

DEADEYE DISPATCH



Official Newsletter of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association

Spring, 2012

Deadeyes Bound for Colorado Springs in July

Make your plans because the 55th Annual 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Reunion is set for July 18-22, 2012 in Colorado Springs, Colorado!

Sitting at an elevation of 6,035 feet, Colorado Springs, Colorado is the proud home of Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the U.S. Air Force Academy, along with many other incredible attractions. You can soar 1,200 feet above the Royal Gorge, take a scenic ride to the top of 14,115 foot Pikes Peak or watch our Olympians excel at the highest levels of sport on your next Colorado Springs vacation. If you love the great outdoors, rise above it all in a hot air balloon in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Pikes Peak region also hosts unique museums, funky small towns, hip shopping and exciting restaurants that make this area of Colorado one of the best.

A Few Words from the Reunion Coordinator, Annie Moroz Duncan
It has been a true pleasure working with board members to



bring together the 55th Deadeye Reunion in scenic Colorado Springs, Colorado. The Crowne Plaza Hotel is beautiful; it is a first-class hotel offering many amenities and a staff that hosts military groups with ease. And our room rate includes breakfast.

Three terrific tours are available

this year. On Thursday morning visit Historic Manitou Springs and in the evening wrangle on over to the Flying W Ranch for an evening of Western fun. Friday morning will bring activities at nearby Fort Carson and in the afternoon visit the ProRodeo Hall of Fame & Museum of the American

Cowboy. The hotel is providing a special dinner for the Deadeyes before the Beer Bust, no registration required. Friday evening brings another spectacular Beer Bust, more memories in the making!

Saturday begins with the memorial service and general

membership meeting followed by the ASTP luncheon and/or ladies' luncheon. The evening banquet concludes the 55th Annual 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association reunion, another year of fellowship enjoyed.

We look forward to seeing you all in Colorado Springs in July.

Please Fill Out Form on Page 9

An Important Message Concerning your Deadeye Dispatch

Submitted by Marvin Margoshes

We are asking each member of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association to fill out a brief form found on Page 9 of this issue of the Deadeye Dispatch. It concerns your dues and the future delivery of your Dispatch.

Why is there this particular dues payment form this year? Why does it ask so many questions?

The form is there as a reminder. Experience shows that many of us forget to pay the dues without a reminder.

This year the form asks if you want to receive the Deadeye Dispatch by e-mail, meaning in digital form. Why is that? It is

no secret that the U.S. Postal Service is struggling financially. It keeps raising its prices, just to keep even. It now costs us \$0.45 for each copy we mail at bulk rates. That is the cost for a first-class letter. But bulk mail isn't handled like first-class mail, and it takes much longer for it to be delivered. How much longer depends on the local post office, but last year some folks received their copy of the *Deadeye Dispatch* weeks after it was mailed, leaving them little time to register for the reunion and make travel plans.

One solution is to mail the Dispatch by first-class mail, but the estimated cost to do that is \$1.80 per copy. The mailing cost is already a major budget

item for us, and quadrupling it is out of the question. Numerous publications like ours have solved the problem by distributing electronically only, or by charging a fee for mail distribution. We don't think that is an acceptable solution for us because we do have a significant number of members who are not computer users. So we have come up with another idea. We already post the Deadeye Dispatch on our Web site, 96thdeadeyes.org, as soon as it is printed. Some of our members have signed up for our e-mail list, and they are notified when a new issue is posted on the Web site. We can solve the problem by expanding on what we already do, and if those who sign up agree not to be

mailed the printed issue. If three quarters of you agree to forego mail distribution, the other quarter could get the issues by first-class mail, and our total mailing cost would not go up.

We think the idea is workable, but it up to all of us to make it happen. E-books caught on last year so much that Amazon.com reported that more customers bought e-books than they did printed books. Some e-books out-sold the printed versions even though the e-books cost more! Try reading the *Deadeye Dispatch* on your own computer, e-book reader or tablet computer if you haven't already. The latest issue and back issues are at 96thdeadeyes.org/deadeyedispatch.html.

MAINSTREET NEWSPAPERS
PO BOX 908
JEFFERSON, GA 30549

REGISTERED
US POSTAGE
JEFFERSON, GA
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DEADEYE DISPATCH

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

Delmar R. Beecher
Pontiac, IL
Co. D, 383rd Inf.
October 16, 2011
by family

Myron Bogue
Vanderbelt, MI
by USPS

Raymond Boykin
Noble, Oklahoma
Company E, 381st Infantry
December 24, 2011
by Jim Causey

Elised E. "Chuck" Briggs
Company M, 382nd Infantry
September 10, 2011
by daughter Karen Briggs
Kirkland

Donald M. Britton
Milwaukee, WI
381st Inf.
February 3, 1992
by great nephew, Roger D.
Britton

William S. Brosier,
Tuscaloosa, AL
April 24, 2011
by daughter, Deborah Bolton

Burton G. Bundy
Mayville, ND
December 25, 2011
by Diane O'Brien

Gordon Burdick
Devils Lake, ND
by USPS

Ben C. Confer
Medford, Oregon
796 Ordnance Company
January 16, 2012
by wife, Joyce Confer

