

# The Old Hickory Chronicle

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Association

March/April 1998

## “BATTLE OF THE BULGE”

by Mike Fox

Once again the Federation hosted its annual reenactment of the “Battle of the Bulge” the last weekend of January at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. As usual, the Federation staff did an excellent job with the logistics of registering, housing and feeding the over 1100 Reenactors who participated this year. In fact, the “pay as you go option” provided by the Civil Air Patrol was very popular and was a nice alternative to driving to the Community Club or off base to eat. My perspective this year was as the Company Commander of Co. K, U.S. Infantry, which was the largest registered and organized unit on either

side with 160 men. Of this 160 men, 22 were members of the OHA, including the Co. Commander, the Company Radioman, the Communications Sgt., The 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon Leader, Platoon Sgt. And Platoon Guide, and the entire 1<sup>st</sup> Squad, 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon.

Continuing the improvement trend from last year, the tactical was also better than in years past. Despite this trend, I believe that we have improved as much as possible with the current structure of the tactical event. In order to make the tactical portion of the event better, some major structural changes will have to occur. I will list my personal recommendations for change at the

end of this article. As far as the tactical was concerned, the scenario plan was good and was so simple as to be almost “idiot-proof.” The tactical area was in the shape of a rectangle with a dirt road running through the long section, approximately 1.5 miles long. The majority of the Allied forces were to start at one end and attack up the road to the objective which was a crossroads at the other end of the area. The Allied Airborne Company (approximately 150 men) were “dropped” in the German rear to seize the objective and hold until the remaining Allies could relieve them. Approximately 650 Allies and 450 Germans were registered. With this plan and these numbers, the Germans could organize a defense in depth to delay and slow the main Allied force while they used another force to stop or destroy the isolated Airborne troops. Theoretically, this scenario allowed the numerically inferior Germans a realistic chance to hold the objective at the end of the day and guaranteed every unit on both sides plenty of combat since all the fighting was in such a confined area.

From Co. K’s perspective, the tactical was generally a success. We knew going in that we had a tough job, basically making repeated frontal assaults in heavily wooded terrain against dug-in, well armed defenders. It was tough going and took us several hours to move the 1.5 miles. Generally, our guys had fun



*Company Commander and Platoon Leaders of Co. K*

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

and the Germans we fought against seemed to also be pleased. I did not hear a lot of complaints in our section from either side about hit taking or good sportsmanship in general. The Germans in our sector did not seem as organized as usual and did not launch any of the usual fierce counter attacks for which they are legendary. I spoke with several friends in German units who indicated that this year the German command structure was disorganized and many units were placed in their initial positions and were never given additional orders the rest of the day. This resulted in the German defense being conducted in a piecemeal and largely ineffectual manner.

The biggest problem we had was with small units (less than 10 men) of both sides, playing "Cowboys and Indians" in our area. We were the only Allied unit assigned to the area North of the road, yet there was a constant stream of small groups of 4-5 G.I.'s moving through us, unhappy with whatever assignment they had, and moving to the sound of the fighting. We also had to deal constantly with small groups of less than 10 Germans, many of whom we had already overrun and in theory, "captured or disabled" who "came back to life" in our rear and decided it was too much trouble to walk back to the German lines and instead, decided to just attack us in the rear. The other main complaint about the tactical was the terrain in the tactical area. It was covered with small boulders and large rocks which made movement on both sides difficult and unsafe. In our Company alone, we had several ankle injuries. For this reason alone, I would not recommend using this area again. I appreciate the fact that, because the tactical area was close to the barracks, we did not have to use our personal vehicles to get to the tactical area.

In order to improve the tactical for future years, I suggest the following structural changes in the event:

1. Create a semi-permanent staff for each side - The overall commanders



*Co. K marching out to the tactical*

can still change or rotate if necessary, but some continuity in organization is essential for the tactical to run smoothly. The Federation already has a nice shell of a structure in place with their concept of a Battalion of five companies on each side. A semi-permanent staff could work in the months before the event to organize these companies, choose Commanders and staff for each Company, and contact the unit commander of each unit so as to notify them of their Company assignment. This would allow Company Commanders to appoint and contact platoon and squad leaders before the event rather than attempt to organize on Saturday morning as happens now. This would result in much greater command and control for each side.

