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THE BUFFALO BUGLE

Official Publication of the 17th Infantry Regiment Association

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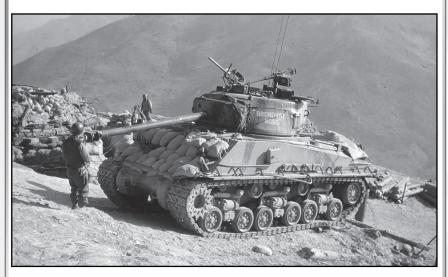
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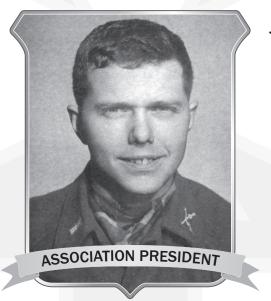


On the Cover: An M4A3E4 Sherman Tank "BROADWAY ROSE" on Old Baldy January 1953 - Arthur Estes Collection - Chaplain, 17th Infantry 1952-1953

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*Outgoing President

July 27th, 1953-2013

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Regiment,

On the occasion of this 60th Anniversary of the cessation of hostilities on the Korean Peninsula, I offer my heartfelt thanks to you men who faced the hardships of the war for your fellow Americans. We must remember those we lost, and those who were terribly wounded.

These last four years serving you and the Association have been a great honor for Gay and me. Gay and I join in thanking all of you for your support of our Associa-

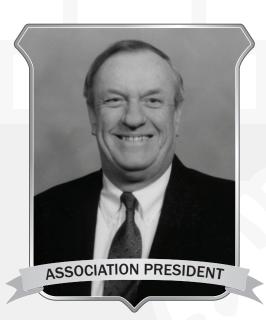
tion and the two active Battalions

We shall soon have a new leadership to carry on the work of the Association.

The continued support of our membership will make the change of command an easy transition.

We hope you will enjoy this special edition of the Buffalo Bugle that is dedicated to you.

Bruce M. Frazer C 1-17 Infantry



*Incoming President

*EDITOR'S NOTE - This was an e-mail that the new President sent out after the reunion in New Orleans. I thought that I'd share it for his first article as President of the Association.

This is the first issue of the "Buffalo Snorts"

Save it as some day it may be worth a dollar or two. So that as many as possible see this please send to anyone who is now or has been a member of the 17th Assoc. on your e-mail list. Duplication doesn't hurt as we all have delete buttons. Active duty members may post on your company and barracks bulletin boards if allowed.

This will be a monthly publication with the purpose of getting information to the membership in a quick and newsy manor between issues of the Bugle. If you have anything to contribute send it to rohrj@comporium.net.

First item is a comment about the New Orleans Reunion, IT WAS GREAT!! If you couldn't make it you missed one of the best. The effort put forth by Steve Goodwin, Bruce Frazer, Guy Daines and all the volunteers was amazing. Kudos to all!

FYI, the 2014 reunion will be at Ft Lewis. Prep has already started. The 2015 reunion will be in Buffalo, NY. Steve has got irons in the fire for a wild time in Buffalo. Plan for it now.

A Buffalo in distress. Many of you older types remember good ole Fred Hatter. He has fallen upon some poor health problems and is pretty much a stay at home now. I'm sure he would like to hear from you, so drop him a line, a card or give him a call. He'd love to hear from you. Tel: 618-448-8626, address 120 Poplar St, Mascauth, IL 62258.

He has quit using e-mail.

If you know of a Buffalo who is in distress, send his/her info and I'll put it in the next issue.

The Board approved a new dues schedule. Effective immediately future dues will be: LIFE TIME: \$300.00, ANNUAL: \$25.00, ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL: \$17.00, annually. It has been several years since our last increase and as all things big and small, prices continue to increase and unfortunately we are not exempt from these increases.

Our beloved Chaplain Rev. John Strube has been having some health problems and has decided to give up the position as 17th Inf. Regt. Assoc. Chaplain. In respect for his years of service he now has the title of Chaplain Emeritus. Keep John and Janet in your thoughts and prayers. Drop them a line or card. They will be pleased to hear from you. Send to Rev. John Strube, 65 St John Circle, Lititz, Pa. 17543. e-mail: jlstrube@windstream.net.

On October 19, 2013 Our Treasurer. Steve Goodwin, will be in a 10 mile run which includes an obstacle each mile. He is willing to sweat for us so we need to support him by pledging bucks for each mile he runs. This money will go into the 17th Inf Regt Assoc general fund. Any amount is acceptable from as little as \$1.00 per mile to any amount you feel you can afford. Come on guys! Steve is putting his reputation as an athlete on the line. Surely we can put a couple of bucks on the line for him and likewise, support the 17th Inf. Regt. Assoc. Giving up one cup of Starbucks coffee will do it.

Send your donation or pledge to: 17th Inf. Regt. Assoc. Treasurer, 4366 Central Ave. Western Springs, IL 60558,

e-mail: scout17@yahoo.com

The newest edition of the Bugle ws delayed, but will forth coming soon. Just hang in there. It's always worth the wait.

I am pleased to announce that

The Rev. John Phillips has accepted the position of Chaplain of the 17th Inf. Regt. Assoc. Rev. Phillips is a Korean Vet, with the 2nd Bn. in 1952. He has been to most reunions and officiated in the absence of Rev. Strube. Please welcome him at jwp2@cox.net.

Put the blame for this on:

Jim Rohr

President 17th Inf Regt Assoc

IF YOU WANT TO BE ADDED TO JIM ROHR'S E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION LIST, PLEASE SEND HIM AN E-MAIL AT rohrj@comporium.net





1-17 Buffalo 6

LTC Shannon Nielsen Military Biography

LTC Shannon Nielsen graduated from The Citadel in 1995 as a Distinguished Military Graduate and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry.

His first assignment was with the 1506 IN (Air Assault). ROK. where he served as an Anti-Armor Platoon Leader. He then served as a Company XO with 254 IN, Fort Benning, GA. Following the Infantry Captains' Career Course, LTC Nielsen served with XVIIIth Airborne Corps, G3, Fort Bragg, NC. In 2001, LTC Nielsen deployed with the 1325 AIR, 82nd Airborne Division to Kosovo (Operation Joint Guardian) as an Assistant Operations Upon returning from Officer. Kosovo, he assumed command of A/1325 AIR 82nd Airborne Division. In 2003. LTC Nielsen deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and later assumed command of HHC/ 2BCT, 82nd Airborne Division. Upon completion of command, he served with the 4/78th Division, Fort Bragg, NC, as an Operations Officer.

LTC Nielsen graduated from The Naval Postgraduate School, earning a Master of Science Degree in Defense Analysis (Special Operations Low-Intensity Conflict) in DEC 2006. In DEC 2007, LTC Nielsen graduated from ILE and served as the S3 for 15 CAV, 2BCT, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, TX. Following deployment in support of OIF, LTC Nielsen served as the BCT S3 for 1BCT, 1st Cavalry Division.

LTC Nielsen was selected to be the Aide-de-Camp to the Under Secretary of the Army in MAY 2011. Most recently, he served as the Deputy Chief of Staff, 7th Infantry Division, JBLM, WA.

LTC Nielsen's awards and decorations include the BSM w/ V and 2 OLC, MSM 2 OLC, AR-COM w/ 1 OLC, AAM w/ 2 OLC, NDSM with Bronze Service Star. the Kosovo Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Iraqi Freedom Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the PUC. VUA, MUC, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the French Parachutist Badge. and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

LTC Nielsen is married to the former Gwyn Elizabeth Burleson from Atlanta, GA.



1-17 Buffalo 7

CSM Jeffrey M. Stone Military Biography

CSM Jeffrey M. Stone enlisted in the United States Army in February 1991. He completed Basic Training and AIT at FT Benning GA.

CSM Stone's assignments include C co 4-22 IN Schofield BKS, HI, where he served as a SAW gunner, M60 gunner, and a Team Leader, while assigned to 4-22 IN he deployed to Haiti; B co 3327 IN, FT Campbell, KY where he served as a Team Leader and Squad Leader; C co 503 IN, Camp Casey, Korea where he served as a Squad Leader and a WPNs Squad Leader; B co 502 IN, FT Campbell, KY where he served as a WPNs Squad Leader and PSG, while assigned with the 502 IN he deployed to Kosovo and Iraq (OIF I), A co Task Force II, Operation Group, JRTC , FT Polk, LA where he served as a PSG, PLT LDR, and 1SG O/C; B co and HHC 4-23 IN FT Lewis, WA where he served as Company 1SG and Battalion Operations SGM, while assigned to 4-23 IN he deployed to Afghanistan (09-11); United States Army Sergeants Majors Course(Student), FT Bliss, HHC BDE 2-2 SBCT JBLM, WA, where he deployed to Afghanistan (12-13) as the BDE TAC OPs SGM.

