

# The Old Hickory Chronicle

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Association

January/February 1999

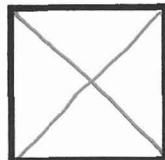
## IMPORTANT!!!! READ IMMEDIATELY

Most of you old timers know by now that when you see Uncle Sam's picture below it only means one thing, we want money!!!

It is that time again to pay your annual dues. Members that joined late last year are not expected to pay up again so look at the box next to Uncle Sam, if there isn't a red X in the box you don't need to pay. If there is a red X you need to send a check or money order for \$15.00 payable to The Old Hickory Association to Don Shupe, 414 Cary Pines Drive, Cary, NC 27513, by **February 28, 1999.**



**PAY YOUR DUES NOW**



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## Bulge Briefing:

*by Mike Fox*

Here is the latest update on the 1999 Battle of the Bulge at Ft. Indiantown Gap. Once again we are participating with Co. K, the full strength Rifle Company that our unit helped start 4 years ago. Our registration is in to the Federation and Co. K officially registered 147 men this year. The total dollar amount of our Co. K registration was \$4,500.00. The OHA also had a great registration with 21 members paying to attend. Our men primarily belong in the 3rd Platoon of Co. K, with most members being the 1st Squad of that Platoon and several other members providing the leadership for the Platoon. Additionally, we have two members playing roles at the Co. Headquarters. Our men are assigned as follows:

Co. K Roster Headquarters - (Barracks 1269, 2nd Floor)  
1st Sergeant - Mark Burfete  
Company RTO/Clerk - Pfc. Charles Fraley

Co. K, 3rd Platoon (Barracks 1264)  
Platoon Leader - Lt. Mike Fox (1st floor)  
Platoon Sgt. - Staff Sgt. Courtney Johnston (2nd floor)  
Platoon Guide - Sgt. Greg Bondurant (1st floor)  
Platoon RTO- Pfc. Howard Hendricks (1st floor)  
Platoon Medic - T/5 Brett Bondurant (1st floor)

1st Squad - (Barracks 1264, 1st Floor)  
Squad Leader - Sgt. Paul Gill Phone # 704-948-2884  
Assistant - Cpl. Don Shupe  
Scout - Pfc. Clint Yarborough  
Scout - Pfc. Scott Burnett  
BAR - Pfc. F.J. Hale  
Asst. - Pfc. Les Monroe

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

BAR - Pvt. David Stieghan  
Asst. - Pvt. Scott Sturdy  
Rifleman - Pfc. Ray Oakes  
Rifleman - Pfc. Larry Neal  
Rifleman - Pfc. Will Vanderberg  
Rifleman - Pvt. Mike Owens  
Rifleman - Pvt. Todd Hogan  
Rifleman - Pvt. Raymond Bunch  
Rifleman - Pvt. Patrick Knowles

Additionally, Ted Hogan is registered with us and will be set up in the flea market, supplying the troops! Ted will be bunked in our Barracks # 1264, 2nd floor.

Within Co.K the Platoon strengths are currently as follows:

1st Platoon:	32 men
2nd Platoon:	22 men
3rd Platoon :	54 men
4th Platoon (weapons):	32 men
Company Staff:	6 men
Total:	147 men

Weapons platoon is full strength with three .30 cal light machine guns and two 60 mm mortars.

#### Barracks and Registration:

Once again Co. K will have three barracks dedicated to us. The Platoons and Squads will be together in the same Barracks. The top floor of one of the barracks will be dedicated to the Co. Headquarters and will be set up as such. The Co. Staff will bunk there and all Co. meetings and training classes will take place there. Immediately upon arrival, every soldier must check in at the Company headquarters and register with the Co. Clerk, be inspected for blanks and weapons by the duty NCO, and get his specific barracks assignment. This year we will do all our on-site registration and weapons and blank inspection through our Company instead of having to hassle with the main registration like everyone else. Do not go to the Federation Registration, we

will handle all our own. The Co. Headquarters will need to be staffed at all times and we will be calling on all NCO's and soldiers for a turn at this duty. It will be the focal point for any questions or any lost or confused soldiers. All squad leaders should make sure their men know it's location.

