

Iedo WALAWBUM Inkangawtaung nhpum-ga shaduzup MYITKYINA



The Burman News



Official publication of Merrill's Marauders Association, Inc.

August 2001

COME ALL YE HOT RODDERS COOL ONES TOO

The 55th Annual Reunion will take place in Indianapolis on Labor Day Weekend, August 31 - September 2, at the Indianapolis Marriott North. The Marriott North, located at 3645 River Crossing Parkway Indianapolis, IN 46240

By car: Indianapolis - IND (20 mi NE) I-465 North to Keystone Ave, exit 33, South on Keystone Ave to 86th Street, East on 86th St to River Crossing Blvd, North on River Crossing Blvd to River Crossing Parkway, hotel is on the right.

SIGHTSEEING TRIP

Thanks to the dedicated effort of Marauder Fred Stauch Jr., a Friday Morning Aug. 31, 2001, Guided Sightseeing Tour of Indianapolis has been arranged. The tour bus will pick up participants in front of the Marriott North, at 9:00 AM. Then proceed to downtown Indianapolis, pick up the tour guide, who will describe more than a dozen places of interest on route. Stop at the Civil War Monument and then to the World War Museum for a short visit. The bus will stop at the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial, the only one of its kind. Leaving the guide in Indianapolis, the bus will go to the Indianapolis 500 Speedway for a visit to the 500 Hall of Fame Museum that houses one of the largest collections of race, classic and antique cars. Chow Hounds will be able to buy their own lunch at the Speedway Restaurant, before returning to the hotel at about 2:00 PM.

Thanks to a generous anonymous admirer's \$200 donation and the MM Association's contribution, your only cost will be the \$3.00 admission fee to the 500 Museum. Those interested in taking the tour, see me (Historian, Robert E. Passanisi) or the designated

person, in the registration room on Thursday Aug. 30, 2001. Seating is limited. - Historian, Robert E. Passanisi

SPEAKER FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER - GRANT J HIRABAYASHI

Grant was born in Kent, WA in Nov. 1919 and in the year 1932, he went to Japan to continue his education. Upon graduation from High School in Japan, he returned and graduated from Kent High School in 1941. He then enlisted in the Army Air Corps after being inducted into the Army. In October of 1942, he entered the Military Intelligence Service Language School and upon graduation, he volunteered for overseas assignment and served with the 5307th, 1st Bn, Red Combat Team and fought in the Battles of Walawbum, Shadazup, Nhpum Ga and Myitkyina.

After the India-Burma Campaign, he was assigned to the South East Asia Translation and Interrogation Center (SEATC), in New Delhi, India and was attached to the British Royal Air Force as Translator. Subsequently, he was transferred to HQ China Theater and assigned to Sino Translation and Interrogation Center (SINTIC), Chungking, China where he served

as an Interrogator until the end of the war. After he attended the Japanese Surrender Ceremony held in Nanking, China as Personal Interpreter to Major General McClure, he returned to the USA and was discharged from the Army at Camp Mc Coy, Wisconsin in November 1945.

After discharge, he served as Japanese Language Instructor with the Military Intelligence Service from January 1946 to October, 1947. Then he was transferred to Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) Legal Section, Tokyo, Japan. He served as Interpreter, Interrogator, Court Interpreter and Court Monitor for the B Class War Crimes Trial held in Yokohama, Japan. Upon his resignation, he resumed his education at the University of Southern California where he received his BA and MA degrees in International Relations. Grant served with the Department of State, Library of Congress and after thirty years of service, retired from the National Security Agency in 1979.

(His Military Decorations include the Combat Infantryman Badge, Presidential Unit Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster and Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster.)