CSM Stone graduated from PLDC, BNCOC, ANCOC, 1SG Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Majors Course, class 62. He also graduated from Air Assault, CLS, Rappel Master, SOTIC Sniper School, Ranger School (Distinguished Honor Grad), Airborne School, Javelin Master Trainer Course, Battle Staff Course and the Path Finder School.

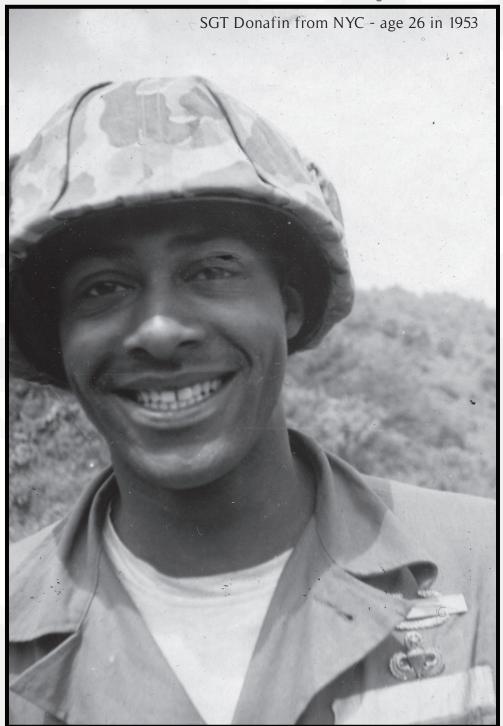
His awards and decorations include: The Bronze Star Medal with 1 Oak leave Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Oak Leave Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with 7 Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal (7th Award), National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Humanitarian Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Army Service Medal. Overseas Service Ribbon, NCOPD Ribbon (Numeral 4), NATO Medal (Kosovo, Afghanistan), Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Australian

Parachutist Badge.

CSM has a Bachelor's of Science in Liberal Arts from Excelsior College, Albany NY.

CSM Stone is married to Brandi E. Stone of Florence, KY. They have three children, Cody 17, Caitlyn 15, and Lauren 10.





1-17 AWARD CEREMONY

NIA - The Order of Saint Maurice Medals



LTC Nielsen and MAJ Jeffrey Lesperance



Awardee of the Shield of Sparta: Mrs. Allison Sakimura (for her outstanding volunteerism and contributions to the Infantry, also wife of MAJ Sakimura).





Photos from the Awards Ceremony, which took place on 13 June 2013 at JBLM, WA. LTC Nielsen is the current Battalion Commander of 1-17IN, 2-2 (SBCT). Awardees for Order of St. Maurice were: MAJ Gregory Sakimura (Outgoing BN S3 Operations Officer) and MAJ Jeffrey Lesperance (Outgoing BN Executive Officer).

2013 1-17 NCO AND SOLDIER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to these two Outstanding Buffalo!







Many congratulations to SGT Jesse Border (HHC 1-17) 2013 NCO of the Year and SPC Louis Morrone (B 1-17) 2013 Soldier of the Year. Colonel Steve Gardner awards both of them a personalized Ek Commando Knife.





BATTLE ON PORK CHOP HILL

April and July 1953

Written by James I. Marino and originally published in the April 2003 issue of Military History magazine.

Published Online: June 12, 2006

Officially it was designated Hill 255, but its contour lines on a map of Korea and a 1959 film made it world famous as "Pork Chop Hill." Based on a book by military historian S.L.A. Marshall, the movie dealt only with the penultimate, two-day battle for Pork Chop Hill in April 1953. In actuality, that hill claimed the lives of soldiers from the United States, Thailand, Colombia, the Republic of Korea (ROK) and China in an ongoing struggle that lasted longer than on any other single battlefield in Korea.

After Communist North Korean forces invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950, the war raged up and down the peninsula several times as the United States. The United Nations (U.N.) and finally Communist China sent ground forces there. By July 1952, however, both sides had constructed such strong defensive lines that neither could undertake a major offensive without suffering unacceptable losses. In 1952, North Korea and China had 290.000 men on the front lines and another 600,000 in reserve. The U.N. countered with 250,000 troops on the line, backed by 450,000 reserves.

While the two sides engaged

in tedious, often exasperating truce negotiations at Panmunjom, their soldiers huddled in trench systems resembling those of World War I. The constant patrolling and artillery duels seldom made headlines at home. But occasionally battles for outposts such as Heartbreak Ridge, the Punchbowl, Capitol Hill and the Hook drew media attention, giving them propaganda value at the talks.

Much of the focus on Pork Chop Hill was a result of Communist political structure. At that time, Marshal Peng Dehuai commanded the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces in Korea, taking his orders from the Central Military Commission (CMC), of which Mao Tse-tung was chairman, and Mao's foreign minister, Zhou Enlai, vice chairman. Peng's lieutenants often had multiple responsibilities. For example, Peng's deputy, General Deng Hua, was also commander of the 13th Field Army and a delegate at the peace talks. Li Kenong, chief of military intelligence for the CMC, was also vice minister of foreign affairs, chief of the Military Intelligence Department of the People's Liberation Army, and headed the Chinese delegation at Panmunjom. Because of Li's ministry and intelligence positions, he had his government's authority to coordinate armistice talks and battlefield strategy. Consequently, whenever negotiations reached critical stages, the Chinese military was used to test the U.N.'s will on the battlefield. As the action raged around relatively unimportant outposts, the battles themselves took on political and propaganda significance far beyond their military value.

In May 1952, Maj. Gen. David Ruffner took command of the 45th Infantry Division, holding the right flank of the I Corps' line in west-central Korea, facing the 39th Army of the Chinese 13th Field Army. Wishing to take the high ground in front of his division's main line of resistance (MLR), Ruffner and his staff developed a plan to seize a dozen forward hills. stretching from northeast to southwest. The last two in the southwest, Pork Chop and Old Baldy (Hill 266), were held by the Chinese 116th Division.

On June 6 and 7, the 279th Infantry Regiment seized the six northern hills, while the 180th Infantry advanced on the six southern ones. Company I of the 180th took Pork Chop after a one-hour fire fight and immediately fortified the position. The Chinese 346th, 347th and 348th regiments counterattacked over the next several days, but I Company, with artillery support, held them off. Ruffner had extended the 45th Division's line to provide a breakwater for his MLR, with Port Chop Hill, partially protected from Old Baldy, providing a vital part of the buffer.

The 2nd Infantry Division replaced the 45th in the fall of 1952, and its 9th Regiment was

assigned to Pork Chop and Old Baldy. In October the Thai 21st Infantry Regiment occupied Pork Chop and managed to beat back assaults by elements of the Chinese 39th Army in November. When the 7th Infantry Division replaced the 2nd, troops of its 31st Regiment occupying Hill 255 found words written on the bunker walls by the departing Thais: 'Take good care of our Pork Chop.'

In the late winter of 1953, General Deng argued that Chinese forces should adopt a retaliatory (zhenfeng xiangdui) strategy rather than remain on the defensive. The CMC endorsed his idea, and Marshal Peng moved the 23rd and 47th armies into line near Pork Chop Hill. On March 1, 1953, Chinese artillery opened an 8,000-round artillery barrage. Then, on the night of March 23, elements of the Chinese 67th Division of the 23rd Army and the 47th Army's 141st Division launched simultaneous ground assaults on Old Baldy, Pork Chop and Hill 191.

'On March 23rd, we ran a 50man patrol along the perimeter of Pork Chop,' recalled Corporal Joe Scheuber of I Company, 31st Infantry. 'We just got into our foxholes on the finger of Pork Chop when enemy mortar and artillery hit us. To our right, more incoming rounds. Then we saw Chinese behind us and realized we were surrounded. We fell back to the trench line at the top of the hill, but the Chinese had reached it first. Hand-to-hand fighting broke out. There was a tremendous

amount of noise. I got nicked in the arm and my helmet got shot off. I worked my way down the hill, killing a Chinese soldier with a grenade. I ended up in a shell hole the remainder of the night, as the enemy artillery lasted most of the night. When dawn broke. I was found by another unit from I Company as they pushed the Chinese off the hill.' The Chinese drove the defenders back 800 yards. Just after midnight, however, two companies from the 7th Division reserve counterattacked and recovered Pork Chop by morning.

The 1st Battalion of the Chinese 141st Division, commanded by Hou Yung-chun, was selected to assault Old Baldy. The unit's political officer hand picked the 3rd Company to lead the attack and plant the 'Victory Flag' on the hill. Facing the Chinese was the recently arrived and inexperienced Colombian 3rd Battalion. Supported by heavy artillery fire, the Chinese penetrated the U.N. position at about 2100 hours. Although the Colombians were reinforced by an American company, it was not enough to prevent them from having to fall back. Kao Yung-ho, a young soldier in the 3rd Company, declared, 'This victory is to our company commander's credit.'