George L. Dey
Creswell, OR
Btry A 361st, FA BN
May 8, 2011
by wife, Maxine

Alvin Dowell
Brilliant, OH
by USPS

Frederick S. Green
Toledo, OH
Service Company, 383rd Inf.
June 14, 2011
By wife Marion

Richard Bruce Hall, Jr.
Garland, TX
March 20, 2011
96th Infantry Division
by wife, Bonnie Bleil Hall

Harold Halter
Medic, 96th Inf
May 2, 2010
by wife, Helen

Samuel D. Head
West Monroe, Louisiana
3rd Battalion HQ Company,
381st Infantry
May 23, 2009
by Vanessa Melgar

Elwyn "Holly" Hollenback
Chelsea, Michigan
Company H, 382nd Infantry
Regiment
August 8, 2011
by Joseph Cihlar

Alvin B. Jacobson
Bemidji, MN
December 26, 2011
by daughter-in-law, Joyce
Jacobson

Charles "Deacon" Jones
Tulare, CA
by Doug Burton

J. Robert Krebs
Glenview, IL
February 13, 2012
By son, Michael Krebs

Herbert W. Lefaiver
Bridgeton, MO
HQ CO 3rd NB, 381st Inf.
October 9, 2010
by daughter Mary Lee Portman

Ivan J. Lemoine
Yuba City, CA
382nd Inf.
February 4, 2011
by wife, Sara Jo

Donald Johansen
Geneva, Illinois
Company C, 321st Medical
Battalion
December 14, 2006
by daughter Donna Staley

Martim Mak Jr.
St. Joseph, Michigan
Company B, 382nd Infantry
October 21, 2011
by Arden Pridgeon

John Pope
Sidney NY
by USPS

Jefferson Davis Robinson, III
Gambier, OH
Co. L, 382nd Inf.
August 26, 2011
by Don Dencker

Ray Sherban
North Canton, OH
Medic, 96th Infantry
February 9, 2012
by wife, Louise

Renwyn T. Tripplett
Fredericksburg, Virginia
382nd Inf., Antitank Co.
December 9, 2011
by son, Lee Tripplett

William VanSkike
Great Bend, Kansas
Company G, 381st Infantry
November 29, 2010
by Arden Pridgeon

Andrew H. "Bud" Vogel
South Holland, Illinois
Co. , 383rd Infantry Regiment
Feb. 24, 2011
by wife Evelyn Vogel

Barbara A. Walling
Widow of LTC Riley W. Walling
2010
by son, William

Steve Melnyk, Company L, 381st Infantry

Submitted by Don Dencker

Steve Melnyk of Detroit, Michigan died on January 21, 2012. Steve was a hard working Corresponding Secretary for the original 96th Infantry Division Association for many years. In addition to his corresponding duties, Steve faithfully and completely kept track of Deadeye attendance at every reunion. He then prepared detailed attendance reports for every fall issue of the Deadeye Dispatch. He also kept track of each member reunion attendance record and prepared and fine attendance certificates, such as, 20, 25, 30, etc. years and gave out these certificates at each reunion.



Deadeye Dispatch

Official Publication of the

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association
• *Spring 2012 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
PO Box 34
Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034
608-317-2496
ddobrien@triwest.net

Deadeyes Online at 96thdeadeyes.org/

***2012 reunion registration material
is on pages 6 & 7***

***Watch our web site and Facebook
for updates and changes.***

How to submit a name for Taps

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Editor:

My letter to the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National World War II Museum was in the Fall 2011 issue of the Deadeye Dispatch. I have been asked by several veterans if I received a reply to my letter. The answer is "no reply."

Also, in my letter the number "5" appears when it should have been the number "4" in this sentence: "Also not mentioned, was the Army 4 division landing on the main island of the Philippines, Luzon, on January 9, 1945."

Sincerely,
Don Dencker

Dear Editor:

Please include the following "Reading List" in the Spring issue of the Deadeye Dispatch. There are many books that have some information about the 96th Infantry Division, but I have tried to limit this list to books having the important information about the 96th Division.

One book that could be left off the list is "From Down Under to Nippon" which has a wealth of information about the entire SIXTH Army. Actually, the reason the 96th Infantry Division didn't go to occupation duty in Japan was because the Japanese were much more cooperative with the U.S. occupiers than expected by General MacArthur and General Kruger.

Troop ships actually came to Mindoro Island to take the 381st Infantry to Japan when the order was cancelled and the ships departed empty.

Sincerely,
Don Dencker

*Recommended Reading
relating to the 96th Infantry Division
and Battles of Leyte and Okinawa*

• **Deadeyes: The Story of the 96th Infantry Division**

By Davidson. Published 1947 and republished in 1981. A relatively complete history of the WWII 96th Infantry Division. Has long listings of Killed in Action and Died of Wounds. Also listing of Decorations awarded by the 96th Division.

• **Leyte: The Return to the Philippines**
By Cannon, 1954. The U.S. Army history of the Battle of Leyte. Covers the entire land battle on Leyte.

• **Decision at Leyte**
By Falk, 1966. Covers the Leyte Battle which led to the defeat of Japan. Best privately written book on Leyte battle.

• **From Down Under to Nippon**
By Kruger. Republished 1989. General Kruger commanded the Sixth Army, which the 96th Division was in. The big picture of the Leyte Battle. Page 343 tells why 96th didn't go to occupation duty in Japan.