#### Food:

Another Co. K benefit this year is that we will have our own Company mess hall and cooks in a mess hall adjacent to our barracks. Meals will cost \$5 per meal per man. Dinner will be served on Wednesday evening. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served on Thursday and Friday. Breakfast and dinner will be served on Saturday. Breakfast will be served on Sunday. Meal times are as follows:

Breakfast:	0630-0800
Lunch:	1200-1330
Dinner:	1830-2000

On Friday and Saturday we will have an assigned mealtime within that window where we will go and eat together as a platoon. In order to plan for the correct number of meals, we need to know exactly how many of you will be eating specific meals. If you have not already told your Squad Leader when you are arriving please contact Paul with this information by no later than January 10, 1999. Everyone can pay cash for the meals at the event. You will need to bring an acceptable period K ration for lunch during the tactical on Saturday. Let your Squad Leader (Paul) know if you have questions as to what food is proper for the period or where to get the reproduction K ration boxes.

#### Training:

Since the event officially opens on Wednesday this year there is an opportunity to conduct training for interested parties. Tom Williams of the 29th has agreed to coordinate some basic training classes if there is interest. Please contact Paul Gill to indicate interest in particular topics and your date of arrival.

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(Continued from page 2)

### Tacticals:

There will be tactical events on both Friday and Saturday this year. The main tactical will be on Saturday and will run most of the day from 0900 to 1500. The tactical on Friday will be smaller and shorter and will run from 0800 to 1200. In order to plan for participation for Friday's tactical, we need to know who will be there Friday morning and who wants to participate. As with last year, we will be carrying a basic load of ammo and keeping our reserve ammo in the Co. Vehicles for replenishment when necessary. In order to accomplish this every man needs to bring his ammo in bandoleers with his name marked on them. Each man should have a full belt of ammo and two extra bandoleers for each battle. Therefore if you are participating Friday, double your ammo.

### Equipment and Clothing:

The weather for this event can never be predicted, so it is best to be prepared for anything from wet freezing cold to dry warm temperatures and any combination in between. You have the luxury of being in a barracks so you can see what the weather is the morning of the tactical and dress appropriately. The best bet is to dress in layers no matter what the weather looks like. Plan on insulated underwear, wools, a sweater, your field jacket, some type of head covering such as a hood that will block the wind and a scarf and gloves.

When moving out into the field, open up the layers so you don't overheat and then you can button up when you stop and the cold settles in. Be prepared to store excess clothing in your pack along with a blanket or shelter half or poncho that you can use as a ground cloth if the ground is wet. Try to have some type of footwear that will keep your feet warm and dry such as shoe pac's or cloth topped rubber overshoes.

For Saturday night you will want to have Class A's if you have them, if not try to have a tie to wear with your wools.

For the barracks bring two plain white flat sheets, one white pillow case, one pillow, and one or two period Army blankets for your bunk. Bring extra uniforms for wearing around the barracks or going to the flea market just in case you get wet during the tactical.

### Monument Dedication:

There will be a monument dedication to the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge on Friday afternoon from 1400 to 1500 at the "40 & 8" boxcar on the main base. Participation will be optional.

Please call Mike Fox a call at 336-856-7797 if you have any general questions.

Directions and maps are at the back of the newsletter



# UNIT NEWS

## Tar Heel Chapter of 30th Reunion

The Old Hickory Association again has been asked to supply a Color Guard for the Memorial Service at the Tar Heel Chapter's annual reunion in Raleigh on March 19 - 21. As usual we will set up a small display for the Vet's and their families.

## 30th ID Association 53rd Annual Reunion

The 30th ID will be holding their National reunion in Myrtle Beach, SC at the Holiday Inn - Oceanfront Downtown, October 20 - 24, 1999. As of this time, we have not received any request to participate at this event. Tom Oglesby of the Tar Heel Chapter has suggested to the Reunion Committee that we be invited. The OHA display committee is currently putting together a graduated proposal of different size displays to submit to the Reunion Committee to see if they are interested in us supplying any service to them. We have also learned that the 30th ID Association National Reunion for the year 2000 will be held in Winston-Salem NC. Since this reunion will be centrally located for the majority of our membership, we plan to concentrate on that event to be a maximum effort for us.

