wash DC. I believe we can tie our contributions to a display for the 96th Infantry Division. To do so we will need to have much more funding than what we have now.

I have received interest in providing a donation/gift to the 96th in a persons Will. There are other methods for provid-

ing donations including an endowment or an outright gift with or without restrictions. If anyone has an interest in doing this please contact me at jimcollins96@sbcglobal.net .

The Heritage Fund was established to serve our Association by providing a way to make tax deductible donations in support of preserving our history and assisting families of 96th Soldiers still on duty.

We can develop a virtual history using our web site to capture the stories of our soldiers and photos. This is a significant effort and so we need financial support to do this.

Please consider becoming a member of the Heritage Fund:

Associate Member: \$25
Sustaining Member: \$50
Sustaining Member - Silver: \$100
Sustaining Member - Gold: \$250 or more

Send your check to: 96th Infantry Division Heritage Fund, Attn: Dennis O'Brien, P.O. Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661



Hershey's Chocolate and the war effort

Submitted by Don Dencker

Chocolate produced mainly by the Hershey Company was a familiar staple in US rations during World War II. It came mainly as three individually wrapped, four-ounce rectangular slabs intended more as an emergency ration than a confectioner's treat. Referred to originally as the Logan bar after Colonel Paul Logan, the Army Quartermaster officer who commissioned its production by Hershey in 1937, it became known as the D ration among the millions of GI's who chomped on it, melted it down, shaved it into bits with their P38's or bayonet, traded it, or tossed it to begging urchins throughout Italy and France.

In 1937, Logan foresaw the need for expanded production of the ration and contacted Hershey officials to discuss what he felt would satisfy Army needs. He did not want a survival bar that tasted too good for fear that troops would eat it casually rather than carry it until an emergency arose. Accordingly, he told Hershey representatives that he wanted a bar that weighed four ounces, was high in food energy value, could withstand high temperatures, and tasted just "a

little better than a boiled potato."

Hershey adjusted its production methods to satisfy Logan's requirements, coming up with a thick hard slab of dark chocolate that withstood 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Three of the 600 calorie, four-ounce bars were individually wrapped in foil and collectively sealed as a daily emergency ration that met the 1,800 calorie minimum sustenance requirement.

Hershey filled an order for 90,000 of the D Rations and the Army field tested them during the remainder of 1937 along the Texas border and in the Philippines and Panama. While the rations proved highly portable and had the highest caloric content possible in the smallest package, they were never as popular with the troops as the commercially produced Hershey bars. Still, they met the Army's expectations. Second Lieutenant Ernest Childers, who earned the Medal of Honor while fighting in Italy, noted in an interview, "These rations (D rations) are welcome after hard fighting. In a running battle where action is intense and the men are standing by their guns, packaged rations furnish the only

possible food supply."

In 1943, Hershey was asked to produce a better-tasting chocolate bar that could withstand the extreme heat of the Pacific Theater. The result was the one-ounce and two-ounce sized Tropical Bars that were packaged along with K Rations and by war's end had replaced the Logan Bar. Although the Tropical Bar was sweeter and much more akin in shape to a normal chocolate bar, there's much anecdotal evidence that the troops didn't find its tasted any more satisfying than the Logan. Nonetheless, it's been estimated that during 1940-1945, Hershey produced and distributed over three billion D Rations an Tropical Bar units for our forces around the world.

Veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars will probably recall the Hershey Tropical Bar s part of the sundry pack included with their rations. Later, Desert Shield and Desert Storm warriors were treated to an experimental 144,000 unit run of Hershey's Desert Bar. Today's troops Meals Read to Eat (MRE's) include the Hooah Bar, a nutrition dense energy snack in various flavors.



Deadeye News & History

Update on the Deadeyes of Today by Don Dencker

Since DesertStorm and the liberation of Kuwait, Army Reserve Units wearing the double diamond patch of the World War II 96th Infantry Division, have served our country in foreign locations. I remember with pride after DesertStorm, double diamond patch soldiers parading down a main street in New York City.

