

1949 MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY 1954

PERMANENTLY ATTACHED

5th Infantry Regiment

19th Combat Inf. Bn. (Philippines)

1st Bn. 62nd ROKA Inf. Regt.

555th Field Artillery Bn.

955th F.A. Bn.

Three Btrys./ 155mm Howitzers

53rd Counter Fire Platoon

2nd Plat. C Btry. 26th, AAA, AW, Bn. (SP)

2nd Plat. D Btry. 145th, AAA, AW, Bn, 45th Div.

740th Ord. Co. 40th Inf. Div.

Heavy Mortar Co.

Hvy. Mtr. Co. 20th ROKA Div.

5th Tank Company

1st Plat. Co. D 6th Med. Tank Bn.

5th Medical Company

Co. D 3rd Plat. Ambulance Co.

25th Medical Bn.

1st Plat. 568th Ambulance Co.

52nd Ambulance Bn.

72nd Combat Engineers

Co. D 3rd Combat Engrs.

724th Ordinance Section

2nd Platoon 92nd Engineer Searchlight Co.

5th RCT Light Aviation Sec.

Tactical Air Controller "T.A.C."

TEMPORARILY ATTACHED

10-11 August 50-Bloody Gulch

A Btry. 90th F.A. Bn. 25th Div.

One Btry./ 155mm Howitzers

12-14 Aug B&C Btry 159th F.A. Bn

105mm Howitzers

Sept. 50 C. Co. 70th Tank Bn.

Jan. 51 A Co. 72nd Tank Bn.

B Co. 2nd Chemical Mtr. Bn.

52nd F.A. Bn.

25 April 1951 – Death Valley

955th F.A. Bn.

8th Ranger Co. 24th Div.

Co. D 6th Tank Bn.

14 October 51

1st & 2nd Bn. 21st Inf. Regt. 24th Div.

February 1952

3rd RCT Bn 27th Inf. Regt. 25th Div.

24 June-1 July 1952

4th Plt. 14th Tank Co.

1 July 1952

3rd Plt. D Co. 89th Tank Bn.

23 Jan 51-July-October 1952

42nd Scout Dog Platoon

26th Inf. Regt. 1st Div.

Spring 1953

Tank Co. 180th Reg. 45th Div.

11-14 June Outpost Harry 1953

14-15 June 53

3rd Recon. Co. 3rd Inf. Div.

14 July 53

Hvy. Mtr. Co. 179th Inf. 45th Div.

17-18 July 53

Co. A 14 Bn. Combat Team 45th Div.

18 July 53

2nd Bn. 180 Inf. Regt. 45th Div.

25-28 July 53

3rd Bn. 180th Inf. 45th Div.

KOREAN 25 June 50 ★★ Campaign Streamers ★★ 27 July 53 WAR

Battle Stars

AIR OBSERVATION SECTION

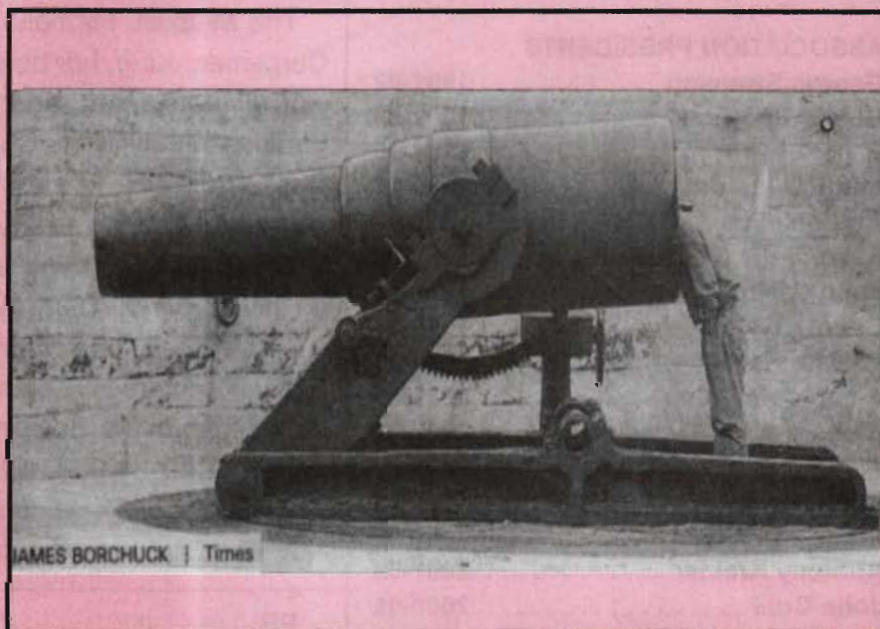
The Official Newsletter of the

5th Regimental Combat Team Association

Volume XXIII, No. 4

Oct/Nov/Dec 2012

The Queen's Thunder



JAMES BORCHUCK | Times

Killed in Action 949

Wounded in Action 3,188

Taken as Prisoners of War 151

Missing in Action 86

2 Medal of Honor Recipients

34 Distinguished Service Cross

408 Silver Star w/Valor Device

7 Legion of Merit

1390 Bronze Star w/Valor Device

5 Soldiers Medal

Presidential Unit Citation (Army)

Streamer Embroidered Chin Ju

Distinguished Unit Citation

9-13 August 1950

3rd Battalion 5th Inf. & Attached Units

3rd Platoon Tank Co. 5th Inf.

3rd Platoon Medical Co. 5th Inf.

2nd Platoon 72nd Engineer Co. C

555 F.A. Liaison Party

25 May 51 – Captured 1,268

C.C.F. POWs

Distinguished Unit Citation

12-13 June 1953

Co. A 5th Inf. Regt. 5th RCT & Attached Units

1st Sec. Machine Gun Plat. Co D 5th RCT

2nd Sec. Machine Gun Plat. Co.D 5th R.C.T.

F.O. Team 555 F.A. Bn. 5th RCT

72nd Engineer Co. C 5th RCT

Republic of Korea Presidential

Unit Citations Streamer Embroidered

Korea 1950-52,-1950, 53,-1952-54



Battle Stars

The Official Newsletter of the 5th
Regimental Combat Team Association
The cost of subscription is included as
part of annual dues paid by members.

PUBLISHED Quarterly

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Editor Hugh W. Ruckdeschel

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info@treasureislandchamber.org
http://www.treasureislandchamber.org/

Al McAdoo Assoc. Founder 5 Mar. 1990

ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

George Swanson	1991-92
Guy E. See	1992-94
Elvie P. Heiney	1994-95
Louis G. Sardina	1995-96
Anthony Polemeni	1996-97
Raymond J. Warner	1997-98
John C. Howard	1998-99
George Waugh	1999-20
William Kane	2000-01
Albert J. McAdoo	2001-02
Richard A. Gonzales	2002-03
Wm. R. "Bill" Coulson	2003-05
Paul Yesensky	2005-06
Frank Jennings	2006-07
Anthony Kreiner	2007-08
John Crail	2008-09
Doug Crowell	2009-10
Frank Jennings	2010-11
Patrick W. Burke	2011-12
John O. "Jack" Stinson	2012-13

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From Your Editor

The color chosen for the Newsletter will rotate monthly to honor the various service branches. Pictures, when available, will do the same.

The front cover will include information about the 5th and attached units. The back cover will include information about who we were attached to in sequence as that information becomes available.

Infantry. Light blue. The Queen of Battle. The Infantrymen are the Pawns, her sons in baby blue. Ground Pounders.

Artillery. Red. The Queen's Thunder when all turns red. The Artillerymen are Bishops, her umbilical cord to her sons. Red Legs.

Tankers. Yellow. The Queen's Terrible Swift Sword. Armored Cavalrymen, Knights, her wrath. Iron Horsemen.

The Medical. Maroon. The Queen's Guardian Angels of All. Corpsmen, King, her heart and soul. Doc.

Engineers. Red and white checkerboard. The Queen's Fortification Builders. Combat Engineers, Rooks, her wisdom. Castle Builders.

Headquarters. The Queen's rein. Headquarters Personnel, Chess Board, her mind and intelligence. Desk Jockeys. HQ will be inclusive in all branches of service.

All material in this Newsletter is submitted by members, the Editor, or interested persons. **No advertising, political, or other materials not pertaining to this Newsletters time frame 1949 – 1954.** Will not be put to print, but retained in the Editorial Files! The Editor should receive information for Oct., Nov. and Dec. Issue by the second week in Sept.

PS:

This is the second issue into my seventeenth year, Jan is coming fast! "I'll Try Sir"

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Sincerely,



About the Cover: See page 4 Bottom

Assoc. Officers 2012 2013.