'When the Chinese seized Old Baldy there was good military logic to abandon Pork Chop,' S.L.A. Marshall wrote. 'That concession would have been in the interest of line-straightening without sacrifice of a dependable anchor. But national pride, bruised by the loss of Old Baldy, asserted itself, and Pork Chop was held.'

A lull fell over the area while the Chinese 47th Army was resupplied for its next objective — Pork Chop. Back in the United States, the press lambasted the 7th Division for the loss of Old Baldy and described the division as weary, slipshod and demoralized. Unwittingly, the American press supplied the Chinese with a propaganda tool — during the April and July fighting, 7th Division troops would hear those same caustic criticisms loosed at them from Chinese loudspeakers.

In April 1953, two platoons of E Company, 31st Regiment of the 7th Division, both under the command of 1st Lt. Thomas V. Harrold, garrisoned Pork Chop. The total strength within the perimeter came to 96 men. including attached artillery. engineer and medical personnel. The 1st and 3rd platoons mustered only 76 riflemen, and 20 of them were stationed at listening points outside the perimeter. Easy Company normally had twice that many, but it had begun its rotation out of the sector.

The bunkers and trenches had been engineered according to the then-conventional pattern of the Eighth Army. As Marshall described it: 'A solidly revetted rifle trench encircled it at the military crest, providing wall and some roof cover, which served for defense in any direction. Sandbagged and heavily

~ CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE REGIMENT

Selections for Distinguished Members of the Regiment (DMOR) and Honorary Distinguished Members of the Regiment (HDMOR) are not based solely on military accomplishments during an individual's time in service, but also on what the individual has accomplished on behalf of the Association. The Chairman of the selection committee is Association Project Chairman, CSM Tim Green. Nominations for DMOR or HDMOR should be sent to him at csmgreen@gmail.com

The above badge and a certificate suitable for framing, as well as orders signed by the Chief of the U.S. Infantry, are presented to each awardee.

HCOR

Colonel Steve Gardner

HSMOR 1SG John Moore

DMOR

* SGM Phillip Albert

* Alfred Baumann

SFC Douglas Bell

* Clarence Bennet

Paul H. Bryant SFC Lawrence Burke

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* Deceased

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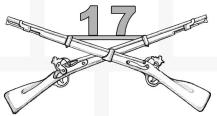




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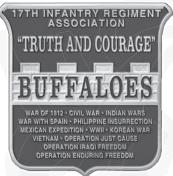


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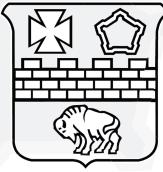
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~ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

timbered, fire-slotted bunkers were tied into the trench line at approximately 30-yard intervals. They gave troops protection while affording observation and command of the slope.' The natural terrain, however, divided the two platoons, because Pork Chop was pushed in like the dent in a hat.

General Deng's plan to assault Pork Chop had been endorsed by the CMC on April 3, but Mao intervened, delaying the operation until the peace talks stalled. In that same month, the negotiators at Panmunjom agreed to exchange their sickest POWs, an operation called Little Switch. At that point, however, the Chinese political leadership wanted to show the U.N. that its cooperation did not reflect an unwillingness to fight. Deng was therefore authorized to attack Pork Chop Hill before April 20, when Little Switch was slated to begin.

At 2000 hours on April 16 a patrol from the 31st Infantry, consisting of 10 soldiers from Fox Company and five from Easy, advanced to within 100 yards of the shallow stream at the valley bottom and set up an ambush. At about 2300, some 50 Chinese soldiers approached from Hasakkol. Sergeant Henry W. Pidgeon of Fox Company flung grenades at them, thereby striking the first blow in the Battle of Pork Chop Hill. He then ordered the patrol back, but Easy Company's mortars, firing at the advancing Chinese, cut off the American patrol. A

few individuals filtered back into the trenches at 0445, but most of the patrol remained on the slope until 1900 the next evening.

The advance patrol's encounter failed to raise alarm among Pork Chop's defenders, and two full companies of Chinese infantry reached the ramparts before anyone knew of their presence. Slipping past the listening posts, the Chinese assaulted the 1st Platoon's sector on the Pork Chop's left flank. SFC Carl Pratt and his 1st Platoon troops could hear the enemy but remained in their bunkers because of Chinese shelling. The 3rd Platoon, separated from it by terrain, was unaware of the 1st Platoon's situation or of the growing danger it was in.

At his command post (CP) at the far end of the perimeter, Lieutenant Harrold evaluated the situation. There had been increased Chinese shelling. contact had been lost with the outposts and 1st Platoon, and the volume of submachine gun fire had increased in the 1st Platoon's sector. Sensing that Easy Company was in big trouble, he fired a red star rocket, signifying 'We are under full attack,' and a red star cluster, signaling 'Give us flash Pork Chop.' At 2305, the lights came on all over the hill, and two minutes later American artillery opened fire, to be answered by the Chinese batteries. Twenty minutes later, the firing ceased and members of Easy Company emerged from their bunkers. They found the Chinese in the trenches, and fire fights broke

out throughout the perimeter.

Although the Chinese had infiltrated the defensive works, the command post, then held by Harrold, two other officers and two NCOs, prevented them from securing the rear slope or barring reinforcements from coming up. Other than the CP blocking Pork Chop's back door, the hill's defense was without a linchpin. The 3rd Platoon was pinned in the bunkers, while only six wounded soldiers remained of the 1st Platoon. By systematically killing the occupants and capturing the bunkers, the Chinese, aided by additional reinforcements. secured most of the hill by two hours after midnight.

Harrold relayed what he knew through his battalion command to the 31st Infantry's commander. Colonel William B. Kern. One hour after the fighting began, three rifle platoons of L Company had been trucked forward, in case the Chinese overran Pork Chop. Shortly after 0200, Kern ordered one platoon from Fox Company and one from Love Company to reinforce Easy Company. The Fox platoon became lost and never arrived. Second Lieutenant Earle L. Denton was leading Love's 3rd Platoon from Hill 200 to Pork Chop when, about 50 yards from the chow bunker, two machine guns opened fire and brought down six of his men. After a second burst of Chinese gunfire, Denton decided to pull back.

Returning to Love's CP with only 12 men, Denton reported to the company commander, 1st

Lt. Forrest James Crittendon, that the 3rd Platoon's attack had failed. The battalion commander, Lt. Col. John N. Davis, ordered King and Love companies to counterattack at dawn. Love would launch its second assault with only two platoons and, incredibly, never learned that it was to be part of a joint operation with King.

King Company's 135 troops were stationed behind Hill 347. At 0330, they were ordered into an attack position behind Hill 200. Minus the weapons platoon, each soldier carried a full belt, extra bandolier and three more grenades than usual. The six Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR) men in each platoon carried 12 magazines, and each light machine-gun team carried five boxes of ammunition. Each platoon also carried a flamethrower and a heavy rocket launcher. Colonel Davis suggested that King attack Pork Chop's rear slope with two platoons abreast and hold one in reserve. King Company's commander, 1st Lt. Joseph G. Clemons, Jr., understood that King would receive support from Love, which would attack up the ridge finger on Pork Chop's right. 'Hit the hill hard and get to the top as fast as the men can go,' Clemons told his platoons' leaders. 'Success depends on speed; we must close before daylight.'

With the 2nd Platoon deployed on the right, the 1st on the left and the 3rd in reserve, King Company reached the assault line. At 0430 the artillery barrage lifted and King stepped off. Although they were not fired on, it took King's men 29 minutes to travel the 170 yards to the nearest bunker. 'We managed to get over the first line of barbed wire through holes cut by shellfire and by walking on bodies of men lying on the wire to hold it down,' said Sergeant Samuel K. Maxwell, a K Company medic who had been on the hill back on March 23. 'Pork Chop was steep. We were heavily loaded with ammo for our weapons

and the MGs, as well as the boxes of grenades. The steep climb had us pooped. We got within grenade range in small groups to begin grenading our way down the main trench, clearing out the Chinese.' Just as the first man entered the defensive works at 0500, the Chinese artillery struck.

As the battle entered its second round, Love Company had launched its second attack



about the same time as King, but met a Chinese barrage more intense than the earlier one. Both of its platoons were crushed and sent tumbling back to Hill 200, leaving King Company on its own.