The 96th Sustainment Brigade, under the command of Col. Phillip Jolly, recently served a tour of duty in Iraq. Col. Jolly, a director in the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association, has recently been promoted to a new command.

The 191st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion from Fort Douglas,

Salt Lake City, Utah is now serving a tour of duty at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait. This double diamond unit is under the command of Lt. Col. James Groark who is also a director of our Association. *(Photo #1)*

The 191st has taken over the base that holds most of the Army equipment and supplies removed from Iraq. It is responsible for the care and shipment for reutilization of these useful materials. The magnitude of this responsibility is illustrated by the photo of one of their large warehouse storage facilities. *(Photo #2)*

The 191st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion was called to active duty last spring, trained for

their mission at the Army's North Camp Hood, Texas and arrived in Kuwait at the beginning of August 2012. They officially assumed control of their logistic mission in Kuwait on August 7, 2012 from the 728th CSSB. *(Photo #3)*

Another small unit overseas bearing the double diamond patch is the 421st Quartermaster Detachment, based in Qatar. They are parachute riggers and have done an outstanding job air dropping supplies in Afghanistan. *(Photo #4)*

All Deadeyes are proud of Army Reserve Units doing their part in the War on Terror.



1



2



3



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Leyte Report: Part I

This is the first in a series of a war report found in the documents of Joseph H. Nunan, Jr. (see letter on page 3). Mr. Nunan fought in Leyte and Okinawa with Co. B, 382nd Infantry, 96th Infantry Division.

We knew that time for which we had spent countless days and months in training was close at hand when we walked up the gangplank and boarded the "U.S.S. CAMBRIA" in Honolulu Harbor. The morale was high in anticipation of our pending operation, rumors were flying thick and fast, sums were wagered, and odds were given. Where would we hit? That was the thought foremost in everyone's mind. At last we were relieved when we learned that we would be told what our objective was after three days at sea.

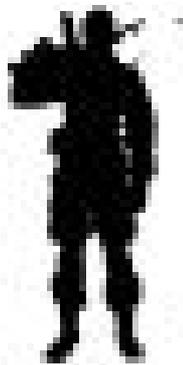
The first days were spent in stowing equipment and making ourselves as comfortable as possible, for we knew we had a long voyage ahead. Finally that third day arrived. Our first knowledge of the objective came by the way of latrine rumor. It was Yap!! Immediately there was a scramble and a mad rush which practically mobbed the company commander for confirmation of this rumor. After the rumor had been confirmed, a sigh of relief was breathed. The next questions in

our minds were: Where is Yap located? How far is it? Is the island big or small? Is it mountainous? These and a thousand other questions were filtering through our minds. We soon learned that all these questions had been carefully answered in field orders, maps, and other documents.

Life aboard ship immediately settled down to the task of each individual leaning as much about the operation as possible. We knew this job was ours and the more each of us knew the better the chances for a successful operation. This was accompanied by the usual harassing agents which accompany such a voyage: Keep off the life line, stay off the hatches, stay out of the VP's, wear your jackets, keep the aisles clear, daily inspections and countless other do's and don't's lent a hand to lowering morale and making the blood boil. We called it chicken, pointless, useless and senseless. This was our chief subject at our bitch sessions.



Deadeye News & History...



The Warrior's Code of Honor

*Author Unknown
Submitted by William Hill*

As a wounded combat veteran in one of America's wars, I offer to speak for those who cannot. Were the mouths of my fallen front-line friends not stopped with dust, they would testify that life revolves around honor.

In war, it is understood that you give your word of honor to do your duty – that is – stand and fight instead of running away and deserting your friends.

When you keep your word despite desperately desiring to flee the screaming hell all around, you earn honor.

Earning honor under fire changes who you are.

The blast furnace of battle burns away impurities encrusting your soul.