• **Okinawa: The Last Battle**
By Appleman, 1948. Republished 1995. The Army History of the Battle of Okinawa, excellent details and battle

maps. (Some of the reprints don't have the maps.)

• **Typhoon of Steel: The Battle of Okinawa**

By Belote, 1970. The best early book on the Battle of Okinawa. 96th Infantry Division well covered.

• **Operation Iceberg**

By Astor, 1995. The Battle of Okinawa as told by the veterans involved, including many Deadeyes.

• **Japan's Battle of Okinawa April - June 1945**

(Levenworth Papers #18) By Huber. Published by Combat Studies Institute, Army Command and General Staff College, 1990. Good information on Japanese defense of Okinawa

• **The Battle for Okinawa**

By Col. Yahara, 1995. The Japanese 32nd Army Operations officer, Col. Yahara presents an excellent picture of the enemy side of the Okinawa Battle.

• **Love Company: Infantry Combat on Leyte and Okinawa**

By Dencker, 2002. Don Dencker was in Company L, 382nd Infantry Regiment and he tells it like it was in a Rifle Company. (Available from Don Dencker)

• **Okinawa: Etched Deep In My Mind**
By Herman Buffington, 2010. Herman, an early Okinawa Battle replacement into Company K, 383rd Infantry Regiment, tells his horrific experiences. (Available from Helen Buffington)

• **Cutthroats: The Adventures of a Sherman Tank Driver in the Pacific**



By Dick. Published in 2006. Good, detailed story of an M-4 Sherman tank crewman of the 763rd Tank Battalion, attached to the 96th Division during the Battles of Leyte and Okinawa.

• **U.S. Army Handbook 1939-45**
By George Forty, Published in 1995. Republished in 1996. Gives organizational information on the 67 Infantry Divisions of the U.S. Army during WWII.

P38: Possibly the World War II Army's Best Invention

Submitted by Don Dencker



As the United States' war effort spread to overseas in 1942, more and more soldiers overseas depended upon canned C-rations as their main source of food. In the summer of 1942 the Army Subsistence Research Laboratory invented a very small, manually operated can opener to open small ration cans.

A small compact steel can opener was invented which could be used to open a C-ration can or any can. This can opener, using 38 punches of the cutting edge, could rapidly open a C-ration can. Someone likened this speedy opening to a World War II fighter plane, the P-38. Thus the name "P-38 can opener" came in use.

The small cutting component of the P38 can opener folds back against the body. This small thin steel object has a length of 1 1/2 inches with a width of 11/16th inches. This small size made carrying it in any pocket easy. In addition, at the top is a small hole, permitting the P38 can opener to be carried on a dog tag chain.

After 68 years, my P38 can opener still works fine.



Deadeye Reunion 2012

Inspired by Pikes Peak, "America The Beautiful" was almost the National Anthem of the United States



In 1893, Katharine Lee Bates, an English teacher at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, agreed to take a summer teaching position at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. During her 2,000 mile train trip through Chicago, Kansas and into Colorado, the 34-year old Bates became quite impressed with the beauty and vastness of the United States.

One of her perks of being a visiting professor was a carriage ride up Pikes Peak. The horse-drawn carriage could go no further than the Halfway House (Glen Cove), so they switched to burros for the remaining six miles of the trip.

After reveling in the views after only a half hour on the summit of Pikes Peak, they descended again. On the way down, she wrote in her diary:

"...we stood at last on that Gate-of-Heaven summit...and gazed in wordless rapture over the far expanse of mountain ranges and the sea-like sweep of plain."

After she returned to her room in the Antler's Hotel that night, she remarked to friends that countries such as England had failed

because, while they may have been "great", they had not been "good" and that "unless we are willing to crown our greatness with goodness, and our bounty with brotherhood, our beloved America may go the same way."

Based on her experiences on that trip, she later wrote a poem which has now become our classic anthem, "America The Beautiful."

The original four stanzas were printed on July 4, 1895 in an issue of The Congregationalist newspaper. After several revisions, the final poem was published in the Boston Evening Transcript nine years later.

Samual Ward's hymn, "Materna," was selected as the music behind the lyrics. However, Ward died in 1903 and never knew how popular Bates' lyrics and his music would become.

A strong push was made to adopt the hymn as the national anthem in 1926. However, the "Star-Spangled Banner" was chosen by President Hoover instead.

In 1993, 100 years after Bates ascended Pikes Peak, Colorado



Katharine Lee Bates

Spring's businessman Costas Rombocos donated an "America the Beautiful" monument that was placed atop Pikes Peak. The monument can be seen on the observation platform to the south of the Summit House.

While Bates retained the copyright on her poem to protect it, she never sought any payment of royalties. It was her personal gift to the country.

Lyrics to America the Beautiful

O beautiful, for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood,
from sea to shining sea.

O beautiful, for pilgrim feet
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine ev'ry flaw;
Confirm thy soul in self control, thy liberty in law!

O beautiful, for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved
And mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness, and ev'ry gain divine!

O beautiful, for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years,
Thine alabaster cities gleam
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood,
from sea to shining sea!