2. Allow registration only by units of 10 or more men - The squad is the basic combat unit of all WW2 armies. Eliminating individual registration and requiring unit registration of this minimum size would go a long way toward ensuring organization and command control in the tactical. This should also make registration easier for the Federation. If a small unit cannot find another unit to register with for this one event, then they probably cannot work well with others in the field and

the event would be better off without them anyway. Judging by 1998 registration, this change would only impact less than 150 out of 1100 participants. On the Allied side, 90% of the participants belonged to a unit that registered 10+ men. On the German side, 81% of the participants belonged to a unit that registered more than 50 men each (Allied: Co. K - 159, XVIII A/B Corps - 67, 4<sup>th</sup> Armd - 51; German: Kampfe Gruppe - 76, and Grossduetchland - 72). In fact, these five units provided more than a third of the total participants as opposed to the 65 other units registered! To their credit, 9 additional units (5 Allied, 4 German) registered more than 20 men each. In addition, no unit with 10 men should have rank higher than an NCO unless authorized by the Battalion staff. This year I personally witnessed the ridiculous situation of an 11 man unit with a Colonel and a Major! Finally, in order that this unit registration occur smoothly, the Federation will have to get the registration forms out much earlier than usual, perhaps as early as August. With the battle the last weekend in January every year, this should not be a problem for the Federation.

(Continued on page 3)

*(Continued from page 2)*

3. Use Referees - Referees are used by reenactment groups in all other areas of the country with great success. I think it is worth a try at this event. I am not proposing referees to call individual casualties, I think it would be sufficient to have a referee with each platoon size unit to determine if that unit has taken its objective or has been forced to withdraw. This would require referees on each side to be able to communicate via radio and decide the results of a given encounter, if it is not obvious to the participants. Referees do much more than solve the problem of bulletproof individuals and units. They also allow for more effective use of WW2 period weapons and tactics. With a referee system, one side could truly control a road or an open field with a couple of well sighted machine guns. Under the present system, even the best sports rarely recognize hits beyond 75 yards and almost no one respects suppressive fire. There are also situations

when even the most honest individuals and unit do not take appropriate hits because they are unaware that someone is firing at them. Personally, I would be willing to pay an additional amount of registration to cover the costs of paying referees and renting radios.

The main goal of all these suggestions is to organize the forces present at this reenactment into authentically sized military units with the proper structure, command control, and military discipline. This will result in a better controlled and organized tactical which will assure that all participants get into the action and have a good time. If a unit has a problem with recreating WW2 military discipline or following orders and a chain of command, they are in the wrong hobby. I would seriously suggest paintball to them. Of course, even in paintball, they would quickly learn the value of teamwork. We need to take these steps to get this tactical back to the point where it benefits the vast silent majority of

quality Reenactors who do a good job, rather than the "Cowboys." The current "tactical anarchy" only benefits the "Cowboys," rather than those who play by the rules.

Thanks again to the Federation staff, primarily David Shaw, Larry Tucker, and Jim Martin for an excellent job in organizing the event. Special thanks to David Shaw for putting so much information about the event on the Internet, including unit registrations and weather forecasts. Thanks also to Richard Kiester, the Allied Battalion Commander and scenario designer, for an outstanding job on both accounts. Also, thanks to the majority of the 1100 participants who came out to have a good time. Finally, most of all thanks to the men of the OHA, the "finest on the field!" Getting to hang out with you guys is the only reason I put up with all this silliness in the first place!



*1st Squad of the 3rd Platoon, Co. K (30th Division)*

# THE SEABAG

by Mike Fox



This is the first in a regular series of articles designed to educate all you "landlubbers" about the Battleship North Carolina, life aboard the ship and the traditions and customs of the Navy. The purpose of these articles is two-fold. First, to give those OHA members who participate in the Battleship Living History Weekend more knowledge to accurately portray a WW2 U.S. Navy Sailor and enjoy their time aboard ship more. Second, to encourage those members who have not participated in the Living History Weekend to come out and try it! Exploring another angle of this hobby has been invigorating for many of us, it could be for you too!

This first article will focus on the Crew of the USS North Carolina and how they were organized. Most of us are familiar with US Army organization from the Squad up to the Division level. However, most of us do not have a clue about organization aboard ships of the Navy. One important thing to remember is that unlike the Army, where combat units are typically separate from support units, in the Navy, both functions have to exist aboard the same ship. While the primary purpose of any fighting ship is to engage the enemy, someone also has to keep the ship afloat and in running order, as well as fed, clothe and care for its crew! As such the North Carolina's crew was divided into seven main areas (called "departments").

The first of these and generally the largest is the Gunnery department. Its responsibilities are to operate and maintain the ship's weapons, including the 16-inch, 5-inch, 40mm and 20mm guns. They also operate the support equipment including the sky lookouts, the Combat Information Center, Main and Secondary Battery

Plotting Rooms, radar and the two Kingfisher observation/scout float airplanes. Within the Gunnery department there were 10 divisions and more men than in any other department, including 59 officers and 1190 enlisted men. They were divided as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Division: Turret 1 - 16-inch
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Division: Turret 2 - 16-inch
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Division: Turret 3 - 16-inch
- 4<sup>th</sup> Division: 40mm guns
- 5<sup>th</sup> Division: starboard 5-inch
- 6<sup>th</sup> Division: port 5-inch
- 7<sup>th</sup> Division: Marine detachment - 20mm guns
- F Division: fire control (aiming and firing guns)
- V Division: aviation detachment / Kingfishers
- I Division: Combat Information Center, lookouts, radar

Next is the Navigation department with 3 officers and 27 enlisted men. Their responsibilities included the safe navigation of the ship, maneuvering, tactics, intelligence, censorship, and legal matters.