RANGER COLUMN



EIGHTH ANNUAL RANGER HALL OF FAME AWARD - OCTOBER 2000 CITATION, STAFF SERGEANT WARNER KATZ, 5307/3/OCT/I&R PLATOON

Staff Sergeant Warner Katz is inducted into the Ranger Hall of Fame for his heroic action while a lead scout for the I & R Platoon of Merrill's Marauders 3rd Battalion. After volunteering at the request of President Roosevelt for what was termed a "dangerous and hazardous mission", Sgt Katz repeatedly demonstrated his experience and keen observation abilities by detecting trip wires and scattered mine emplacements which he scouted out, marked and planned by-pass routes through the dense jungle. His actions saved innumerable additional casualties. A number of times in various situations, he left his safe position within the perimeter to drag wounded comrades to safety. He was the first Marauder to kill an enemy and also the first to be wounded., but he refused to be evacuated. Prior to his service with the Marauders, he saw considerable action in the South Pacific in combat with the Americal Division in the Solomon Islands. Sergeant Katz exemplifies the motto of the Marauders, "Sua Sponte" - "Of Their Own Accord" - and of the Rangers, "The Rangers Lead The Way". Sergeant Katz's decorations include the Bronze Star with cluster, Purple Heart with cluster, Presidential Unit Citation and numerous service awards.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

EDITOR

RE: WESTERN DIVISION MERRILL'S MARAUDERS REUNION

A group of Merrill's Marauders meet annually in Laughlin NV. The dates this year are September 21, 22 & 23rd. It is held in the Riverside Hotel and Ca-

sino on the banks of the Colorado River. It is a beautiful setting!! The costs are: Total package per couple \$269.00

Total package per single person 181.00

Meals only,, per person 84.00

Early arrival, 1 or 2 days, add per day 19.75

Considering the quality of lodging and food, it is a very reasonable price. Reservations can be made by sending a check to Ervin Matthis, 1908 Ernest Av, Redondo Beach CA 90278. (Phone: 310-379-3484). Checks to cover meals and room reservations, must arrive 30 days prior to the meeting. There is RV parking available for a nominal cost, or just the Casino Parking lot, at no cost. All rooms have a river view. Non-smoking rooms are available also.

Bob Mitchell, 5307/3/OCT

EDITOR

I am a doctoral student labouring over a thesis on rations in Burma at the University of Oxford, and have been trying since mid-January to get in touch with the Marauders Association _____ to no avail. I am very keen to hear from as many Marauders as are interested, their experience with rations and food in Burma. Many thanks, Rachel Johnstone, 16 Awgar Stone Road, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7FD, England <rachel.johnstone@st-cross.oxford.ac.uk>

EDITOR

I would like to contact a fellow Marauder who at the end of June 1944 during the Battle of Myitkyina while on patrol, was shot through the shoulder and dropped his rifle and pulled the pin on his hand grenade. I disposed of the grenade and bandaged his wound. We were I believe, in 5307/2 Bn/ F Company (not sure of the unit). It was Captain Maxim's outfit. I believe the soldier was from California. Robert Angle, 24380 Rosita Ln, North Olmsted OH 44070-1520, 440-779-6074

EDITOR

My Father Robert Parsils, has been moved to my house. He would love to hear from his old buddies. Thomas Parsils, 2054 Drake Ct, Mahwah NJ 07430

TREASURE EVERY MOMENT

Treasure every moment that you have.

Yesterday is History.

Tomorrow is a Mystery.

Today is a Gift. That's why it is called -
THE PRESENT.

PASS IN REVIEW

Deaths reported recently. Name and Hometown (Where Known), Organization, Where, When Deceased.

CLYDE D COOPER, 5307/2/BCT/I&R, 1411 McSpadden St, Knoxville TN 37921-6841, May 31, 2001 @ Dtr/
Clydette, 865-573-5824

STANLEY W DRAKE, 5307/2/MED; 475/2/MED, PO Box 96, Saint Clair MN 56080-0096, February 27, 2001 @
SOUND-OFF

OLIVER L EICKSTAEDT, 5307/1/WCT/MED, 15 Alfred St, East Wareham MA 02538-1226, BARBARA, Septem-
ber 10, 2000 @Mary Sims, Researcher

JOHN J GALLAGHER, 5307/3/HQ/HW; 475/3/HQ/HW, 6443 Yank Ct Apt C, Arvada CO 8004-228, 303-940-6145,
TERESA, May 2, 2001 @ Son John

CLAYTON E HALL 5307/3/KCT/ K CO, 402 Grandview Dr, Granbury TX 76049-5703, JULIA, April 21, 2001 @
Kathy Lehman, Dtr, (LLehman<llehman13@home.com>

