DEADEYE DISPATCH

Official Newsletter of the 96[™] Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Spring, 2009

Registration Materials Inside... see pages 5-7 **Branson Reunion Set for July**

The events are set, the schedule is arranged and the program is on for the 2009 reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association in Branson, MO. All we need is for you and your family to register.

Ask your sons, daughters, grandchildren now to join you for a reunion. If it has been vears since your children came. ask them to come and view a reunion as an adult. It may be the best family vacation ever. "Once a Deadeye, Always a Deadeye" is a gift that should be offered to your adult children, grandchildren and great grandchildren... do it for them.

And, time is short so getting your registration materials in today is essential. This year the Planning Committee did not use the professional services of AFRI. Instead, the event was totally organized by the board of directors. Sam and Debbie Wood, Harriet Nichols, Carole Wargo, Pat McMillian, Joe



Boyack, Scott Buffington, Glenn and Rita Stewart, and Mary Eleanor Wood Smith comprise the reunion committee.

The major difference this year is that the reunion members will need to pre-register for events and attractions by the end of May. For the association to get the best financial deals it requires a deposit that has to come from the members.

When working with a group, there is the realization that some cancellations are necessary. The committee will do its best to have on site replacements to allow for full refunds. We need the members to make a commitment to the planning committee that will allow us to keep costs as low as possible.

NOTE: The new Branson Airport is scheduled to open for flights in May 2009. If you must fly into Springfield Airport however, we have arranged timed transportation for a small fee for arrivals on Thursday, July 23, and departures on Monday, July 27. See inside for details.



Shepherd of the Hills **Outdoor Drama**

Veterans Museum

Doug Gabriel



Clapton, Worthing to Perform at Reunion

vocalist,



Sheryl Clapton She is also the mother of two young men serving in the U.S. Army, one of whom is in Iraq, and she has helped with fund-raising for veterans to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington.

Sheryl, who offers both original and traditional folk and country songs, is endorsed by Christian Music Presenters, Nashville, Tenn. She also is a Missouri Arts Council touring artist and studied music theory and piano at the University of New Mexico.

In addition to her musical talents, Sheryl also has written a book, "Rain Maker," which also is the name of one of her songs. In the book, she tells about losing her memory when her sons were ages 10 and 8 and how prayer and faith helped her survive the problem.

Sheryl has performed in numerous states, including California, Utah, Colorado, Tennessee, Illinois, Kansas and her present state, Missouri, as well as in Mexico and Colombia.

Her music speaks of God, her children, love

and all the beauty she sees each day, and the

96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association is delighted to have her coming for our banquet.

Jim Worthing, well-known gospel soloist and songwriter who sang for years with the Cumberland Boys, will be one of the entertainers at the reunion this year.



Worthing will sing at the beer bust at 8 p.m. Friday.

The son of a deceased Army veteran, the internationally-known vocalist now lives in Grenada, Miss. He is a native of Pennsylvania.

Worthing has performed, pro bono, in most of the nation's Veterans Administration Medical Centers. He serves on the board of the Nashville-based Veterans Fund, a non-profit organization, which works to facilitate entertainment and other programs that brighten the days of those in the VA centers and homes.

The 44-year-old Worthing and his wife wrote "Soul of Liberty," a "thank you"song to veterans and members of the armed forces. He has had many family members serve our country and he feels passionately about the message of the song.

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

Henry "Hank" Armstrong Castle Rock, CA Co. F, 382nd Inf. March 6, 2009 by wife Collen Armstrong

Charles M. Astle Momence, IL Co. L, 382nd Inf. Jan. 24, 2009 by Phyllis Astle

Grover H. Bailey Sulphur Springs, TX Co. B. 383rd Inf. September 27, 2007 by Jacob W. Zimmerli

Edward Borkin Wixon, Michigan 96th Recon Troop October 2, 2008 by Therese Suttle

Glen Breach Culver, OR Co. D, 381st Inf. October 27, 2008

Howard J. Chiasson Baton Rouge, LA Co. C, 382nd Inf. January 12, 2009 By son, Jeffrey Chiasson

Harry Coates 96th Infantry Division February 20, 2009 by wife Peggy Coates

Albert D. Daggett Linden, IA Co. B, 383rd Inf. November 6, 2007 by Jacob W. Zimmerli

Forrest D. Donaldson Shelbyville, IN Co. B, 383rd Inf. April 22, 2007 by Jacob W. Zimmerli

Eustachius Duchsherer Drake, North Dakota October 6, 2008 Company H. 383rd Inf. by wife Magdalena

William D. Fahrney Oregon City, Oregon Co. H, 381st Inf. September 21, 2008 by wife, Doris

Leslie H. Freeman Sr. Symsonia, New York Co. C, 381st Inf. November 25, 2008 by daughter, Rebecca Stanley

Edward Grebik Palos Heights, Illinois Hq, & Hq. Company, 381st Inf. November 8, 2008 by wife, Ruth

Wells J. Horvereid Minneapolis, MN Co. K, 382nd Inf. December 16, 2008 by wife Florence

John Irons Minneapolis, MN 96th Infantry Division August 26,2004 by wife, Audrey

Alfred V. Kinkella Puyallup, WA 383rd Infantry Medical March 1,2009 by Clayton Foss

Arthur Klawender Gladwin. MI 382nd Inf. March 19,2009 by niece, Lynn Siarkowski

Albert J. Mixan Omaha, NE Co. B. 382nd Inf. January 6, 2006 by son, John

Paul Joseph Nicholson March, 25, 2009 Co.H, 381 Inf. by John Iseli, Jr.

