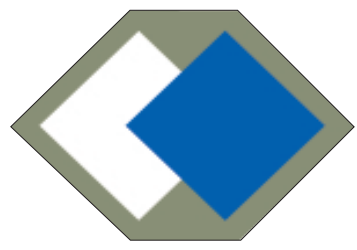


DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Fall, 2016

To Be Held in Minneapolis in July, 2017

Prepare for the 60TH Annual Deadeye Reunion

Submitted by Diane O'Brien

JOIN US for a reunion filled with good times, a celebration of our Division and the treasured friendships we all share.

Join us for the 60th Annual Reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Association in beautiful Minneapolis, MN July 27-30, 2017.

Mark your calendar now, and watch the spring 2017 Deadeye Dispatch for the registration materials and other information.

We invite all 96th Deadeye Association veterans, members, family and friends to join us. Details are still being determined, but you can expect great accommodations, memorable tours, evening events and an over-all great time! Minneapolis is a great American city that is



Mark Your Calendars:

DEADEYE REUNION 2017

DESTINATION:.....Minneapolis, MN, USA
 DATES:.....Thurs., July 27- Sun., July 30, 2017

home to thousands of acres of parks, trails and natural attractions such as the **Chain of Lakes, Minnehaha Falls** and the **Mighty Mississippi River**.

And all this is set alongside nationally renowned dining, theater, tax-free shopping, professional sports and world class museums. Nowhere else blends culture with nature quite like the Twin Cities does.

And with St. Paul just next door, you get two great Twin Cities for the price of one--the best of both worlds. Minneapolis will welcome the Deadeyes with open arms and first class hospitality. Here's just a sampling of places you'll want to visit when you're in town for the reunion:

Fort Snelling: A National Historic Landmark

Built in the early 1820s, **Historic Fort Snelling** is a great place to learn about military history from before the Civil War through World War II, fur trade history, slavery in Minnesota, the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and much more. Fort



Snelling is also the home of the 96th Infantry Division monument dedicated in 2014. Reunion plans include a visit to this monument as part of our city touring.

Mall of America

The **Mall of America** has become a "shining star" for the entire state of Minnesota. From planes, trains, and cross-country road trips, Mall of America has become a destination for everything from family vacations, reunions, shopping trips, etc. The Mall now generates nearly \$2 billion each year in economic

impact for the state and has put Minnesota on the map as a tourist destination. It's been ranked as the second most visited tourist attraction in the country, drawing millions of visitors locally, nationally and internationally.

There's even an amusement park that all ages will enjoy--particularly the young ones in your family. The MOA is an experience unlike anything you've had before, so easy ways to visit will be provided while you're in town.

See the Spring, 2017 Edition of the Deadeye Dispatch or the website, 96thdeadeyes.org, for details on the 60TH Reunion in Minneapolis!



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DISPATCH

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

Paul T. Beeghly
Santa Ana, CA
96th Infantry Division
February 5, 2016
Posted on Facebook
by daughter, Ann E. Beeghly

Peter Bourgeois
Houma, LA
96th Infantry Division
May 9, 2016
Posted on Facebook

Walter L. Boyd
Waco, TX
Co. C, 382nd Inf
August 13, 2016
By Son, Parker Boyd

Robert "Red" Buskirk
LaMirada, Calif.
Co. K, 383rd Infantry
March 20, 2016
By Daughter, Peggie Zuber

Doug Burton
Selma, CA
Co. C, 382nd Infantry
March 25, 2016

John Granda
Crystal, MN
363rd FA
June 1, 2016
By Daughter, Faye Goodwin

Max Hymas
Sweet, Idaho
Co. L 383rd Infantry
January 27, 2015
By Son, Doug Hymas

Karel Allison Knutson
Puposky, MN
361st FA Co B
September 21, 2016
By Family

Daniel Calvin Newman Jr.
Baton Rouge, LA
382nd Infantry, CO E
May 14, 2016
By Grandson, Jeremy Rist

Carlos Oropeza
San Diego, CA
382nd Infantry
By Louis Canedo

Robert Seiler
Portland, OR
Co. K 382nd Infantry
May 16, 2016
By George Brooks

Lawrence Ulrich
Cincinnati, OH
Co. M, 383rd Inf.
April 3, 2016
By Daughter,
Deborah Ulrich

Olin Lee Underwood
Hastings, Nebraska
April 11, 2014
Co. B, 321st Engineer Combat
Battalion
By Daughter, Cheryl Lorhan

Charles M. Whitfill
Fairbury, IL
(formerly of Hot Springs, AR)
382nd, Medical Tech
July 29, 2016
By Grandson, Jeff Paternoster



60 Years of Deadeye Reunion Cities

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ST</u>
1958	St Louis	MO	1978	New Orleans	LA	1998	Ft Mitchell	KY
1959	Chicago	IL	1979	Denver	CO	1999	Denver	CO
1960	Kansas City	MO	1980	Springfield	IL	2000	Salt Lake City	UT
1961	Detroit	MI	1981	Milwaukee	WI	2001	Omaha	NE
1962	Dallas	TX	1982	Dearborn	MI	2002	Kansas City	MO
1963	Little Rock	AR	1983	Houston	TX	2003	Tulsa	OK
1964	Portland	OR	1984	St Paul	MN	2004	Salt Lake City	UT
1965	Minneapolis	MN	1985	Oklahoma City	OK	2005	Washington	DC
1966	Indianapolis	IN	1986	Fresno	CA	2006	Denver	CO
1967	Omaha	NE	1987	Memphis	TN	2007	Salt Lake City	UT
1968	Chicago	IL	1988	Peoria	IL	2008	Nashville	TN
1969	Des Moines	IA	1989	Rapid City	SD	2009	Branson	MO
1970	Detroit	MI	1990	Omaha	NE	2010	Milwaukee	WI
1971	Denver	CO	1991	Spokane	WA	2011	Columbus	GA
1972	New Orleans	LA	1992	Louisville	KY	2012	Colorado Springs	CO
1973	Peoria	IL	1993	Sparks	NV	2013	San Diego	CA
1974	Indianapolis	IN	1994	Hot Springs	AR	2014	Chicago	IL
1975	Kansas City	KS	1995	Lubbock	TX	2015	New Orleans	LA
1976	Fort Worth	TX	1996	Des Moines	IA	2016	Washington	DC
1977	Cincinnati	OH	1997	St Louis	MO	2017	Minneapolis	MN

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:

Diane O'Brien
6800 S. Strand Ave., #585
Yuma, AZ 85364
Phone: 608-534-5141
or 608-317-2496
Email: ddoebrien@trivest.net

Pat McMillan
PO Box 2432
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
Phone: 479-200-1841
Email: pmil45@yahoo.com

Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication of the
96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association
• Fall 2016 Edition •

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

Update your Address
For changing your address
Diane O'Brien
6800 S. Strand Ave., #585
Yuma, AZ 85364
608-317-2496
ddobrien@trivest.net

Deadeyes Online at 96thdeadeyes.org

Washington DC Reunion 2016...