Next is the Engineer department with 16 officers and 448 enlisted men. This department operated and maintained the ships engines, propulsion, boilers, machinery, and electrical plant as well as auxiliary equipment: pumps, diesels, air conditioners, and water purification. At battle stations the department took care of its normal responsibilities and also provided men to pass ammunition for the 16-inch, 5-inch, and 40mm guns and to serve as stretcher bearers.

Next is the Construction (Hull) department with 10 officers and 179 enlisted men. They are responsible for damage control (overall emergency repairs), ship stability, hull maintenance, watertight integrity,

meals, berthing (sleeping areas), gas defense, diving operations, landing force, and aircraft recovery. The department included the ship's band (all trained in damage control techniques), cooks, and 35 steward's mates, the African-Americans who were assigned to the officer's mess. At battle stations, this department focused on damage control and also provided ammunition loaders and passers for the 16-inch, 40mm and 20mm guns.

Next is the Communications department with 16 officers and 119 enlisted men. Their responsibilities included transmitting and receiving all messages in many different forms; radio, written, signal (flag hoist, flashing light, semaphore). They handled official correspondence, classified matters, and the coding board. The department also published press releases, booklets, a newspaper, menus, ran the Captains office, Post office and Print shop. At battle stations they manned communication stations and served as 40mm and 20mm ammunition passers and stretcher bearers.

Next is the Medical department with 8 officers and 31 enlisted men. Among the 8 officers were 4 doctors, three dentists, and one pharmacist. This department was responsible for ships sanitation, the health of the crew, first aid training, and for operation of Sick Bay, the ships medical facility. At battle stations, this department manned battle dressing stations and first aid units with manpower from other departments to serve as stretcher bearers.

Finally, there is the Supply department with 10 officers and 179 enlisted men. This department was responsible for supplies, provisions, and clothing. This included operating

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

the mess (food) and ships stores (laundry, cobbler, tailors, barbers, photography, watch repair, soda fountain, toiletries and snacks). They also handled payroll for the officers and crew. At battle stations they provided men for ammunition handling and loading for all four guns (16-inch, 5-inch, 40mm, and 20mm). They also provided additional officers for the coding room, helped man repair parties, served as stretcher bearers, and prepared battle rations (sandwich and coffee).

There are a couple of other vital functions that are important but not large enough to be separate departments. These are the Executive Officer's Office and the Chaplain's office. The Executive Officer is the 2<sup>nd</sup> in command, under the Captain. His office is responsible for the ships organization, administration, personnel matters, inspections and police (called the Master-at-Arms force).

The Executive Officers staff also trained and assigned new arrivals to the ship. At battle stations they provided assistance in the Combat Information Center, Conning Tower, Damage Control, Secondary Control Station, 16-inch talker in Turret 2, the battle recorder for Secondary Battery Plotting Room, and helped with repair parties. The Executive Officers' office consisted of 2 officers and 20 enlisted men. The Chaplain and his assistant were responsible for the crew's spiritual well being and overall morale in addition to assisting individual crew members with personal needs such as family illness or assistance with transportation back home. The Chaplains were also in charge of the ships library, entertainment, and the newspaper, "The Tarheel." This year all the OHA members should make an extra effort to attend the Living History weekend to support our very own Howard Hendricks, who has been asked to be Executive

Officer (in command of the ship) for the weekend.

Future articles include "U.S. Navy Enlisted and Officer Rank and Insignia," "Customs and Traditions of the U.S. Navy," and "Life aboard a WW2 Battleship." Unfortunately, there are not a lot of good general reference books available on the U.S. Navy in WW2. Therefore we will have to rely on the collective knowledge of our OHA membership. I would encourage anyone with such knowledge and interest to contribute articles. For example, Chuck Fraley has an extensive uniform collection and could do a great article on WW2 U.S. Navy uniforms and equipment. Likewise Greg Bondorant has almost 20 years hands on experience in the Navy and could do a great article about Naval customs, traditions and life aboard ship. I look forward to reading these and many others!



## FROM THE FOXHOLE

BY MIKE FOX

There has been a lot of good news recently regarding the availability of high quality reproduction clothing and equipment. Many of us got to see first hand many examples at the recent Battle of the Bulge event. As a result, many of us walked away much poorer also! HA! Seriously, the availability of newly made, good quality clothing and shoes, in sizes that fit is better than ever. Examples of reproduction goods now commonly available include: wool shirts, '41 and '43 Jackets, jeep caps, HBT's, Denim work clothes, low quarter shoes (rough out field shoes and smooth garrison shoes) and 2 buckle boots. One dealer in particular that deserves special mention is Juan Gonzalez at WW2 Impressions. Juan probably sold 10 pairs of boots to OHA members at the recent event. His address and phone number are in the Marketplace section of the newsletter along with other addresses and a short description of some of the dealers and their goods. One other encouraging note is the proliferation of dealers reproducing personal items for display and field use such as shaving cream boxes, cigarette packs and cartons, soap boxes, and K Ration boxes complete with the appropriate food inside.