Ladies' Luncheon

"Memories with Costume Jewelry"

This year's Ladies' Luncheon promises to be something special. The theme is "Memories with Costume Jewelry." Please pack and/or wear your favorite piece of costume jewelry; during the luncheon, each guest will have the opportunity to share the "event" that made the jewelry special. We also request each lady bring a few pieces of costume jewelry to donate for the "96th Student Scholarship." A silent auction with the donated pieces will help



raise funds for our scholarship fund, which benefits the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of Deadeyes. Watch out QVC - our ladies just may give you some competition in July!

"Happy New Year "

At the Beer Bust in Colorado Springs

On the heels of last year's successful Christmas-In-July Beer Bust, this year we will ring in the New Year with our Deadeye friends. This promises to be



a fun-filled night full of good cheer, the sharing of old memories and the making of new ones. The night may even include a surprise or two...so please remember to pack a festive outfit and be prepared to celebrate! We look forward to seeing you there.



[Home](#) [Command](#) [News](#) [Galleries](#) [Resources](#)

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

-- William James --

"Deadeye Ready"

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

Deadeye News & History...



Held in Fredericksburg, Texas on March 31

96th Infantry Division Commemorative Plaque Dedicated at National Museum of the Pacific War

Submitted by Don Dencker

During the beautiful morning of March 31, 2012 at 11:00 AM, our large 96th Infantry Division Commemorative Plaque was dedicated in an appropriate ceremony at the National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, Texas. The ceremony also commemorated the 67th Anniversary of our landing on Okinawa, Japan on April 1, 1945.

The ceremony featured a Color Guard from the Navy Junior ROTC from the Fredericksburg High School who carried the 96th Infantry Division flag, the U.S. Army flag and the U.S. flag. Enhancing the program was a fine bugler and an appropriate 96th Infantry Division-Deadeye wreath. Our Association Chaplain, Glenn Stewart, provided the Invocation and Benediction.

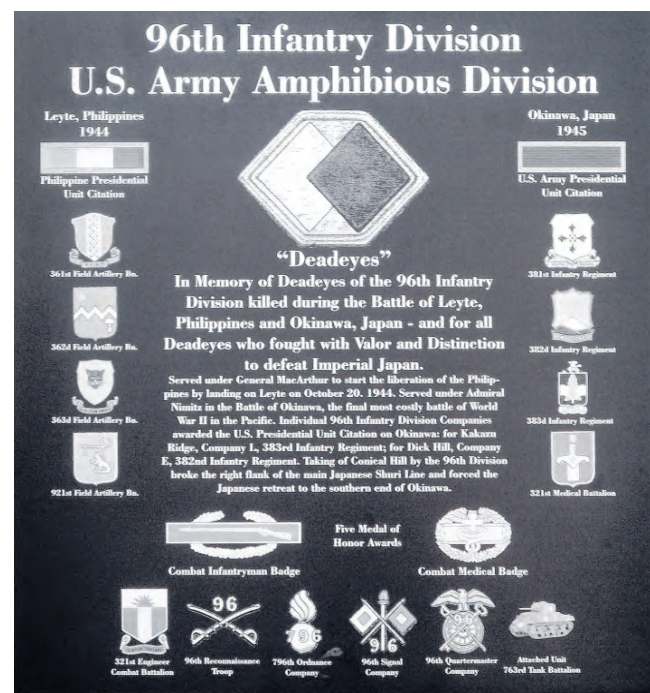
Speakers in the Dedication program included Leonard Lazarick, a three Purple Heart veteran from Company K, 382nd Infantry; General Michael Hagee (Ret) USMC, President and CEO of the Museum; Col. Phillip Jolly, Commander, 96th Sustainment Brigade, USAR; and Donald Dencker, Master of Ceremonies and speaker, Company L, 382nd

Infantry. Wreath Bearers were William Burd, Company I, 383rd Infantry and Robert Schusteff, 4th Ranger Company, Korea, whose brother Joseph was Killed in Action while serving with Company L, 382nd Infantry, during the Battle of Okinawa.

The commemorative plaque is a striking presentation of the 96th Infantry Division, an Army amphibious division. Pictured on the plaque is the double diamond shoulder patch of the Division, the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation ribbon, and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation ribbon. Highlighting the plaque are the insignia of thirteen 96th Division units of Company size and larger, to include the Infantry Regiments, plus the 763rd Tank Battalion. Also pictured are the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Combat Medical Badge. The notation of the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation also mentions the two individual Rifle Companies, Company L, 383rd Infantry, and Company E, 382nd Infantry, who were individually awarded the U. S. Presidential Unit Citation. Lastly indicated were that five Deadeyes were awarded the Medal of Honor.

The two photos show the 96th Infantry Division

Commemorative plaque and the 9 Deadeyes with Col. Jolly who attended the Dedication.



REUNION REGISTRATION

1. REGISTRATION & T-SHIRTS

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 15, 2012. This is most important. The association is unable to acquire debt or extra charges because of late registration. No guarantees are possible for events and transportation if persons are not pre-registered. If unable to attend reunion, a \$5.00 charge will be subtracted from registration fee when refund is mailed.

The registration cost per person is \$15.00. For attendees under 18 years old, the cost is \$2.00. Please include a check for the total amount for all persons registering on this form as well as for the events. For registering more than four people, just attach a note with the additional information as indicated below.