Aaron D. Overstreet Austin, TX Co. B, 383rd Inf. February 16, 2008 by Jacob W. Zimmerli

John Pardini Tacoma, WA 921st Field Artillery September 19, 2008

Garrett Post Sibley, Iowa Co. L, 381st Inf. June 30, 2008 by daughter, Phyllis (Post) Attema

Carl Reed Quincy, Illinois Co. L, 383rd Inf. June 2008 by Edna Helsel from Wife

Joseph Schroeder Detroit and Hillsdale, Mich Co H, 381st Inf. July 21, 2007 by son, J.R. Schroeder

Huie E. Stephenson Bradley, IL Co. B, 383rd Inf. March 8, 2008 by Jacob W. Zimmerli Gerald W. Stewart Benson, AZ Co. B, 383rd Inf. August 6, 2007 by Jacob W. Zimmerli

Edward C. Stinebrink Lake Geneva, Wisconsin Headquarters Co. 382nd Inf. March 10, 2009 by daughter, Rhonda Behrens

E. Jaye Thompson Mercer Island, WA Headquarters Co., 381st Inf. February 9, 2009

Floyd F. Terranova River Ridge, LA 3rd BNHQ, Co. 382nd Inf. January 16, 2009 by wife

Boyd F. Walker Fresno, CA February 18, 2008 by Judy Gammon

Lee Roy H. Walter Shawnee, Kansas July 24, 2008 by son, Major Michael Walter

AI Ward Brownsburg, Indiana Co. C, 382nd Inf. December, 2008 by Tom Roby

Wilford H. Williamson Sergeant Bluff, Iowa 382nd Infantry February 28, 2009 by daughter, Caroline



SPRING, 2009

The Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication of the 96[™] Infantry Division Deadeye Association Spring 2009 Edition •

Executive Committee James P. (Jim) Collins, MG(R) President

Thomas E. (Tom) Roby Past President

> Harriet Nichols Secretary

D. Michael (Mike) McCafferty Treasurer

See Page 11 for complete contact information for all board members

Submit info to the Dispatch For stories, letters, Taps, etc. 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 Ms. Cindy Otis PO Box 581254 Salt Lake City, UT 84158 sassy.cindy@gmail.com

Deadeyes Online For current and recent Deadeye Dispatch issues and other information about the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association 96th-infantry-deadeyes.org/

Join the Deadeyes! See page 11 for information.

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.

Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Phone: 608-837-7479

To submit a name for Taps, please contact one of the following: Scott Buffington Email: scott@mainstreetnews.com PO Box 908 Jefferson, GA 30549 Phone: 706-367-2485

Don Dencker Email: dizzydon@aol.com 128 N. Musket Ridge Dr

Glendoris Cole Email: glen96th@q.com 6155 S. Ammons Way, Apt. 304 Littleton, CO 80123 Phone: 303-933-1887 or 719-330-7815

Deadeye Mailbag...Letters from across the nation

Dear Editor:

This short story is written in behalf of Ferd "Mel" Mehlhoff, by Norm Schram – both members of the 3rd platoon, 81 MM mortars, of H Company, 382nd Regiment, 96th Infantry Division. It is titled "An Army Specialized Training Program Man."

Mel was taken from DePaul University and was put into the ASTP program, which promised him the opportunity to become an officer in the U.S. Army upon completion of the program. However, after several months the Army cancelled the program, and placed most of the students into the infantry.

This was a terrible travesty of justice. However, we were at war, and these very intelligent young men were certainly a great benefit to our units.

Mel certainly proved this point, because after being assigned to an 81 MM mortar squad, and with no previous training, he rapidly advanced to the 2nd gunner position. Mel's proficiency resulted in his squad being noted as "One of the best in the platoon."

During a critical battle, when every mortar shell was needed to repel an enemy attack, Mel's ability to load the mortar – very quickly –certainly helped to turn the tide of battle. At one point of his frenzied loading he actually placed another shell into the barrel, before the first shell came out. A safety feature of mortar shells prevented a disaster, but Mel's left hand, which was on the shell's fins to guide it into the barrel, was badly cut. Other men, who "claim" to have put two shells in a mortar barrel at the same time – just don't have the scars

Notice!

If you're planning to drive to the reunion in Branson, save your gas receipts two days prior to arriving. Last summer, the Chamber had a \$50 gas redemption in Branson! on their hand to prove it – like Mel Mehlhoff has.

Norm Schram 10144 Oklahoma Dr. Rogers, AR 72758

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Dear Editor:

I'm trying to find someone who may have known my father. His name was P. Merrill Parks from Mason City, Iowa and was about 32 when he was in the war. I think he worked with payroll.

Deb Fatland 1119 North Pennsylvania Mason City, Iowa 50401

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Dear Editor:

Dear Friends of the "Deadeyes": This is for your information, regarding Wylie McFarlane Nielson, a member of the "Deadeyes" on Okinawa.

After the end of WWII, Wylie continued to serve as a career member of the U.S. Army, until his retirement in the 1960's. He then married Adele Lee and he continued to work as an artist for the California Department of Motor Vehicles, until his retirement several years ago. Last year he lost his wife, Adele, after 40 years of marriage.

Wylie is still very active, although battling some health issues, and living on his own in Sacramento. His illustrated WWII book of memories is really priceless. He also wrote and illustrated a history of his mother's family (the Buell's) who settled Santa Barbara, California, as early pioneers. Wylie is also working on an illustrated history of his father's family from Scotland (the Nielson's/McFarlane's).

Thank you for honoring all these aging heroes of WWII. If he can be convinced to travel to the Branson reunion this July, I will bring him. Also, if you would like to consider publishing his WWII book for other interested "Deadeyes", please let us know. Also, do you know of any other WWII Deadeyes who live in California? Wylie would like to talk to them, and compare memories.

Here is his contact information: Wylie M. Nielson 679 Clipper Way Sacramento, CA 95831-1243 916-395-8317

Sincerely, Edgar A. Collins (loving nephew) 11 Greendell Place Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523 edgarnancy@sbcglobal.net Dear Editor:

My sister and I are trying to honor our Dad by commemorating a brick for a wall of honor. I know that he served during WWII in the Philippines on Leyte Island. I think that he was in the 96th and maybe a member of the Deadeyes. Can you confirm his years of service and rank, which I think is PFC. He was from Texas and his name is Arthur Leo Bell. Or any suggestion for how we should proceed would be appreciated.

My sister and I would be most grateful for any information you could provide. Thank you.

Les Bell les.bell@verizon.net

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Dear Editor:

As a veteran from K Company, 3rd Battalion, 382 Regiment, 96th Division, I am interested in obtaining information regarding the Deadeyes. Please advise of available material, i.e., history, DVDs, merchandise, etc.