Held in Washington, D.C. last July

59TH Annual 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Reunion: Mission Accomplished

Submitted by Annie Moroz Duncan, 2016 Reunion Chair

Dear WWII Deadeye veterans, wives, families and friends,

Thank you for attending this year's reunion held at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn in Arlington, Virginia, Thursday, July 14 through Sunday, July 17, 2016.

The Holiday Inn Rosslyn was perfect for our reunion. We enjoyed the free parking, friendly staff, convenient snack bar, and, of course, the 2nd floor which was the hub of our activities – the history room, ballroom and registration. Breakfast each morning offered a hot buffet and spectacular view; plus, the opportunity to bump into other Deadeyes, friends and family. Our more adventurous attendees walked to the nearby Metro station as a quick way to see the sights of DC.

Thursday began with check-in and getting settled for Friday's tour. Some of our early arrivals joined Roland Champagne for a guided tour of the Pentagon. Feedback was very positive. Thanks, Roland (a Deadeye son) for

arranging this outing. Thursday evening, the Association Board of Directors met from 7 – 10 pm.

Friday's tour was fantastic – thank you to all those involved in planning the event and helping count noses on the buses! The weather was accommodating as we visited the WWII Memorial first. The mist from the fountain helped tame the heat. We had a military color guard and bugler at the wreath laying. The volunteer tour guides at the memorial were ready to meet our group and offered interesting information.

Then came a welcome surprise – Senator Bob Dole arrived to greet our Deadeyes. He was friendly as he spoke with many of our members and posed for many, many pictures! A group of middle school students from the mid-west were also visiting the memorial at the same time and delighted our WWII veterans by lining up to thank them for their service and shake their hands! Our guys really enjoyed these young students.

Getting on the buses, we enjoyed a cool bottle of water and some hard candy, donated by Wegmans. Next we stopped at the Air and Space museum for a quick lunch at their food

court – possibly the busiest McDonalds in the country! Recharged, we caught a quick glimpse of some displays on our way back to the buses.

Off we went to Arlington National Cemetery where we were allowed to drive our buses to the site of the 96th Infantry Division marker. We should have left a flag so it would be easier to find it next time! All the markers in the cemetery look the same, so finding ours took a few minutes. However, the cemetery had set up seats and a podium for our brief ceremony so once found, the wreath-laying proceeded. Don Dencker gave a brief history of the marker and reminded us of the original dedication and how small the tree was then. He was pleased and amazed that it grew into such a lovely, sturdy tree! Was it really over 15 years ago?

Friday evening brought a buffet dinner. Excitement was in the air as we gathered everyone noting the stage and having heard about the upcoming entertainment. We were not dis-

appointed as Erin Diaz and Amanda Newman of Letters from Home delighted us with their costumes, songs and dance.

Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the show was their interaction with the audience. They sang to many of our Deadeyes and guests. Veterans in the audience were invited to stand when their branch of the service was mentioned in song; the Army definitely ruled! We all sang along when the girls invited us to sing the refrain of Minnie the Moocher! Four of our guests were brought on stage to help the girls recreate, "Six Jerks in a Jeep," as sung by the Andrew Sisters in the Abbott and Costello movie, "Buck Privates." Our board member, Dave Ellis, was the driver – better keep an eye out for him on the road!

Just when we thought the evening couldn't get any better, Ray Radzivila was invited to the stage as the girls serenaded him with "You Call Everybody Baby." He played along perfectly as each singer accused him of taking them out on a date – we rolled with delight. What a great memory! They closed with

"Thanks for the Memories." After the show, many of us purchased CD's to take a bit of their music home with us.

Saturday began with the Memorial Service. Thank you to everyone involved in this service, especially Glenn Stewart our Chaplain and emcee. Mary Eleanor Wood Smith organized the speeches of memories from several Deadeye daughters who were read by Deadeye daughters. Our group picture followed using the ballroom stage so we avoided another panoramic group photo, much to Joe Boyack's delight.

The ladies and men's (ASTP) luncheons were held at the hotel restaurant. The view, company and food was terrific with a chef slicing filet of beef; fried butterfly shrimp, chicken in cream sauce, vegetables, an assortment of salads, soup, iced tea and a choice of dessert. Luncheon favors were provided by Wegmans. Thanks to Mary Eleanor Wood Smith for sending the ladies' door prizes.

(Article continued on page 4)

Washington DC Reunion 2016

(Continued from page 3)

Mission Accomplished: Washington, D.C. Reunion

Enjoying a few hours of free time, we were on our own for a little bit to explore DC, rest, or visit the history room to listen to more Deadeye stories, an activity that never grows old!

Saturday evening's cocktail hour and banquet topped off a great reunion. The hotel's food was once again surprisingly fresh and tasty. We started with a spinach salad, followed by a hearty portion of beef, chicken or fish. Dessert was German chocolate cake! Yum! As a take along for our trip home, Wegmans provided a snack bar for each attendee.

The banquet program included a presentation by Robert Feinstien about the weapons used in the battles of the Pacific during WWII. Roland Champagne also had a presentation about his memories of his father and his father's struggles with Alzheimer's Disease. Thanks to both Deadeye sons for sharing their experience and knowledge with the group.

Don Klimkowicz made the presentation of a new streamer for the division flag – Queen of the Battle. We were reminded of the hardships of battle and the many awards presented to the 96th Infantry Division for their bravery in WWII. Thanks to William Hill and his family for sending the streamer. William's daughter runs the website, "Remember the Deadeyes."

This year's reunion was made up of 20 Deadeyes, and another 100-plus friends and family members. Some Deadeyes had more than a dozen family members in attendance. Word has gotten around how much fun a Deadeye reunion is! And for many of us, it was the time to gather and visit with our other



family and friends that have been made over the years at reunions and visits outside of reunions, and also new friends made this year.