## NEW MEMBERS

Mike Owens - (919) 380 - 1771  
Cary, NC

Although Mike has no previous experience in reenacting or living history, his father's time in the military has drawn him to our association.

Andy Tripp - (919) 528 - 4484  
Creedmoor, NC.

Before joining the OHA Andy had 3 years experience as a Civil War Reenactor.

William Vanderburg - (704) 647 - 0704  
Spencer, NC.

Reenactor with 26th NCT (CSA); 24th Michigan (USA). Private in infantry for 7 years.

# Ammunition Purchase

Last July The Old Hickory Marksmanship Unit ordered 1600 rds. of 30-'06 M2 Ball ammunition through the Civilian Marksmanship Program. Our intention was to sell it to our membership at our cost, for use at our Butner live fire shoot in October, 1997, but unfortunately it did not arrive in time.

On January 5, 1998 I received the long awaited call that the ammunition had arrived and the freight company wanted to make arrangements to deliver it. Since the freight depot was only 15 minutes from where I work, I made arrangements to pick it up rather than take time off from work to sit around and wait for it to be delivered. It was pouring rain when I got there. I made a mad dash inside to make to payment for the shipping and they showed me which dock to back into. Back into the rain, drive to the dock, throw two wooden crates into the back of my truck, and I was off.

When I got home I carried the two heavy crates into my garage. While lifting the crates I noticed each was stenciled Cartridges M2 Ball, 1500 rds. I knew we had only ordered 1600 rds and assumed the crates had been repacked with our ammo. As I was putting the second one down I noticed a shipping label on top that stated quantity: 3000 rds. There was something else about these crates that got my heart thumping just a tad, they had wing nuts holding the lids on. I opened up crate #2 and found the contents to be sealed. Now my heart started picking up the beat. I returned to crate # 1, removed the lid and found a piece of card stock the size of the crate that read:

1500 CARTRIDGES  
BALL  
CALIBER .30 M2  
IN BANDOLEERS (5 RD. CLIPS)  
LAKE CITY ORDNANCE PLANT  
AMMUNITION LOT NUMBER 12746

As I lifted off the card, my heart rate

stepped up another notch, for underneath the contents was again sealed but I could see a handle through the sealing. I carefully pulled the handle and the top of the tin inner container peeled back revealing khaki bandoleers. I had to decide now whether to carry on or call the paramedics but carry on I did. I pulled out a bandoleer and removed a parkerized clip. I slipped out a cartridge and the headstamp was LC 42. We were now the proud owners of 3000 rds of original World War II ammunition in unissued condition. Almost.

There was a slight problem in that we had only been allocated 1600 rds by the CMP and we were required to return to them a signed copy of the military shipping bill which contained the quantity of ammunition shipped. We decided that rather than waiting for them to catch up with us, it was better for us to get up with them. Anthony Dawkins, who heads up the Marksmanship unit called to see what the story was with the excess ammo. The CMP was thrilled with our honesty and said it was OK to keep the excess ammo and just send a check to cover the additional amount.

We are offering this ammunition for sale to all our members. The price will be \$15.00 per bandoleer. Each bandoleer contains 60 rds. in Springfield stripper clips in the cardboard. Each bandoleer also contains the lot # card and has the parkerized safety pin attached to the strap.

Since there are only 50 bandoleers we are only allowing one bandoleer per member. At this time we have 49 members. If there are any remaining bandoleers after the first offering, we will make another offer to our membership in the May newsletter. The two crates will be-

come assets of the OHA for use at displays.

To reserve your bandoleer contact Don Shupe before April 23, 1998 by phone at

(919) 467-3119

by e-mail:

shupeda@msn.com

or by snail mail at

414 Cary Pines Dr.

Cary, NC 27513.

You can pay now or you can pay when you get it, but if you want it to be held past April 30th you will have prepay as any bandoleers remaining after the 30th will be offered up again on a first come first served basis. Make arrangements with Don to pick it up from him or at an event. I will bring the ammo to the Butner event in April. **No ammo will be shipped.**

## **ELECTION RESULTS**

The results of the election for the board of directors are in. Staying in their current positions on the board for the next two years are Mark Burfete, Mike Fox, Howard Hendricks, and Don Shupe. Joining the Board for the first time will be Anthony Dawkins. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to the members that participated in this election. We had a tremendous response from the membership. Also thanks to those that completed the survey and mailed it back in. Those responses will be reviewed by the Board members and we hope to publish a tabulation of the responses in a future newsletter.