Aroell Sherban 2971 Chaderton Cir. N.W. N. Canton, OH 44720

Heritage Fund Monument Appeal Continues

Association President Jim Collins and others associated with the project to purchase and install a 96th Infantry Division Monument at the National Infantry Museum wish to sincerely thank those people who made significant gifts for the monument at the reunion. As a result, with these gifts and with the money given before the reunion, we are now assured that the monument will become a reality. Installation of the 96th Infantry Division Monument at the Walk of Honor near the new National Infantry Museum had been delayed at the Fort Benning, GA site due to circumstances beyond our control. However, it now looks that this project will soon proceed and we will be able to set a Dedication date in the near future. We will try to advise our membership of the Dedication date on our website and by other means if possible. The monument will have text honoring our comrades killed on Leyte, Philippines and Okinawa, Japan and all Deadeyes who fought with valor and distinction to defeat Imperial Japan. It will also have in color inscribed in granite our double diamond patch, the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

Further contributions to the Heritage Monument Fund are needed.

Please make your check payable to:

96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association with notation: "Heritage Fund Monument"

Mail to:
Jim Black, Treasurer, 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association
PO Box 581254, Salt Lake City, UT 84158.

Name		Amount
Unit	Address	
City	State	Zip

Deadeye News... Items about the Association

Margoshes to be Deadeye Webmaster

The Deadeyes have a new webmaster for the association web site, <u>96th-infantry-deadeyes.org</u>.

Deadeye Marvin Margoshes has answered the call to duty by volunteering his experience and expertise in taking command of the site. "I should have learned in the Army to never volunteer, but I seem to have forgotten the lesson," states Margoshes.

He brings a wealth of experience in all facets of online production. He was the Newsletter Editor of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy for several years and currently maintains several personal and community sites.

For the past several years, the Deadeyes have been well-served by Don Dencker's hard work on his personal site, <u>96th-infantry-</u> <u>division.com</u>. This site has a wealth of historic information as well as updates on some of the association's current activities.

About three years ago, development on the new site was begun. It contains much of the content from

Dencker's site but also has photos from recent reunions, past issues of the Deadeye Dispatch, contact information, etc. Although both sites remain active, Dencker plans to shut down his site in the near future.



An additional 96th site was started last year by Deadeye Bill Hill. His site, rememberthedeadeyes.com contains information and history on the division.

President's Notes

Major General Jim Collins (Ret.), President 96[™] Infantry Division Deadeye Association



Another reunion is getting closer and you will find lots of information in this issue of the Dispatch. Mary Eleanor Wood Smith has been working very hard to organize this year's reunion in Branson, Missouri. We are going to have a good time there and so I hope you will be able to join us.

On 6 June 2009 the 96th Regional Readiness Command will be deactivated. MG Peter Cooke will fold the flag at a ceremony to be held at Fort Douglas, Utah. Anyone who would like to witness this ceremony can do so. I plan to be there.

The 96th Regional Readiness Command may be deactivated but the 96th Sustainment Brigade has been activated and will now carry the lineage and honors of the 96th Infantry Division. The Double Diamond shoulder patch will continue to be worn by soldiers as they too create their own history. Col. CJ Read is the commander and right now he is busy preparing his brigade for deployment overseas.

We do need more members who have served in the 96th since WWII. If you know of someone who might like to join our association, please do encourage him or her to fill out an application.

See you in Branson!

96th Pac NW Chapter to meet The Pacific Northwest Chapter Saturday 5:00 PM

The Pacific Northwest Chapter will hold its annual meeting at the Monmouth, Oregon Senior Center, at 180 So. Warren Street on Sunday, June 7, 2009 starting at 10:00 AM. Events for early arrivals are also scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2009 afternoon and evening. The Courtesy Inn Motel in downtown Monmouth on High 99W is a convenient place to stay, phone number (503) 838-4438. J's Restaurant, a family style restaurant, is adjacent to the motel.

Schedule of Events:

Saturday 4:00 PM Meet at motel parking lot and drive to Polk County Museum in Rickrall, 96th Infantry Division exhibit. Saturday 5:00 PM Meet at J's Restaurant for informal dinner.

Saturday 7:00 PM

Meet at Monmouth Senior Center for Strawberry Shortcake dessert and social hour.

Sunday 10:00 AM

Meet at Senior Center for general fellowship meeting with pot-luck dinner at noon.

Sunday 1:00 PM

Business meeting and prize drawings afterwards. Jim Black is President of Pacific Northwest Chapter. Call Dick Haglund (253) 588-8310 for further details. Deadeyes, families and friends are all invited to this event.



For years, veterans have wanted to salute the U.S. flag during the Pledge of Allegiance and the National Anthem instead of just placing their hand over their heart. Now they can. A Congressional Amendment sponsored by Senator James Inhofe (R-OK) in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 specifically states that "members of the Armed Forces and Veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute." Veterans can salute the flag during the National Anthem as well as during "the hoisting, lowering and passing of the flag." "The salute is a form of honor and respect, representing pride in one's military service," said Inhofe.

"Veterans and service members continue representing the military services even when not in uniform. The U.S. Code is now consistent for Veterans and all service members in regards to the symbolic gesture of the military salute."

Obtain a name-rubbing

In 1995, the Prefecture of Okinawa dedicated the Cornerstone of Peace Monument which contains the names of those killed in the Battle of Okinawa. This Monument has on black marble plaques the names of 1,622 Deadeyes listed in the 96th Infantry Division

History.

A U.S. Air Force Technical Sergeant, Victor Follis, has offered to do a name rubbing and photo of the marble plaque with name there upon request at no charge to the requestor. T/Sgt. Follis is stationed at Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

To obtain a rubbing, visit: www.okinawamemorialrubbings.org Online Web sites of interest to Deadeyes:

Official Association Site: 96th-infantry-deadeyes.org

Don Dencker's Site: 96th-infantry-division.com

Bill Hill's Site: rememberthedeadeyes.com

> Stars and Stripes: <u>stripes.com</u>

Military Support Site: americasupportsyou.mil

Notice regarding Association cash flow

By Tom Roby, Past President

Some time ago, our President, Jim Collins, asked me to head up a committee of past presidents to review our financial situation and to make recommendations to that Board for their April meeting. With apologies to Jim Black and Mike McCafferty, our "financial officers," let me just give you a short layman's viewpoint of where we are in regard to cash flow.