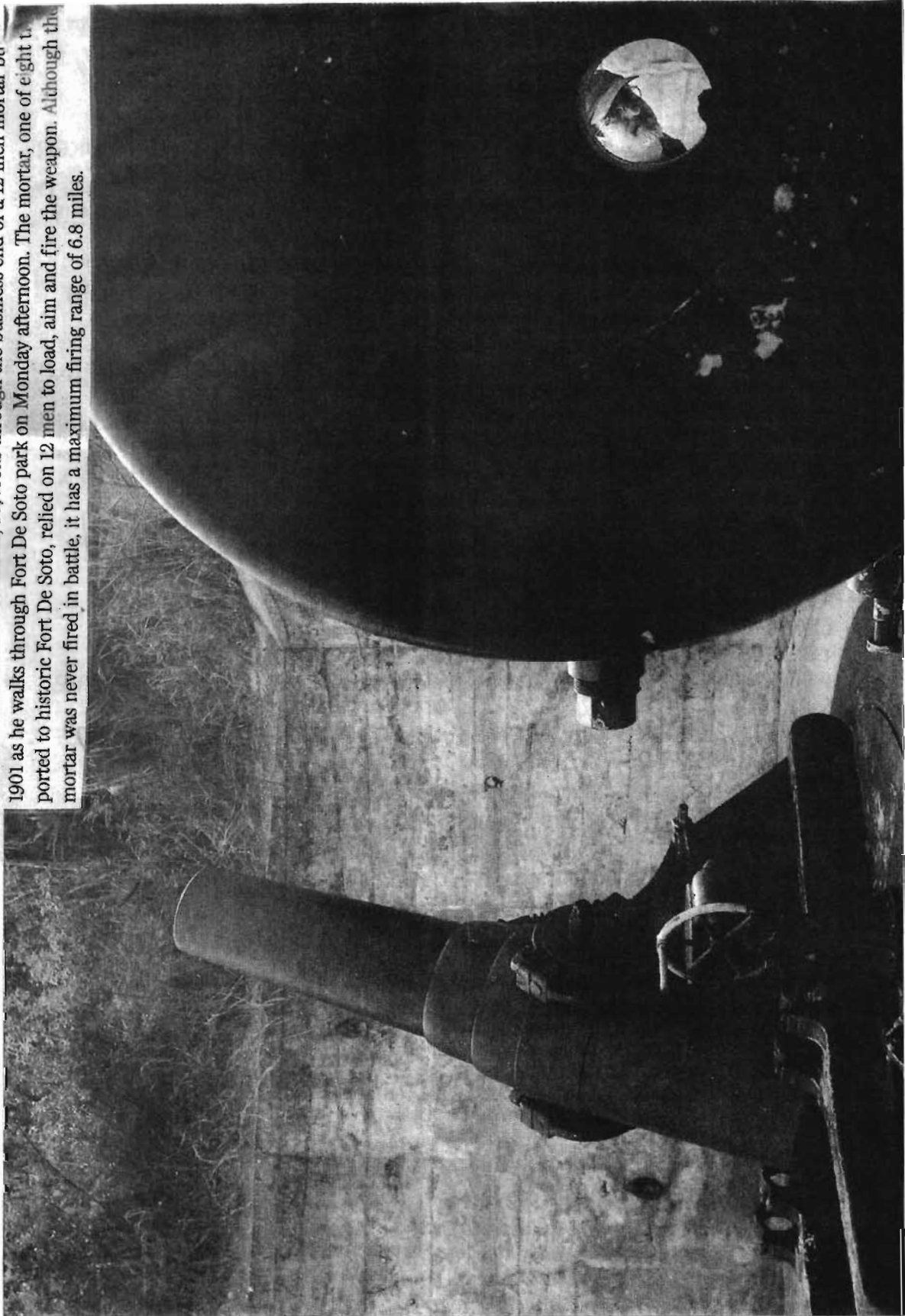
PAST EDITORS

Dick Lewis	1989
Albert J. McAdoo	1990-91
Arlen Russell	1992-96
Hugh Ruckdeschel	June 1996-2012

© 1996-2012 Battle Stars

Historic weaponry

6 WILLIE J. ALLEN JR. | T
Houston resident Russ Williams, 50, looks through the business end of a 12-inch mortar built in 1901 as he walks through Fort De Soto park on Monday afternoon. The mortar, one of eight transported to historic Fort De Soto, relied on 12 men to load, aim and fire the weapon. Although the mortar was never fired in battle, it has a maximum firing range of 6.8 miles.



From The Editor

From The Sec/Treas



5TH R.C.T. ASSOCIATION



P. O. Box 410337 – Melbourne, FL 32941-0337

DEAR MEMBERS, NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

SINCE I HAVE BEEN ON THE JOB FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW, I WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON A COUPLE OF CALLS THAT I HAVE RECEIVED.

1. RUCK DOES A GREAT JOB AS EDITOR OF OUR "BATTLE STARS" NEWSLETTER, HOWEVER I WOULD LIKE TO READ MORE ARTICLES ABOUT THE STORIES OF THE WAR AND BY THOSE WHO SERVED.

SO WRITE AN ARTICLE, SEND IN OLD PICTURES, SEARCH FOR LONG LOST BUDDIES. LOOK FOR INFORMATION FROM THE TIME YOU SERVED. RUCK DOES NOT WRITE ALL OF THE STORIES, HE PUBLISHES THE ARTICLES WHICH ARE SENT TO HIM BY MEMBERS. WE HAVE 32 PAGES TO FILL EACH PUBLICATION, SO SEND RUCK SOMETHING INTERESTING TO OTHER VETERANS.

2. ANOTHER COMMENT THAT I HAVE HEARD IS "I NEVER CAN FIND ANY MEN THAT I SERVED WITH". WELL, START ATTENDING THE REUNIONS AND BECOME MORE ACTIVE WITH THE ASSOCIATION. LIKE ME!!! MAKE NEW FRIENDS, REMEMBER...WE ALL SERVED TOGETHER IN THE 5TH RCT. SO GET BUSY AND KEEP THIS ASSOCIATION ALIVE. ONLY WITH YOUR ACTIONS WILL WE SURVIVE.

3. I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME REUNIONS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, SO TALK TO YOUR BUDDIES, SCOUT OUT YOUR AREA, AND COME TO THE NEXT REUNION AND MAKE A PRESENTATION FOR YOU TO HAVE A REUNION IN YOUR AREA. COME WITH DATES, HOTEL INFO AND COSTS, ETC.

It is time to start gathering items for the auction.

Ladies Auction Friday May 17th -3:00pm

Retha Crail, Ladies Auction Chair

SINCERELY,

About the cover:

Frank Jennings

Photo by TOM GERMOND

This 6-inch Rapid Fire Armstrong Rifle, a cannon at Fort De Soto, was purchased from England in 1898 because the United States did not have the capability to produce a small, rapid fire weapon for the defense of its principal harbors. The advent of the Spanish-American War brought about the need for such weapons in this area due to the close proximity of Cuba to Florida, according to park marker.

front St. Petersburg Times | Monday, December 28, 2009 | 3B

PEEKING AT HISTORY: On vacation, Bill Spence of Virginia Beach peers deep inside a 12-inch seacoast mortar at Battery Laidley at Fort De Soto Park on Sunday afternoon. Spence visited Pinellas Coun-

ty's largest park, where the annual attendance averages more than 2.7 million visitors. The 12-inch mortar battery, located at the fort for which the park was named, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

From the Secretary - Treasurer



5TH R.C.T. ASSOCIATION



P. O. Box 410337 - Melbourne, FL 32941-0337

FLORIDA MINI-REUNION 2012

MANY THANKS TO HELEN KANE AND TONY POLEMI FOR ALL THEIR EFFORTS IN HAVING THE FLORIDA MINI-REUNIONS FOR THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO HAVE ANY MORE, DUE TO THE POOR ATTENDANCE OF THE LAST REUNION NOVEMBER 1-4 AT ST AUGUSTINE, FL. ATTACHED IS A PICTURE OF THE FAITHFUL FEW THAT DID ATTEND.

I'LL TRY SIR,

FRANK JENNINGS

SECRETARY /
TREASURER



RUCK,

10-09-2012

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE 5TH RCT MINI-REUNION IN BRANSON, MO., I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT "A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL", THERE WERE 43 VETERAN ATTENDEES.

WE KNOW THAT THERE WERE A FEW CANCELLATIONS, HOWEVER WE HAD A FAIR AMOUNT OF MEMBERS THERE,

ONE NIGHT AS A GROUP, WE WENT TO GOLDEN CORRAL TO SEE BARBARA FAIRCHILD WHILE ENJOYING DINNER. THEN ONE NIGHT WE WENT TO A PRIVATE CONCERT BY A CAJUN BAND WHO WERE WONDERFUL AND PUT ON A 2 HOUR SHOW...JUST FOR THE 5TH RCT.

MANY THANKS TO TOM AND MARGIE SUNNY, MARVIN AND DELLA HOUSE, JAY AND RETHA CRAIL AND ERLENE PHILPOT FOR ALL OF THE HARD WORK AND EFFORT THAT MAKES THIS REUNION A GREAT GET TO GETHER.

WE HAD LOTS OF GOOD FOOD. MANY CONTRIBUTED MONEY TO PURCHASE THE FOOD, OTHER BOUGHT FOOD AND MANY BROUGHT FOOD FROM HOME, LIKE THE WALTERS WHO BROUGHT A LOT OF WATERMELONS..YUMMY..

MAYBE SOME OF YOU SHOULD COME TO BRANSON AND SEE WHAT WE ENJOY EVERY SEPTEMBER!!

.FRANK JENNINGS

From the Secretary - Treasurer

1) PAST PRESIDENT, PATRICK BURKE HOLDS COURT WITH GUY SEE, ALSO PAST PRESIDENT AND RAYMOND WARNER, AND OKIE FOSTER AND AL KAMER.



2) RAY WARNER AND GRANDSON...AND CHAUFFUER..JOE AND GUY SEE AND MARVIN HOUSE DISCUSSING IMPORTANT WAR ISSUES IN HOSPITALITY ROOM.