We sincerely hope that we accomplished our goal for this year's reunion – to find a reasonable, easy-to-navigate hotel that could provide room to gather (the history room); great food (breakfast, lunches and banquet); and time to take a break from our normal activities to reunite. Thank you to everyone who helped with this year's reunion.

As the sign my Dad has near his computer reads, "If you value your freedom, thank a Veteran." We would not be the people we are or live in a free country as we do, except for the service your generation gave during WWII. We meet to honor you and remember your legacy – we will not forget your bravery or sacrifice!

*May God bless you all
until we meet again,*

Annie Moroz Duncan
2016 Reunion Chair



TOP PHOTO
DC Reunion Attendees

MIDDLE PHOTO
The Moroz Family
had the most family members
at the reunion - 17!

PHOTO AT RIGHT
Wegmans, Concordville, Pa,
Todd Strassner, Jr., Store
Manager, accepting certificate
of appreciation from 96th
Deadeye Assoc. member Mike
Moroz and Annie Moroz
Duncan for reunion donations.





Deadeye News & Features

Beauford Anderson: Deadeye Medal of Honor Recipient

*Information Submitted by
Don Dencker, Historian,
96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association*

Beauford Theodore Anderson was born on July 6, 1922 in Eagle, Wisconsin, and moved to nearby Soldiers Grove before joining the Army. Enlisting in the United States Army in 1942, Anderson was sent to the South West Pacific theater in July 1944.

He earned the Bronze Star while serving on the island of Leyte in the Philippines.

By April 13, 1945, he was participating in the Battle of Okinawa as a technical sergeant in the 381st Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division.

During a Japanese counterattack at Kakazu Ridge on that day, he single-handedly held off a flanking force by alternately firing his carbine and throwing activated mortar shells.

Although seriously wounded by shrapnel during the action, he refused medical evacuation until he had reported the situation to his commander. For these actions, Anderson was awarded the Medal of Honor the next year, on June 27, 1946.

Anderson served in the United States Army Reserve after the war, eventually gaining a commission as a second lieutenant. He left the military on September 30, 1952, after ten years of service.

Medal of Honor Citation

He displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. When a powerfully conducted pre-dawn Japanese counterattack struck his unit's flank, he ordered his men to take cover in an old tomb, and then, armed only with a carbine, faced the onslaught alone. After emptying 1 magazine at pointblank range into the screaming attackers, he seized an enemy mortar dud and threw it back among the charging enemy Japanese soldiers, killing several as it burst. Securing a box of mortar shells, he extracted the safety pins, banged the bases upon a rock to arm them and proceeded alternately to hurl shells and fire his piece among the fanatical foe, finally forcing them to withdraw. Despite the protests of his comrades, and bleeding profusely from a severe shrapnel wound, he made his way to his company commander to report the action. T/Sgt. Anderson's intrepid conduct in the face of overwhelming odds accounted for 25 enemy killed and several machine guns and knee mortars destroyed, thus single-handedly removing a serious threat to the company's flank.

Later life

After returning from the war, Anderson lived in Beloit, Wisconsin, and later spent time in Mackinac Island, Michigan. Ultimately, he relocated to Monterey County, California, where he served as mayor and city councilman of Seaside and as a Monterey County Supervisor. He lived on a cattle ranch near Hunter Liggett and spent the last years of his life in Salinas.

Anderson died on November 7, 1996. His wife of 50 years, Phyllis, died the next month, on December 23. They are buried together in Arlington National Cemetery.

BEAUFORD T. ANDERSON

BORN

July 6, 1922
Eagle, Wisconsin

DIED

November 7, 1996
Salinas, California

PLACE OF BURIAL

Arlington National
Cemetery

SERVICE BRANCH

United States Army

YEARS OF SERVICE

1942-1952

RANK

Second Lieutenant

UNIT

1st Battalion, 381st
Infantry Regiment,
96th Infantry Division

BATTLE OF OKINAWA

Awarded Medal of Honor,
Bronze Star, Purple Heart,
World War II Victory Medal

.....

OTHER 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

CLARENCE B. CRAFT

Private first class - 382nd
Infantry Regiment
(Okinawa)

OVA A. KELLEY

Private - 382nd Infantry
Regiment, KIA (Leyte)

EDWARD J. MOSKALA

Private first class - 383rd
Infantry Regiment, KIA
(Okinawa)

SEYMOUR W. TERRY

Captain - 382nd Infantry
Regiment, KIA (Okinawa)



President Harry S. Truman awards Anderson the Medal of Honor on June 27, 1946.



Beauford Anderson arriving by car for his monument dedication. August 5, 1989



Beauford Anderson, Medal of Honor awardee, Monument, Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin



Deadeye News & Features

Official Letter Honoring the 96th "Deadeyes" on Leyte as Dulag Names Hill 120 the "96th Infantry Division Veterans Memorial Park"

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Dulag

EXCERPT OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION HELD BY THE
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF DULAG, LEYTE, ON OCTOBER 14, 1977 AT THE
SANGGUNIANG BAYAN SESSION HALL

PRESENT:

Hon. Mayor Faustino Serrano Presiding Officer
Hon. Rodolfo Bautista Floor Leader
and all the other members present.

ABSENT:

SB Member Marcial Tupaz

RESOLUTION NO. 39

WHEREAS, the occupation of the Philippines by the Japanese Imperial Forces as a result of the World War has immediately ended democracy all over the country. Justice denied and all freedoms suppressed, the Filipinos at the point of the guns and swords of the Imperial military soldiers had to bow down to their orders;

WHEREAS, at Dulag, Leyte, Philippines, was stationed a very large number of Japanese soldiers with their greatest stronghold and observation post at Hill 120 in the municipality, as such, the residents of the town were made to experience the unbearable abuses of the intruders;

WHEREAS, thanks to the 96th Infantry Division of the United States Army, who, on October 20, 1944, after their landing at Blue Beach, Dulag, Leyte, Philippines, directed their attack on Hill 120, where they experienced their greatest encounter with the enemy, causing the killing of countless Japanese soldiers and the capture of several soldiers alive. Here, immediately after the encounter, 1st Lt. Clifford W. Mills raised the American flag in the Philippine soil;

WHEREAS, to give them honor, on October 19, 1973 the municipality of Dulag named Hill 120 as the 96th Infantry Division Veterans Memorial Park. To this effect, a yearly reunion of the 96th Infantry Division veterans and the people of Dulag, is held at Hill 120 to commemorate the anniversary of the Leyte landing;

WHEREAS, since then, the municipal officials had initiated the development of Hill 120 as a joint project of the 96th Infantry Division Veterans and the Municipal government, together with the cooperation of all civic spirited citizens;

WHEREFORE, as a tangible recognition of such meritorious achievement, worthy of much praise and honor, the Hon. Sangguniang Bayan of Dulag, thought it best, fit and proper to adopt the 96th Infantry Division Veterans of the US Army as SONS of Dulag, Leyte, Philippines, and so, on motion of Floor Leader Rodolfo Bautista seconded by all the other members present, resolve, as hereby is resolved, that this resolution - To Adopt the Veterans of the 96th Infantry Division, US Army, as SONS of Dulag, be, as hereby is, approved, and that all concerned be furnished a copy of this resolution for their guidance and information.