We have kept our heads above water or to put it another way, we're in better shape than the auto industry, the banking giants and AIG. We are not looking for a bailout - we just need a little more cash coming in on a regular basis. The twice yearly issues of the Dispatch cost a pretty penny for postage. Scott B., our Publisher and Editor, donates a huge amount of time and money to pay for the other costs of the Dispatch.

We have not succeeded yet in widening out our membership base in any meaningful way. We are working on that. Right now, the suggestion has been made that every non-dues paying member should consider making a subscription payment once a year. Figures like \$12.50 per year have been discussed.

The matter will come to the Board at its next meeting. In the meantime, let the officers know your feelings. You can e-mail me at mailto:troby@iw.net or use this US Mail address - P.O. Box 1025, Watertown, SD., 57201. Thanks for any input you might have.

96[™] Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion - 2009

52ND Annual Reunion

• July 24 - 27, 2009 in Branson, Missouri

See next two pages (6&7) for shows, attractions, transportation & fees.

Registration Info

Name (for name tag):_____

Spouse name:

WWII Unit: (Circle One) 381 382 383 Other____

Son/daughter/brother/etc. of:_____

Cell Phone Number:_____

Email:

Email of Family Member:

Telephone of Member:

Telephone of family member:

Guest Names/Addresses/Telephone/Email (Needed for Name Tags and for Dispatch Listing)

Need Wheel Chair? (Circle One) Yes No

Dietary Needs

Number of this Reunion for You:

Emergency Contact at Home: ____

Phone Number_____ Relationship____

Arrival Date_____Time____Airport___

Departure Date_____Time_____Airport_____

Driving -Number of Persons in Car

Registered at: ____Lodge of the Ozark or Other____

Make checks to: 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Send Registration to: Ms Cindy Otis, 2630 South Veitch St. #106, Arlington, VA 22206

Questions: Mary Eleanor Wood Smith, 803-278-2109 Email: mewsmith@yahoo.com

Pre-registered persons will be notified as soon as possible if numbers are not 20+ for shows and attractions

The Group rates must be paid 45 days in advance. Most group rates were at least \$3.00+ per person and nearly \$10.00 off on some shows

Calendar of Events

Shepherd of the Fields Play and Inspiration Tower

THURSDAY, JULY 23 EV<u>ENT</u> TIME TBD Registration See Fees Springfield Airport Transportation

Silver Dollar Citv

FRIDAY, JULY 24

8:30 am - 4 pm

5:30 - til

TIME	EVENT
8:15 am - Noon	Ride the Ducks
8:15 am - Noon	Branson Scenic Railway
8:15 am - Noon	Lake Queen Paddleboat Cruise
2:00 pm	Branson City Tour
10 am & 2 pm	Shows Available (see fees)
7:30 pm	Beer Bust
10:00 pm	Branson Country USA Radio Show

SATURDAY IIII V 25

SAI OKDAI, COLI	20
TIME	EVENT
9:30 am	General Meeting
11:15 am	ASTP Luncheon
11:15 am	Ladies Luncheon
11:15 am	Meet my Buddies (meal & transportation)
2:00 pm	Shows Available (see fees)
2 pm - 5:30 pm	Attractions with Transportation Available (see fees)
7 - 8 pm	Shows Available (see fees)

SUNDAY, JULY 26

<u>1E</u>	EVENT
C	Catholic Mass - everyone invited
0 am	Memorial Service
45 am - 4 pm	Veterans Museum + tour
5 pm	Group Photos (purchase optional
5	Banquet
45 am - 4 pm 5 pm	Veterans Museum + tour Group Photos (purchase option

MONDAY, JULY 27

TIME **EVENT** See Fees Springfield Airport Transportation

Lodging Info

Lodge of the Ozarks

3431 West Highway 76 Branson, Missouri Telephone: 417 334-7535 Toll free: 877 327-9894 Fax: 417 334-7535 www.lodgeoftheozarks.com Located on the "strip" away from downtown. Mickey Gilley Theater on one side of hotel and Hughes Brothers Theater on the other side. Across the street is the Jim Stafford Theater and down from Jim Stafford are the Dutton and Caravelle Theaters

Special Reunion Rate: \$100/night

Branson Shenanigans RV Park

(Nearest RV Campground owned by a US Veteran) 3675 Keeter St Branson, MO 65616 (417) 334-1920 www.bransonrvparks.com They offer vets and their families 15% off regular prices. This location is less than a half mile from the Lodge of the Ozarks

See next two pages (6&7) for shows, attractions, transportation & fees.

REGISTRATION

96[™] Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion Branson, MO • July 23 - July 27, 2009