DEAN M JACKSON, 5307/2/BCT, 904 E Monroe St, Mount Ayr, IA 50854-2238, April 25, 2000 @ Son/Richard

WILBER LITTLER, 5307/2/BCT/CO E, 36213 Stone Rd, Nashwauk MN 55769, March 4, 2001 @Gregory Walker

HARRY R MALY, 613/B/3, 811 Neeb Rd Apt 2, Cincinnati OH 45233, 922-4830, August 2, 2000 @ Widow/HELEN

HARRY E MINER, 5307/1/RCT/A CO, 4747 N West Ave, Fresno CA 93705-0928, March 7, 2001 @ SOUND-OFF

FRANK MONTROSE, 5307/HQ, 395 Sheridan Blvd, Inwood NY 11096-1203, August 23, 1987 @ Nephew/John

VINCENT J PITTARO, 5307/2/GCT/CO G, 1732 Buttonwood Ave, Toms River NJ 08755-0816, June 18, 2000, @
Widow/ANNE

FRANK QUINIO, 5307/2/BCT, 1727 Savona Pkwy, Cape Coral FL 33904-5047, April 5, 2001 @ Widow Bernadine

ROBERT P ROSE, 5307/2/E/LMG; 475/2/E/LMG, 403 N 7th St, Vincennes IN 47591-2116, (812) 882-2678, March
14, 2001 @ Widow/HELEN

ANTHONY F SPRYZENKI, 5307, 831 Morgan Rd, West Springfield, MA 01089, Spring 2001 @BillMeadows Jr

CARL W STOCKDALE, 5307; 475, 5600 65th Ave, Pinellas Park FL 33781-5530, March 30, 2001 @ Widow

BRICE TARLETON, 475/2/F/3 PL LDR, 1425 Sterling Rd, Charlotte NC 28209-1543, (704) 333-3521,
102554.2760@compuserve.com, NAIOMA, June 9, 2001 @ Son/ Ken, Kentarleton@mindspring.com

FRANCIS J TRAPPEN, 5307/1/RCT/HQ CO, September 14, 1994 @ Son/Francis JR, <skipribar@home.com>

WARREN T VENTURA, 5307/2/GCT/HW, 3061 Hampton Ave, Hemet CA 92545-5324, (909) 766-9472, March 10,
2000 @ Mary Sims, Researcher

STANLEY T WYKA, 12 Lakeview Ave, Rochelle Park NJ 07662-3102, September 2, 1997 @ Mary Sims, Researcher

NICK ZAK, 5307/2/BCT/E CO, 9537 Weldon Cir Apt 213, Tamarac FL 33321, March 8, 2001 @ Widow/Irene

FALL IN

Here are the latest additions to our assembly. Remember them? Get in touch.

JOHN B CICOLELLA, 5307/HQ/HQ DET/RE; 475/1/B CO, 136 75TH ST, NORTH BERGEN NJ 07047, Son
<johnchic@selective.com>

FAWN F FRIDAY, 5307/3/OCT, VET NURS HOME, 0903 MOORE DR, FLORENCE CO 81226-9508, (719) 784-1145

IRVEN HOLLIDAY, 5307/1/WCT/B CO, 12100 HILLTOP RD NE, PALMYRA IN 47164 <DEANIE1010@AOL.COM>

ROBERT J IGNACZAK, 2323 KNEER DR, TOLEDO OH 43614, (419) 381-0160

MILTON SCHWARTZ, 5307, 112-14 CORONA AV, CORONA NY 11368, (718) 699-4100

LOWELL DYER, 5307/2/ F CO; 475/2/F CO PLAT LDR, PO BOX 42, BACKUS MN, 56435,
<loeldyr@uslink.net>

SPEAKER SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER - COL WILLIAM D IVEY

Originally from Minnesota, Col Bill Ivey was commissioned in 1975. Following IOBC and Ranger School, he served for three years in the 1-14th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division as a Platoon Leader for rifle, weapons, and anti-tank platoons and as a company XO. He attended IOAC in 1979. In 1982, he went to Korea, where he served as an assistant S3 with the 1-9th Infantry, and commanded a rifle company at Camp Liberty Bell. He spent three years with the 82nd Airborne, serving as the S3 and XO of the 1-504th Infantry and G3 Training Officer. After CGSC, Col Ivey went back to Korea as a War Plans Officer with the Combined Field Army. Col Ivey left JRTC to command the 4th Ranger Training Battalion at Fort Benning GA.