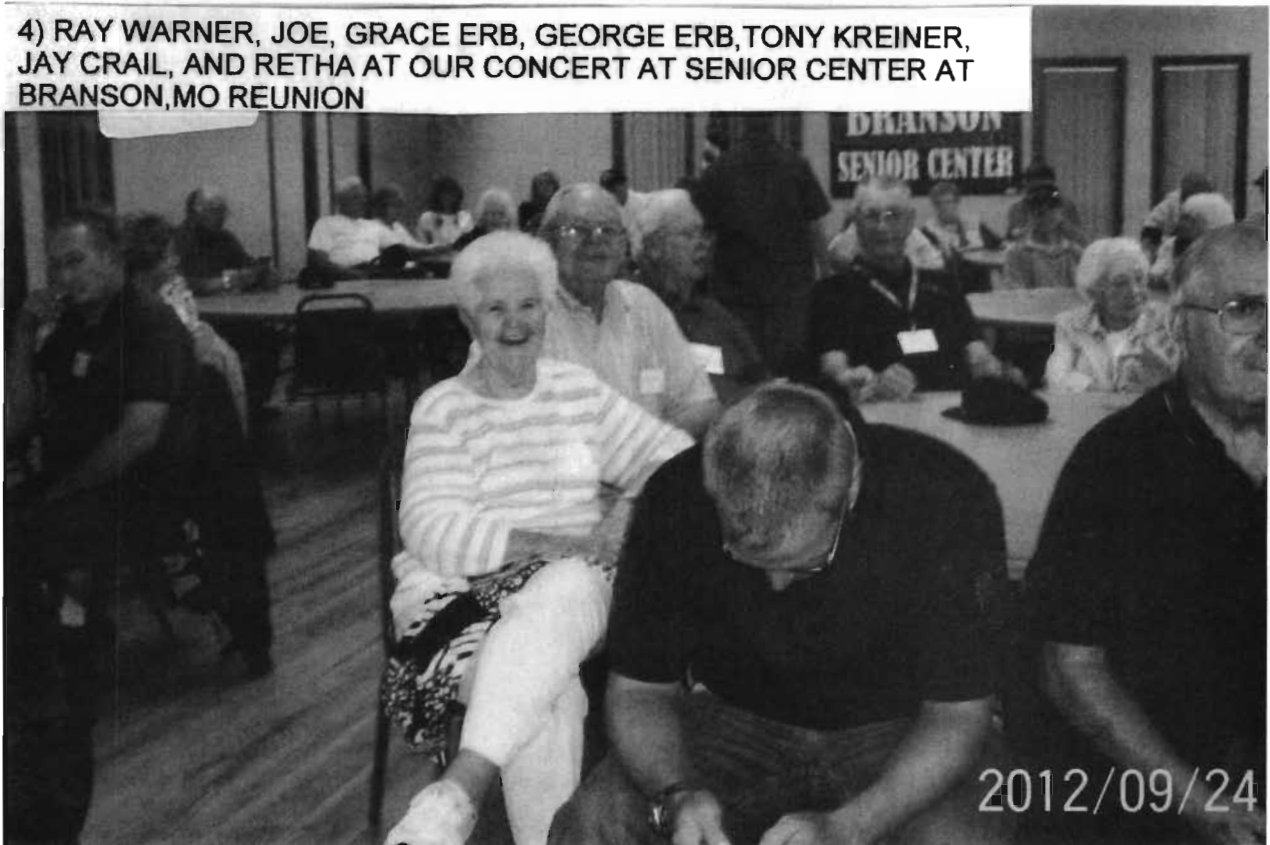


From the Secretary - Treasurer

3) DELLA HOUSE, BETTY KREINER, CHUN COULSON, RETHA CRAIL
GETTING LUNCH READY FOR THE GANG.



4) RAY WARNER, JOE, GRACE ERB, GEORGE ERB, TONY KREINER,
JAY CRAIL, AND RETHA AT OUR CONCERT AT SENIOR CENTER AT
BRANSON, MO REUNION



21st Annual Reunion

21st Annual Reunion

5th Regimental Combat Team Association

21st Annual Reunion

San Antonio, Texas

Tuesday May 14th thru Saturday May 18th, 2013

Hotel: Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade
ADDRESS: 9821 Colonnade Boulevard
San Antonio, Texas



TEMPERATURE: High 86 Low 66

TELEPHONE: (210) 691-8888 Fax: (210) 691-1128
Reservations Toll Free: (800) 843-6664

WEBSITE: <http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/SanAntonio.aspx>

DISTANCE FROM AIRPORT: 8 miles – Approximately 15 minutes

TRANSPORTATION FROM SAN ANTONIO INTL AIRPORT: Complimentary airport transportation to and from hotel
On the hour every hour from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily



DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From I-35: Exit 1604 West (Anderson Loop) to I-10 East to San Antonio; Exit Wurzbach, cross under I-10 in turn-around lane; Hotel will be on the right.

HOTEL INFORMATION: 159 king-size rooms and 159 double/double rooms with large bay windows. All non-smoking rooms

PARKING: No Charge. R.V. Parking – no hookups allowed.
Must be staying in the hotel for R.V. parking

FOOD & BEVERAGE: Bolo's Rotisserie Grille

Breakfast
6:00 AM to 11:00 AM
6:00 AM to 11:00 AM (Sat/Sun)

Lunch
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Dinner
5:00PM to 10:00 PM
5:00PM to 11:30PM (Sat/Sun)

Lobby Bar
3:00 PM to 12:00 AM

Recreation and Leisure

State-of-the-art private fitness facility featuring cybex equipment, hydrotherapy pool and sauna

Indoor swimming pool and outdoor lap pool.

21st Annual Reunion

21st Annual Reunion

CHECK-IN TIME:

3:00 p.m.

CHECK-OUT TIME:

12:00 NOON

***Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade
San Antonio, Texas***

ROOM RATE: \$99.00 per night plus 17.75% Tax -Total per night = \$116.91

RESERVATION CUT-OFF: 13 April, 2013

NUMBER OF ROOMS: 159 king-size rooms & 159 double/double rooms with large bay windows.

Please inquire about days prior & days after at time of reservation.

Tuesday 14th May:Registration

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Hospitality Room

Wednesday 15th May: Registration

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Hospitality Room

10:00 a.m. Alamo,Riverwalk& Boat Tour \$20.00 Per Person

Thursday 16th May:Registration

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.Hospitality Room

10:00 a.m. Alamo,Riverwalk& Boat Tour\$20.00 Per Person

Friday 17th May:Registration

6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Hospitality Room

3:00 p.m. Ladies Auction

Saturday 18th May: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Hospitality Room & 12:00 Noon-10:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. Executive Council Meeting

9:00 a.m. General Membership Meeting

9:00 a.m. Ladies Breakfast

\$20.00 Per Person

6:00 p.m. Seating starts for Banquet

\$35.00 Per Person

7:30 p.m. Serving Starts

Sunday 19th May: Sunday Service Non-Denominational

Banquet Choices

Grilled Breast of Chicken with a Lemon Caper Sauce

Tomato, Mozzarella and Cucumber Salad, Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter, Chocolate Truffle in a Delicate Chocolate Cup, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Regular, Decaffeinated Coffee or Iced Tea with Lemon Wedges

Seared Beef with a Red Wine Reduction

Classic Rice Pilaf, Chefs Selection of Seasonal Vegetable, Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter, Chocolate Truffle in a Delicate Chocolate Cup, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Regular, Decaffeinated Coffee or Iced Tea with Lemon Wedges.

21st Annual Reunion

Please detach or copy and return the following form with your payment to the Reunion Committee indicated below. Thank you

REUNION REGISTRATION

****Registration Deadline: 13 April 2013****

MEMBER NAME: _____ NICK NAME: _____

SPOUSE: _____ GUESTS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION YOU HAVE ATTENDED: YES _____ NO: _____

FEES:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Registration (Member Only)	<u>\$20.00</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>\$20.00</u> Alamo,
Riverwalk& Boat Tour 4/15	<u>\$20.00</u>	_____	_____
Alamo, Riverwalk& Boat Tour 4/16	<u>\$20.00</u>	_____	_____
Ladies Breakfast 4/17	<u>\$20.00</u>	_____	_____
Annual Banquet 4/18	<u>\$35.00</u>	_____	_____
Grand Total			\$ _____

Please make checks payable to : 5th RCT Reunion

Mail to: William R. Coulson
11815 Radcliff Court
San Antonio, Texas 78253-5951

Chaplain's Corner

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

FRANK JENNINGS

SECRETARY/TREASURER



JOHN W. CRAIL

14203 Morning View Rd.
Alexandria, KY
41001-8080

As the years go by and we are getting older, time catches up with us and many are called home to our Creator. When one of the members is called home, a citation of the member's service to our country is sent to the spouse or family member from the 5th R.T.C. Association.

Name of the deceased member is sent to Mr John Sonley, who prepares the citation. It is then sent to the President for his signature. The President sends the document to the Chaplain for his signature and then forwarded to the family.

Sometimes the family address is hard to find.

When obituaries are sent, please send the next of kin and address if known.

At the present time I have the following names returned as no longer at the address: James T. Mulvahill, John L. Weisbrod, Henry V. Gosselein.

If any one had information on the next of kin, please let me know.