Schedule, Shows, Tours, Attractions & Fees

Registration Cut OFF for Hotel and OFF Site Shows and Attractions June 5, 2009

·								
	REGISTRATION FEE	Member Only \$10.00	Member/ Spouse Companion \$10.00	Others \$1.00 EA For Name Tag				
		ADULT	STUDENT	CHILD	ADULT	STUDENT	CHILD	TOTAL \$\$\$
	THURSDAY JULY 23, 2009			J			I	
TO BE ANNOUNCED	REGISTRATION DEADEYE REUNION							,
	SPRINGFIELD AIRPORT PICKUP				=			,
(Circle your Choice)	ROUND TRIP	\$45.00	N/A	4-18 YRS \$20.00	,	Ţ		
(ondo year energy)	ONE WAY	\$25.00	\$15.00	\$25.00	1			1
				4-12 YRS				
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	SILVER DOLLAR CITY 8:30AM-4:00PM SHEPHERD OF THE FIELDS	\$60.00	N/A	\$50.00 4-16 YRS	<u> </u> '	<u>↓</u>		
5:30 - TIL	PLAY AND INSPIRATION TOWER	\$43.00	N/A	\$28.00	<u> </u>	<u> </u> '	<u> </u>	
	FRIDAY JULY 24, 2009			1 10 μm				
8:15 AM - 12:00 NOON	RIDE THE DUCKS	\$ 32.00	\$ 30.00		<u> </u> '	!	<u> </u>	
8:15 AM - 12:00 NOON	BRANSON SCENIC RAILWAY	\$ 40.00	N/A	4-12 yrs \$29.00	'	!		
8:15 AM - 12:00 NOON	LAKE QUEEN PADDLEBOAT CRUISE	\$ 36.00	N/A	4-12 yrs \$26.00	ſ!	[!	 	
2:00 PM	BRANSON CITY TOUR	\$36.00	N/A	4-17 yrs \$20.00	<u> </u>	ļ!		
10:00 AM & 2:00:00 PM	SHOWS AVAILABLE (SEE LISTINGS BELOW)			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u>u</u>	L		
7:30 PM	INCLUDES COST OF BARTENDER, ENTERTAINMENT & ROOM)	\$3.00	N/A	N/A				
10:00 PM	BRANSON COUNTRY USA RADIO SHOW	\$30.00	\$25.00	N/A				
	SATURDAY JULY 25, 2009				<u> </u>			
0.00 ABA								
9:30 AM	GENERAL MEETING - NO CHARGE	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	,	, 	,		
11:15 AM	ASTP LUNCHEON	\$20.00	4-18 YRS		+	++	<u> </u>	+
11:15 AM	LADIES LUNCHEON	\$20.00	\$15.00 4-18 YRS	N/A	'		<u> </u>	-
11:15 AM	MEET MY BUDDIES (MEAL & TRANSPORATION)	\$20.00	\$15.00	N/A	<u> </u> /		1	
2:00 PM	SHOWS AVAILABLE (SEE LISTINGS BELOW)			1	11		1	
2:00 PM - 5:30 PM	ATTRACTIONS WITH TRANSPORTATION AVAILABLE IF 20 SIGN UP (SEE BELOW)	\$32.00	4-18 YRS \$22.00	N/A			1	
7:00 - 8:00 PM	SHOWS AVAILABLE (SEE LISTINGS BELOW)							
	SUNDAY JULY 26, 2009							
тва	Catholic Mass - ALL ARE INVITED							
9:30 AM	MEMORIAL SERVICE							
11:45 AM - 4:00 PM	VETERANS MUSEUM PLUS TOUR (SEE LISTING)	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$15.00		[!		
6:15 PM	GROUP PHOTO (PURCHASE OPTIONAL)	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$16.00		!		
7:15 PM	BANQUET							
(Circle your Choice)	BEEF - FILET MIGNON	\$ 35.00	N/A	N/A				
	CHICKEN LEXINGTON	\$ 29.00	N/A	\$15.00	['	[!		
	MONDAY JULY 27, 2009							
3 MORNING RUNS	SPRINGFIELD AIRPORT RETURN (SEE BELOW)	L						
	SPRINGHELD AIRPORT RETORING DELOW,							

	TR	ANSPORTATI	ON ONLY					
30 AM - 4:00 PM	SILVER DOLLAR CITY	\$60.00	N/A	\$50.00				
				4-12 YRS				
0-5:30 PM	SHOPPING - TRANSPORTATION	\$12.00	N/A	0-18 YRS \$6.00				
00-5:30 PM	AMERICAN PRESIDENCY MUSEUM	\$25.00	N/A	N/A				
00-5:30 PM	WORLD'S LARGEST TOY MUSEUM/ HAROLD BELL WRIGHT MUSEUM	\$20.00	N/A	N/A				
	WORLD'S LARGEST TOY MUSEUM/		19//4	<i>\$22.00</i>				
00-5:30 PM	SATURDAY ATTRACTIONS WI	TH TRANSPO \$32.00	RTATION A	3-18 YRS \$22.00	20 SIGN U	P		
:30 PM - 4:30 PM	VETERANS MEMORIAL (WITH LUNCH)	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$15.00				
:30 PM - 4:30 PM	BRANSON TOUR	\$36.00	N/A	4-17 yrs \$20.00				
	FRIDAY TOU	RS AVAILABI	E IF 20 SIG				1	
	BRANSON COUNTRY USA	\$30.00	\$25.00	N/A			10:00 PM	
							FRIDAY	
	JOE RILEY	\$22.00	N/A	1-15 YRS \$10.00		HURDSAY):00 A.M.	FRIDAY 2:00 PM	
	PLATTERS (WITH TRANSPORTATION)	\$35.00	5-18 YRS \$28.00	N/A		HURDSAY):00 A.M.		
	WITH LUNCH WITH DINNER WITHOUTMEAL	\$35.00 \$41.00 \$25.00	\$25.00 \$31.00 \$15.00	\$18.00 \$23.00 \$8.00				
	S I X WITH LUNCH	\$35.00	\$25.00	\$18.00		HURDSAY 00 PM		
	WITH LUNCH WITHOUT LUNCH	\$35.00 \$25.00	\$25.00 \$15.00	\$18.00 \$8.00				
	HUGHES BROTHERS					HURDSAY	FRIDAY 2:00 PM	
	DOUG GABRIEL	\$20.00	\$18.00	\$10.00		HURDSAY):00 A.M.	FRIDAY 10:00 AM	
		Q23.00	¥10.00	TILE			EDIE	
	LIVERPOOL LEGENDS	\$25.00	6-18 YRS \$18.00	0-6 YRS FREE				
	MOE BANDY	\$30.00	\$20.00	\$ 10.00		HURDSAY 0:00 A.M.	FRIDAY 10:00 AM	
	Without Eskoli	\$ 20.00	\$10.00					
	ISLAND FIRE WITH LUNCH WITHOUT LUNCH	\$ 30.00 \$ 26.00	\$20.00 \$16.00	N/A N/A	2:	00 P.M.	2:00 P.M.	
						HURDSAY	FRIDAY	
	DUTTON'S FAMILY	\$ 26.00	4-18 YRS \$15.00	1-3 YRS \$5.00				
	MICKET GILLET	5 25.00			0.	00.00 PM		
	MICKEY GILLEY	\$ 25.00	N/A	1-15 YRS \$12.00		HURSDAY 00:00 PM		