Name Attendee #1 _____

Unit (381st 382nd, 383rd, etc.) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone (home) _____

Phone (cell) _____

In case of emergency, contact _____

Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #2 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #3 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #4 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #5 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Name Attendee #6 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Relationship to 96th member _____ Number of reunions attended _____

Indicate here if anyone in your party needs a wheelchair: Yes No

REUNION SHIRTS... All shirts must be pre-ordered this year. We will not have extra inventory available at the reunion.

96th Reunion T-shirts: All \$13 each

Adult Sizes: #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ #Other (indicate size) _____ TTL \$ _____

Child Sizes: #Sm _____ #Med _____ #Lrg _____ TTL \$ _____

Mail this form with checks to:

**96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association,
Attn: Dennis O'Brien, PO Box 34, Trempealeau, WI 54661-0034**

For questions, contact Annie Duncan, Phone: 302-594-0715,
Cell: 609-841-0476 or email: annmargrock2@yahoo.com

2. EVENTS

Price Per #People TOTAL

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2012

Tour 1: Historic Manitou Springs*

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Visit natural spring fountains, shops
and restaurants. Transportation cost only

\$15

Tour 2: Flying W Ranch*

4 p.m. – 10 p.m.
Enjoy western town and shops;
6:45 chuck wagon dinner; 8-9 p.m. stage show

\$38

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2012

Tour 1: Transportation to Fort Carson

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

\$15

Tour 2: ProRodeo Hall of Fame & Museum of the American Cowboy*

2 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Visit two multimedia presentations in the Hall of
Champions. Also enjoy historic cowboy gear and
clothing, memorabilia, and the Western Art &
Sculpture Garden.

\$21

Hotel dinner

5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
\$20 cash price; Children 10 and younger \$10
Green Salad, Meatballs, Choice of Pasta and Sauce,
Garden Vegetables, Garlic Bread Sticks, Lemon Bars

Beer Bust

8 p.m. – 11 p.m.
Theme: Happy New Year – ring in 2013 a little early with
your Deadeye pals! Fun for entire family! Dress to impress!

\$7 adults

\$2 under 18

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2012

Memorial Service

10:00 a.m. at hotel

no charge

General Membership Meeting

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.
Report of association activities 2011-2012

no charge

Ladies' Luncheon

\$25

ASTP Luncheon

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

\$25

Banquet

6 p.m. – 7 p.m. cocktail hour, 7 p.m. banquet
Petit Filet Mignon \$38
Chicken Parmesan \$33
Filet of Salmon \$36
Pesto Pasta Primavera \$31
Children's plate, Chicken strips, fries & vegetable \$19

Total Amount for all Attendee Registration and Shirts \$ _____

Total Amount for Events \$ _____

Lodging Info



3. LODGING

Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs

2886 South Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
Front desk 719-576-5900 • Reservations: 1-800-981-4012
HOTEL RESERVATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 18

Room Rate for Deadeyes

(Mention the 96th Infantry Association group rate)

Single and double rate is \$104

Triple is \$114

Quad is \$124

Free breakfast is for 2 per room.

Transportation To and From Hotel

- Complimentary shuttle available to/from Colorado Springs Municipal Airport (COS) Distance: 8 miles
- Taxi Charge to/from COS (one way): \$25, Time: 15 minutes
- Nearest Train Station in Denver (75 miles north)



Tour Descriptions

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2012

Tour 1: Historic Manitou Springs

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. • \$15 per person

Visit natural spring fountains, shops and restaurants; transportation cost only. Transportation, approx 30 minutes. Manitou Springs is famous for its naturally carbonated mineral spring fountains. Located throughout this historic town the springs run free for all who wish to enjoy the healing benefits. Manitou Springs is home to world-class art, music, theater and sidewalk sculpture displays. The Historic District is lined with unique art galleries, one of a kind gift shops and trading posts with handcrafted Native American treasures.



THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2012

Tour 2: Flying W Ranch

4 p.m. – 10 p.m. • \$38 per person

Enjoy western town and shops; 6:45 chuck wagon dinner; 8-9 p.m. stage show. The Flying W Ranch is an actual working mountain cattle ranch located in the foothills of Colorado Springs, Colorado, specializing in authentic western food and western style entertainment since 1953. When you attend the Chuckwagon Supper at the Flying W Ranch, you'll catch a glimpse of the Old West, a meal typical of one that might have been served on a cattle drive of years past, cowboys singing and an atmosphere that will beckon you to escape for awhile and enjoy an evening long to be remembered.



FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2012

Tour 1: Transportation to Fort Carson

8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
\$15 per person



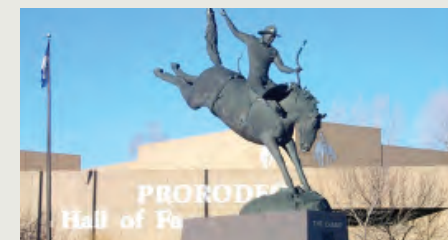
Check the association website (96thdeadeyes.org) or Facebook for latest updates.

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2012

Tour 2: ProRodeo Hall of Fame & Museum of the American Cowboy

2 p.m. – 5 p.m. • \$21 per person

Enjoy two multi-media presentations in the Hall of Champions and displays of historic cowboy gear, clothing and memorabilia. Visit the awesome Western Art and Sculpture Garden.



Deadeye News & History...

Leyte Landing Mystery Solved?