The white-hot forge of combat hammers you into a hardened, purified warrior willing to die rather than break your word to friends – your honor.

Combat is scary but exciting.

You never feel so alive as when being shot at without result.

You never feel so triumphant as when shooting back – with result.

You never feel love so pure as

that burned into your heart by friends willing to die to keep their word to you..... And they do.

The biggest sadness of your life is to see friends falling. The biggest surprise of your life is to survive the war.

Although still alive on the outside, you are dead inside – shot thru the heart with nonsensical guilt for living while friends died.

The biggest lie of your life torments you that you could have done something more, different, to save them.

Their faces are the tombstones in your weeping eyes, their souls shine the true camaraderie you search for the rest of your life but never find.

You live a different world now. You always will.

Your world is about waking up night after night silently screaming, back in battle.

Your world is about your best friend bleeding to death in your arms, howling in pain for you to kill him.

Your world is about shooting so many enemies the gun turns red and jams, letting the enemy grab you.

Your world is about struggling hand-to-hand for one more breath of life.

You never speak of your world.

Those who have seen combat do not talk about it. Those who talk about it have not seen combat.

You come home but a grim ghost of he who so lightheartedly went off to war.

But home no longer exists. That world shattered like a

mirror the first time you were shot at.

The splintering glass of everything you knew fell at your feet, revealing what was standing behind it – grinning death – and you are face to face, nose to nose with it!

The shock was so great that the boy you were died of fright.

He was replaced by a stranger who slipped into your body, a MAN from the Warrior's World.

In that savage place, you give your word of honor to dance with death instead of run away from it.

This suicidal waltz is known as: "doing your duty."

You did your duty, survived the dance, and returned home. But not all of you came back to the civilian world.

Your heart and mind are still in the Warrior's World, far beyond the Sun.

They will always be in the Warrior's World. They will never leave, they are buried there.

In that hallowed home of honor, life is about keeping your word.

•••••

Okinawa Mud

*By Tom Martin
Shawneetown, Illinois*

"I hear they're doing a tour or two, of hills taken, battles won, lost, fought to a draw." I remember telling Dad that.

"Wanna do a Pacific tour or two, of hills taken, battles won, lost, fought to a draw?" "Why in hell would I want to do that?"

His sharp reply was to the point, yet not unexpected. There would be no tour or two, taken, no commemorative climb on ancient legs, up ancient hills, soaked in the sacrament of yesterday's blood.

Kakazu, Conical, Maeda, obscure names left for the history books, quite different from those consecrated by the war weary infantry.

"Grable's tit" and "The Iron Claw", covered in parking lots and condos, a desecration of hallowed ground.

No need to resurrect a memory or two, hidden there. You cannot resurrect, what was never laid to rest.



Unnamed Poem

*By Spc. Matthew D. Johnson
Human Resource Specialist
191st CSSB in Kuwait*

Submitted by William Hill

Soldiers of noble purpose and heart, move over sea's to do their part.

Leaving their families is not fun, but they'll do their part till their parts done.

Serving their country and manning their station. Bringing honor to family and pride to our nation.

They'll stand out front, Ghost Riders are steady. I promise you this, these Deadeyes are ready!

TRAVLIN' MAN!

Quotes & Stuff for Deadeyes

All journeys have secret destinations of which the traveler is unaware.

- Martin Buber

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

A man of ordinary talent will always be ordinary, whether he travels or not; but a man of superior talent will go to pieces if he remains forever in the same place.

- Wolfgang Mozart

If you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much space.

- Unknkown

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.

- Lao Tzu

Not all those who wander are lost.

- J. R. R. Tolkien

When you're traveling, you are what you are right there and then. People don't have your past to hold against you. No yesterdays on the road."

- William Least Heat Moon

Bizarre travel plans are dancing lessons from God.

- Kurt Vonnegut

Once in a while it really hits people that they don't have to experience the world in the way they have been told to.