Approved unanimously.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

BENEDICTO de PAZ
M.S.B. Secretary

Copy furnished:
As stated

Attested:

FAUSTINO SERRANO
Municipal Mayor

Hill 120 Leyte Philippines

Information Submitted by
Don Dencker, Historian,
96th Infantry Division Deadeye
Association

Veterans of the 96th Infantry Division who landed on Leyte Island, Philippines on October 20, 1944 remember the commanding elevation, Hill 120, which overlooks our landing site. On top of this Hill 120 is a very fine 96th Infantry Division monument.

On October 14, 1977, the city of Dulag, Leyte, honored 96th Infantry Division Deadeyes by naming Hill 120 the "96th Infantry Division Veterans Memorial Park."

This is the document that accomplished this designation.



Deadeye News & Features

96th Infantry Division U.S. Army Amphibious Division

Leyte, Philippines
1944



Philippine Presidential
Unit Citation



361st Field Artillery Bn.



362nd Field Artillery Bn.



363rd Field Artillery Bn.



921st Field Artillery Bn.



"Deadeyes"

In Memory of Deadeyes of the 96th Infantry
Division killed during the Battle of Leyte,
Philippines and Okinawa, Japan - and for all
Deadeyes who fought with Valor and Distinction
to defeat Imperial Japan.

Served under General MacArthur to start the liberation of the Philippines by landing on Leyte on October 20, 1944. Served under Admiral Nimitz in the Battle of Okinawa, the final most costly battle of World War II in the Pacific. Individual 96th Infantry Division Companies awarded the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation on Okinawa: for Kakazu Ridge, Company I, 383rd Infantry Regiment; for Dick Hill, Company E, 382nd Infantry Regiment. Taking of Conical Hill by the 96th Division broke the right flank of the main Japanese Shuri Line and forced the Japanese retreat to the southern end of Okinawa.

Okinawa, Japan
1945



U.S. Army Presidential
Unit Citation



381st Infantry Regiment



382nd Infantry Regiment



383rd Infantry Regiment



321st Medical Battalion



Combat Infantryman Badge

Five Medal of
Honor Awards



Combat Medical Badge



321st Engineer
Combat Battalion



96th Reconnaissance
Troop



96th Ordnance
Company



96th Signal
Company



96th Quartermaster
Company



Attached Unit
763rd Tank Battalion

96TH Infantry Division Commemorative Plaque at Pacific War Museum

Information Submitted by Don Dencker, Historian, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

The 96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association installed this 96TH Infantry Division plaque at the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas on March 31, 2012. This large plaque identifies our division and its component units are shown.

Upper row: Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Division Patch and United States Presidential Unit Citation. On the left side, top to bottom are 361st, 362nd, 363rd and 921st Field Artillery Battalions. On the right side are the 381st, 382nd and 383rd Infantry Regiments and the 321st Medical Battalion. The bottom row consists of the 321st Engineer Combat Battalion, 96th Reconnaissance Troop, 96th Ordnance Company, 96th Signal Company, and the 96th Quartermaster Company. Also shown at the right end is the 763rd Tank Battalion. This Tank Battalion was attached to the 96th Infantry Division for the Leyte and Okinawa battles. Second row from the bottom has the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Combat Medical Badge.

Deadeye Reunion 2016 Photos



Reunion photos compliments of Joe Boyack

To see all of Joe's photos from the reunion and order copies, see PAGE 10.

Deadeye Reunion 2016 Photos

Reunion photos compliments of Joe Boyack.

To see all of Joe's photos from the reunion and order copies, see PAGE 10.



Deadeye News & Features



President's Report

DON KLIMKOWICZ, PRESIDENT
96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

JULY 25, 2016.... We just concluded another successful reunion and I want to thank Ann Moroz Duncan - Reunion Coordinator, Glenn Stewart - Memorial Service Coordinator/Chaplain, this year's Banquet Speakers Roland Champaign and Robert Feinstein, Don Dencker - History Room Coordinator/Historian, John Reed - our contact in SLC, Joe Boyack - Photographer, all the Deadeye daughters that spoke at this year's Memorial Service for all their efforts! Special thanks to Roland Champaign who organized a Pentagon tour and to Dave Gerson who arranged for the color guard and Senator Dole meeting at the WWII Memorial.

Board meeting summary: There are a number of board members up for renewal and the board nominating committee will contact them before our September board meeting to make their recommendations. Scott Buffington, Dispatch Publisher indicated the cutoff for articles to Fall, 2016 Dispatch is September 30th. He will be going to press in mid- October. Please have your articles submitted by the deadline. Scott is requesting anyone who has an interest in assisting with the Dispatch layout work to contact him. Diane O'Brien, Membership Coordinator, reported membership response is dwindling. The board is considering going to an open membership process using the web while soliciting donations through a paper mailing. A total of \$1,065 in dues and donations were collected. Dennis O'Brien, Treasurer, reported the Association and Heritage Fund are in good financial standing.

We discussed next year's reunion in Minneapolis, MN, which will be coordinated by Diane O'Brien. There was no location picked for 2018. As we are having fewer and fewer Deadeyes in attendance, the board has commissioned a special subcommittee composed of Barb Schmidt, Marvin Margoshes, Jim Collins, and Diane O'Brien to work on a special project to repurpose our organization. Anyone having suggestions for the committee to consider can contact any of the subcommittee members. The subcommittee will report out their recommendation at the 2017 reunion.

David Ellis continues to do an excellent job maintaining our website! Please remember to check the website, Facebook, and emails for the latest postings on items of interest.