J. W. Crail
Chaplain

Guy E. See



HEATH: Guy E. See, age 79, of Heath, passed away on Monday, October 29, 2012 at the Selma Markowitz Care Center (operated by Hospice of Central Ohio). He was born April 25, 1933 in Flat Rock, West Virginia to the late Guy and Mary Ann (Daugherty) See.

As per his request, no calling hours will be observed. A graveside service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 3, at Gravel Hill Cemetery, in Cheshire, Ohio.

Mr. See was a veteran of the United States Army and faithfully served his country during the Korean War with G Company, 5th Regimental Combat Team. He retired from the United States Army and from the Newark Air Force Base where he had been a Precision Instrument Technician. He had also been a jeweler and watch repairman.

Mr. See was a life member of the VFW, DAV, American Legion Post #85, the 5th Regimental Combat Team Association where he was past-national president, the Korean War Veterans Association, NARFE and AARP. He was a former pilot and lifelong flying enthusiast. He enjoyed listening to bluegrass music and playing his banjo.

He is survived by his wife, Grace (Hood) See; sons and daughters-in-law, Mark and Sonye See and David and Julie See, all of Heath; grandchildren, Sierra, Maranda, Esther, Tucker, and Dalton; step-grandchildren, Shannon, Stephanie and Spring; great-granddaughter, Emmy; and four step-great-grandchildren; brother and sister-in-law, Ron and Pattie See of Niceville, Florida; uncle, Leo (Betty) Daugherty of Point Pleasant, West Virginia; brother-in-law Larry (Nancy) Hood of Addison, Ohio; sister-in-law Debbie Rose of Delaware, Ohio; many nieces, nephews and cousins; and his treasured dog, Noah.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers, Glenn E. See, Clell O. See and Roy H. See; maternal grandparents, Roy and Naomi Daugherty; and paternal grandparents, Robert and Clara See.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made to the Salvation Army of Newark.

The Heath Chapel of Henderson-Van Atta-Stickle Funeral & Cremation Service is assisting the family with arrangements.

Please visit www.hendersonvanatta.com to view a memorial and to leave a message of condolence for the family.

Henderson-Van Atta
STICKLE

Chaplain's Corner

In Memoriam



Benie Bachiller

Sept. 13, 2012

 Benie "Ben" Bachiller, 89, of Waipahu, an Air Force base forklift operator and an Army veteran, died in Las Vegas. He was born in Wailuku. He is survived by wife Rosita; sons Benie and Frank Pave, and Benie Bachiller Jr.; daughters Evelyn "Nani" Wentling, Rose Apo and Joanne Terai; brother Domingo; sisters Marie Santiago, Juanita "Nita" Kahooni and Consuelita Turner; 19 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. Visitation: 5:30 p.m. Thursday and 10:30 a.m. Friday at Hawaiian Memorial Park Mortuary. Services: 6:30 p.m. Thursday and 11:30 a.m. Friday. Burial: 2 p.m. Friday at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Kaneohe. Online condolences: hawaiianmemorialpark-mortuary.com.

December 29, 1922 - September 13, 2012

BENIE BACHILLER SR
L0049 B BTRY 555FA (5TH RCT)
94-407 KUAHUI ST
WAIPAHU, HI 96797-4531

Chaplain's Corner

Community

www.missourivalleytimes.com

PAGE 4 - Wednesday, October 3, 2012

Obituary...

Donald L. Wakehouse, 81

Donald Lewis Wakehouse, 81, Show Low, Ariz., passed away Friday, Sept. 28, at his



home in Show Low, Ariz. Services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Oct. 8, at Little Sioux Church of Christ, 403 Mulberry

St., in Little Sioux.

Burial will be in Soldier Valley Cemetery near Pisgah.

Don's wishes were to be buried next to his mother and father in Iowa.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Little Sioux Church of Christ in Little Sioux, The Korean War Ex-POW Association, PO Box 122, Charleston, TN 37310-0122 or Disabled American Veterans.

Don was born Aug. 27, 1931, in Allen Township in Harrison County. He grew up on a farm between Woodbine and Pisgah. He attended country school for the first eight years of schooling and graduated from Pisgah High School in 1950.

Don farmed with his father and neighbor until he was drafted July 4, 1952. He attended artillery school at Fort Chaffee, Ark., and was assigned to the 555th "Triple Nickel" Field Artillery Battalion in Korea during the Korean War.

In November 1952, he married Louise Johnston of Turin. They were married almost 60

years. They lived most of their married life in Aurora, Colo. The last 13 years, they resided in Show Low, Ariz.

Following the war, Don could no longer farm. He then used his GI Bill to become an accountant. Don worked for the Internal Revenue Service for many years before retiring. He was treasurer for many of the organizations he belonged to. He was a member of the Mile High Chapter of American Ex-POWs of Colorado, the American Ex-POWs of the State of Colorado, Colorado Classic Cars (Denver, Colo., area) and First Christian Church of Aurora, Colo., and was the national treasurer of the American Ex-Prisoners of War Organization headquartered in Arlington, Texas.

Don loved sports, especially football. He held Denver Broncos season tickets for almost 30 years. Giving up those tickets when he moved to Arizona was very difficult for him. His hobby was restoring vintage gas pumps and old cars. Don also had a love of fishing, traveling, gardening and being outdoors.

Don is survived by his wife, Louise; a daughter, Dawn Alcumbrac, Pinetop, Ariz.; grandsons, Erik and Jake Alcumbrac; a sister, Mary Cross; brothers, Leo and Jerry; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Arrangements by Hennessey-Aman Funeral Home in Missouri Valley.

Online condolences may be left at www.hennesseyaman.com.

Haugh
Print as much
as you want -
If printed in the
Oct/Nov/Dec
newsletter, I'd
like a copy of
the Battle Stars
Thanks for
your
consideration
in this matter
Louise J
Wakehouse

Don & Louise Wakehouse
P.O. Box 936
Show Low, AZ 85902-0936

Chaplain's Corner

Ruck, Here's a condensed version of a story forwarded to me by my friend Merrill, the historian for the 24th DA. I didn't know whether you had seen it or not. Best, Sam Kier

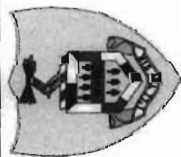


**60-YEAR-OLD REMAINS OF
5TH RCT KIA RETURN HOME
TO IOWA**

On April 20, 2012, a spokesman for the Iowa National Guard reported that a set of previously unidentified remains that had made the rounds from the Masan, Korea Military Cemetery to Hawaii's Punchbowl were found to be those of **SFC Edris "Eddie" Viers**, a member of Battery A, 555th Field Artillery Battalion. Eddie Viers died when the "Triple Nickel" was overrun during the Battle of Bloody Gulch (Chinju Pass) on August 12, 1950. In 2011, his remains were exhumed for re-analysis.

Based on the date and location of death, and using biological profiles developed at the Central Identification Library the remains were determined to belong to Viers. His family in Iowa was notified. On April 27, 2012, Eddie Viers was buried, with full military honors, in the Swan Cemetery in Swan, Iowa.

Viers was born May 29, 1918. He enlisted in the U. S. Army in November 1940 and served in New Guinea and the Philippines. Following World War II, he served with the Army of Occupation in Germany and then deployed to Korea in 1950.



**TWO CENTURIES
OF VALOR:**

The Story of the 5th Infantry Regiment

Samuel M. Kier, Ph.D

514 Dennett St.

Pacific Grove, CA 93950

(831) 646-8025

samkier@montevideo.com

www.twocenturiesofvalor.com



Dr. Samuel M. Kier
514 Dennett St
Pacific Grove, CA 93950

Saving America's Civil War Battlefields / CivilWar.org

May 2, 12

Editor: Hugh W. Buckleschel,
Enclosed is the obituary
Sgt. 1st Class Edris A. Viers.
Would you please
place this in the
Battle Stars?
I was invited to -
attend and take part
in this service.
I felt very blessed
and honored to pay
my respects from a
old friend more than
61- yrs. Ago.
Charles Everett
A-Battery 555 FA BN 49-51
Ocala, Fla A

EDRIS ARTHUR VIERSSwan



Funeral services for Sgt. 1st Class Edris A. Viers of Swan will be held on Friday April 27, 2012 at the Mason Funeral Home in Pleasantville, Iowa at 12 p.m. Burial will follow in the Swan Cemetery with full military honors. There will be a press conference from 10 until 11 a.m. with a visitation from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. also at the Funeral Home.

Edris A. Viers was born on May 29, 1918 on a farm near Swan, Iowa, the son of William W. Viers and Mable (Beason) Viers.

He attended Bunker Hill School, a rural school near his home. Eddie enlisted in the United States Army on November 9, 1940 and served during World War II in New Guinea and the Philippines. He then reenlisted and was deployed to Korea in 1950 and served with Battery 555, Field Artillery Battalion. Eddie went missing in action on August 12, 1950 as his unit engaged with North Korean forces in what became known as the Battle of Bloody Gulch. He was declared deceased on December 31, 1953, but his remains were not recovered. Eddie's unknown remains were buried in a US Military Cemetery near Masan South Korea and in 1956 they were moved to the National Memorial Cemetery known as the Punchbowl in Honolulu, Hawaii and placed in the unknown section. In late 2011, the unidentified remains were positively identified as Sgt. 1st Class Edris A. Viers.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters; Velma Gerling, Wilma Dabb and Catherine Brooks and a brother, Gerald Viers.