# HISTORICAL PRESENTATION WEEKEND

## CAMP BUTNER APRIL 25 - 26

On the weekend of April 25/26, 1998 we will be presenting a display for the NC National Guard at the Butner Training Site. This is different from our normal Butner events. **We will set up and bivouac in the C kitchen** which is next to the KD range where we normally shoot (see map in the back of the newsletter for directions to the kitchen area.) The actual display times are 2:00pm to 4:30pm on Saturday and 2:30pm to 4:30pm on Sunday. The rest of the time we are free to use range 3 which is in the C Kitchen area and some of the other facilities at Butner and there will probably be some trail riding later Saturday.

We will be inviting our friends from the IR 226 and KORR to setup with us. We are also looking into inviting one of the Russian units.

They are expecting over 300 members of the NC National Guard to be present at Camp Butner that weekend and it will be an excellent opportunity for us to show what our group is all about. They are also expecting to have 350 Boy Scouts down in the B Kitchen. We will try to work out a schedule with their leaders to bring them through the display in small groups during the weekend.

While the National Guard is at the display we will also be conducting live fire demonstrations of period weapons including sub-guns and machine guns.

We are looking for a maximum effort for this event as we are putting on a full blown display. Between manning the display and helping with the live fire demonstration will need a good turn out from our membership. We will also be looking for our members to bring out some of their more unusual items and a mix of uniforms and period impressions such as ETO and Pacific Theatre, medics, crew served weapons etc. There is also the possibility that we will be able to provide transportation for Luther's

half-track and ambulance but it will cost \$200. Since the group does not have the money to pay for this transportation we will be asking for contributions from the members on a voluntary basis, if it happens.

For those that have to travel a long distance or just want to get a jump on the weekend, you can arrive after 5:00pm of Friday April 24th.

We will be putting up the GP medium so bring your period cots. We would also like to put up a string of dog tents so bring out your shelter halves even if you plan on sleeping in the GP.

We ask that all other participants arrive by 9:00am Saturday. Check in and signing a waiver will be required as usual. There is no fee for this event. Since the NCNG requested the display there is no charge for using the range. However, You will be on your own for meals for both days. Lt. Fox has mentioned he might break out his new field oven for this event, and if he can't make it we will have the slow cooking small detachment stove available. The suggestion was made that if enough people were interested we could ask everyone to bring a can of stew and we could brew up a big pot for dinner Saturday night. We will only plan on this if enough people respond in favor of doing it. Contact Don

Shupe or Anthony Dawkins if interested.

We will have open range time for ourselves from 10am to noon each day. Since Range 3 is a maximum of 50 meters it will allow the opportunity to have some pistol and sub gun firing. We are not sure at this time if we will have targets available for use on this range so check when you call about coming and please be prepared to bring your own targets.

We would also like to conduct some seminars on equipment and uniforms like we did at the last Butner event.

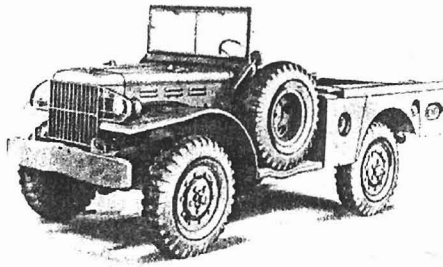
**This is a uniform event and only W.W.II uniforms, equipment, and weapons will be allowed.**

**As this is a display event we will allow visitors. Guests will be the responsibility of the participant. They will not be allowed to use the range, and must clear the area no later than 1:00 PM.** This will be an excellent chance for some of our new members to come out and see what we do even if they don't have their impression completed, but remember our mission is a display for the National Guard.

We would appreciate knowing who is planning on attending this event, and what they are planning on bringing, so again please contact: Don Shupe at (919) 467-3119 or Anthony Dawkins at (919) 575-4622.

### NEWSLETTER NOTICE

Over the last year or so we have been having pretty good luck getting the newsletter in the mail on schedule. Newsletters will be mailed the first week of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Occasionally I will hear that people receive pieces of their newsletter but not the whole thing and I am concerned that some people may not receive it at all due to being damaged during mail processing. If you do not receive your newsletter by the end of the second week of those months please let me know at (919) 467-3119.



# FROM THE MOTORPOOL

During the war hundreds of thousands of vehicles were produced for the military that had to be shipped overseas along with troops and other supplies. To add to the complications of how to ship all this materiel was the devastation caused by the U-boats lurking off our coast, which in the beginning of the war caused a large reduction in the amount of available shipping.