As always, it is a privilege and an honor to serve you and I look forward to seeing many of you next year in Minneapolis!

Purchase Pics from Past Reunions too Reunion Photos Are Now On-Line!

Submitted by Deadeye Association Member, Joe Boyack (the "Beard with a Camera")

You've been asking for it (well, some of you anyway), and here it is! I have finally set up a web site for photos from the 96th reunions. This is still somewhat of a work in progress since several of the earlier years are on film (remember that?) and need to be digitized, but it is getting there. I am also including Photos from the scrapbooks of Glenn Stewart, Marvin Reames and others along with some of the miscellaneous things I have been collecting. Folders are being added as I get them finished (in no particular order) and will go back to 2001.

Digital copies of the photos

can be downloaded directly and print copies can be purchased at very reasonable prices (about the same as Wal-Mart, Costco, etc.) in a variety of sizes along with some other items (photo buttons, etc.). This is all at cost: the only one making any money off of it is the processing company.

Got pictures of your own that you would like to add to the collection? We can do that! Use the contact button at the top of the page and send me an email with your name and some info on what you have, and I will set up a gallery for you and send you the link to use for the upload.

The site is currently available to anyone with the link and password.

URL =
deadeyephoto.smugmug.com

Password = marjorie
(ask your Father, Grandfather or Annie Duncan)

Since I am still working on this, the appearance may change slightly from time to time but I intend to keep the same basic layout. If you have any suggestions, comments, questions, or problems you can use the contact button at the top of the page or:

email me directly at
96deadeyephoto@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars:

DEADEYE REUNION 2017

DESTINATION:.....Minneapolis, MN, USA
 DATES:.....Thurs., July 27- Sun., July 30, 2017

The Deadeye Dispatch NEEDS YOU!

DID YOU KNOW that the *Deadeye Dispatch*, the newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association, is one of the longest continuously published newsletters in the history of the United States Armed Forces? This publication began in the midst of World War II and has continued to this very day, keeping us all in touch with each other and honoring our shared values of Duty, Honor and Country.

Our *Dispatch* has become an outstanding publication, most recently through the volunteer support of Deadeye son Scott Buffington and MainStreet Newspapers who manage the production, printing and distribution of the *Deadeye Dispatch*. But print production and mailing expenses are not free and they are the single biggest expense of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association.

SUPPORT YOUR DISPATCH TODAY!

Your contribution is needed to help fund the expenses of producing the *Deadeye Dispatch*. It's important that you, your family and your friends continue to receive the *Dispatch* and all the news and information about the history and activities of the association. We need your help today.



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Please complete the form below and return this entire page along with your check in any amount made payable to: **96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association**

Mail to:
Dennis O'Brien, Treasurer
6800 South Strand, #585
Yuma, AZ 85364

YES!

The Deadeye Dispatch can count on my support in the amount of \$_____.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address (if applicable) _____
Phone _____ Cell _____

(Please note that phone and email information will only be used if we need to contact you. The 96th Infantry Division Association is committed to respecting and protecting the privacy of its membership.)

You can also help spread the news by sharing the DEADEYE DISPATCH with your family and friends. If you would like to do so, please provide their names and addresses on the right side of this form and return it with your generous donation.

YES, I want to share the Deadeye Dispatch with my family and friends.

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Deadeye Reunion 2017

Channel Fox 59 in Indianapolis Interviews Deadeye Bill Hill Hoosier hero honors those he served with by keeping their legacy alive

This is a reprint of an article that originally appeared on fox59.com in Indianapolis, Indiana about their interview with Deadeye William Hill.

An Indianapolis veteran is preserving the history of the WWII unit he served in and the brave comrades he fought alongside with.

William Hill created the website, rememberthedeadeyes.com about 7 years ago.

He served in M Company of the 96th Infantry Division of the US Army.

Hill says he is the last living member of M Company that served during the battle of Okinawa in April of 1945.

After the war, Hill worked as a reporter for the Army newspaper until he was discharged.

He went on to work at GM Allison for nearly 40 years, but would often write about his experiences with the Deadeyes.

After convincing from his children, Hill created a website filled with stories, pictures, videos and information about those who served.

What he experienced in war, the lives lost and the friendships made are why Hill says he honors his comrades

to this day.

"I would not have been near the human being if I had not had that experience," said Hill.

Mr. Hill also lectures on his experience in WWII and he says that he often helps families looking for information about a loved one who served.

There are more than five hours of reading content on the website including stories, poems, pictures and videos.

More than 22,000 people have visited rememberthedeadeyes.com.

Visit the Fox TV station archives for the complete production here: <http://fox59.com/category/news/hoosier-heroes/>



HILL WITH DAUGHTER AND DEADEYE FLAG... "Here is a picture taken of my daughter, my new Deadeye flag and myself. Janet lovingly made it on both sides back in Colorado and brought it to me." William Hill



Mark Your Calendars:

DEADEYE REUNION 2017

DESTINATION:.....Minneapolis, MN, USA

DATES:.....Thurs., July 27- Sun., July 30, 2017



Deadeye News & Features

By Don Dencker, Historian, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Historical Deadeye Recollections...

God Bless America

A beautiful and appropriate song entitled "God Bless America" was authored by famed composer Irving Berlin in 1918 and revised by him in 1938. This was three years prior to World War II. This song became the theme song of the noted radio singer, Kate Smith. It became familiar to almost everyone in the United States.

I participated in the return to the Philippines amphibious landing on Leyte Island, October 20, 1944. My army rifle company was one of the leading assault units. We landed at 10:00 A.M. against moderate Japanese resistance and by 2:00 P.M. weapons firing had nearly ended.

At about 2:00 P.M., I saw, coming out of the jungle on a trail into our front line, a Philippine man and a little girl about six years old. They were both dressed in what looked like tattered clothes. The man was carrying an American flag on a bamboo pole and both were singing "God Bless America." It took courage under the Japanese occupation to teach a child "God Bless America." Further, there were still Japanese troops in the jungle from which they came.

Now, move ahead fifty years to 1994. I was in a battlefield tour group of about 35 people. We flew into an airport at Tacloban, the capital of Leyte Island. On deplaning, we were escorted into the airport terminal. In came the Tacloban Municipal Choir to entertain us by singing. The first song they sang was "God Bless America." That brought tears to the eyes of many of the battle veterans, including myself.

A Sip of "Tuba"

This article is a continuation of my "God Bless America" article in the December Lighthouse Beacon.