- Alan Keightley

Without new experiences, something inside of us sleeps. The sleeper must awaken.

- Frank Herbert

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association

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Deadeye Dispatch Change of Address Form

Clip and mail to:

Diane O'Brien, PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034 or email to ddobrien@triwest.net

OLD ADDRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

NEW ADDRESS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

**Now is the time to...
 Join the Deadeyes!**

96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Membership Application

Membership is open to 96th Infantry Division "Deadeyes", their families, friends and members of the general public who support and are interested in promoting and perpetuating the legacy of the 96th Infantry Division from its beginning in World War I up to the present day 96th Sustainment Brigade.

MEMBERSHIP DUES			
<i>Those that previously served in the 96th DIV/ARCOM/RSC/RRC and are not currently assigned to a unit:</i>			
1 year.....	\$18	2 years.....	\$34
		3 years.....	\$48
<i>Those currently assigned to a unit in the 96th Sustainment Brigade or those assigned to another command that previously served in the 96th Sustainment Brigade:</i>			
1 year.....	\$8 (yearly renewals are the same amount)		
<i>Family members or friends of former 96th Soldiers (WWII or Desert Storm):</i>			
1 year.....	\$10 (yearly renewals are the same amount)		

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

(Detach and return with Payment)

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

Please check one of the following that represents your status:

- 96th Veteran - Previously served in the 96th Div/ARCOM/RSC/RRC
- Current member of a 96th unit
- Prior service in a 96th unit and still on duty
- Family/Friend of the 96th

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$ _____

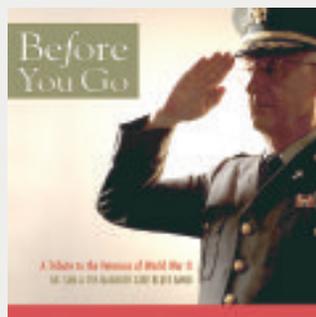
DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to : 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association
Mail application to:
 Dennis O'Brien
 PO Box 34
 Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034

96TH INFANTRY DEADEYE ASSN. ITEMS

Coming Soon..... These and other items will be available at 96thdeadeyes.org!



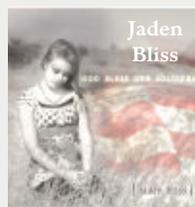
"Before You Go"

A Tribute to WWII Veterans

www.managedmusic.com

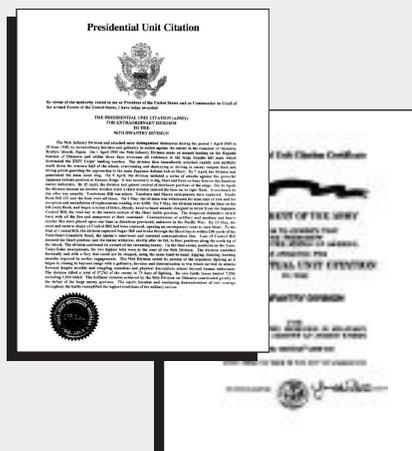
Check out this touching tribute to the veterans of World War II. The song can be purchased from the web site or by calling Managed Music toll-free at 1-888-426-7529. Their address is Managed Music, 6 NE Fisher Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33483.

Bless Our Soldiers



Jaden sang at the Dining Out in Salt Lake City

Jaden's CD, God Bless Our Soldiers Tonight, can be ordered online (blessoursoldiers.com) through PayPal for \$10 plus shipping and handling. Or call toll-free 1-888-893-7193.



96TH Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

Two color photo copies: Presidential Unit Citation Certificate and Presidential Unit Citation Text
Cost is \$5.00 per set of two, postage paid

Also available: Philippines Presidential Unit Citation. One page, black & white.
Cost is \$1.50, postage paid.