Surviving are his niece, Mabel Flaig of Hartford; nephews, Jerry Dabb of Kingman, Arizona, Jerry Viers of Swan, William A. Viers and Alan Viers of Indianola and Larry Viers of Des Moines.

Online condolences may be left at BertrandFuneralHomes.com.

Chaplain's Corner

RUCK,

9-15-2012

I RECEIVED THE ATTACHED DEATH NOTICE IN THE MAIL REGARDING A 5TH RCT MEMBER. WE RECEIVED IT FROM JEROL'S BROTHER. MAYNARD STROHM, FRANK JENNINGS SEC/TREAS



Jerol H. Strohm



Jerol H. Strohm, 81, of Salisbury Twp., died

Sept. 8, 2011 at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Salisbury Twp. Born in Emmaus, he was a son of the late Howard F. and Esther M. (Reinhard) Strohm. He was a supervisor for Mack Trucks for many years, retiring in 1987 in management. He was an Army veteran, having served in the Korean War. Jerol was a 1947 graduate of Allentown High School.

Survivors: Brother, Maynard V. Strohm and his wife Dorothy, Bethlehem; many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a sister Lorraine Ross.

Services: Tuesday 10:30 a.m. at Bachman, Kulik & Reinsmith Funeral Home, 225 Elm Street, Emmaus. Burial will follow at Moravian Cemetery, Emmaus. Friends may call Monday 7-8:30 p.m. and Tuesday 10-10:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

Contributions: May be made to the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center, Attn: Voluntary Services, 1111 East End Blvd, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711.

Please sign Guest Book on themorningcall.com/obits

L0023 B CO 5TH RCT

P. O. BOX 2153

EWA BEACH, HI 96796

Benjamin Terukina

Feb. 9, 2012



Benjamin "Jr." Terukina, 79, of Mililani and Ewa Beach, formerly of Haleiwa, an Army veteran, died in Honolulu. He was born in Honolulu. He is survived by wife Veronica; sons Richard and Andrew Proctor, and Aaron, Darryl and Benjamin M. Terukina; daughters Beverly Rivero, Deborah Cerny, Jadelyn Mathias, Terilyn K. Terukina, Reanette Lacuesta and Ronnette Lankford; brothers Kenneth and Robert; sisters Dorothy Oga, Geraldine Lopez and Naomi H. Mark; four stepchildren; and numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Visitation: 9 a.m. Friday at Mililani Mortuary-Waipio, mauka chapel. Services: 11 a.m. Committal services: 2 p.m. at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Kaneohe.

RUCK,

9-17-2012

I RECEIVED NOTICE OF JOHNNY CARPENTERS' PASSING AWAY AUGUST 5, 2012 FROM AL MCADOO, WHO REC'D IT FROM HIS WIDOW, MAXIN JOHNNY CARPENTER SERVED IN "G"CO. '50-'51.

FRANK JENNINGS
SEC/TREAS

RUCK,

10-8-2012

I RECEIVED NOTICE FROM OKIE FOSTER REGARDING A CLOSE FRIEND OF HIS WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE 5TH RCT. HIS NAME IS FRANKLIN C ROBINSON, HE PASSED AWAY JULY 1, 2012

I SPOKE TO HIS WIFE, ANNA LOU ROBINSON TO GET MORE INFORMATION. HER ADDRESS IS 2127 31ST AVE. NORTH, BIRMINGHAM. AL 35207-5005. HE WAS HQ 5., '53-'54.

FRANK JENNINGS

9-15-2012

I RECEIVED NOTICE FROM J. GOURLAY THIS MORNING THAT ONE OF THE 5TH RCT MEMBERS HAD PASSED AWAY. THE MEMBERS' NAME IS RUSSELL CAPPERON FROM MARICOPA CA. HE PASSED AWAY SEPT 5, 2012. HE WAS CREMATED AND THERE WERE NO SERVICES. HE LEAVES A WIFE, HELEN AND THE ADDRESS IS P.O. BOX 903, CARICOPA, CA 95338.

FRANK JENNINGS

Letters to the Editor

5TH R.C.T ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 410337 – Melbourne, FL 32941-0337

11-14-2012

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER OF THE 5TH RCT ASSOC.

IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL IT WILL BE 2013. I AM STILL HOPING TO HEAR FROM A FEW MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT UPDATED THEIR MEMBERSHIP DUES.

DUES ARE STILL \$15.00 PER YEAR.

I WILL BE HAPPY TO ACCEPT YOUR DUES FOR 3 YEARS AND I WILL EVEN LAMINATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS IF YOU CHOOSE TO PAY SEVERAL YEARS.

ABOVE YOUR NAME ON THE MAILING ADDRESS ON THE BATTLE STARS ARE 8 NUMBERS, 1234-5678...

THE FIRST NUMBERS INDICATES THE YEAR THAT YOU ARE PAID UP TO.

IF THE NUMBER IS 1, YOU ARE PAST DUE, IF IT IS 2, YOU ARE PAID UP TO DECEMBER 2012. IF IT IS 3, YOU ARE PAID UP UNTIL DECEMBER 2013.

MAKE YOUR CHECKS OUT TO 5TH RCT ASSOC AND MAIL TO: FRANK JENNINGS, P.O. BOX 410337, MELBOURNE FL 32941. REMEMBER THE DUES ARE \$15.00 PER YEAR, JANUARY THRU DECEMBER....AS OF TODAY, WE DO NOT OFFER LIFE MEMBERSHIP.

I'LL TRY SIR,

FRANK JENNINGS

SECRETARY/TREASURER

5TH RCT ASSOC.

Letters to the Editor

Editor Hugh W. Ruckdeschel
Battle Stars
112 123rd Ave E
Treasure Island, FL 33706-5152

July 18, 2012

Dear Ruck,

Enclosed is a picture you may want to put in the next issue of the Battle Stars. My daughter was searching the internet for some military information for me and was not finding anything. She just happened to click on 5th RCT and she found this picture. There is no date on the picture, but I know it must have been taken in August 1950, shortly after we arrived in Korea from Schofield Barracks. Lt. Moore was still out Platoon Leader at that time and as I remember, he was soon promoted to Captain and I believe he transferred to D Company as Company Commander. Some of the D Company men may be able to confirm that.

I have no recollection of this picture being taken, but even though they have my last name spelled incorrectly I am sure it is me in the picture as they have my home town of Kinsman, Ohio. I remember all of the men shown in the picture and they may be as surprised as I was to see the picture.

I enjoy receiving Battle Stars and thank you for all of the work you put into publishing the magazine.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Canon

Carl Canon



Carl L. Canon
4512 Ccnestoga Trail
Copley, OH 44321-1404

Korean War - 111-SC-347574 4.2 mortar crew of the 5th Rct, 25th Inf Div



WAR IN KOREA: A 4.2 mortar crew of the 5th Rct, 25th Inf Div, returns enemy fire in the Masan area. Clockwise: Cpl Orville Waldeman (St Clair Shores, MI) Pfc Carl Cannon (Kinsman, OH) Pfc Reginal Palmer (Roxbury, MA) and Lt James B. Moore Jr (Miami, FL) kneeling: Pfc Oakley Vanalstyn (Buffalo, NY)

Letters to the Editor

RUC, Thank you so much.
FOR 16 YEARS OF SERVICE KEEPING
THE 5th RCT ASSN. ALIVE. YOUR
HARD WORK AND DEDICATION
IS TO BE COMMENDED.

I RECENTLY BOUGHT A COPY MACHINE
THAT TAKES 35MM SLIDES AND CONVERTS
THEM TO DIGITAL IMAGES ON THE
COMPUTER. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED,
I COULD SEND YOU SOME E-MAIL
PICTURES IF YOU GIVE ME YOUR
E-MAIL ADDRESS. I COULD ALSO
PRINT THESE AS 4"X6" PRINTS.
THESE SLIDES WERE TAKEN JUNE
1953 TO OCT 1954.

MANY THANKS,
PICK WEICHMAN

Mr. J. Richard Weichman
7538 Heather Walk Dr
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Lupe Carrasco Perez
Bo Rio Honda
30 Calle Los Cruz
Mayaguez PR 00680-7102

July 23, 2012

Mr. Hugh W. Rucodeschel;
I wish to once again express my
appreciation for your rapid reply
to request of my Past due 5th RCT
of the 5th R.C.T.

I also wish to thank you for all of
the previous years of your faithful
service.

This service you so unselfishly
contribute, enlightens the lives of
many Veterans like myself.
Thank you's and may your health
never diminish.

Respectfully
Lupe Carrasco Perez

Letters to the Editor

Special Thanks

With warm appreciation
for all you've given
of your time, your energy,
and yourself.

I'd like to
thank you a great
example for us all.
D.R.

Donald R. Wendt
117 East Boyd Street
Dixon, IL 61021

Dear Rick, Editor in Chief,

Sherie and I have enjoyed many reunions in the past, and we sincerely thank you and appreciate your loyal & hard work through the years. You do a great job with the 5th RCT news letter, it's like getting a letter from home, we always enjoy hearing about our 5th RCT Brothers.

We thank you for your 16 years of service and hope that you are able to continue.

We hope to meet again at many reunions.