October 20, 1944 was the date of my Army 96th Infantry Division landing on Leyte Island, Philippines. Our attack against the Japanese occupiers

and near the end of that day, I started to return some 800 yards to the beach for a needed replenishment of ammunition.

As I walked on a path through a large growth of coconut palm trees, I encountered a young Filipino man, who was barefoot and clad only in shorts. He said, "Drink" to me several times and I thought he wanted a drink of water, so I started to take out my canteen and cup. Then he said, "Don't need water, 'Tuba', for you." I had no idea what he meant.

Then, barefoot, he started to climb to the top of a palm tree where he detached a container and came back down beside me. I took a look into the container and I saw 7 or 8 dead flies floating around. "Drink," he said, and I said, "No flies." I started to put my canteen cup away. He immediately pulled a, probably not too clean, handkerchief out of his pocket and placed it over my canteen cup, straining the flies out of the liquid.

Then, in the spirit of sustaining American and Filipino friendship, I drank half of the Tuba; my new friend drank the other half. We shook hands, said goodbye and went on our separate ways.

'Tuba' is the name of the fermented juice from the blossom of the coconut palm tree. Since then, every time I have been back to the Philippines, I

have enjoyed at least one drink of 'Tuba.'

Sunday was a big day for the Filipinos. In the morning they would go to church and then, in the afternoon, men would take the money earned by their wives doing laundry and go to "Sunday School." A euphemism for cockfights. Typically, the husband, after losing the laundry money, would ask for her forbearance, only to go to "Sunday School" the next week and lose the laundry money again.

Booze & a Smoke

This is a continuation of my adventures on Leyte Island, Philippines after our assault landing on October 20, 1944.

By the end of 1944, we had killed off the Japanese troops in our sector. This allowed my unit to set up house-keeping in tents near Leyte Gulf where we had assault-landed. The Filipinos had returned to their damaged or undamaged homes in the area.

Life had gotten better for us as we started receiving rations of cigarettes and U.S. beer. At this time we were receiving our pay in Philippine "Victory" pesos. Each Victory peso was worth 50 cents U.S. money.

Then we started receiving a cigarette

ration of one carton of cigarettes a week. Soon a black market among the Filipinos with value per carton based upon the tastes of U.S. soldiers. Actual value was based upon cigarette brand, as follows:

Lucky Strikes 5 pesos per carton
Camels 4 pesos per carton
Chesterfields 3 pesos per carton
Phillip Morris 2 pesos + 50 centavos
Raleigh 2 pesos per carton

I didn't smoke so I had been giving away cartons of cigarettes, but after I realized that what I gave away was probably being sold, I entered into a few black market transactions.

Another activity the Filipinos took up was the making of whiskey - from God knows what. We got a shipment of beer in bottles, four bottles per man. We would place the empty bottles into a trash pile with the caps. Then we noticed some Filipinos salvaging the bottles and the caps.

The Filipinos put their home-made whiskey into salvaged bottles sealed with reused caps. Each bottle had a crude, home-made label pasted it. Two labels I remember were "Silver Star" and "Purple Heart." If you drank the stuff, you were either an idiot or you deserved the Silver Star Medal for gallantry, with the consequence of being put to rest after receiving the Purple Heart.



Mark Your Calendars:

96TH DEADEYE REUNION 2017

DESTINATION:.....Minneapolis, MN, USA

DATES:.....Thurs., July 27- Sun., July 30, 2017



Deadeye News & Features

96TH Infantry Division Battle Honors World War II

Information Submitted by
Don Dencker, Historian,
96th Infantry
Division Deadeye Association

Two 96th Infantry Division Rifle Companies were awarded "Battle Honors" for Heroic service on Okinawa during World War II in the Battle of Okinawa in April, 1945. Battle Honors were then the highest decoration given to a United States Military unit. "Battle Honors" were replaced by the U.S. "Presidential Unit Citation" about 12 months after the end of World War II.

Battle Honors were awarded to Company L, 383rd Infantry Regiment and to Company E, 382nd Infantry Regiment of the 96th Infantry Division.

Our 96th Infantry Division history book published in February 1947 states on page 292 that Battle Honors were pending for the entire 96th Infantry Division.

However, unknown to Deadeye veterans, the Battle Honors or Presidential Unit Citation never was approved even after initially being initially made and initiated by the Commanding General of the Army XXIV Corps. The 96th Infantry Division was a part of the Army XXIV Corps during the battles of Leyte and Okinawa.

Battle Honors
COMPANY E, 382ND INFANTRY
WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON 25, D.C., 31 May 1946

GENERAL ORDERS)
No. 49

VIII. BATTLE HONORS. As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), citation of the following units in the general orders indicated is confirmed under the provisions of section IV, WD Circular 333, 1942, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

Company E, 382d Infantry Regiment, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy on Okinawa Shima, Ryukyu Islands, from 16 to 19 May 1945. This gallant company, through 4 days of grueling fighting, played the dominant role in the capture of a hill which constituted a key position in the enemy's Shuri defense ring. Its seizure was achieved in the face of incessant and accurate fire from seven enemy supporting hills and under a constant hail of hand grenades and mortar fire from enemy outposts on reverse slopes. Once the company had established a precarious foothold on the hill, it was subjected to counterattacks by day and night, and on one occasion, was able to repel the enemy only by expenditure of 2,300 hand grenades in a single night. By the third day, the company had lost 12 key officers and noncommissioned officers, yet was still able not only to destroy every enemy position on the hill, but also to assist another battalion in the capture of an adjacent stronghold. At a cost of 11 men killed and 75 wounded, Company E, 382d Infantry Regiment, accomplished its mission in full, an achievement which would not have been possible without the most skillful and intrepid leadership and the unexcelled gallantry on the part of those who were led. (General Orders 169, Headquarters XXIV Corps, 10 November 1945, as approved by the Commander in Chief, United States Army Forces, Pacific.)