Col Ivey left JRTC to command the 4th Ranger Training Battalion at Fort Benning GA. After a brief stint as the Chief of the Tactics Division of the Infantry School, he attended the U.S. Army War College. Upon graduation, he was assigned to U.S. Forces Japan, where he served as the Deputy J5 for a year and Deputy J3 for two years. He recently completed a year at FORSCOM DCSOPS as the Chief of the Advanced Concepts Office, and is currently commanding the 3rd Brigade, 85th Division (Training Support). He is a Ranger Master Parachutist, and has the EIB.

Col Ivey and his wife Debbie have two daughters, Kelly, age 7 and Heather, who is a Sophomore at Georgia Tech.

OFFICERS ROW

PRESIDENT EMERITUS - Phil Piazza

This year has been an unusually hectic one, more so than usual, with innumerable changes of command and ceremonies, as well as meetings. The Best Ranger Competition this year was the best ever, and the Brigade and Col. Baron are to be complimented for the excellent job that they did. The Jungle Camp in Florida, as well as the First Battalion in Savannah and Camp Frank D Meerill had three days of anniversary celebrations. It was all very interesting and enjoyable. I wish that more of you Marauders could get away to see some of the exciting things that are going on within the Regiment and Brigade these days. You would be inordinately proud of these young Rangers, who are doing so much for their country without any praise, and at the same time are carrying on the fine traditions of the Ranger units that came before. You would also be thrilled to go out on some of the live fire exercises, as I have so frequently, and see how efficiently, and professionally, they carry out their tasks. Believe me, fellow Marauders, we are in good hands, and all the officers and enlisted men should be complimented as well for their efforts and esprit de corps.

All we ever hear of in the news media these days are the bad things that young men are doing. Nobody ever mentions the fine job these young people are doing and their dedication to duty. I will get off my soap box now. I think it is pretty obvious how proud we are of these young Rangers. Rangers lead the way

(Continued on page 6)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - Ray Lyons

The Ranger Hall of Fame Executive Board voted on 16 April 2001 to induct the following individuals into the Ranger Hall of Fame. The ceremony will be conducted on 25 July 2001 at 1600 in Marshall Auditorium, Building 4, Fort Benning, Georgia. CPT Dick Stewart, MSG Milton Lockett Jr., MSG John D. Minatra, SSG James D Geer, SGM Sisto Cicuzza, BG Wes Taylor, LTC Ronald Ray, CSM Donald Purdy, COL Charles Beckwith, SFC Albert Atkins, **LT Edward Mc Logan, MM**, MSG Mike Smith, CPT Marvin Roberts. (ED: Lt McLogan's citation will appear in next issue B/N)

LTC Marcus F. De Oliveira, Regimental S-1, 75th Ranger Regiment, deolivem@soc.mil

The absence of Members Directories will be an appropriate topic for discussion at the reunion. There will be none available. We have at this time no advance proposals for the 2002 Reunion sites. The Board of Directors will be offering a site. Also at this time, we have only one Marauder who has shown interest in running for the office of President of the Association. His resume appears elsewhere in the B/N. Candidates can still be nominated from the floor at the Reunion.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

EDITOR

I will be more than happy to help any way I can with what resources available to me. I not only have the latest SS death index each time it is updated, but I have many other resources I can search, although admittedly most are for California. However, I will do what I can for out-of-state.

I would certainly like to make contact with some Marauder who knew Felix, or was in same unit as he was. Bob Passanisi sent information that he is shown as Pfc. Felix Bertrand, ASN 6592366, was in 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), 3rd Battalion, Orange Combat Team, I Company .

He was 6'6", had straight black hair, crooked teeth and many tattoos on upper body. He told me he carried a Browning automatic throughout the time there and was, for some reason, extremely proud of that. He denied ever being injured, but told of hunger, lack of water, drinking filthy water from depressions in the mud. He told, in great detail about the battles at Shaduzup, Walawbum and about the waves of suicidal Japanese being killed and how they kept coming and piled up on their own dead - and the taking of Myitkyina.