Thank you again,

Sincerely

Dave & Sherie

David Lomax
1540 Hayworth Rd
Pt Charlotte FL 33932



France's Korea Regiment Perishes in the **'VALLEY OF THE CROSSES'**

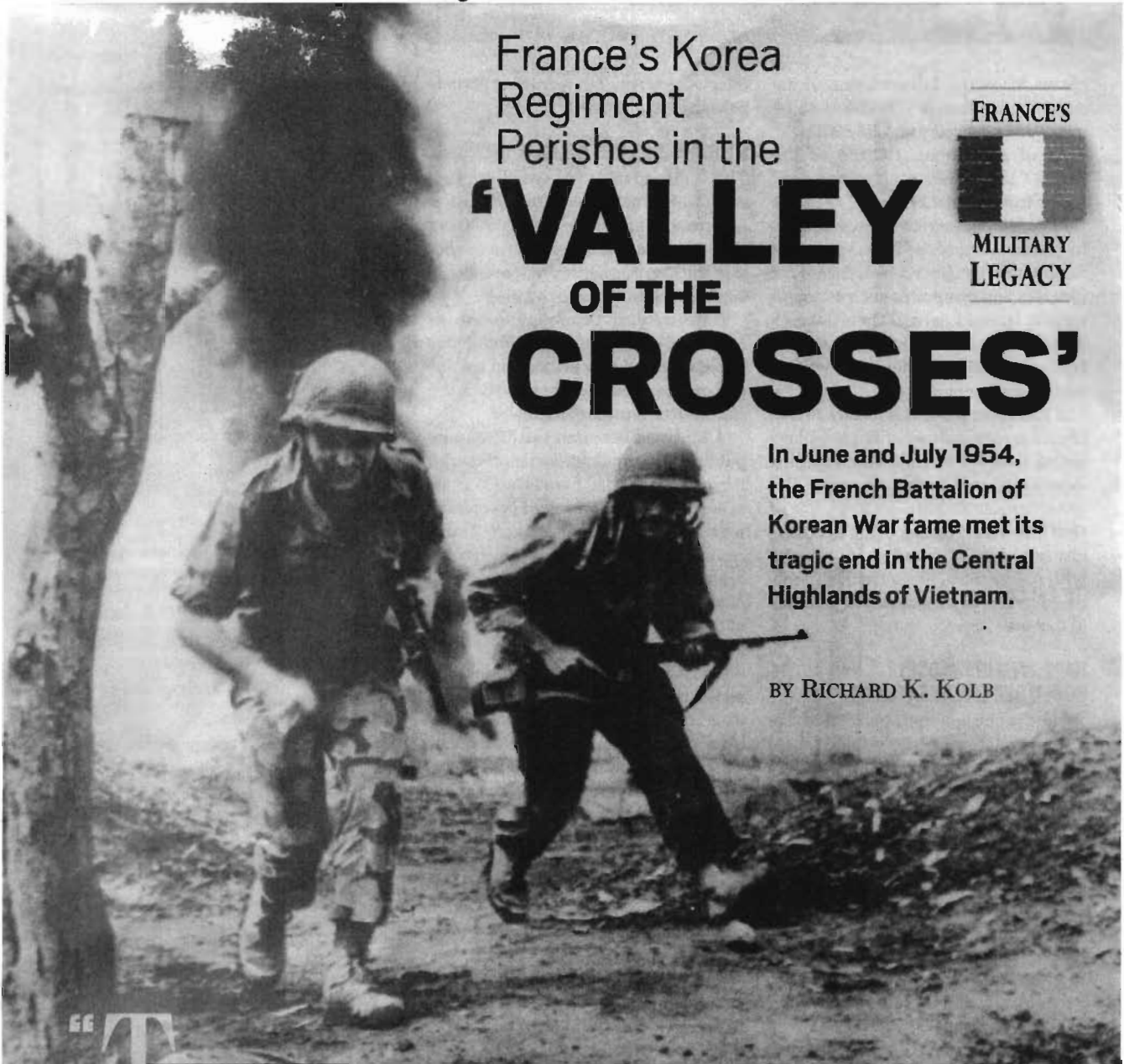
FRANCE'S



MILITARY
LEGACY

In June and July 1954,
the French Battalion of
Korean War fame met its
tragic end in the Central
Highlands of Vietnam.

BY RICHARD K. KOLB



“**T**his was the battle, finally, which would wipe off the face of the earth the hated Korea Regiment, which still wore on its sleeve the white star and Indianhead of the 2nd U.S. Infantry Division,” French war correspondent Bernard Fall wrote in his famous book *Street Without Joy* (1961).

With barely a breather from the Korean War, the French Battalion arrived in Indochina on Nov. 19, 1953. It immediately began combat operations in early December. This would be an entirely different war for the famed *Bataillon de Corée*. French veterans of Indochina called it *la guerre des grands vides*—“the war

of the vast empty spaces.” In just six months of severe service covering close to 2,000 miles in combat areas, the regiment would learn the meaning of *grignotage*—“the slow gnawing away man by man.”

American veterans of the 1st Cavalry and 4th Infantry divisions and the 173rd Airborne and 3rd brigades (25th Division), as well as the 5th Special Forces Group, would soon become familiar with the battleground known as the Central Highlands. The places where the French fought—colonial routes 14 and 19, An Khe, Ban Me Thuot and Pleiku—later became seared into the memories of GIs.

ABOVE: French paratroopers dash for cover as Viet Minh artillery pounds the besieged base at Dien Bien Phu on March 23, 1954. Few, if any, photos of the demise of the Korea Regiment are available, so the more famous French defeat is illustrated here.

Of Interest

In fact, the opening scene of the film *We Were Soldiers* (2002) depicts the French in 1954 in the region where the Americans fought their single deadliest battle 11 years later.

The French Battalion had served with the 23rd Infantry Regiment of the U.S. 2nd Infantry Division for 2½ years in Korea. The bond formed between the French and Americans was unbreakable. Gen. Matthew Ridgway called this team "the finest troops America and France produced throughout their national existence." So in a symbolic sense, it was as if the French Battalion was the first U.S. unit to fight in Vietnam.

Indeed and ironically, when the battalion left Korea on Oct. 23, 1953, Gen. Maxwell Taylor proclaimed in an emotional farewell address: "The Eighth Army will continue to claim the French Battalion as its own ... and so share in the honor and glory it will achieve in Indochina." That, however, was not to be the fate of these courageous comrades-in-arms.

BATTLE OF AN KHE

Once in Vietnam, the battalion was expanded into a regiment. Both the 1st and 2nd Korea battalions had 830 men each. The regiment became the core of Mobile Group 100, a 3,498-man regimental task force. One-third of the regiment was thus Korean War veterans. After several grueling months of guerrilla warfare, the unit participated in the last official battle of the French Indochina War.

Often referred to as the Battle of An Khe or Mang Yang Pass, it was actually three distinct engagements. Ordered to evacuate An Khe and make its way to Pleiku, Group 100 began the 50-mile trek along Route 19 on June 24. It was ambushed at Kilometer Marker 15 (PK 15) that afternoon. The regiment's commander was mortally wounded. But both battalions finally fought their way through Viet Minh (Communist Vietnamese) forces, linking up with the 1st Airborne Group the next morning. By then, "silent mounds" of French dead were starting to rot in the sun.

Three days later, on June 28, the convoy was ambushed at Dak Ya-Ayun. The 1st Korea Battalion lost 59 KIA. Its 1st Company (only 60 men) faced 500 Viet Minh alone at PK 3 the next day. It was

decimated: In just 60 minutes, 42 men were KIA. Reaching Pleiku on the 29th, column survivors "looked more like fugitives from a concentration camp than a regular fighting unit."

Fall wrote that "five days of fighting on Route 19 had cost the 1st Korea Battalion more casualties than two years of fighting in Korea." The French counted 287 killed in action in that war.

After just two weeks of rest, remnants of the 1st Korea Regiment were ordered to the field again. The 1st Battalion was down to 452 men; the 2nd had only 497 effectives. Upon hearing the order, one

talion was reduced to only 107 men, 53 of whom were WIA and recuperating in the hospital.

It was all over in less than two hours. Finally regrouping, survivors eventually made their way through the jungle to Ban Don over at least four days of struggle. "This was the end of the line for the 1st Korea Battalion," Fall wrote. "The troops who had defeated the Reds in Korea at Wonju and at the Arrowhead, who survived An Khe and then the hell of Kilometer 15, were going to die now, three days before the cease-fire that was going to end this eight-year-old war."



In November 1953, the French Korea Battalion was removed from the U.N. Command in Korea and sent to join the French Expeditionary Force in Vietnam. Many of the men wore the patch of the 2nd Infantry Division, with which they served during the Korean War.

Cpl. Cadiergue, who had earned two citations in Korea in 1953, exclaimed: "My God, they want to kill us to the last man! Haven't we done enough?" His words were prophetic.

SLAUGHTER IN THE CHU DREH HILLS

Operation Forget-Me-Not was intended to mop up Viet Minh regulars operating in the Chu Dreh Hills between Pleiku and Ban Me Thuot. Group Mobile 100 started out on Route 14 on July 14. A bit after noon, the Viet Minh sprang their well-planned ambush as the 1st Korea Battalion (HQ, 1st and 4th companies) went through the pass. In the lead, 4th Company was caught in the middle of the pass and slaughtered. The entire bat-

That armistice was signed July 21, 1954. On Aug 13, the 1st Korea departed "the valley of the crosses," as its evacuation route became known, for Saigon. Group Mobile 100 had sacrificed some 500 lives. Reconstituted, the 1st Korea Battalion left Vietnam on July 17, 1955—exactly one year after its destruction—destined for the doomed French venture in Algeria.