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:
EDWARD E. WITSELL
Major General
The Adjutant General

Battle Honors
COMPANY L, 383d INFANTRY
HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY
25 June 1945

GENERAL ORDERS)
No. 99

As authorized by Executive Order No. 9596 (Sec. I, Bull. 22, War Department, 1943) superseding Executive Order No. 9075 (Sec. III, Bulletin 11, 1942), the following unit is cited by the Commanding General, Tenth Army, under the provisions of Section IV, Circular No. 333, War Department, 1942, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

Company L, 383d Infantry Regiment, is cited for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy on 9 April 1945 in the vicinity of Kakazu Ridge, Okinawa Island. This company was assigned the mission of assaulting a heavily fortified T-shaped ridge spur on the NW extremity of the town of Kakazu, which gave the enemy complete observation and flanking fire on the entire regiment. The occupation of this spur which provided observation of the main enemy strongpoint along the entire ridge was of vital importance to the entire command. Company L gained complete surprise, and, with bayonets fixed, boldly and fearlessly charged the heavily defended position and attained the assigned objective. Company G, 383d Infantry, on the left, and Company I, 383d Infantry, on the right, encountered withering machine-gun cross fire and intense mortar and artillery barrages and were unable to take the ridge in their own way, thus imperiling Company L's security. Superior enemy forces supported by heavy mortars and massed artillery launched four powerful and determined counterattacks. Company L, although weakened by severe losses, displayed unexcelled courage and pluck in arms by gallantly holding its objective through the grueling raging battle until ultimately the enemy was repulsed. Company L held this strategic position all day until forced to withdraw at 1630 because of severe flanking fire and a critical shortage of ammunition. This company killed 160 of the enemy, including one colonel and one major, and destroyed a 320mm mortar which had been harassing the regiment. Company L's losses included ten killed in action, five missing in action, and thirty wounded. The conspicuous aggressiveness, valor, extraordinary heroism, and profound devotion to duty displayed by this company has been an inspiration to the rest of the regiment. The eminently significant accomplishment of this gallant and cohesive fighting force was instrumental in breaching the enemy defenses in this sector, enabling the entire command to advance. Such achievements evidence the finest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on Company L, 383d Infantry, and the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL STEWELL:
E. D. POST
Brigadier General, G3C
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:
J. S. GARFIELD
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

(07-4125, Fg XXIV Corps, 24 Aug 46, 00474)

4,000. On 9 Aug, the division reentered the lines on the left (east) flank, and began a series of bitter, hand-to-hand assaults designed to wrest from the Japanese Central Hill, the vital key to the entire position of the Shuri battle position. The American fighters struck hard with all the fire and momentum of their command. Concentrations of artillery and mortar and heavy (500 mm) mortar fire were directed upon the hill in successive and positions previously known in the Pacific War. On 21 Aug, the exact and mortar shells of Central Hill had been captured, causing an immediate result to turn Shuri, and frantic and powerful enemy threats to regain it were broken off in fighting of heroic fury. To the west of Central Hill, the division captured Sugar Hill and broke through the Shuri Line to within 200 yards of the Uchi-Shuri-Yanabara road, the enemy's innermost and essential communication line. Loss of Central Hill dashed the Shuri position and the enemy started withdrawal, shortly after its fall, to final positions along the south rim of the island. The division, after moving up, bypassed infiltrating enemy groups. continued its pursuit of the retreating Japanese. On the final day operations on the Sun-Tsuyu-Taka mountains, the two highest hills were in the zone of the 96th Division. The division assaulted them heroically and with fury which could not be stemmed, using the same hand-to-hand, digging, blasting, burning assaults resulted in earlier engagements. The 96th Division added its portion of the grueling fighting as it began it, constantly closing to beyond range with a gallantry, heroism and determination in which carried its attacks forward despite terrific and crippling casualties and physical discomforts almost beyond human endurance. It killed a total of 17,763 of the enemy in 73 days of fighting. The net battle losses totaled 7,294, including 1,504 killed. The brilliant victories achieved by the 96th Division on Okinawa contributed greatly to the defeat of the large enemy garrison. The spirit, heroism and outstanding demonstrations of raw courage throughout the battle exemplified the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF COMMANDING GENERAL HODGE:
FRANK M. MORROW
Brigadier General, General Staff XXIV Corps
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:
OSCAR W. WHITE
Colonel, Adjutant General's Department
Adjutant General

Approved:
WALTER G. DEWEY, JR.
Major General, Tenth Army

HEADQUARTERS TENTH ARMY
AND STAFF

GENERAL ORDER)
NUMBER 125
28 August 1946

CITATION

As authorized by Executive Order 9596, (Sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following unit is cited under the provisions of Section IV, WD Circular 333, 1942, in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction.

The 96th Infantry Division with the following attached units:

- 95th Tank Battalion
- 51st Portable Surgical Hospital
- 96th Counter Intelligence Corps Detachment
- 340th Photo Interpretation Team
- 300th Quartermaster Graves Registration Company (44 Platoon)
- 57th Portable Surgical Hospital
- 1st Information and Historical Service (Base Team 2)
- 205th Ordnance Bomb Disposal Squad
- 221st Pacific Ocean Area Transport Quartermaster Team
- 34th Headquarters Intelligence Detachment
- 35th Translator Team
- 72d Interpreter Team
- 34th Interpreter Team
- 305th Signal Service Detachment
- 36th Order of Service Team
- 327th Gasoline Detachment

These units distinguished themselves in combat, during the period 1 April 1945 to 20 June 1945, by extraordinary heroism and gallantry in action against the enemy in the conquest of OKINAWA, RYUKYU ISLANDS, JAPAN. On 9 April 1945 the 96th Division made an heroic landing on the Hagushi beach of Okinawa and within three days achieved all resistance in the large Yabuta Hill area which dominated the XXIV Corps' landing beaches. The division then immediately attacked readily and skillfully south down the western half of the island, overrunning and destroying or driving in enemy support lines and strongpoints guarding the approaches to the main Japanese defense line at Shuri. On 7 April, the division had penetrated the main outer ring. On 9 April the division initiated a series of attacks against the general Japanese defense position at Tereza Ridge. It was necessary to dig, blast and burn or bury forever the TEREZA Japanese defenses. The enemy was destroyed in their holes one by one. On 25 April, the division had gained control of numerous portions of the ridge. On 15 April, the division broke an interior defense when a third division entered the lines on the right flank, it continued its day after day assaults. Tereza Hill was seized. Tereza and Uchi-Shuri mountains were captured. Radio Rock, Hill 537 and the base were all taken. On 1 May, the division was withdrawn for nine days rest and for receiving and assimilation of replacements totalling over