Make checks to: 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association • Send Registration Materials (Pages 5-7) to: Ms Cindy Otis, 2630 South Veitch St. #106, Arlington, VA 22206

For questions, contact Mary Eleanor Wood Smith, 803-278-2109, Email: mewsmith@yahoo.com

12:00 NOON 3:00 PM 6:00 PM



Today's Deadeyes... News from the 96th Regional Readiness Command

Our own John Reed in Iraq



Deadeyes and their family memwho bers attended the 2002 through 2006 and the 2008 reunions may have met and talked with LTC John Reed, the Command Historian of the 96th Regional Readiness Command in Salt Lake City. In May of 2007, he was mobilized for OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, and served in Baghdad until his

LTC. Reed

redeployment to the U.S. in April 2008.

John was assigned to the Multi-National Security Assistance Command, Iraq, (MNSTC-I) commanded by LTG James Dubik. MNSTC-I was one of two "three star headquarters"under Multi-National Forces, Iraq, which was commanded during the "surge" by Gen. David Petraeous, and is now commanded by Gen. Ray Odinero. MNSTC-I is responsible for overseeing the reconstruction of the "security infrastructure" of Iraq, its military bases and police stations, and the training and depoliticization of its armed forces, national police, and local police. He served in the Engineering Directorate as the Asset Transfer Coordinator -his job was to monitor the Coalition's efforts to secure an orderly transfer of newly built facilities to the Government of Irag and the ongoing efforts of Iraqi personnel to properly maintain them after acceptance.

While he basically sat at a desk and rode a computer in and out of bureaucratic battle for 12 hours a day, six days a week, he did get "outside the wire"to perform various missions, which involved low and high profile ground convoys and flights on C-130 transports and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters. The high points of his service in Iraq were two trips to Kurdistan, which required him to fly into and convoy out of Mosul ("Indian Country"then and Indian Country still today) to several other locations in Kurdistan, to include Irbil (the safe and rapidly developing capitol of the region) and Dahuk, a beautiful town in the hills just south of the Turkish border that will hopefully someday be a destination for American tourists.

Like many mobilized reservists who look back on their service during the "Long War," John wouldn't have missed the experience for a million dollars, but wouldn't voluntarily repeat it for ten million. He retired from the reserves in May 2008, after a 25-year career, and hopes to continue conversing with Deadeyes and their families in the History Room in future reunions. (The photograph shows him "all dressed up" for a ground convoy.)

Col. C. J. Read to Command 96th Sustainment Brigade

Colonel Read, a native of Utah, began his military career in 1980. He was commissioned as an officer following ROTC. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Communications/Management and a Master's Degree in Public Administration. In his civilian career, he serves as the Director for the Defense Enterprise Computing Center located at Hill Air Force Base where he provides critical communications and computer processing support for multiple Department of Defense agencies throughout the world.

Colonel Read's awards include Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 oak leaf clusters), Army

Commendation Medal (with 1 oak leaf cluster), Army superior unit award, Army Achievement Medal (with 1 oak leaf cluster), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (ARCAM-6), National Defense Service Medal (with one Bronze Service Medal), Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with silver Hourglass and "M" Device), Army Service Ribbon (ASR), Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon (ARCOTR-5)

CJ and his wife, Sherrie, have been married for 27 years. They have five children, three of whom are married, and one



Col. Read

grandchild.

Deadeye legacy to continue

96th Sustainment Brigade to mobilize to Iraq in July

The 96th Sustainment Brigade will proudly carry on the legacy and distinguished history of the 96th Infantry Division. In November 2008, the 96th Sustainment Brigade officially uncased the new Brigade Colors during its Activation Ceremony. Sewn into the center of the Brigade Colors is a replica of 96th Infantry Division's "Double Diamond" shoulder patch to remind all who see it that our legacy runs deep.

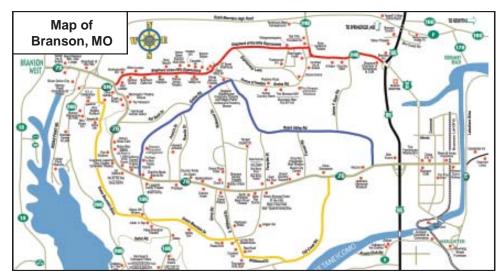
We were honored to have as guests the former Commanders and Command Sergeants Majors from the legacy 96th Army Reserve Command (ARCOM), 96th Regional Support Command (RSC), and the current Commander and Command Sergeant Major of the 96th Regional Readiness Command (RRC). All of these organizations have carried the legacy since the Division was transferred to the Army Reserve.

The Sustainment Brigade will play an important role in transforming the Army Reserve to an

Operational Force for the 21st century. It is an integral part of the new modular system that enables the Army to move into a theater rapidly and establish port and sustainment operations for the combatant commander.

We are authorized 311 Officers, Noncommissioned Officers and enlisted Soldiers, who provide a wide variety of services in logistics, medical, communications, IT, human resources, financial management and other important services to our customers and combatant commander. The 96th Sustainment Brigade is preparing to mobilize to Q-WEST Iraq in July. We will be providing logistical support for all of Northern Iraq. We will have over 4,500 soldiers that will be assigned to us that will help accomplish this mission.

The Soldiers of the Sustainment Brigade will always wear proudly the "Double Diamond" shoulder sleeve insignia to constantly remind them of the distinguished legacy of the 96th Infantry Division.



Deadeye History... Our Heritage is our Strength

Bill Buckner's Remarks - Kansas City Reunion - July 27, 2002

96th Division Veterans, their families, and friends, I am deeply honored to be asked to say a few words here at your reunion. I am honored because I do not have the noteworthy credentials of being a 96th Division veteran of the hot war in the Pacific. Instead, I am a 1st Division US Army veteran of the Cold War in Germany. During the Cold War in 1950 the Soviet Army would rush up to the border of the American Zone in Germany and stop - thankfully. Meanwhile our maneuvers were simulated battles in which the Aggressor, usually the US Constabulary, would come charging down the Fulda Gap. On one such maneuver my platoon of five tanks of the 18th Infantry Regiment, without any infantry support, was placed astride the Fulda road with the assignment to slow down the aggressor's attack. When the umpires viewed my situation they simply waved the Aggressors through and I spent the rest of that military exercise as a prisoner.