Strangely, I don't recall his telling when or where he was sent from there. I do know that he might very

well have been among those who went AWOL at the very beginning when "The Marauders" tells of some taking off for a city in India (I don't recall name). He did tell that he and another soldier stayed a while in a small village and "shacked up" with a couple of the young girls there - and he carried a picture of one standing naked in a doorway. He said her father was the one who had given him the Gurkha knife that hung on our wall (identical to the one on the cover of the GALAHAD binder). He told how it could be thrown by the natives in such a way that it cut the throat of a goat from some distance away. He said he and the other Marauder left and returned to their group when he discovered the girl was pregnant and told him she was going to have his "Beebee".

I never doubted his story, but it was really of no concern to me and I suspected it happened many times over with others in MM. At least they ate well there for the 3-4 weeks (?) the two of them were there.

I would be proud to be an Honorary Marauder. No need to send the B/N to his children as I intend to compile all I can about their father and his time as a Marauder and give that to them. We all live very close to each other (within blocks).

I don't know how you would list me as we did divorce after nearly 8 years of marriage (we married shortly after his discharge). I suppose you could show me as Mary Inglis Bertrand Sims. Our children are: Walter Inglis Bertrand and Kathy Bertrand Smothers.

My address is 524 San Antonio Way, Sacramento, CA 95819-2713.

I do thank you for the information you have given me. I had blocked out so much, but feel it is important to remember all I can about Felix told me so his children can know him as he was during that time with the Marauders. Mary Inglis Sims, 524 San Antonio Way, Sacramento CA 95819-2713, 916-457-2853, <inglis@pacbell.net>

EDITOR

My Uncle's name was Vito Lucerno Jr., ASN 32766593, Private First Class. He was born in San Vito, Italy and lived in Bayonne NJ before being drafted into the Army. His last assigned unit was the 5307th Composite Unit. He was killed in action somewhere in Burma. (Ed: At Myitkyina, maybe during the bombing by friendly air force? Anyone confirm this?) The only information that I have is that he is buried in the Manila Cemetery and Memorial, Manila, Philippines. I don't know for sure that he was buried there or if his name is just on the Memorial. I

OFFICERS ROW

CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AT NEXT REUNION ELECTION

JACKSON B POKRESS

Confirming our telephone conversation of last week I offer my many years of experience in public life to be able to lead this prestigious organization into the new millennium We must preserve our legacy and history for future generations so they will learn and know who we were, what we did, where we did it and its effect on military history from 1944 and the many years to come

Along with my late wife, Wilma, we published the OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS for over 25 years. This was a chain of suburban newspapers which has won many state and national awards for journalism. To this day I am an accredited member of the US Senate Press Photographers Gallery and am accredited to the White House I have an extensive newspaper background in both daily and weekly newspapers

I have served in public life for many years I am a member of the North Massapequa Fire Department for over 45 years and a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners for over 31 years

In the fire service I was President of the Association of Fire Districts of Nassau County and President of the Long Island Legislative Committee, a committee of fire district officials from both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. We prepare legislation for all the fire service in NY State and meet with the governor on a regular basis

As you know I was a Signal Corps Combat Photographer and much of my film is part of the history of this association I am currently on a speaking tour throughout Long Island where I speak about the Marauders, show film and tapes, and hold a question and answer forum after the tapes are shown. I am joined by my good friend Marauder Harry Palmer who is also a volunteer fireman for over 40 years.

After the war I became Public Affairs Officer for the ARNG Army Reserve National Guard and again I provided publicity for the Marauders

Served as President of the Press Photographers Association of Long Island and for over 5 years was on the congressional staff of Congressman Peter King.

LOST, STRAYED, STOLEN

Burman News copies returned by Postal Service for some reason to these men at address shown.

HORACE AYERS, 419 Quailwood Dr, Athens GA 30606-1443, ATT, UNKNOWN, UNIT(?)