Sergeant 1st Class Walter Kuzmick's squad of King Company's 2nd Platoon encountered its first fire at the chow bunker just below the main trench Kuzmick reached the main trench at 0520 and pushed his men along it toward the CP. Second Lieutenant Robert S. Cook, the 2nd Platoon's commander, reached the CP first and called Kuzmick forward. As Kuzmick rushed the bunker. grenade in hand, a lieutenant of Easy Company sprang out the door, also brandishing a grenade. Both men froze. Just then, Clemons appeared, stunned to find any Easy Company men left on the hill. Before anyone could move. three shells of undetermined origin hit the bunker. Cook, the Easy Company officer and several King Company men were wounded, but the Easy Company survivors inside were unharmed.

While weary King Company settled into the trenches and Love regrouped on Hill 200, fresh forces from the Chinese 141st Division moved toward Pork Chop. 'Pork Chop was a maze, a rat's nest of bunkers, line and commo trenches, shell holes and rock clumps,' Sergeant Maxwell said. 'The Chinese kept feeding fresh troops into their counterattacks. The survivors of the previous

attacks would then come out of cover and join them. We fought with the men we had. Every hour, we numbered less.'

Clemons did not have enough men to take the hill by storm, so he and his executive officer, 1st Lt. Tsugi O'Hashi, returned to the chow bunker to sort things out. Clemons, guessing that he had lost half of his men and that the rest were low on ammunition, decided to bring up the 3rd Platoon.

By 0745, King Company had not advanced more than 200 yards in two hours, and the Chinese still held bunkers along two-thirds of the trench line. Feeling that his men were stretched to the breaking point, Clemons waited for help. It came in the form of 12 men from Love Company.

Crittendon had pushed 62 men of the regrouped Love Company back up the right-hand finger. On the way up, Crittendon was hit, along with the next company commander, 2nd Lt. Homer F. Bechtel. Command fell to 2nd Lt. Arthur Marshall, who led Love on through a buzz saw of artillery and machine-gun fire. By the time Marshall reached Clemons' position, he had 12 men left, including Lieutenant Denton.

The total of 65 Americans on Pork Chop — survivors of Easy, King and Love companies — was about the same number as Easy Company had had at the start of the battle. At 0814, more reinforcements arrived in the form of G Company,

17th Infantry, commanded by Clemons' brother-in-law, 1st Lt. Walter B. Russell. At the same time, however, a fresh Chinese company arrived at the other side of the hill's ridge and fighting blazed anew. At 1100 Clemons radioed his battalion, 'I must have water, plasma, more medical assistance, flamethrowers, litter, ammunition, several radios.' Only a little water and C rations arrived.

At noon, 1st Lt. James Blake, the battalion intelligence officer. entered Clemons' CP with a message from Colonel Davis, ordering him to send survivors of Easy and Fox to the rear, and for George Company to withdraw at 1500. 'When they go out,' Clemons told Blake, 'it is not reasonable to expect that we can hold the hill.' Battalion did not respond to his message. Clemons' and Russell's men held on for the next few hours, but at 1445 Clemons sent another message to Battalion: 'We must have help or we can't hold the hill.' This time Colonel Kern responded by calling division headquarters and urging either relief or reinforcements for Pork Chop.

The 7th Division faced a more complex issue regarding the hill. If it fell, the Chinese could strike next at Hill 347, which could turn into a bloody, battalion-per-day meat grinder like Triangle Hill, an objective that had ended up in Chinese hands by the end of October 1952. The division asked for a decision from I Corps, which asked the Eighth Army, which

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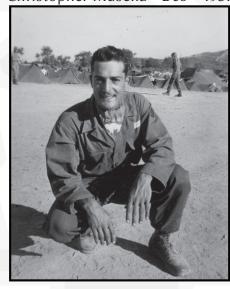
HDMOR Honorary Distinguished Members of the Regiment



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Christopher Musella - Bco - 1951





1LT Richard Whiston being awarded the Silver Star for actions on 22 February 1953

THE STORY OF THE "BUFFALO GUN"

From the June 7th 1952 Buffalo Bugle

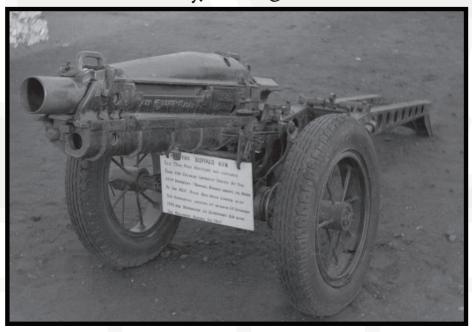
CAPTURED GUN NOW CEREMONIAL PIECE

BY SGT Wayne Lyford

An old captured enemy weapon with thousands of words of unwritten history behind it takes its stand as a ceremonial gun beneath the flying stars and stripes in the "Buffalo" Regiment. This old field piece has been adopted by the Buffaloes as a ceremonial weapon used for firing at Retreat.

The weapon, once used to pound out shells at United Nations Forces has been amalcamated into the basic Army tradition of ceremony used by the 17th Infantry Regiment. It is a Pack Mountain Howitzer built by the United States and sent to China during the influx of the lend-lease program. It was used by the Reds in the Korean conflict until May, 1951 when the 17th Infantry Regiment captured it when they made their big push into Hwachon in a climaxing three day battle. The Buffaloes knifed into the center of the enemy forces, overrunning them before they could escape, or move their equipment. Faced with virtual annihilation. great numbers of the trapped communists threw down their weapons and surrendered.

Baker Company (B 1/17) was instrumental in capturing the weapon. Spearheading the drive into Hwachon, Baker Company cut off the escape route for thousands of enemy



troops. Surrender was the only alternative for the enemy and they threw down their equipment before the onrushing UN Forces. The Field Piece was found by Baker company along with several pack mules used by the Chinese to carry supplies and pull their artillery pieces.

The capured items were turned over to Service Company. The mules were used for carrying supplies up the rugged hills of Korea, eliminating a lot of human labor. The gun has been kept in bright and shiny condition since then and has been carried with the Buffaloes wherever they roamed. The weapon did present a problem at first, as blank shells for the 75mm howitzer were not available, but one of the men with a knowledge of pyrotechnics provided a solution. Hand-made blank cartridges were produced for the nightly firing at Retreat. Black powder was used at first, but

this became a scarce item.

Star clusters, smoke shells, and parachute shells were designed to replace the blanks until the supply caught up with the demand. The supply of 75mm primers was also soon exhausted, so 12 gauge shotgun shells were used as primers. The shell casing is filled with gun powder, paper, melted candles, and think cardboard.

Only once since its capture has the weapon done damage to friendly posistions and this was purely by accident. In the "Punch Bowl" area the cannoneer to sight the peice properly and the charge blew out some communication lines.

The Ceremonial howitzer now owns a position under the waving "Old Glory" furnishing a solem and resounding salute each night at Retreat.



BAD NIGHT ON THE MLR

Winfred Clark
Gco 17th Infantry - December 1952 to October 1953

I had been in Korea for four months and on the front lines for close to three months. On this particular evening in February, we were having a heat wave (it was only 10 degrees below 0.) I was in an old bunker across the valley from T-Bone Hill, where Hill 347 came down into the valley. There were two guys in the bunker with me and from accoss the valley, we could hear and see the start of a firefight. We came out of the trench and we could see the muzzle flashes from the action which went on for about 10 minutes.

We made our way down to our platoon leader's bunker to see what was going on. 1LT Ken Swift told us that it was a patrol from Easy Company that was hit in the ambush and that they got a call from the medic who said that they were all down. The medic said "I've been hit as well and I'm giving morphine to the guys that I can get to. We need Help!" A call then came from Regiment for Fox Company to go out and get the guys from Easy Company. Sometime later, we heard more rifle fire, as the patrol from Fox company was also ambushed by the Chinese. A call then came in to George Company's HQs to go get the guys from Easy company. 1LT Ken Swift called us all together and told us that we'd take another route to get the guys from Easy company. It took us over an hour to reach

the first ambush site and soon after the Chinese opened up on us. Twenty yard from me was one of our 30 Cal machine gunners and he was firing 4050 rounds at a clip without taking his finger off the trigger. I crawed up to him and stopped him, then told him to fire in short, concentrated bursts. After crawing back to my original posistion with Eugene Brown, I heard something hit the frozen ground behind us and Eugene asked if I heard something, I said yes, and kaboom a Chinese grenade went off. The blast rolled me over, but other than not being able to hear for a few minutes, I was OK. Eugene and I lobbed a few of our own grenades at the enemy, then opened up on them with rifle fire. We didnt hear anything again from that group.