Make check to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

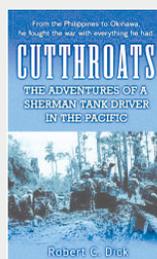


Deadeye Caps

(above art not an exact depiction)

Cost: \$10

To obtain a new 96th Infantry cap, please send your mailing information, along with your check for \$10 payable to Douglas Burton, 11279 S. Fowler Ave., Selma, CA 93682-9619

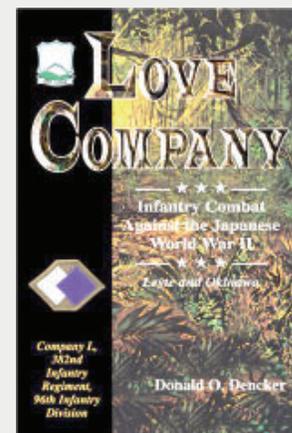


Cutthroats

The Adventures of a Sherman Tank Driver in the Pacific

By Robert C. Dick, Co. C.
763rd Tank Battalion,
96th Infantry Division

Available at
Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com



Love Company Book

Author Don Dencker has sale copies of *Love Company* for \$14.00, postage paid. In this 355 page book, there are 100 photographs, maps, drawings and documents. The regular retail price of *Love Company* is \$19.95. Royalties from the sale of this book go to the 96th Infantry Deadeye Assn.

To purchase *Love Company*, send a \$14.00 check made out to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

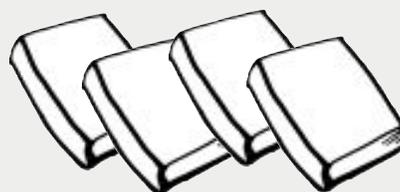


Get the Dispatch CD by mail

With this CD and any Windows or Mac computer, you can search, read and print every issue of the Deadeye Dispatch that was published by the 96th Infantry Division Association, from the first issue in 1964 to the last in 2005. The index helps you to find stories of special interest, or you can just browse.

In addition, the CD contains three issues of the original Deadeye Dispatch, that were published in Leyte. And an article from the 1947 Saturday Evening Post, "The Alley Fighters of the 96th", is also included.

Order the record of the division's history from Marvin Margoshes, 25 Maple Ave., #3B, Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706. The cost is \$10 for each CD, plus handling and shipping of \$3 for the first CD and \$1 for each additional one sent to the same address. Include your email address or phone number. Make checks or money orders to 96th Infantry Deadeye Assn. All profits go to the Association.



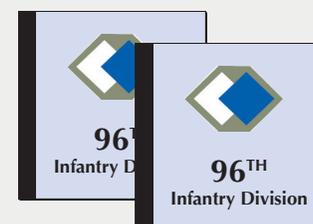
New WWII Book

A WWII book that will feature Deadeye stories is being compiled by Ed Phillips. He can be reached at: 14111 Capital Blvd. Wake Forest, NC 27587. He can be reached by phone at 919 554 7870 or by internet: mailto:ephillips3@hotmail.com



Words of Wartime Memories America and Abroad

Just off the press is a hard back 384 page anthology, *Words of Wartime Memories America and Abroad (Volume 3)*, published by Park Tudor School, a distinguished college prep school in Indianapolis. Included are twenty-three pages of narratives taken from video interviews of Deadeyes from central Indiana. The anthology also includes stories from the Civil War, The Philippine American War, The Mexican Border War, WWI and WWII. These stories were extracted from diaries, journals and unpublished letters from men and women. Order by check to: Park Tudor School, Kathryn W. Lerch 7200 N. College Avenue. Indianapolis, IN 46240. Single copy is \$22.00 plus \$6.00 shipping. Mention Volume 3.



96TH Infantry Division CD's

Cost is \$10 each

All visual - no audio.

All income above CD cost and mailing to go to the Deadeye Association Monument Fund

CD #1:
Battle of Leyte (73 screens)

CD #2:
Battle of Okinawa (91 screens)

CD #3:
Training in the US and Hawaii, Mindoro Island and return to the US and disbandment (86 screens)

CD #4: NEW!!
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(Revised-April, 2007)