There, it was transformed into a two-unit tactical headquarters regiment and renamed the 156th Infantry Regiment. But its renown was lasting, for the unit continued to be referred to as the Korea Battalion until being dissolved in 1962. ☛

E-MAIL rkolb@vfw.org

Of Interest

Jerry E. Beckley

513 Winburn Avenue, Schertz, TX 78154-1947
(210) 454-7283 Cell; (210) 945-2303 Home
E-Mail: beckley1933@gmail.com



Albert McAdoo
7506 S Mascotte St
Tampa, FL 33616

November 14, 2012

Mr. Albert McAdoo
7606 S. Mascotte Street
Tampa, FL 33616

Dear Al,

Received the book, *The 5th RCT in Korea*, and found that reading it brought back some long subdued but not forgotten memories. The credits included Jerry Prather, who I have, over the years been in contact with in an attempt to authenticate his claim to the Silver Star Medal for his actions on August 12, 1950 during the "Bloody Gulch" battle, near Pongam-ni. Jerry and I were firing a 3.5in Bazooka at two enemy self-propelled guns on the road that crossed over the dry creek bed. After the action, Jerry was evacuated to a Naval Hospital ship and I went to the MASH Unit in Mason, and we never saw each other again. Jerry saw my name on a visitor's sign-in on the 5th RCT web site in the 1990s'. I later joined the Association and am still a member.

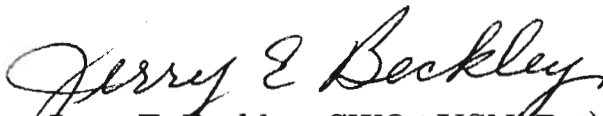
I returned to the US and was discharged from the Army in 1951. In October 1951, I joined the U.S. Navy and returned to Korea aboard a Minesweeper. During that time I received correspondence from the Army via the Navy that I had been awarded the Silver Star for the exact same action you describe on Page 63, paragraph 4. I'm sure there are many similar actions during combat. During this same time period, a mortar round landed in a 2-1/2 ton truck and I drove it away from area where we were pinned down. After I jumped from the vehicle, it started to burn and explode. We had shrapnel from exploding rounds flying all over the place. I only recall this happening once and if there was another soldier there by the name of PFC Lucas, I didn't see him. In addition, it was Jerry and I who stayed behind a gave covering fire from a 50 Cal. MG mounted on a jeep while the wounded were evacuated in a 2-1/2 ton. The truck had a ring mount with a 50 Cal. On it and there was a wounded man operating it, whom I believe was Lt. Dodge. Jerry and I got out with me driving the jeep and him providing covering fire. At the time of all this action, I didn't know Jerry's name, and didn't find out until he contacted me in the '90s.

Of Interest

In addition to the above paragraph, the Artilleryman who PFC Arlen Russell referred to in the paragraph 3, second sentence on page 48, was also me. After I left the MASH Unit in Mason, I rejoined "B" Battery until Major Graves assigned me as a Radio Operator with an FO when we assaulted Sobuk-san. This is where we found several soldiers from the 24th Regt. with their hands tied behind their backs and shot in the head. I stayed with the 555th FA until January 1, 1951 when I was hit again and was evacuated to Osaka Army Hospital and then on to the US for discharge. One thing I didn't mention is, I also was only 16 years old, having joined the Army at 14 in 1948. I had already been at Schofield Barracks since 1948 in the 8292nd Engineers.

I am enclosing some of the correspondence the Army sent to the Navy and on to me in 1952. You may find it of some interest, should you ever wish to rewrite your book. Some of what I stated here-in may be considered "first hand".

Small World! Regards


Jerry E. Beckley, CWO4 USN (Ret)

Submarine Service

Of Interest

Jerry E. Beckley

513 Winburn Avenue, Schertz, TX 78154-1947
(210) 454-7283 Cell; (210) 945-2303 Home
E-Mail: beckley1933@gmail.com



November 16, 2012

Mr. Albert McAdoo
7606 S. Mascotte Street
Tampa, FL 33616

Dear Al,

Please forgive the second letter so quickly, after sending you the information over the past four days. I finished the book and found it most interesting. You did a lot of research and deserve a lot of credit for preserving the events of battles which defined the 5th RCT and attached organizations.

During my short time in the 5th, I really didn't have time to learn many of the names of men I fought besides. I did remember MSGT Headley and Major Graves. I didn't remember Lieutenant Stoll and Warrant Officer Gillespie's names until I read your book. I had just talked to WO Gillespie five minutes before he was killed, as I was between "B" Battery's CP and the tank when the first mortar rounds hit. One comment I would like to make is that the enemy mortar team only fired one round prior to the one that hit the CP. I have marveled over the years "how effective enemy mortar fire was during the early days of the war".

Your "Acknowledgments" page recognized Jerry Prather, but did not have any further reference to him, especially in page 63. It was the events of this time period that we used to justify his claims to the Silver Star. As I stated in my last letter to you, I didn't know his name at the time. In addition, I have no idea who recommended me for the decoration, as this was a Service Battery position that I had wandered into after spending most of the early morning hours in the field between the dry creek bed and "B" Battery's position in the village (which had become overrun by the enemy). In essence, no one in the creek bed knew who I was. I do know that after I returned from the MASH Unit to "B" Battery in Masan, Major Graves assigned me as a Radio Operator and my first assignment was with "C" Company before we assaulted Sobuk-san the first time. I was also with "G"

Of Interest

Company a couple of weeks later. Why I didn't go back into a gun crew, I don't know.

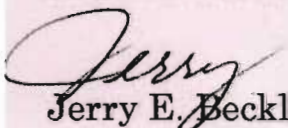
Al, to make a long story short, the events of the early days of the war were my "trial by fire", and considering that I returned to Korea in the U.S. Navy in April 1952 for another, "much easier" tour on a Minesweeper, until July 1953, I had often wondered how the 5th had fared after I had left the battlefield. I did, over the years read about some of the 5th RCT accomplishments, but none as detailed as your book. As we say in the Submarine Service, "Bravo Zulu" for the accuracy. I did, run into an old friend, Daniel Blair, who was a MSGT who received a Battlefield Commission, and was then a Retired Captain, at the Navy Exchange in Pearl Harbor in the 1960s. Also, in 1969, after I had retired from the Navy, I worked with a retired Major at Avco Lycoming in Charleston, SC., who was a Lt. with "G" Company during the early days of the Pusan Perimeter. Unfortunately I am at a loss to remember his name.

For the record, and to close out this correspondence, I spent another . twenty years in Civil Service, sixteen of which was in Washington, DC in the Submarine Launched TOMAHAWK Cruise Missile Program and as a contractor. I left there and became a College Professor for another ten years before I had enough of working for a living and decided to retire-retire.

In closing, I hope to meet you at the reunion in San Antonio in 2013. I will be wearing my signature ball cap, with "U.S. Submarine Service Veteran" on it, and I usually stand out, especially at a gathering of wrap-legs.

In addition, I am somewhat concerned about Jerry Prather's condition, but no one who may know anything, will respond to my inquiries, including Jerry. I respect his privacy and will not pursue it any farther.

Regards and Smooth Sailing,



Jerry E. Beckley, CWO4 USN (Ret)
Submarine Service

Of Interest

HEADQUARTERS 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION APO 25

GENERAL ORDERS
NUMBER 125

17 February 1951

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR.- By direction of the President, under the provisions of the Act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul 43, 1918) and pursuant to authority in AR 600-45, the Silver Star for gallantry in action is awarded to the following-named enlisted man:

Private First Class JERRY E. BECKLEY, RA19323889, Artillery, Battery B, 555th Field Artillery Battalion, United States Army. On 12 August 1950 near San Gam-ni, Korea, Private First Class Beckley's battery was subjected to a powerful hostile assault. Although his position was in grave danger of being isolated, he remained at his post and assisted in directing a heavy volume of effective 3.5 rocket launcher fire at the onrushing enemy. When an exploding ammunition truck endangered another fully loaded truck, he voluntarily exposed himself to the flying fragments and evacuated the vehicle to safety. Private First Class Beckley's courage, initiative and steadfast devotion to duty reflect great credit on himself, his unit and the United States Armed Forces. Entered the military service from California.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL KEAN:

OFFICIAL:

JOHN W. CHILDS
Colonel, GSC
Chief of Staff

MARK E. SWITZER
Lt Col, AGC
Asst. Adj Gen

Of Interest



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

F-1
(Rev. 12/49)

IN REPLY REFER TO
Pers-E314-KK:mlb
460 68 31
21 Apr 1962

From: Chief of Naval Personnel

To: Commanding Officer
U.S.S. SHOVELER (AM 382)
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

Subj: BECKLEY, Jerry Eugene, 460 68 31, SN, USN
Correspondence concerning awards earned in the U. S. Army

Ref:

Encl: (1) Correspondence from the Department of the Army.