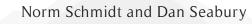
We started gathering up the wounded men and 1LT Swift

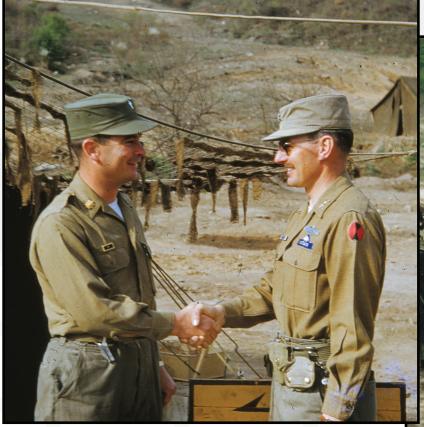
said, "Let's finish up and get out of here before daylight, if not, we'll be sitting ducks!"
Some of the KATUSA didnt want to carry any of the wounded out on the litters and when 1LT Swift heard that, he came over to the group and said to the KATUSA while raising his M-2 Carbine "You take these boys out, or you'll need a litter as well .. understand?" The KATUSA picked up the wounded buffalo and headed back to safety in a hurry!

George Harvey, David Spradlin, and Carroll Hook also located some wounded men. loaded them up on litters, and headed back to the 17th Infantry's line. We thought that we had everyone and we were all set to get out of there when I heard a groan. I said to Eugene Brown "Did you hear that groan?" "He said "No" and then we both heard it again. I had four guys cover me and I crawed in the dark out to where I hear the groans (about 15-20 yards) and I found a badly wounded soldier. I crawed back and a few

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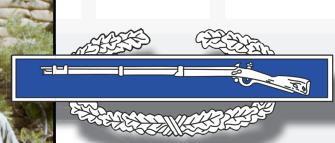




CPT Arthur Estes (Chaplain) being promoted to MAJ by LTC Ted Mataxis - Early 53



1-17 Officers - LTC Joseph Werp 2nd from Left - same helmet on page 26 of this Buffalo Bugle.





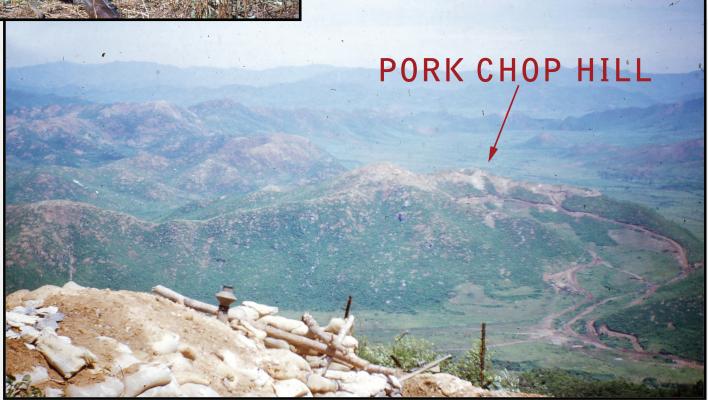
KOREAN WAR IN COLOR

The Crest for the Colombian Army



Chaplains Lawrence Rast and Arthur Estes - Triangle in the background - 15 October 1952







KOREAN WAR M-1 HELMET

I recently had the opportunuity to purchase this M-1 helmet that belonged to LTC Joseph Werp who commanded the 1st Battalion from 1951 to June of 1952. The helmet was worn by LTC Werp while he commanded 1-17 in Korea and is actually shown being worn by him in the photograph on page 23 of this Buffalo Bugle.

The steel pot is a swivel bale M-1 and has all original intact decals, paint, and markings to include the officers vertical stripe on the back. The crest and 7th ID markings look to be a mix of decals and hand painting.

The liner is a Firestone Tire & Rubber Company liner. Script F in a shield over the number 23. Made in Akron Ohio between 1941 and 1945 during WWII.

Joseph Werp passed away in the 70's and this helmet was found in a garden shed after his widow passed away several years ago. It will remain the highlight of my 17th Infantry memorabilia collection and be proudly displayed.

If you have any other information on LTC Werp please contact me. I would also be interested on any information on any other helmets and or markings (first hand knowledge, photographs, etc.)

What a great piece of 17th Infantry history that I'm happy to document and share with you. Remember that I pay top dollar for any 17th Infantry historical item, so if you have any items, please contact me. - Donald Shook

COLLECTOR'S CORNER

A 17th Infantry Historic Memorabilia Guide









"Buffalo Blade"

The 17th Infantry Regiment now has an official fighting knife!

The Association has teamed up with the Ek Commando Knife Company for some high quality, battle-tested combat knives for official presentations such as Soldier and NCO of the year. These will also be available to Members of the Association for purchase. What a great functional item to show your pride in serving with the Regiment.

Ek Commando Knives, famous since 1941, have been battle proven in WWII, Korea, Vietnam, the Gulf War, Afghanistan, and Iraq. They are proud to be the living link continuing the tradition that dates back to the days of John Ek, himself, in 1941.

Much thanks goes to CSM Green for spearheading the efforts to get these produced for the Association and its members. These are made with the



Infantryman in mind as the guard and X-Head Fasteners are solid brass. Note the wide "gripping grooves" on the Micarta grips. Contact Bob Buerlin for ordering (make sure you mention the 17th for the discount.)

Knife (as shown) \$349 Optional Display Case: \$59 Free Shipping for Association Members (APO and CONUS)

Bob Buerlein

Ek Commando Knife Co. (804) 257-7144

www.EkKnife.com HQ@EkKnife.com



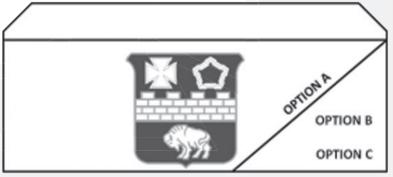




17th Infantry's HCOR, Steve Gardner presents SSC Le of Bco 1-17 an Ek commando knife for being named the 2011 "I Corps NCO of the Year"

UPDATED VFW STYLE CAP INFORMATION

Show Your Regimental Pride with these VFW Style Caps



RIGHT SIDE

17TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
OPTION D
OPTION E

VFW Style Cap). If you don't have internet access, please feel free to contact me and I'll send you the form via "Snail Mail."

It's been a few years since we included the Association Cap ordering form in the Buffalo Bugle, and we have some updated Company information as well. These are sharp caps that you can personalize and wear with pride. You can now download

the form on our website under the 17th Infantry Quartermaster Store Link (Under

New Company information is as follows:

American Heroes Mfg., Inc. 4681 Arrow Hwy. Unit A Montclair, CA 91763 Tel. (909) 398-0100 Fax (909) 398-0110

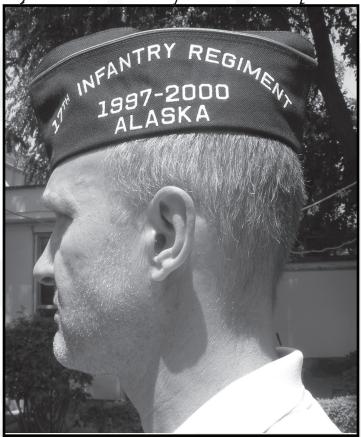
Right Side Example

CSM Timothy Green

LEFT SIDE

Left Side Example





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of us went out and got him out of there. We could tell that he was hurt pretty bad. We carried him about a half a mile to where we met a jeep with a medic. When the medic put an IV into his arm, I junped up on the jeep and held the IV bottle all the way to the Aide Station. After getting him there and off the jeep, I stuck around to see if he was going to make it. After a short time a Doctor came out and said that they thought he was going to make it .. I've always wondered if he did.

I found out a month later that I was one of several soldiers to be awarded for the rescue by General Trudeau.

In April, Pork Chop Hill was overrun and we spent about 18 hours taking it back. We lost a lot of good men in the April battle, then lost a lot more in the July Battle of Pork Chop. They signed the cease fire at the end of July and by October, I was heading home to the states, just in time for Christmas.

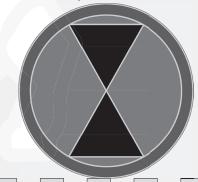
Life went on and after 54 years, I got a phone call from Caroll Hook and we talked for a while and he told me that he had talked with Ken Swift and others. I got Ken's phone number off of Carroll and called and left him a short message on his answering machine. In about an hour, I gota call from Ken Swift and when I heard his voice, it was just like I remembered from the Korean War. After talking with him for over an hour he asked if I was going to the Connecticut reunion and I said that I would be there! I always said to myself that I wanted to see him again before leaving this world, as he always too good care of his men in Korea.

At the New London, Connecticut reunion I passed a table at the Banquet that had a place card on it that said Easy Company. I leaned over and asked if anyone there remembered that night in the Valley, that night that George Company assisted in getting the guys from Easy Company back to the rear. One of the guys at the table jump up and gave me a big hug and said to his wife "This is one of the men that saved our lives that night!" His name is Bob Petzold and I see him at the annual reunions and we talk on the phone ocassionally. I'm glad that everything worked out that night in 1953 and that he made it out OK.

As a side note, my old platoon leader, Ken Swift spent 22 years in the Army and retired as a LTC. Our Company Commander was 1LT Walter Russell who now lives in Atlanta, Georgia. He also retired from the Army after being severily wounded in Vietnam.