Submitted by Donald Dencker

In the Leyte, Philippines landing on October 20, 1944, Company L and Company K, 382nd Infantry, made the assault landing on Blue Beach. Only 700 yards inland was Hill 120, whose commanding elevation overlooked the Blue and Orange landing beaches of the 96th Infantry Division.

Within 40 minutes after the 10:00 AM landing, we had taken the rest of Hill 120 and at 42 minutes after landing, Lt. Mills of I Company raised the American flag atop Hill 120.

At 10:45 AM, a Navy Destroyer off shore fired a shell at Hill 120, quickly followed by a second shell. Immediately, colored signal flares went up calling for a cease fire, but a third shell was on its way before firing ceased. This Navy firing wounded about 10 men in Companies L and K.

Over the years I have wondered why the Destroyer fired at Hill 120 already taken. Recently, I found the probable reason from Russell Watts of AntiTank Company, 382nd Infantry. A Lt. James Farmes of AntiTank Company had been designated area observer for the 96th Infantry Division. His assignment was to be in a Navy plane and fly over the battlefields and fire colored

flares, indicating each objective captured when capture observed.

Very unfortunately, right after the plane he was in took off, it crashed into the sea killing Lt.

Farmes and the pilot. Thus, it appears the flare advising the Destroyer of the Capture of Hill 120 was never fired. Lacking the signal of capture, the Destroyer fired on Hill 120 thinking it was still in Japanese possession.



Mindoro Island, Philippines

Submitted by Don Dencker

This is a clipping from the Deadeye Dispatch of December 16, 1944. Mindoro Island, very lightly defended by the Japanese, was a preliminary step, preceding the landing on the main Philippine island of Luzon on January 9, 1945. No Deadeye in December 1944 could foretell that Mindoro would be the future home base of the 96th Infantry Division. The 96th had completely left Okinawa by July 31, 1945 and Mindoro was the Division home from early August 1945 until the remnants of the Division left Mindoro for the United States on January 17, 1946. Our encampment was near San Jose, Mindoro. Also note the Box Score of "Good Japs." This was the way we kept track of the Japanese troops killed by the 96th Infantry Division.

Ova A. Kelley

Medal Of Honor Bridge Signs

Submitted by Don Dencker

The last Deadeye Dispatch had a request for contributions for Missouri Highway Bridge signs naming the bridge for 96th Infantry Division Medal of Honor awardee, Private Ova A. Kelley. This effort was under the direction of Deadeye Edwin Wright.

We are pleased to report that enough funds for these signs has been raised by money donated by the Kelley family and Deadeye donations. Thank you, Deadeye donators, especially to Ed Wright. The Ova Kelley signs will be installed in the near future.

Ova A. Kelley (March 27, 1914 - December 10, 1944) was a recipient of the United States military's highest decoration—the Medal of Honor—for his actions in World War II.



Ova A. Kelley
96th Infantry
Medal of Honor Recipient

Kelley joined the Army from his birth place of Norwood, Missouri in October 1943, and by December 8, 1944 was serving as a private in Company A, 382nd Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division. On that day, in Leyte, the Philippines, he single-handedly attacked an entrenched Japanese position and then led a charge which destroyed the remainder of the Japanese force. He was shot by a sniper soon after, and died of his wounds two days later. For these actions, he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on October 19, 1945.

Kelley, aged 30 at his death, was buried at Oak Grove Cemetery north of his hometown of Norwood, Missouri.

Private Kelley's official Medal of Honor citation reads:

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Before dawn, near the edge of the enemy-held Buri airstrip, the company was immobilized by heavy, accurate rifle and machine gun fire from hostile troops entrenched in bomb craters and a ditch less than 100 yards distant. The company commander ordered a mortar concentration which destroyed one machine gun but failed to dislodge the main body of the enemy. At this critical moment, Pvt. Kelley, on his

own initiative, left his shallow foxhole with an armload of hand grenades and began a 1-man assault on the foe. Throwing his missiles with great accuracy, he moved forward, killed or wounded 5 men, and forced the remainder to flee in a disorganized route. He picked up a M-1 rifle and emptied its clip at the running Japanese, killing 3. Discarding this weapon, he took a carbine and killed 3 more of the enemy. Inspired by his example, his comrades followed him in a charge which destroyed the entire enemy force of 34 enlisted men and 2 officers and captured 2 heavy and 1 light machine guns. Pvt. Kelley continued to press the attack on to an airstrip, where sniper fire wounded him so grievously that he died 2 days later. His outstanding courage, aggressiveness, and initiative in the face of grave danger was an inspiration to his entire company and led to the success of the attack."



Please fill out the brief form on Page 9 of this issue of the Deadeye Dispatch so we may make sure you continue to receive your copy.

Deadeye News & History



Comparison of WWII Okinawa Battle versus Iraq as to Combat Intensity

Submitted by Don Dencker

The following is based on our recent withdrawal of combat troops from Iraq:

In Iraq, almost 4,500 U.S. military personnel were killed in combat during the 8.75 years or 455 weeks of U.S. presence. In the Battle of Okinawa, 4,500 U.S. military personnel were killed in combat during the first 4 weeks of battle.

The intensity of battle for like combat deaths based upon time is 455 weeks divided by four weeks and equals 113.75. Thus the intensity of combat on Okinawa was almost 114 times that in Iraq.