OLIVER L EICKSTAEDT, 15 Alfred St, East Wareham MA, 02538-1226, Moved, Left No address

CHESTER E GRANGER, 5307/KCT/K CO, 143 Willington Hill Rd, Willington CT 06279-1728, SYLVIA, ATTEMPTED NOT KNOWN

WILLIAM T HILL, 248 County Rd 482, Lexington AL 35648, No such number

WILLIAM KENNEDY, RR 5 BOX 332, Philadelphia MS 39350-0805, 601-656-5589, Street # changed by county. Old address expired

JACK NICHOLS, 475/3/K Co, 1620 W 7th St S Apt 8, Newton IA 50208-5321, ATT NOT KNOWN

JOSEPH J PAMULA, 5307/2/HQ CO, PO Box 541 Woonsocket RI 02895-0541, BOX CLOSED NO ORDER

JOSEPH A PETTIT, 5307/3 /OCT/HQ, PO Box 224 Toronto OH 43964, UNDEL UNABLE TO FWD

ELWOOD A PIKE, Ridge Av, Williamson PA 17270, FWD ORDER EXPIRED

OTTO SCHULTZ, 301 E Walnut St, Apt 6A, Dickson TN 37055-1809, Refused

MILTON SCHWARTZ, 13955 35th Av Apt 2A, Flushing NY 11354-3507 - Moved left no address

JOHN L TYRE, 5307/1/RCT 1127 N Lake Dr, Dublin GA 31027-3502, 912 875-2004, swilliam@nlamerica.com, DARRELL, NOT DELIVERABLE

STANLEY T WYKA, 12 Lakeview Av, Rochelle Park NJ 07662-3102, Att. Not Known

BURRELL YOUNGBLOOD, 7827 Oakland Dr, Portage MI 49024-4933, Unknown

LETTERS / Continued

always thought his body was never found.

I am looking for information anyone may have about his time in the service and about his death. I've grown up looking at his picture and always wanted to find out about him. My mother has very little information because she was still in Italy when he was killed. All she ever told me was that he was killed in Burma and his body was never found. I wrote to St Louis for Military Records, but they said they were lost in the fire. I truly feel someone out there must know something or could direct me to someone who can help me.

Rose Bujnowski, Honorary Member

My address is: ROSE BUJNOWSKI, 66 WEST 12TH ST., BAYONNE NJ 07002, E-mail Jbebrb12@gateway.net.

EDITOR

My name is Bill Faulkner and I had a brother, T/5 Frederick "Freddy" Faulkner, who served with the 5307th Merrill's Marauders from the beginning. I know he was in the 33rd QM Pack Troop, had his ship sunk and lost 300 mules on the way over to India. He was a saddle and harness maker by trade and I guess made many repairs and alterations of equipment for the animal packs. He often talked about a friend, Russ Vaughn, whom I called and had a brief conversation with and he remembered Freddy really well. Freddy was a rodeo competitor before the service and did mention that there were a couple of others that did the same. My brother passed away in 1988, leaving very little information about his experiences in the 5307th. I would like to hear from anyone who might have remembered him. I'd like to say that after reading "The Marauders" and "Spearhead" that I think you men were the greatest heroes ever and that I would be proud to know each one of you. The Marauders were assigned a nearly impossible mission and proved to many skeptics that nothing was too tough for them to accomplish and they delivered and for that my family salutes them. My thanks to Ray Lyons for all his great help and I look forward to the next re-union as a family member. Hoping to hear from anyone about Freddy. My address is PO Box 355, Fishers Island NY 06390, Tel: 631-788-7863, e-mail: Faulkner<clydefi@fishersisland.net>

EDITOR

Kate Thomas <katethomas@gpoconnect.net> wrote:
My dad was Tech. 4, Richard Henry Thomas, 12024710, Co. G a Marauder who was stationed with

the 33rd Inf. in Trinidad when the call went out for volunteers. He was put in the 2nd Battalion of the Marauders and assigned to the Green Combat team, but on February 18, 1944, he was one of 20 men seriously injured near Shingbuiyang when the truck they were riding in lost its brakes descending a hill and crashed into a pile of logs at the bottom. His shoulder was broken and both feet injured and he was sent to recover in the 20th General Hospital in India. While there, Gen. Stilwell was visiting and had his picture taken with Dad. (publicity photo???)