That was pretty tame stuff compared with the hot war described in Don Dencker's book, Love Company. If you have not read this book you should. While I struggled with five other books about the Battle of Okinawa, when I came to the Okinawa section of Dencker's book, I simply could not put it down until I finished it.

The book brought back memories of the 1995 Commemoration of 50 years of Peace on Okinawa. My wife and my sister Mary and I attended that commemoration with a group of Army veterans. On a walking tour as we were gazing out at Flattop, I heard, "This is where I got my souvenir", from one of the veterans referring to his purple heart. And as our group approached Conical Hill, Herman Buffington, a 96th veteran who is here today, said to me, "This is where I was one evening sniping at Japs. I was using an experimental night scope. I noticed a bunch of officers behind me, and my sergeant led one of them up to me. I assumed he was high ranking, but he was in fatigues and I could see no rank. He asked to borrow my rifle and wanted me to look through his binoculars and see how he was shooting. He began firing at the Japanese who were over a mile away. They apparently thought they were safe enough to cook their food out in the open. But this officer got right on target. With his binoculars, I could see his shots caused at least two Japanese to crumple and get carried off. I knew this officer had rank, but I knew he wasn't Easley or Bradley [BG Easley & MG Bradley of the 96th]. It was not until after he left my sergeant told me it was the 10th Army Commander. The general really enjoyed himself".

General Buckner visited the 96th Division often. I found numerous references to the 96th Division in his diary. I will quote a few:

Apr 7 Saw Bradley in his CP at the Agricultural School. Very luxuriously furnished.

Apr 10 Went to 96th Div CP and took Bradley up to Col. Dill's regt where OP overlooked the enemy position, but it was too rainy and foggy to see anything. Coming back the roads were so bad we had to substitute a weasel for our jeep.

Apr 13 Visited Mulcahy and Dill at the Yontan airfield. The latter (382nd Rgt CO) is on crutches from a sprained knee damaged by his jumping into a fox hole when a 20 mm shell went through his tent".

Apr 14 Went to 7th and 96th Div CPs. Bradley sick in bed, apparently with nervous indigestion from his long strain. Easley thought that all he needed was a rest. Bradley reports killing 600 of 900 counter-attacking him two days ago

Apr 16 Spent the day visiting CPs of XXIV Corps, 27th Div and 96th Div. Also went to 2 forward Ops in the 96th area to look over the enemy position. Bradley appears in better health and spirits than he was two days ago. Attacks being prepared.

Apr 19 Went via 96th CP to OP of Col Dill in 96th zone. Resistance much stiffer there. Apr 21 Visited Bn OP in 381st Inf Regt of Col Halloran. His right Bn Commander thinks 27th Div on his right is not helping him as much as contemplated.

May 13 Joined Col May in 383rd Inf OP overlooking attack on "Conical Hill". His handling of the Regt was a beautiful piece of troop leading. I could watch the Bn & company movements easily from the OP and even see Japs, effect of fire, etc. I was there over four hours. May should be promoted to Brigadier General.

May 14 Col May advanced his regiment along the coastal flat 2400 yards and took the Yonabaru airstrip. The Japs still hold the far

side of Conical Hill.

May 20 visited 6th and 1st Marine Div and 96th Div CPs. An air of optimism exists in the frontline divisions who seem to feel slight weakening in the Japs before them, in spite of the fact that the most savage of hand-tohand fighting is going on all along the line.

May 21 Visited both Corps and all four Div CPs and went to foreword Ops of all but the 1St Marine Div. Got a good view of the left from Conical Hill. Our front line troops are showing a gradually increasing feeling of optimism, particularly in the 96th Div".

On May 28th, during the Plum rains, in a letter to his wife, the General wrote the following: "Bradley, who commands the 96th Division, was on a particularly slippery range of clay hills when the heaviest of the rain struck him. In his daily report of movement he reported, 'Considerable movement by my front lines. Those on forward slopes slid forward and those on reverse slopes slid back'"

The diary continues:

June 5 Hodge called up and said that Col May, 383rd Infantry, 96th Div, had been killed near Ihwa. I regarded him as the best Regimental commander in the Tenth Army. Had just recommended his promotion.

June 14 Spent day visiting Bn Ops in 96th and 7th Divisions. Got a good look at the hostile position. On way back stopped at the two Division CPs. Arnold and Bradley in high spirits, having each gotten a Bn. and a number of tanks on top of the plateau and well into the enemy position. The new colonel of the 383rd infantry was badly wounded, and his successor had just arrived when I arrived at the OP. Last night a Bn advanced into a mine field. Lost 3 company commanders and a Bn staff officer and fell back. They are cleaning out the mine field today

June 17th contained his last diary entry, for on the 18th he was killed at an 8th Marine Regt. OP by enemy artillery fire on the Maezato Ridge.

In June of 1995, fifty years later, I stood on that same ridge which now has splendid memorials to General Easley and Colonel May in addition to the marker where General Buckner was killed. Next to the marker is a stone cross and tablet which says, **"In Memorial**



General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr. and son, Bill Buckner. Taken by the General's wife in June, 1944 in San Francisco just before Gen. Buckner left for Hawaii to organize the Tenth Army.

- The Okinawan, American, Japanese Victims of the Battle for Okinawa May Their Souls Rest in Peace! The society of the First Heavy Field Artillery Regiment, Japan, Jun 18, 1985. S. Ishihara". And that is not the only Japanese memorial which honors Americans. The Mabuni Peace Park on the island is laid out like our Viet Nam Memorial with granite walls and it covers many more acres than the Viet Nam Memorial because those granite walls record alphabetically over 200,000 names, in three groups: All the Japanese, Okinawan and American war dead.. If you find it hard to understand that the Japanese would honor American dead, you will be astonished to know I have a photograph of Japanese Buddhist priests performing a ritual at General Buckner's monument,. And you will find it even harder to understand that I have another photograph which shows Mrs. Ushijima, widow of the 32nd Japanese Armv Commander, on her knees placing flowers on my father's monument.