To compensate for this loss of shipping, all types of methods were developed to increase the capacity of the ships. Vehicles were shipped not only in the holds of the ships they were also shipped on every inch of deck space. Everything on a vehicle that could be broken down was removed to reduce the cubic

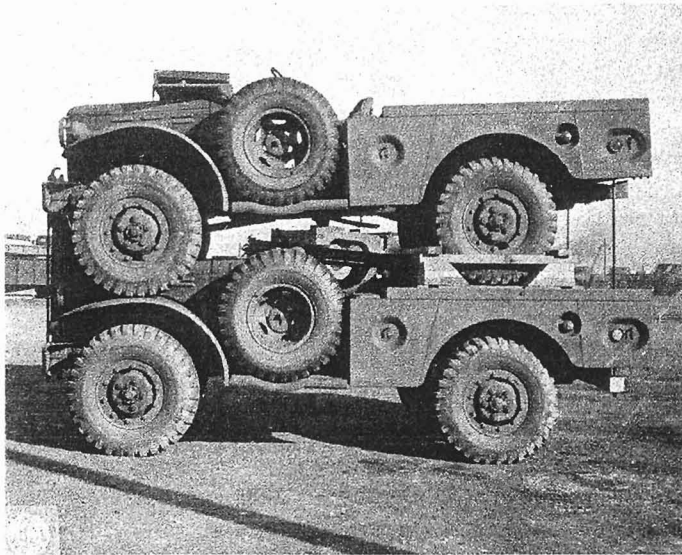
they resorted to stacking vehicles on top of each other.

A friend recently alerted me to a website belonging to the Library of Virginia in Richmond. They have a collection of 3500 U.S. Army Signal Corps photographs dealing with the Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation and surrounding facilities during the war years. For those of you out there interested in spending the next month or two glued to your computer try going to:

<http://eagle.vsla.edu/signal.corps/virtua-basic.html>

For those of you that can't go there, I will probably spend the rest of year dealing with various aspects of vehicle shipping / transportation through Hampton Roads Port of Embarkation.

In figure 1 you see the most common stacking method used for shipping. Here are two WC-51 weapon carriers stacked. A wooden brace as been installed between the front bumpers to keep the weight off of the front fenders. The brace is held in place with four lengths of threaded rod (fig. 2). The rear wheels of the top vehicle sit inside the



*figure 1*

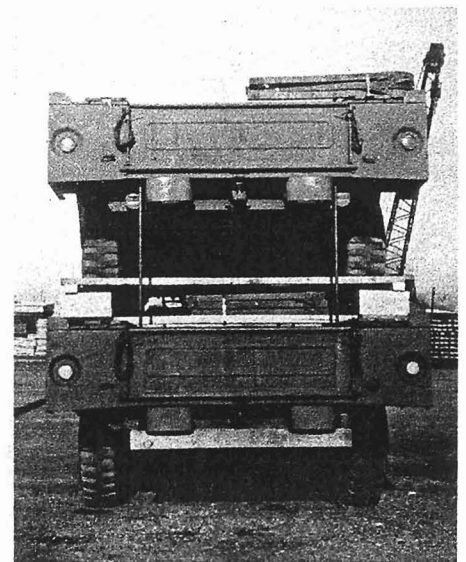
footage. Bows and troop seats were removed or lowered and stored in the bed of trucks. Windshields were lowered and mirrors folded in, but still they needed more space. Finally

cargo bed where the troop seats would normally be. These wheels are chocked in place to prevent movement and again threaded rods join the two vehicles (fig.3).



*figure 2*

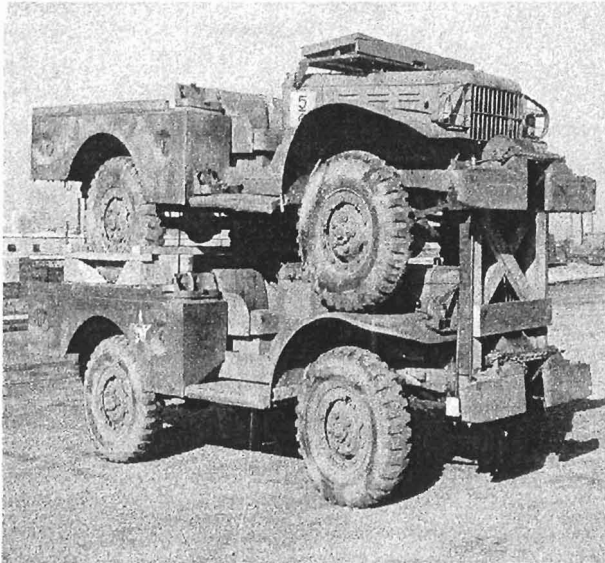
The same method was used on the WC-52's (fig.4) and the 6x6 Dodges (fig.5) With jeeps they reversed the top vehicle (fig.6). When I first saw these stacked vehicles I wondered



*figure 3*

how the suspension of the lower vehicle could support the weight of two vehicles . I found a photo of two stacked jeeps being lowered in the hold of a liberty ship and in the caption for the photo it stated that a wooden block was placed between the axle and the frame so that the springs would bottom out before they were damaged. I also found a photograph that showed 2 1/2 ton GMC's stacked (fig.7) but the caption stated that this was an experiment and that no vehicles were known to have shipped in this manner.