If anyone out there from George Company wants to talk, you can contact me via the information below:

Home: (804) 271-0768 Winfred Clark 7007 Fairpines Road Chesterfield, VA 23832





~ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

asked Far East Command. The Eighth Army wanted to weigh how many men it was prepared to lose against the importance of preventing the Chinese from flaunting a victory at Panmunjom. While the high command debated the issue, the 7th Division commander, Maj. Gen. Arthur G. Trudeau, and his aidede-camp, Brig. Gen. Derrill M. Daniel, helicoptered to Davis' regimental CP to get a clearer view of King. They arrived at 1500, just as George Company withdrew from the hill.

By then, King Company had

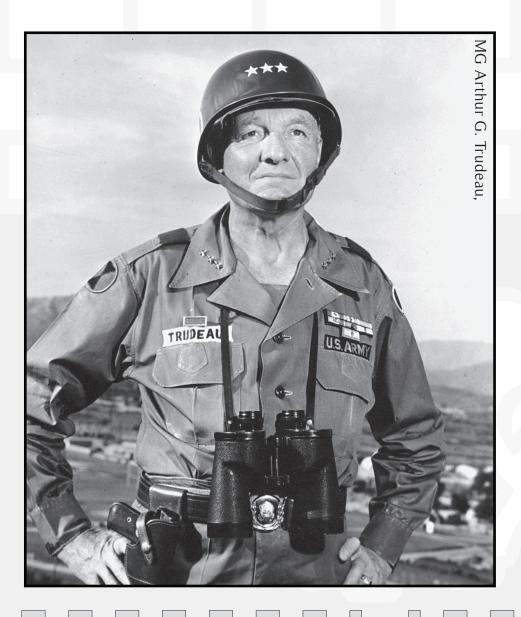
suffered 18 men killed and 71 wounded. 'We were down to 25 men, including a few men from Love Company,' Sergeant Maxwell recalled. 'With no reinforcements in sight, Lt. Clemons grouped us onto a high hill knob on Pork Chop where we might hold out. Somehow we held the rest of the day into the night.' Troops also manned two bunkers at the top of the crest, and Clemons remained in the CP with the radio while O'Hashi and Kuzmick directed the troops. In preparation for a night attack, the Chinese shelled the American positions for four hours.

At 1640, Clemons reported to the regiment: 'We have about 20 men left still unhurt. If we can't be relieved, we should be withdrawn.' General Trudeau, who was present when the message came in, decided to hold the hill. He got official backing from the Eighth Army, because of its linkage to the talks at Panmunjom. Trudeau attached the 17th Infantry Regiment's 2nd Battalion to the 31st Infantry and moved the 17th's 1st Battalion into the support area of Pork Chop Hill.

Colonel Kern immediately ordered Captain King of Fox Company to move onto Pork Chop and relieve Clemons' force as soon as possible. Fox's troops arrived at 2130 and deployed into the trenches with the remnants of King and Love companies. At the same time, a Chinese force attacked from Hasakkol. American artillery scattered the Chinese, but they responded with a barrage of their own, killing 19 men of Fox Company.

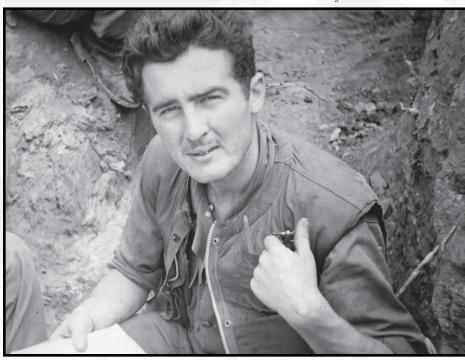
With Fox Company bloodied and exhausted, Kern committed Easy Company of the 17th Infantry, while Trudeau released that regiment's 1st Battalion to Kern, just in case. Easy's commander, 1st Lt. Gorman Smith, moved his company around the right finger of Pork Chop and marched directly up its face — the Chinese side — hoping to catch them off guard.

Inside the American CP on the hill were Clemons, Denton, King and 14 enlisted men. At midnight, when Chinese



fire let up, Clemons pulled his survivors off the hill. 'About 2200, Fox Company of the 31st counterattacked and reached us,' Maxwell said. "King' was relieved at 2400. We made our way one by one in the gaps between Chinese artillery salvos to the foot of Pork Chop. Here, 20 hours earlier were 135 men in nine 6-by-6 trucks. Now, the seven of us sat in a one-ton weapons carrier. On leaving Fox Company, one of their medics had asked me to leave my med kit with him. I showed him it was empty. I had used every item I had carried up that hill. King Company would need 150 replacements before it could fight again as a full-strength rifle company.' Denton remained at the CP, because Captain King requested further help.

About 0130, the Chinese attacked again, swarming around the CP and lobbing grenades into the bunkers. The Americans were wounded, but held on. Denton called for fire directly onto the bunker's roof. Fire from quadruple .50-caliber machine gun mounts swept the roof of Chinese. As the enemy launched another assault, Denton and his men knew that this time they would be overwhelmed. Chinese fire intensified. Then, suddenly, there was silence, followed by the crack of rifle fire as Easy Company of the 17th Infantry arrived. Driven from the crest, some Chinese scampered back across the valley, while others took refuge in the outline trench works. Evaluating Gorman Smith's risky maneuver in retrospect,



S.L.A. Marshall wrote that 'For the embattled group within the Pork Chop CP, the minutes thus saved by one man's intuition and hard work were as decisive as a last-minute reprieve to the condemned.'

Easy Company's assault was the pivotal event in the battle for Pork Chop, but it did not end the fighting. By 0230, Easy was deployed over the trench works, and the Chines launched company-size assaults at 0320 and 0429. At dawn, Kern committed A Company of the 17th to the struggle, and throughout April 17 the three American companies reoccupied the trench system, using small arms, grenades and bayonets, finally crisscrossing the peak and taking control of the hill. Denton and a few diehards of Love Company remained on the hill until mid afternoon.

In the early morning of April

18, more troops from the Chinese 141st Division assaulted the hill again, but after a bloody close-quarters fight they were driven back by an arriving company of American reinforcements. At dusk, the Chinese finally conceded the fight and withdrew to their side of the valley.

Marshall called Pork Chop Hill 'an artillery duel,' noting that the nine artillery battalions of the 2nd and 7th divisions had fired 37,655 rounds on the first day and 77,349 rounds on the second. 'Never at Verdun were guns worked at any such rate as this,' he wrote. 'The battle of Kwajalein, our most intense shoot during World War II, was still a lesser thing when measured in terms of artillery expenditure per hour, weight of metal against yards of earth and the grand output of the guns. For this at least the operation deserves a place in history. It set the all-time mark for artillery effort.'

Pork Chop became a wellpublicized battle and therefore an important bargaining chip at the peace table. In June 1953, Marshal Peng provided General Deng with a fresh unit, the First Army, consisting of the 1st, 2nd and 7th divisions, to relieve the 47th Army. On July 6, the Chinese command decided to make another attempt to take Hill 255. A few days earlier, the Communist and U.N. delegates had reached a tentative ceasefire agreement, but South Korean leader Syngman Rhee had balked at the settlement. The Chinese meant the attack on Pork Chop to chastise the Americans for failing to keep Rhee reined in.

'The Chinese were on their loudspeakers telling us to surrender,' recalled Angelo Palermo, a 21-year-old private in Able Company, 17th Infantry. 'If we did not, they said, we were all going to die. They announced that they were going to take Porkchop and that they would take no prisoners. On the night of July 6, as it started to get dark, the Chinese attacked in force. I was on a .50-caliber machine gun when they started to swarm up the hill. I could have sworn that all of China was on that slope. With enough firepower, we could have killed a thousand gooks, but we hadn't nearly enough ammunition to turn back this kind of attack. We fired the .50 until we ran out of ammo, and by that time the Chinese were in our trenchline, so we fought them with

rifle butts, bayonets, and even fists and helmets. They were pushing us back, but before we were driven off the hill, Baker Company came up to help us. However, the sheer numbers of Chinese drove us off the top of Porkchop.'

The Americans sent in successive companies of reinforcements, and the Chinese matched each one with an additional battalion. The 17th Infantry gained and lost Pork Chop twice in four days.

'General Trudeau came up on an inspection and told us that Porkchop had to be held at all costs,' wrote Private Palermo.'I thought generals only talked like that in movies, but apparently I was mistaken.'

Trudeau organized a counterattack force from the reconnaissance battalion and personally led it up the hill. For that exemplary action, he was awarded the Silver Star. S.L.A. Marshall also noted that the much-maligned 7th, the only U.S. Army division to fight a major battle in 1953, 'acquitted itself with the highest credit.'