Considering the respect the Japanese show for American war dead, you are right in presuming they show immense respect for their own dead. In addition to the granite walls I mentioned, each Japanese prefecture has its own memorial park. They are so attractive they seem to compete with one another. On an individual scale, we noticed offerings of food, flowers, and ribbons at cave openings and numerous other

places where fighting had taken place.

And it is to commemorate our own fallen we are gathered here today. My father did this with these words which he spoke to the assembled 10th Army chaplains on Okinawa. These were his words: "For the men who in the full bloom of youth with life and with happiness ahead of them to give up their lives so that the principles for which they fought might live on, their memory will live on to inspire future generations. Whatever may be a man's creed or form of worship, when he dies for a principle, he has displayed the quality upon which all religions are built, that of faith. These men who now lie silently beneath the soil have found a soldier's resting place showing faith in their country, faith in their cause, and faith in God."

Gen Buckner, in his victory speech, one which he wrote a day or two before he was killed, praised the Tenth Army and told them they should be proud that they killed 12 Japanese for every American killed. I note in the 96th Division Presidential Unit Citation that this division killed 25 Japanese for every 96th Div member killed. The 96th was that kind of outfit.

And that is why I am proud to be wearing this 96th Division double diamond pin Buffington gave me. Thank you.

Deadeye History... Our Heritage is our Strength

HISTORICAL TOUR OPPORTUNITY Liberation of the Philippines and 65th Anniversary of Leyte Landing Tour

Valor Tours LTD of Sausalito, California is offering a 65th Anniversary of Leyte and the Liberation of the Philippines Tour October 7 through October 21,2009, departing San Francisco.

World WII sites to be visited include Manila, Corregidor, Bataan, Clark Field, Cabanatuan Japanese Prisoner of War Camp and Leyte. On Leyte the tour will visit sites of interest to 96th Infantry Division veterans, their famlies and friends.



The tour will be escorted by Steve Kwiecinski who lives on Corregidor. Steve's father on Corregidor became a prisoner of



the Japanese during World
War II. This will probably
be the last chance to visit
96th Infantry Division site on Leyte.

Don Dencker helped to prepare the Tour itinerary. Valor Tours in the past has presented many tours of interest to 96th Infantry Division veterans of the battles of Leyte and Okinawa.

For further informantion and a tour brochure, call Valor Tours at (800) 842-4504.

Notice!

If you want a Blue Presidential Citation Jacket or an Association Polo Shirt, contact Mary Eleanor Wood Smith at 803-278-2109 or email: mewsmith@yahoo.com. We need a minimum order of 25.

Memos confirm secret Okinawa pact

Recently uncovered U.S. documents confirm there was a secret agreement allowing U.S. nuclear weapons to be brought into Japan in emergency situations in exchange for Okinawa's reversion to Japan in 1972.

While the secret pact has already been revealed in various books and accounts, this is the first time its existence has been confirmed in official U.S. documents connected to the people directly involved in the negotiations.

The Japanese government has repeatedly denied claims about the secret pact.

The documents, dated Nov. 12 and 13, 1969, were written by White House National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger to President Richard Nixon.

The memorandums were declassified in 2005 and recently discovered in the U.S. National Archives by Takashi Shinobu, a professor of Japan-U.S. diplomatic history at Nihon University.

The memos, titled "Secret Negotiations with the Japanese on U.S. Nuclear Access to Post-Reversion Okinawa and Textiles," were written prior to a summit in Washington between Nixon and Prime Minister Eisaku Sato in November 1969, during which they agreed to the reversion of Okinawa.

The memos refer to the procedure to be followed by the two leaders in reaching an agreement



for the secret pact.

In the Nov. 12 memorandum, Kissinger wrote, "Attached is a proposed game plan to be followed by Prime Minister Sato and yourself in conjunction with secret U.S.-Japanese agreements on access to post-reversion Okinawa for nuclear weapons and the textile question."

Kissinger wrote in detail about the "procedural arrangements" during negotiations over a joint communique. The communique, which was released to the public after the summit, stated that the United States would return Okinawa to Japan and remove nuclear weapons from the prefecture.

In the Nov. 13 memorandum, Kissinger said that the "game plan was agreed upon at my terminal meeting with Mr. Yoshida yesterday afternoon," referring to the code name of a Japanese official sent as the prime minister's secret emissary to negotiate the secret pact with Kissinger.

Kei Wakaizumi, the late Kyoto Sangyo University professor, was the secret envoy. Wakaizumi wrote about the secret deal in a book published in 1994, two years before his death at age 66.

The contents of the memos are identical to Wakaizumi's account in the book.

Shinobu said it is significant that the existence of the secret pact has been proved by records in both the U.S. and Japan.

From The Kyodo News and The Japan Times, Monday, Oct. 8, 2007



History's pages are lined with heroes great and small. Now, your hero's name can be etched in stone on the new National Infantry Museum's Heritage Walk. This path runs along the museum's east side, connecting it with a new parade field and stadium near Ft. Benning, Georgia. You can memorialize a loved one, celebrate a graduation, recognize a retirement or honor a warrior. There are countless occasions to say "thank you" to a soldier.

> For more information, go to www.nationalinfantrymuseum.com or call 706-653-9234

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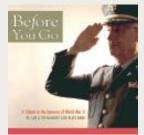
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laden's CD. God Bless Our Soldiers Tonight, can he ordered online (blessoursoldiers.com) through PayPal for \$10 plus shipping and handling. Or call toll-free 1-888-893-7193.

Jaden sang at the Dining Out in Salt Lake City



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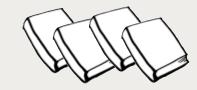




Sherman Tank Driver in the Pacific By Robert C. Dick, Co. C.

763rd Tank Battalion, 96th Infantry Division

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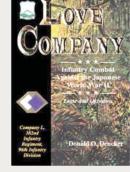
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