1. Forwarded for appropriate action.

H. C. Nugent
H. C. NUGENT
By direction



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO
Pers-B422-vs
460 68 31
1 Jun 1953

From: Chief of Naval Personnel
To: BECKLEY, Jerry E., 460 68 31, OMB, USN

Via: Commanding Officer
U.S.S. REDSTART (AM 378)
FPO, San Francisco, California

Subj: Army Silver Star Medal; forwarding of

Ref: (a) BuPers Manual, Articles C-8101(6) and C-7820(2)

Encl: (1) Army General Orders No. 125
(2) Certificate
(3) (SC) Silver Star Medal

1. The Chief of Naval Personnel takes pleasure in forwarding with his congratulations enclosures (1) thru (3) awarded to you by the Secretary of the Army for outstanding service as a member of the Armed Forces.

2. The presenting authority is requested to comply with reference (a).

E. P. Smith
E. P. SMITH
By direction

Of Interest

JERRY E. BECKLEY

513 Winburn Avenue, Schertz, TX. 78154-1947 (210) 454-7283
E-Mail: beckley1933@gmail.com



November 24, 2012

Albert J. McAdoo
7506 S. Mascotte St.
Tampa, FL 33616

Dear Al,

Thank you for your speedy response. Happy to hear that Jerry Prather is on the mend and hope he makes a full recovery.


By this letter, you have my permission to publish all or any part of the information which I sent you, in the 5th RCT publication titled "Battle Stars", or any other documentation as you deem necessary.

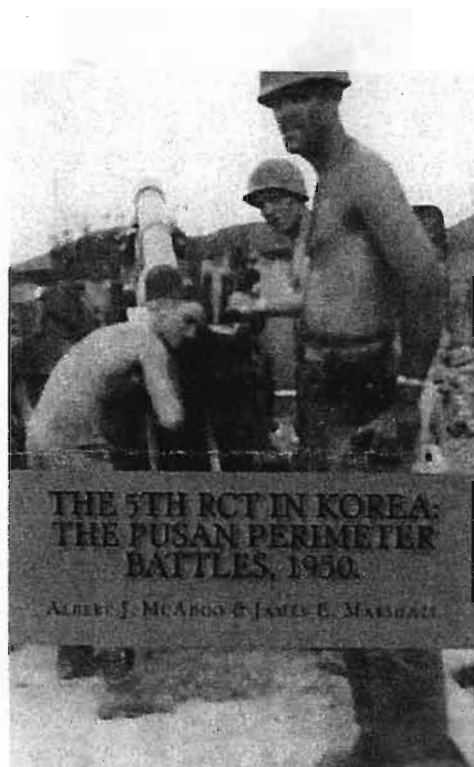
I do have one question regarding the paragraph in Page 63, which refers to PFC Lucas. Who is he, and was he awarded any decoration regarding this action? Your book makes reference to, "His action was later noted in the unit war diary among the bloody incidents of August 12, 1950".

Sorry you were unable to contact me via my cell phone. In addition, should you need it, my land line is (210) 945-2303. If you have E-Mail, mine is listed above and is checked daily.

From my family to yours, we wish you a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Cordially,


Jerry E. Beckley, CWO4 USN (Ret)



NEW!

Albert McAdoo
7506 S Mascotte St
Tampa, FL 33616

The 5th RCT in Korea: The Pusan Perimeter Battles, 1950

by

**Albert J. McAdoo
& James E. Marshall**

Available Direct From the Author:

This is a new work on the combat operations of the US Army's 5th Infantry Regimental Combat Team on the frontlines of the Korean War's first campaigns. The 5th RCT reached Korea at the close of July, 1950, just as UN forces made their last ditch stand against the Communist invasion of South Korea around the port of Pusan. Attached to the 25th Division the 5th was engaged in operations near Masan, including "Fox Hill," the fight at "Bloody Gulch," and the struggle for "Battle Mountain." Based on the regimental war diary of the 5th RCT, and contributions by veterans of the actions of this period, this new work by Albert J. McAdoo sheds some new light on the baptism of fire of the 5th RCT in Korea.

Of Interest

Quartermaster

5TH R.C.T ASSOCIATION

NEW QUARTERMASTER- FRANK JENNINGS

I HAVE ALL ITEMS IN STOCK, READY TO SHIP

ITEM	PRICE
------	-------

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 1. 5TH RCT CAP, BLACK EMBROID,5TH RCT KOREA | \$13.00 |
| 2. 5TH RCT CAP, BLACK W/5TH RCT PATCH & DESIGNATED
WITH KOREAN WAR VETERAN ., 1950-53..... | \$15.00 |
| 3. 5TH RCT SHIRT W/COLLAR BLACK EMBROI 5TH L& XL.... | \$25.00 |
| 4. 5TH RCT SHIRT " " " XXL..... | \$26.50 |

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 10. 5TH RCT PATCH OVERSIZED RED W/WHITE TRIM..... | \$4.00 |
| 11. 5TH RCT PATCH (ONLY)SAME AS ON CAP # 2 | \$5.00 |
| 12. KOREAN WAR VET PATCH (LIKE HAT)60TH ANNY NEW..... | \$5.00 |
| 13. 5TH RCT PATCH..REPLICA OF HAT PIN..... | \$4.00 |
| 14. KOREAN WAR 60TH ANNY PIN.,NEW..... | \$4.00 |
| 15. 5TH INFANTRY REGT CREST,SILVER..... | \$7.00 |
| 16. PURPLE HEART HAT PIN..... | \$4.00 |
| 17. PURPLE HEART LAPEL PIN..... | \$4.00 |
| 18. KOREAN WAR PIN (1 1/4") | \$4.00 |
| 19. CIB REGULATION SIZE 3", BRIGHT SILVER..... | \$5.00 |
| 20. CIB 2" SILVER..... | \$5.00 |
| 21. COMBAT ARTILLERY BADGE 3", REGULATION SIZE..... | \$5.00 |
| 22. COMBAT ARTILLERY BADGE, 1 1/2"..... | \$5.00 |
| 23. FIELD ARTILLERY, 1 1/4" CROSS CANNON,GOLD COLO..... | \$4.00 |

- | | |
|---|---------|
| 30. KOREAN WAR VETERAN (BLACK) LICENSE PLATE FRAME..... | \$4.00 |
| 35. PIN KEEPERS..10 PINS W/ALLEN WRENCH PER BAG..... | \$6.00 |
| 50. KOREA (THE FORGOTTEN WAR DVD, 3 DISC SET..... | \$10.00 |
| 60. MAGNETIC PLAQUE 8"X 4" SAME AS HAT PATCH..... | \$4.00 |

PEASE ORDER WITH ITEM NUMBER AND ITEM NAME

PLEASE NOTE:PACKAGING AND POSTAGE COSTS ONLY

PATCHES,PINS,BADGES, \$ 1.50 TOTAL FOR ALL,1 SHIRT \$3.00

1 CAP \$3.00, EACH ADDL SHIRT OR CAP,ADD \$1.00

PLEASE NOTE; MAKE CKS PAYABLE TO FRANK JENNINGS

ANY QUESTIONS, CALL 321-751-9103

FRANK JENNINGS

P.O. BOX 410337

MELBOURNE FL 32941-0337

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5th R.C.T. Association Membership Application

(Please Print)

Name _____ Phone _____ - _____ - _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Years Served With 5th R.C.T. From: _____ 19____ To: _____ 19____

Company/Battery _____ Regt/Battalion _____ Special Assignment _____

Letter Unit (5th, 555th, 72nd, 53rd, 26th, Hvy Motar, Medic) (Rifleman, Gunner, Cook, Motors, Clerk, etc)

Name of Spouse _____ <Not Mandatory> Your Nickname _____

LIFE Membership is not available.

Dues are now accepted thru the year 2015

1st Year Dues - \$15.00 for membership and \$5.00 for membership roster. (Total \$20.00)

2nd Year and beyond Dues are \$15.00 and are due before 1 January of each year.

Membership Rosters are \$6.00 plus \$3.00 Postage (Total \$9.00)

Please make checks payable to:

5th R. C. T. Association
P. O. Box 410337
Melbourne, FL 32941-0337

Sponsor: _____
e-mail: _____

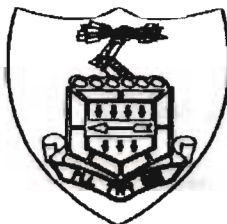
Please DO NOT send Dues or Change of Address to the Editor
Send to the Secretary/Treasurer

5TH REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM ASSOCIATION

Majority – Enemy Fire

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No.1478
St. Pete, FL

5th INF.



I'LL TRY, SIR!

AIR OBSERVATION SECTION

555th F.A.



Peace Through Violence



“BATTLE STARS”

Command Reports, Letters of Commendation from all Commanders of units attached to and far more historical material than can be stated in this space, proves beyond any doubt, the 5th Regimental Combat Team and it's attached units, were the most superb fighting unit of the Korean War!

In the length of time in battle (35 months) to guarding POWs (two months), a battle itself! Yes, you are truly the stars of the Korean War!

Receiving great respect from the United States Marines!

And even the enemy from the beginning, when you broke out of the Puson Perimeter and destroyed the crack 3rd Division of the NKPA, to Outpost Harry and the war's end! Need more be said?

Disembarkation 31 July thru 1 Aug. 1950 to 27 July 53

94.44 Percent of Actual Time Served in Combat

THE POSSIBILITY OF BEING KILLED IN COMBAT – ACCIDENTAL OR ENEMY FIRE –
 WWII 1 in 12 Korea 1 in 9 Vietnam 1 in 22

Majority – Enemy Fire

91 percent – Enemy Fire

Majority – Enemy Fire