By July 11, five American battalions held a company-size outpost against a full Chinese division. On that same day, however, General Taylor, I Corps and the 7th Division ordered the hill abandoned. Taylor wrote in his book Swords and Plowshares, 'The cost of continuing to defend Pork Chop became so prohibitive under the massed Chinese attacks that I authorized its

evacuation.'

Korea and Vietnam War veteran Colonel Harry G. Summers wrote more critically of his rationale: 'Ever the politician (as he would prove to be again in the Vietnam War), General Taylor had made his decision based on his perception of American public and political reactions to the high number of U.S. casualties.' Marshal Peng praised the outcome as 'an example of how Chinese forces effectively employed the 'new tactic' of active defense in positional warfare.'

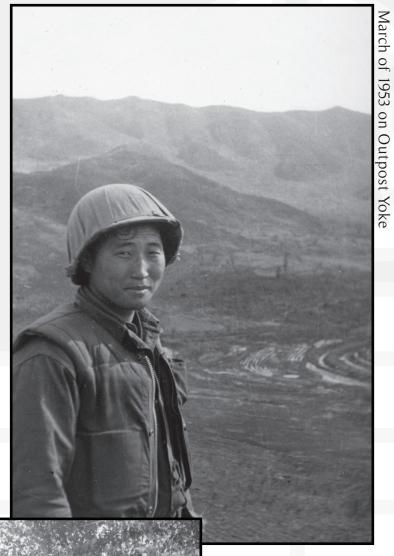
The British, who fought a similar battle at the Hook, thought the struggle for Pork Chop was foolish. Asked what he would have done to recapture Hill 255, Maj. Gen. Mike West, commander of the Commonwealth Division, answered: 'Nothing. It was only an outpost.'

With the final signing of the armistice agreement at Panmunjom on July 27, 1953, Pork Chop Hill became part of the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea. It has since become a symbol, both positive and negative, of a controversial war. In his book The Korean War. Max Hastings summed up both by writing: 'The struggle for Pork Chop became part of the legend of the U.S. Army in Korea, reflecting the courage of the defenders and the tactical futility of so many small-unit actions of the kind that dominated the last two years of the war.'





George Gardes - I Company CO



This ROK soldier was killed on Porkchop. Byron Barnes took this picture in

17th Infantry fight in Seoul - 28 September 1950

Angelo Maira - Medic



Editor's Rant

Fellow Buffalo, first off, please let me apologize for the tardiness of this Buffalo Bugle. I had planned on having it mailed out by the end of July, but I got behind on personal tasks and kept pushing the issue back. More on that later in this article. I'd like to congratulate the Association on another successful reunion in New Orleans with much of the hard work done by Steve Goodwin, Guy Daines, and Bruce and Gay Frazer. Carla and I could not attend, but I heard that it was a great time by all that attended. Next years reunion will be held in Washington State with the 1st Battalion at the Fort Lewis area. Also congratulations to David and Maria de la Sierra, Colonel Marc Williams, Colonel Maximo Moore, Command Sergeant Major Edison Rebuck, Mrs Cathy Gardner, Mrs Lauren Goodwin, Ms. Christine Kapanowski, and the late Thomas Fernandez de la Reguera for being named Distinguished Members of the 17th Infantry Regiment and or Honorary Members of the 17th Infantry Regiment (Maria, Cathy, Lauren,

and Christine.) You've all earned it!

I hope that you enjoy this "60 Year" Korean War tribute and God Bless all you veterans who served in Korea during that time.

Association friend and Author Bill McWilliams is currently working on the screenplay for his book, "On Hallowed Ground: The Last Battle for Pork Chop Hill" From Bill "currently, length is 536 pages, which covers the entire five day battle, and is roughly equivalent to 6 hours of screen time - far too much for a movie screen obviously, but could be developed as a television series if funding and sponsorship could be found for that much time. The agent did say, the prospects of a mini-series or series are improving, but it would still be a very tough road to make it a reality. Big investment, big risk - but not impossible and not being ruled out at this point."

If this project gets picked up and made into a movie, or better yet, a mini series, what a great legacy not only for the 17th Infantry Regiment, but a true testament to the last battle of Pork Chop and the men who sacrificed so much. The Association will keep everyone up to date to any new developments and a Korean War movie and or mini-series is long overdue!

I've reported for some time that the Association was hurting for membership and it seems that it has finally caught up to us with the dwindling annual membership numbers, costs of the Buf-

falo Bugles and annual reunions. The Association voted to raise the membership rates to \$25 for an annual membership, \$300 for a Life Membership, and \$17 for any active duty soldier who would like to join. Please note that the \$17 is for soldiers currently serving with the 1st or 4th Battalion. These rates go into effect immediately, so please use the updated membership forms on the website and here in the Bugle. They will also be cutting way back on the Buffalo Bugle, so this will be the last 48 page. color edition that you'll receive. We'll most likely be sending out three to four smaller and simpler newsletters out to you folks in a vear. This will save us thousands of dollars a year, as now it costs well over \$7,000.00 to print and mail out two newsletters a year (in it's current format.)

In saying that, I think that it's time to take a step back from some of my duties within the Association. I've been pretty heavily involved from my first reunion back in 2001 and I've held just about all appointed positions within the Association to include Secretary, President, Membership Chairman, Web Master, Bugle Editor, Quartermaster, Graphic Artist, and Jr. Historian. Understandably, I'm a lot less involved as I have been in the past, especially when I first took over as President in 2006, but my busy schedule and duties at home really have made me think long and hard about my responsibilities with the Association. I just want to be a member again for the time being and maybe when life slows down I'll have some more time to volunteer for the Association. We've spent our family vacations at reunions, and I've spent thousands of hours working on just about everything imaginable for the Association. I'm not complaining, as I eagerly look on all the work over the past several years, but I need a break and I hope that you all will understand my decision.

I will continue to help publish the Buffalo Bugle, but will no longer gather content, as it will be a lot easier for he President or whomever he appoints to gather information for the Bugle seeing that it will be short and too the point. There will be a lot of things that I'll need to transition out of, but I know that there's a lot of guys that can step up and do these tasks. I've already reached out to many of them and by the time you read this, the process will be underway.

If you have any questions and or concerns, please feel free to contact myself or the Association's President, James Rohr.

Thank you so very much for the opportunity to serve you and

the Association. It has been an honor and I look forward to future projects and opportunities.

God Bless you all!

"BUFFALO STRONG"

Donald E. Shook Jr.
Bco 4-17 Infantry (7th ID) 1984-1988

Isaiah 43:1-2 and 5

As the Lord promises: "Fear not...I have called you by your name; You are Mine... When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you...Fear not, for I am with you..."



26 September 1950 - troops of the 17th Packed on flat cars enroute to Anyang-ni, Inchon

BROPHY TESTS BUFFALO GUN

From the 2 October 1952 Buffalo Bugle



Something new in the way of sniper warfare was recently introduced in the Buffalo Regiment sector by Captain William S. Brophy, newly assigned to HQ and HQs Company, 2nd Battalion, 17th Infantry.

Now being tested on the front lines, under Captain Brophy's direction, are a 30-06 commercial long range target rifle with a 10 power scope and a homemade, shoulder fired 50 cal. sniper rifle with attached 20 power scope. "Target shooting and snipiing are comparable," explained the imaginative ordinance captain. "I'm employing the target rifle in the roll of a sniper weapon to see if it can be utilized under actual front line conditions. While trying it with the 45th and 2nd

Infantry Divisions, I was credited with three enemy kills."

According to Captain Brophy, the .50 cal rifle is not a new idea. "But I'm using a different approach," he said. "I've reduced the weight and made it portable. It's comparatively easy to carry." A 50 cal aircraft machine gun barrel was coupled with parts of a Russian anti-tank rifle, a 57mm recoilless rifle mechanism. pieces of a 30 cal machine gun, and part of a sponge rubber seat cushion to create the powerful weapon.

"I personally don't think that it kicks much," confided Captain Brophy. "The Average" Infantryman should be able to successfully fire the gun. So far I've fired about sixteen rounds while zeroing in the rifle. During that time I've hit at least one Communist sniper." "I'm very much convinced that the two weapons can be employed in a military role." Concluded Captain Brophy.

Most of Captain Brophy's interest in weapons systems stems from his twenty years as a gunsmith, both as a vocation and hobby. "I started smithing, shooting, and collecting guns when I was 17 years old," he recalled. Captain Brophy was a member of the 20 man American International Rifle Team that won the 1938 International matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. When questioned concerning his future plans, the 37 year old nimrod said, "I intend to make the Army my career, however I want to get into the Ordance's Arms research and



Development section."