Dad was pulled out of the hospital to fight around the end of May 1944. He was shot in the lower abdomen on July 28, 1944 at Myitkyina and eventually sent to Rhoads Hospital in Utica, New York, where he spent 9 months recovering.

I know Dad did have three bouts with malaria, and suffered from "jungle rot on his feet.

He passed away on October 26, 1985 from a heart attack. For some reason he never received the unit citation or the Bronze star for his service, and our family is looking into that situation now.

Dad never spoke much about the war, so I would like to hear from anyone who knew or served with him.

Thanks, Kate Thomas

SHARING THE STORY

ALONG THE TRAIL - AUCHE TO NHPUM GA

During the morning hours, before daybreak, Major Healy and Capt. Ashby, informed me that my platoon would be the "POINT" on our way to Nhpum Ga.

Japanese troops were reported close by, therefore I was instructed to move my men out quickly and keep the column marching at a fast pace. At exactly 0700 hours, I was to call for a "break" in order to permit the rear guard to catch up, which is what I did. However, at that instant, the Japanese began to shell our main column. The order double time was echoed, and we began to run to our destination which was a little over four miles away. At approximately 0830 hours, what seemed to be days later, we finally arrived at the village.

General Merrill, whose command group had spent the night at the "Hill", asked me what happened. Being out of breath, he realized my predicament and suggested that I sit down until I was able to explain the situation to him -- which I did many minutes later.

I was then instructed by General Merrill to gather up all men available and report to Capt William Scott. We were to go back down the trail and set up a delay-action maneuver in order to allow the main body sufficient time to dig in at Nhpum Ga.

We returned to the trail, Capt Scott then instructed me to

CARRYING THE TORCH

Torch Carriers, some new and some old. Honorary Members that are in touch.

MRS MARY S CONWAY, 16 Flagg St, Cambridge MA 02138-6110, WID/JERRY

WILLIAM FAULKNER, PO BOX 355, Fishers Island NY 06390-0355, 631-788-7863, Brother/Frederick Faulkner

STEPHEN FRIDAY, 514 GOLDEN GATE AV, POINT RICHMOND CA 94801, (510) 236-0370, FAX (510) 235-3354, SBFRIDAY@MSN.COM, SON/FAWN

ELVA R RAINEY, 1245 W Eldredge Rd, Pocatello ID 83201-6064, Widow/Clarence

EDWIN A REIGEL, 1204 E 16th St, Sterling IL 61081-2660, (815) 625-0569, Ed Reigel <ear@essex1.com> BRO/HERBERT EBERHARDT

ELIZABETH SAVITT/CARTER, 601 FAIRVIEW RD, NARBERTH PA 19072-1415, DTR/SIDNEY

RHONDA SEVIER, RR 1 BOX 179, OAKLAND CITY IN 47660, DTR/ROBERT SPEER

PAUL SMITH, 1959 S POWER RD STE 103,PMB128, Mesa AZ85206-4389, (480) 814-9060, SON/DARYL

MARK TROGUS, 1508 Beacon St, Lancaster OH 43130-2108, SON/DAVID

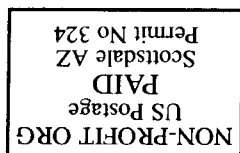
HOWARD A YAMAGUCHI, PO Box 247, Elk Rapids MI 49629-0247, (231) 264-6741, hayamaaguch@cs.com, SON/JIMMIE, PATRICIA

SHARING THE STORY, continued

“dig-in” on the East side. With all of my men in place, I told Horace Rieger to position himself to protect the B.A.R. flank. At that very moment, a “knee mortar” round exploded a few feet to his right, causing serious injury to his entire side. I immediately helped him to the Medics which were stationed on the “Hill”

Upon my return to the original area, all “HELL” broke loose with more incoming mortar fire. As I turned to observe from where it had been coming, I saw Capt Scott running in my direction with his face hidden with blood. I hurriedly threw my arm around him and managed to get him to the Medics up on the “Hill”. After that, I returned to the trail and was told to “dig-in”

S/Sgt Clarence Matlovich, 5307/2/.BCT/3 PLATOON, 2073 SW Idaho Ln, Port St Lucie FL 34953-2373



MERRILL'S MARAUDERS
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