As to the effect on the U.S. population, the extremely high combat intensity on Okinawa is even before consideration that the population of the U.S. in the 1940's was half our population during the Iraq war. Also, many high combat intensity battles were fought during WWII.

2012 OKINAWA BATTLEFIELD TOUR

Valor Tours, in June 2012, will conduct an Okinawa Battlefield Tour. The tour is June 15 through June 22, departing San Francisco. Many Deadeye Okinawa Battle Veterans have taken this tour since 1990.

Tour Events Include:

1. Tour members will be honored by the U. S. Army at the Army Birthday Ball on June 16th. (Four 96th Division Okinawa Battle Veterans were honored guests at the 2010 Birthday Ball.
2. Visits of 96th Division Battle Sites include: Cactus Ridge, Kakazu Ridge Battle Park, Tombstone Ridge, Hacksaw Ridge, Conical Hill, Big Apple (Yaeju Lake), and White Beach Landing Monument
3. Retreat Ceremony at Torii Station Army Post, location of Army Okinawa Battle Monument
4. Visits to Brig. Gen Easley, Col. May and Gen Buckner Monuments
5. Visits to Cornerstone of Peace Monument and Monument Covered Mabuni Hill
6. Visits to sites of specific interests of tour members.

To obtain Okinawa tour information and tour brochure, contact:

**Valor Tours, Ltd., 10 Liberty Ship Way, Suite 110,
Sausalito, CA 94965
Phone: 1-800-842-4504**

YOUR RESPONSE REQUESTED

We're asking you to sign up to receive your Deadeye Dispatch electronically. Due to postage costs and timely delivery issues, your 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association is making a push to move to electronic delivery of the Deadeye Dispatch. **To avoid being deleted from our roster, please fill out the form below and return it to us.**

"YES - I want to receive my future copies of the Deadeye Dispatch via email."

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Are you a lifetime member of the 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association? Yes No

Please check one of the following that represents your status:

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

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Those that previously served in the 96th DIV/ARCOM/RSC/RRC and are not currently assigned to a unit:

1 year - \$18 2 years - \$34 3 years - \$48

Those currently assigned to a unit in the 96th Sustainment Brigade or those assigned to another command that previously served in the 96th Sustainment Brigade:

1 year - \$8 (yearly renewals are the same amount)

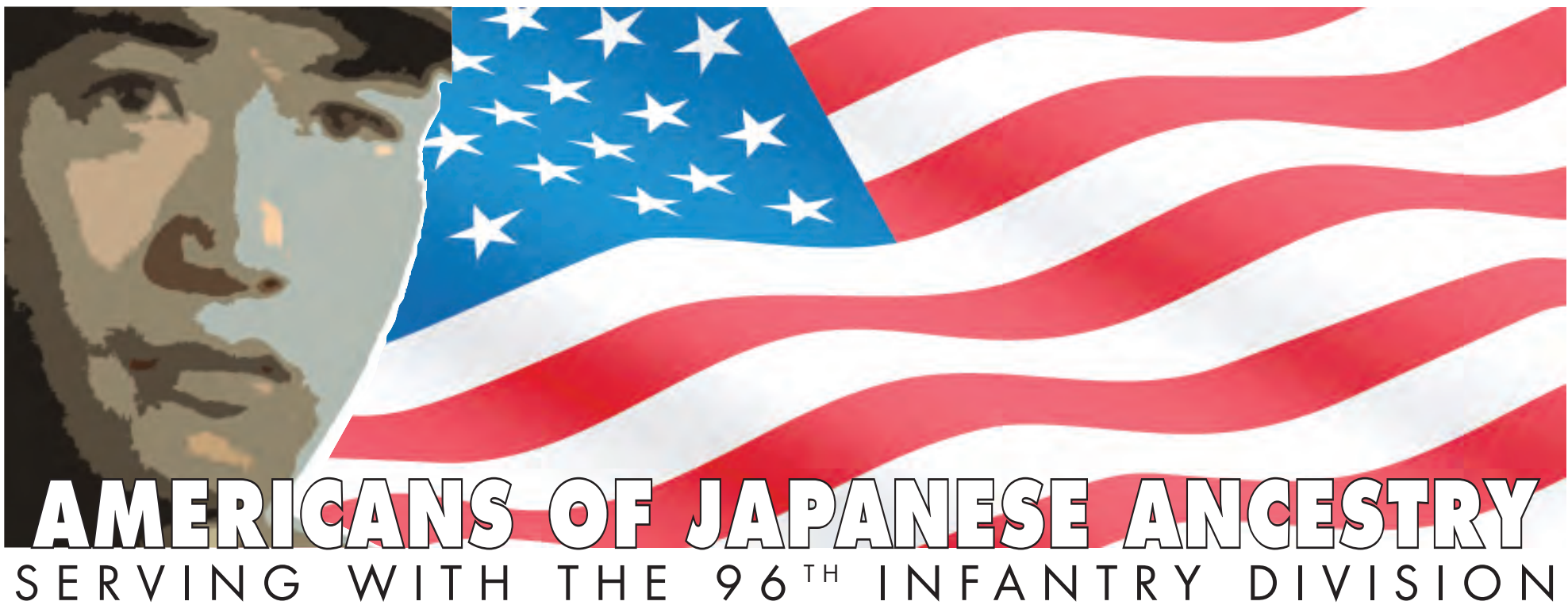
Family members or friends of former 96th Soldiers (WWII or Desert Storm):

1 year - \$10 (yearly renewals are the same amount)

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



Deadeye News & History...