Editors Notes:

Captain Brophy began with the 50 caliber in Korea in 1951. However, Brophy redesigned the firearm to make it more easily usable and deployable. Thinking that turn about was fair play he took a Soviet PTRD 14.5mm (57 caliber) bolt-action antitank rifle and fitted it with a 50-caliber machine gun barrel. The rifle had a skeleton tube stock, an elevating device as a pistol grip, a bipod for stability, and a cheek piece that projected from the stock.

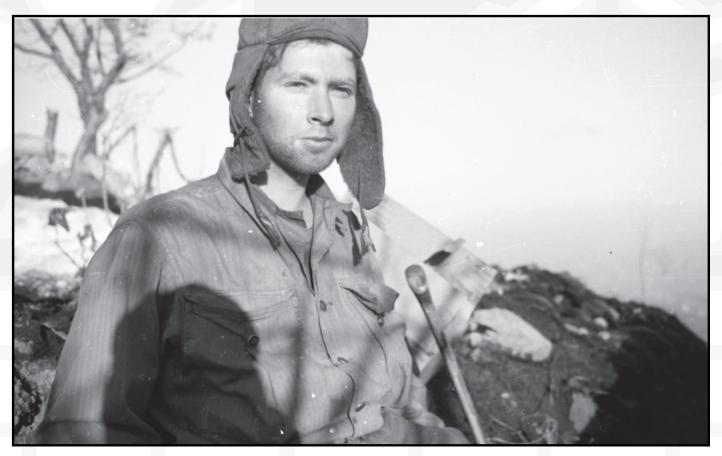
From his own experience Brophy knew that a quality 30 caliber target rifle, in the hands of a

trained individual, is capable of groups as small as one to two minutes of angle, six to 12 inches, at 600 yards. He purchased a Winchester Model 70 and fitted it with a Unertl 10 power telescopic sight to test his theories. He trained others in its use and together they made several convincing demonstrations of the ability of a properly armed sniper to inflict casualties at long range. The adoption of a civilian target firearm to the military's need was rejected because of logistical concerns and the belief that they were too delicate for use in the combat environment. The commercial bolt-action sniper rifle would not be employed until Vietnam, when Winchester Model 70s and Remington 700s would be purchased and used effectively by both

Army and Marine sniper teams.







Peter Doyle chopping wood for bunker construction - Punchbowl - December 1951



Colonel "Buffalo Bill" Quinn awarding the Silver Star to 1LT Inuzuka Mineo



60 YEAR KOREAN WAR ANNIVERSARY PATCH

A 5 inch full color non-merrowed embroidered patch - See example on back cover of this Buffalo Bugle. Send a check or money order for \$6.50 to Donald Shook (\$5 for the patch and \$1.50 for shipping and handling)

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William W. Quinn Scholarship Foundation Application



The 17th Infantry Regiment Association annually awards four \$500.00 scholarships to academically qualified applicants of children or grandchildren of association members in good standing for at least two years. Please fill out this form and be sure to follow **all** instructions and criteria listed below for scholarship consideration. Award winners will be notified by 1 November of the application year.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION and GOOD LUCK

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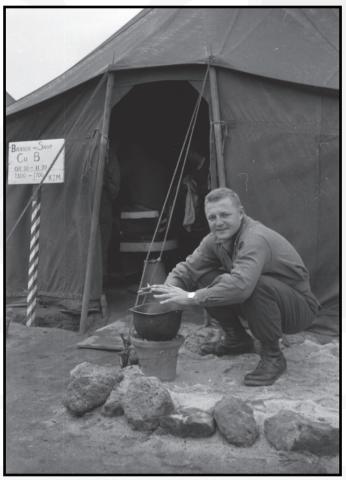
Please include the following: A copy of your last year's report card (Please note your current cumulative G.P.A.) Also include a short essay giving us a brief history of your background, academic goals and your sponsor's (family member) history while serving with the 17th Infantry Regiment. Lastly, please include a current photograph of yourself.



Here's Division Commander Trudeau decorating some of the men for Porkchop .. The first lad in the column is Skaggs' brother .. Skaggs lost his life on the Hill April 1953



David Eells Photograph - Men of C company 1-17 - June 1952



Walt Russell - December 1952



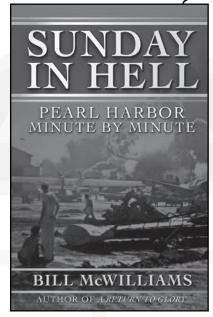
Byron G Barnes - Hill 347 - May 1953



Officers of the 17th Infantry Regiment - Circa late 1951, early 1952 - CPT Robert Burrowes, unknown, unknown, CPT Angelo Giambrusso (13th ENG), CPT Bobby Hale, and CPT Fred Huff.

SUNDAY IN HELL

New Book by Bill McWilliams



Using long established historical records and contemporary journals as well as recentlyreleased war-time documents. Bill McWilliams has created a brand-new minute-by-minute narrative of the Day that Will Live in Infamy. Told from the point-of-view of dozens of characters from Generals and Admirals and politicians and diplomats down to deckhands and private soldiers and also innocent civilians at all levels. this panoramic overview of one of the most traumatizing and shocking events in American history puts the reader in a spot where they can understand the big picture of strategy and tactics as well as the intimate detail of what the chaos. violence and sudden death felt like to people immersed in the surprise of an armed attack on American soil.

December 7, 1941 was a turning point in the history of the United States, which had been teetering on a decision between isolationism and intervention. It can be argued that every U.S. military engagement since then has been affected by what happened when America learned that it was not possible to stand by and watch war among strangers without being at risk of becoming involved whether they wished to be or not.

Praise for SUNDAY IN HELL: PEARL HARBOR MINUTE BY MINUTE

"The attack on Pearl Harbor was a profoundly bitter surprise for an unprepared America. It was an earth shaking event in a chain of devastating events perpetrated by the twentieth century's new totalitarians - the Axis powers of Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and militarist Japan. This work revitalizes the cry, 'Remember Pearl Harbor!' and records anew America's entry into World War II, the deadly, never-to-be-ignored lessons totalitarians leave in the archives of history's darkest hours." - Gordon R. Sullivan - General, US Army, Retired -32nd Chief of Staff

"Bill McWilliams delivers a most readable history that immerses us in the depths of our Nation's darkest hour. Feel the shock and anger, the humiliation and devastation that roused the 'Sleeping Giant' and inspired the greatest mobilization of spirit, and pride our nation has ever seen. This is the story of real people whose shattered lives became the stuff of the 'Greatest Generation.'" - General John P. Jumper - US Air Force (Ret) - Chief of Staff 2001-05

"A memorable history should read like an exciting true story, create clear visual images, and cause readers to feel they are among the people living the events. This work does. Bill McWilliams pulls us into the story, where we experience the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of war, while feeling the powerful crosscurrents of emotion war provokes." -General Thomas R. Morgan - USMC (Retired) - Assistant Commandant - Marine Corps, 1986-88

"Masterfully told; a powerful true story of the devasevents surrounding tating the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that propelled America into the most destructive war in human history. McWilliams' third major work after A RETURN TO GLORY and ON HALLOWED GROUND wrings inspiration and remembrance from sacrifice, valor and tragedy. Reading like an action-packed novel, this is truly history at its best." - Colin Burgess - Award-winning Australian military and spaceflight historian and author



Men of Company "H" two miles south of Yach'on-ni - 16 April 1951



1LT Bob Hope - Easy Company - May 1953



Morris and Pickard

17th Infantry Regiment Association Membership Application



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| Address: | | | | |
| Street | City | | State Zip | |
| Member Status: | Active Duty | Veteran | Widow of Veteran | Descendant of Veteran |
| Veteran Spouse's | Name (or nearest of | kin): | | |
| Today's Date: | | Phon | e Number: | |
| E-Mail Address: | s: Fax Number: | | | |
| With the 17th Fro | om: | 19 | To | 19 |
| Unit served with (| Battalion, Company, | etc) : | | |
| Referred to the A | ssociation by: | | | |
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MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE

| What is your primary reason for joining the 17th Infantry Regiment Association? |
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| What do you feel is the most important benefit you receive from being a member of the Association? |
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| What do you feel the Association could do differently to better serve its membership? |
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| Do you have photographs or color slides that we can copy from your time with the 17th Infantry Regiment? |
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| Would you be interested in serving on a committee or helping in a technical way, i.e., website |
| Administration, database administration, graphic art, technical writing, photography, etc. |
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| Miscellaneous Comments, etc. |
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This picture is worth a thousand words - a young LT being assigned to a line company - Late 1952 - First Battalion, possibly C Company.





Chaplains Arthur Estes and John Benson - March 1953

Donald E Shook Jr. 17th Infantry Regiment Association 1010 Manor Road New Kensington, PA 15068

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Easley, 1LT Ken Swift, and CPL Bob Schaefer - Pork Chop Hill area - June 1953