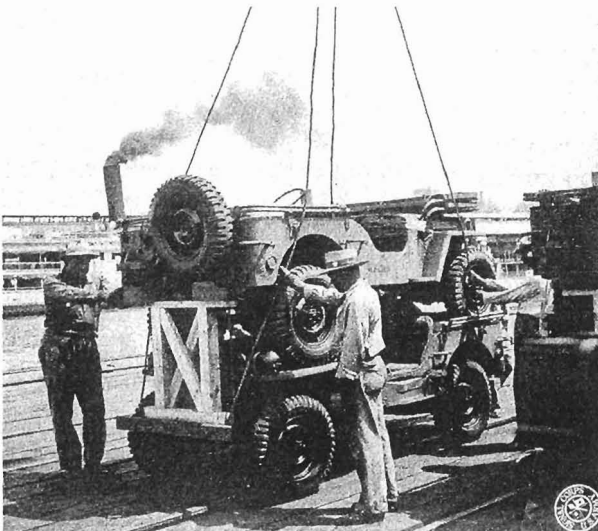
In the next article we will look at preparation of vehicles before shipping.  
All photos are produced by U.S. Army Signal Corps.



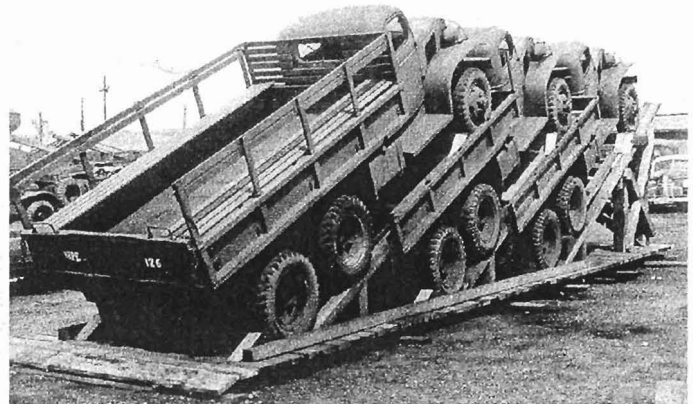
*figure 4*



*figure 5*



*figure 6*



*figure 7*

# Coming Events

**March 21, 1998** - North Carolina Army National Guard Aviation Reunion. We've been requested to put on a small display at the NG Armory at the Raleigh Durham Airport. This will be an indoor display and an excellent chance for any of you aviation collectors to show off your stuff. The display will be from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Set-up time will be 11:00am. Take I-40 to exit 285, head toward the airport, follow signs to NG armory (right turn). Contact Don Shupe if you want to attend.

**April 4, 1998** - Annual reunion of the Tar Heel Chapter of the 30th Division. We will be supplying the Color Guard and setting up a small display for the veterans. Great chance to meet and talk with the vets. Looking for volunteers for the Color Guard. Must have a variety of correct uniforms and be available for practice session prior to the event. The reunion will be held at the Four Points Hotel, Crabtree Valley, Raleigh, NC. Take exit 7 off the I-440 beltline. Take US 70 (Glenwood Ave.) toward Durham. Hotel is on Creedmoor Rd. Hotel is on same side as the Crabtree Valley Mall. Memorial Service starts at 10am. Contact Mike Fox (336) 856-7797.

**April 11/12, 1998** - Washington D.C. "Sleeping Giant Awakes April 1942" Sponsored by the National Park Service. Will be held on the Mall. They are looking for impressions of Coast Guard, Anti-aircraft, Army MPs, Marine Infantry, and Navy SP. Requires 1917/1917A1 Helmet, M1903 or M1917 rifle, correct Class A uniform, and 1910 gear. If you happen to have a 40mm Bofors they are looking for one also. Limited to 50 people. Lodging provided in Tents on the Mall or in motels, your choice. If interested contact Mike Fox.

**April 17-19, 1998** - WW II Italian Campaign. HRHR event. Ft. Story VA. Cost is \$15.00. This is a field event. No food provided by HRHR. Come prepared. Contact Mike Fox.

**April 25/26, 1998** - Historical Presentation Weekend at Camp Butner. See details and map in this newsletter. Contact Anthony Dawkins (919) 575-4622 or Don Shupe (919) 467-3119.

**May 16-17, 1998** - Fly in at Hickory, NC. Many W.W.II aircraft. We have been asked to put on display. Excellent opportunity for our members in the western end of the state. If interested contact Paul Gill (704) 948-2884

**May 14-17, 1998** - East Coast Military Vehicle Rally, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Aberdeen, MD. Swap meet, vehicle display and judging. In conjunction with APG Armed Forces Day open house. If you plan on going you better book a room now. For more info contact Don Shupe or Anthony Dawkins.