Submitted by Don Dencker

The 314th HQ Intelligence Team of Americans of Japanese Ancestry was attached to the 96th Infantry Division from before the Battle of Leyte until after the Battle of Okinawa. These ten or twelve soldiers came from Hawaii. After basic training, these men had intelligence training at Shakopee, Minnesota.

To enable Infantry Regiments to make use of information available from POWs or documents with the least possible delay, each Regiment had an interrogator and a translator attached, leaving four men to work at 96th Infantry Division HQ. However, at the middle of May, the burden of a large number of Japanese documents necessitated the recall of one man from each Regiment. During the first part of June the number of prisoners taken sharply increased. Each

Regiment got its man back again to interrogate prisoners and to separate Japanese soldiers from civilians. XXIV Corps sent two additional men and one officer to the detachment. Finally, near the end of June 1945, the detachment moved to the civilian and POW collecting point screening and interrogating a large number of POW's and civilians. Part of the unit remained at Division HQ to turn out reports. In the latter part of June, members of the 314th Intelligence Team also engaged in talking to hiding Japanese soldiers to seek their surrender.

For its fine service, the 314th HQ Intelligence Team was included in the Army Presidential Unit Citation for Okinawa awarded to the 96th Infantry Division.

Some information provided by Takejiro Higa, Honolulu, Hawaii, a member of the 314th.



314th HQ Intelligence Team, 96th Infantry Division, Leyte, Philippines, 1943



**We'll see you at the
Reunion in July at
Colorado Springs!**

96TH Infantry Division Deadeye Association

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Deadeye Dispatch Change of Address Form

Clip and mail to:

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

OLD ADDRESS	NEW ADDRESS
Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____

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

96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association Membership Application

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

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

(Detach and return with Payment)

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

Please check one of the following that represents your status:

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

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$ _____

DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make check payable to : 96th Infantry Division Deadeye Association
Mail application to:
 Dennis O'Brien
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96TH INFANTRY DEADEYE ASSN. ITEMS

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

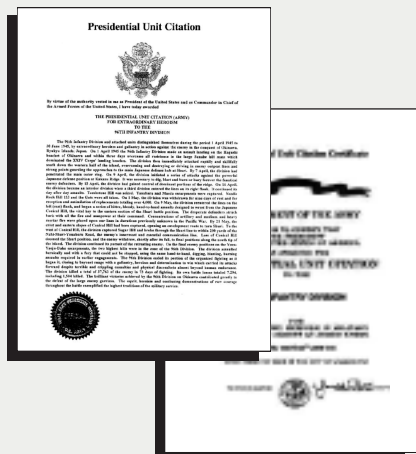


"Before You Go"

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www.managedmusic.com

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



96TH Infantry Division Presidential Unit Citation Documents Available

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

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

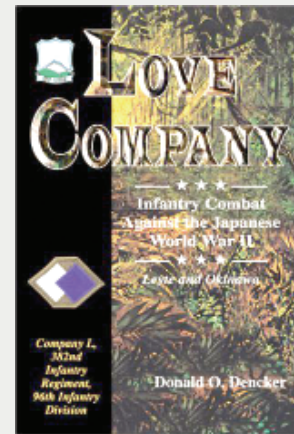
Make check to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590



Deadeye Caps

(above art not an exact depiction)
Cost: \$10

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

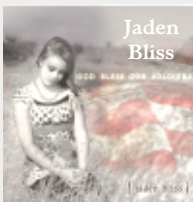


Love Company Book

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

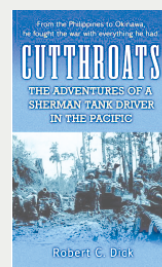
To purchase Love Company, send a \$14.00 check made out to: Donald Dencker, 128 N. Musket Ridge Drive, Sun Prairie, WI 53590

Bless Our Soldiers



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

Jaden sang at the Dining Out in Salt Lake City



Cutthroats

The Adventures of a Sherman Tank Driver in the Pacific

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

Available at
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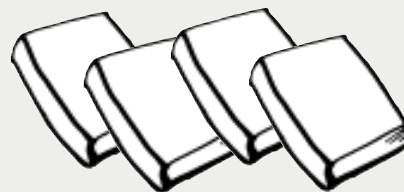


Get the Dispatch CD by mail

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

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

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



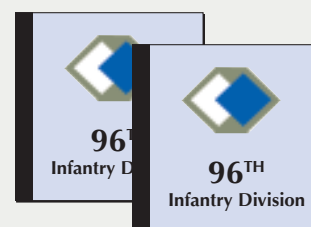
New WWII Book

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



Words of Wartime Memories America and Abroad

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



96TH Infantry Division CD's

Cost is \$10 each
All visual - no audio.
All income above CD cost and mailing to go to the Deadeye Association Monument Fund

- CD #1:
Battle of Leyte (73 screens)
- CD #2:
Battle of Okinawa (91 screens)
- CD #3:
Training in the US and Hawaii, Mindoro Island and return to the US and disbandment (86 screens)

CD #4: NEW!!
96th Infantry Division Monument and Memorials (78 screens)

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(Revised-April, 2007)