Deadeye News & Features

96th Infantry Division organization chart, 1944-45

Submitted by Don Dencker, Historian

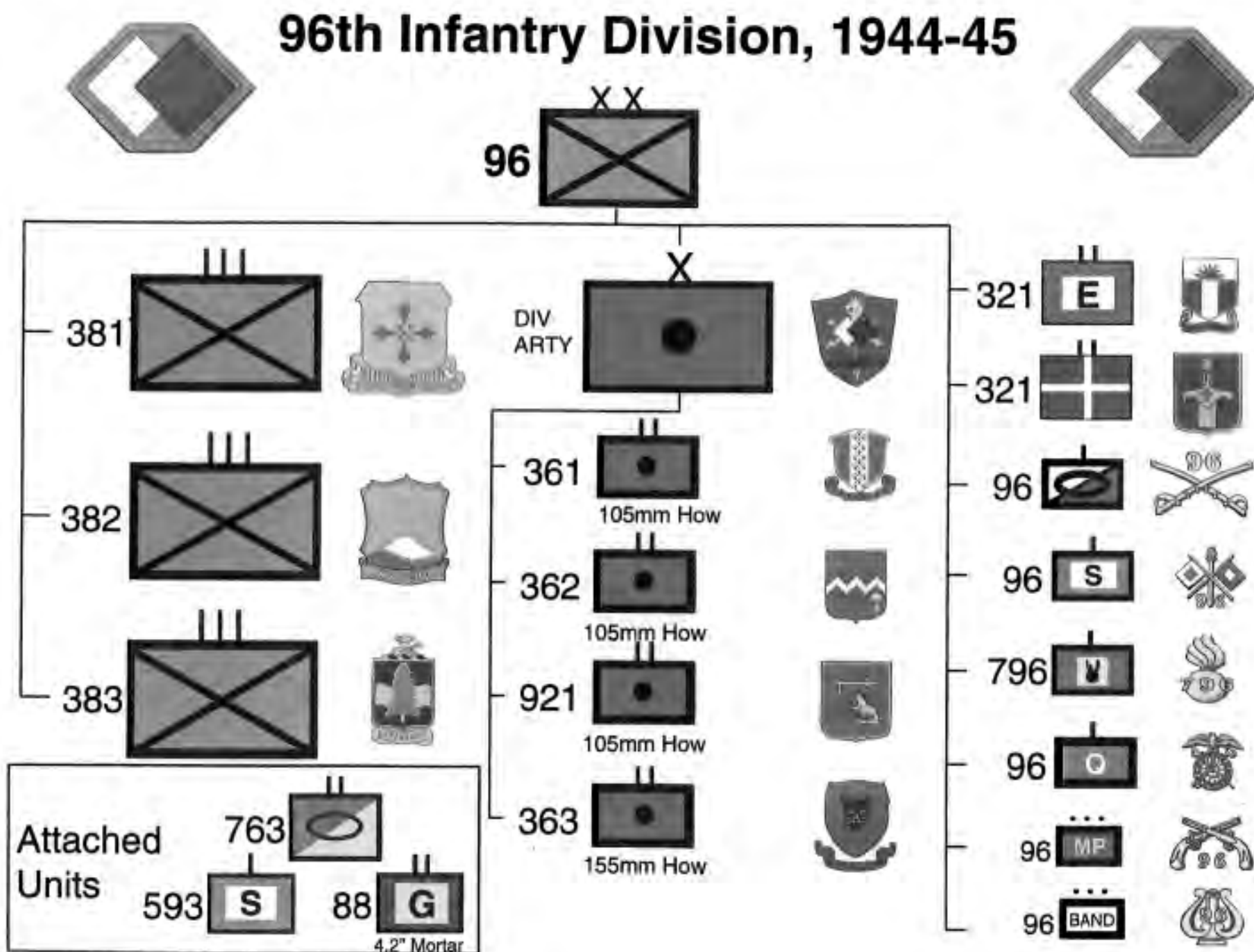
With respect to this chart, the three rectangular boxes on the left represent the three infantry regiments in the division. They are the 381st, 382nd and 383rd infantry regiments. The boxes, top to bottom in the middle, are the 361st, 362nd and 931st artillery battalions which were equipped with 105 millimeter howitzers, while the 363rd battalion had the larger 155 millimeter howitzers.

On the right are the other units of the 96th as follows, top to bottom:

- 321st Engineer Combat Battalion
- 321st Medical Battalion
- 96th Reconnaissance Company
- 96th Signal Company
- 796th Ordnance Company
- 96th Quartermaster Company
- 96th Military Police Company
- 96th Division Band

In addition, there were division and infantry regimental headquarters companies, plus infantry regimental antitank, cannon and service companies and medical detachments.

Units at times attached to the 96th Infantry Division are on bottom left of chart: 763rd Tank Battalion, 593rd Joint Assault Signal Company and parts of the 88th Chemical Mortar Battalion with 4.2 inch mortars.



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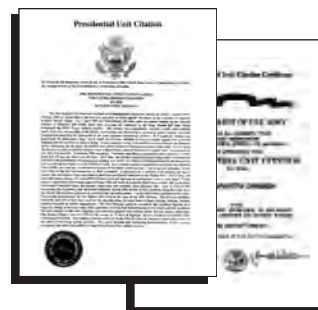
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96TH Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

Two color photo copies: Presidential Unit Citation Certificate and Presidential Unit Citation Text

Cost is \$6.00 per set of two, postage paid

Also available: Philippines Presidential Unit Citation. One page, black & white.
Cost is \$2.00, postage paid.

Make check to: Donald Dencker,
222 S Bristol St #328, Sun Prairie, WI
53590-3042



"Okinawa Etched Deep in My Mind"

*This book by Herman Buffington is
again available in a limited quantity.*

Buffington, who passed away in 2014, was a combat infantryman in the last battle of World War II, the Battle of Okinawa. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army's 96th Infantry "Deadeyes" Division and this book is his personal recollection of the battle.

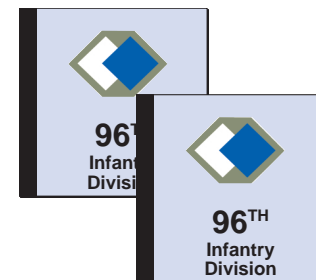
Price is \$10. To have a book mailed to you, send a check for \$13.70 (\$10 plus tax & shipping) to Helen Buffington, 162 Jett Roberts Road, Jefferson, GA 30549. For more information, call 706-614-4354.



Love Company Book

Author Don Dencker has sale copies of Love Company for \$15.00, 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 \$15.00 check made out to: Donald Dencker, 222 S Bristol St #328, Sun Prairie, WI 53590-3042



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*

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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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