**May 23, 1998** - Memorial Day Display at Bond Park in Cary, NC. We have to been asked for a repeat performance of last year's display. (Hopefully without the rain.) Last year we got a great crowd. More details in May newsletter. Contact Don Shupe.

**May 23/24 1998** - NC Transportation Museum Memorial Weekend program. Spencer, NC. OHA invited to participate by bringing W.W.II vehicles for display and/or dress out to help with the "occupation" of the site. Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm, Sunday 12:00 noon - 5:00pm. Since there is a conflict with this event and the display in Cary, this would be a

good event to see a maximum effort from our membership in the mid and western end of the state. Contact Larry Neal. See registration form in back of newsletter.

**August 7-9, 1998** - Amphibious Landing Exercise, Solomons, MD. This is a simulated Marine Corps landing, but an invitation has been extended for a squad of Army troops. This consists of off loading from the SS John B. Brown by cargo net into landing craft. **Because of the inherent danger of this type of operation you must have training before attending this event.** Next training session will held March 21, 22 in Baltimore MD. Contact Mike Fox.

**August 15/16, 1998** - Living History Weekend aboard the SS John Brown. Charleston, SC. We have been asked to supply troops and vehicles. We will billet on board the ship and meals will be supplied. This is in support of a veteran's reunion and will include a cruise of Charleston harbor. Currently limited to 20 people. Contact David Curtin (804) 590-1965.

**September 25-27, 1998** - 2nd Annual Living History Weekend aboard the Battleship North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C. Go ahead and put it on your calendar, its a great time!

**November 11, 1998** - Veteran's Day Parade in Raleigh, NC.

**November 20 - 22, 1998** - HRHR Western Front. Location TBD. \$25.00.

Tentative Dates for World War II Federation Field Events for 1998 : April 24, 25, 26, 1998 and September 25, 26, 27, 1998.

Location is Bruceton Mills, WV. Just about 23 miles east of Morgantown WV on interstate 68. Less that 5 miles off the Exit. These will be field events. Rations are still in discussion. Contact Mike Fox.

# Marketplace

**For Sale:** Dodge 1/2 ton, WC-10 Carryall. Needs restoration. \$2750. Russell Pratt (919) 479-1384

**For Sale:** Complete W.W.I American uniform, Large size and every thing needed to do W.W.I re-enacting. All web gear, helmet, overseas cap with disks and .303 Enfield included. \$450. Tony Bean (910) 292-3000 ext. 249 Daytime M-F.

**For Sale:** 6 W.W.II jeeps, plus truck load of parts. Engines, Transmissions, Axles, etc. You could build yourself a good jeep from parts, sell extra parts. Retiring from Marines, need space. \$1500 for all six jeeps plus parts. Frank Brewer (919) 223- 3437.

**Repro Items:**

Paper goods for footlocker and field display, includes cigarette cartons, soap boxes, shaving cream boxes, etc. Don Good, 8503 Cherry Heights Court, Springfield VA. 22153 (703)455-3568

K ration crates and boxes. Blank boxes and repacked. Peter Johnston, 69 East Baltimore Ave., Lansdowne, PA. 19050-2209 (610) 623-0888

Currently selling high quality K ration boxes with inserts for \$20 a set. This includes 1st pattern, 2nd pattern and third pattern all three meals for a total of nine meals for \$20. You can contact Scott Miller at 719-633-6421 until 2300 mt time.

Complete K-ration with contents. John Powers (617) 723-0712.

World War Two Impressions - Specializing in reproduction U.S. Army uniforms and accessories. Catalog available. 7165 Adwen Street, Downey, CA. 90241  
Fax and phone (562) 927-6922  
E-mail: WWIIMPRESSIONS@MSN.COM

## SAVE THE LST 391

The LST Association is trying to bring a WW2 combat veteran LST home as a floating museum. It has been given to them by the Greek Government, but the U.S. Department of State refuses to allow it on a technicality. They want to gut the mechanical insides of the LST 391 so it can "no longer be used as a implement of war." Write to your congressmen (all of them) and ask for help in getting the 391 back to the US as a floating, operating museum. This is a time sensitive issue, as the Greek Navy can still strip important parts form the 391 as long as she stays in the Greek port. You say you're into military history? Put your time where your mouth is and phone or write your congressman now!

*information from the G.I. Journal*

## Money for World War II Memorial

Bob Dole and and his World War II monument committee hope to raise \$100 million by Veteran's Day and would like to see construction started by the year 2000. The site will be on the Mall in Washington D. C. Donations may be sent to the World War II Memorial Fund, American Battle Monuments Commission, Dept. P, P.O. Box 96766, Washington, D.C. 20090-6766.