## Memorial Day Weekend

In cooperation with our friends of IR226, arrangements have been made to hold our annual Memorial Day Display at the VFW Hall in Cary, NC instead of Bond Park in Cary. This will be a two day Living History Display held on May 29th and 30th and there will be a USO dance at the VFW Hall on Saturday night. IR226 is also attempting to make arrangements with the Town of Cary to allow a small public battle at the VFW site.

## Time Line planned for Fall of 1999

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the VFW, the Cary VFW is planning on presenting a Time Line of U.S. Military Uniforms from 1899 through present day. Present plans are for the event to be televised over a Raleigh TV station. They will be looking for uniforms representing all services during that time. Here is an excellent opportunity to show off that special uniform. More details as they become available.

## Fort Macon Report

*submitted by Andy Tripp*

The event turned out pretty good considering the weather turned cold and the time of the year. We had approximately 75 visitors on Saturday and maybe 10 on Sunday (it rained Sunday). In addition to Mo Bass and Andy Tripp, Clint Yarbrough and David Howes from the 30th come out, so we had a total of 8 people in uniform.

The display consisted of a non firing BAR and .30 machine gun, a display of weapons and basic field gear, some WW2 stateside items (a couple of newspapers, ration books, ect), and a small display of German and Japanese weapons and equipment. We also had a field desk set up with a typewriter, and we had a field phone set up and run to the parking lot where there was an M.P. post set up in the deuce. We did some firing demonstrations comparing the old bolt action Springfield with the Garand, and a couple of uniform talks.

All things considered, I think the event turned out well and the head ranger wants us back. We want to plan the next event for late spring when the weather is warmer and there's still a lot of visitors to the area.



# FROM THE FOXHOLE

by Mike Fox

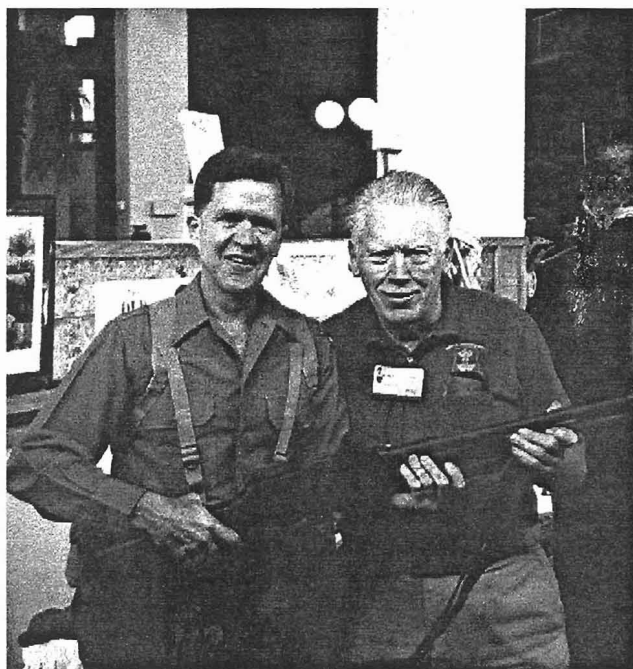
As you probably have heard, our WWII Veterans are passing away in astonishing numbers every day. In a few short years they will be as rare as WWI vets are now. I propose that we all do our part to record for history the stories of any of these vets that we know who live in our area and are willing to share their experiences with you.

We could make a column for the newsletter every issue that would include one or two such articles. In order to make it easy and uniform, we could develop a standard list of "starter" questions such as "How did you enter the Service?" "Where did you train and do you recall any memorable training experiences?" "Did you go overseas, if so, when and how?" These are just some of the many basic questions that one could ask to prompt a vet to begin telling his experiences.

I suggest an action plan as follows: group volunteers develop a list of standard questions, then the group makes a group effort to talk to as many 30th Division vets as possible at the two reunions this year, meanwhile, everyone could make it a goal to talk to one vet every two months in your community, finally, we could share our transcripts and interview notes

with the NC Department of Archive and History which is currently using volunteers to conduct oral history interviews with NC WWII vets.

Please step forward to help start this important project, time is not on our side!



## NEW MEMBERS

Raymond Bunch

(804) 286-6727

Scottsville, VA

10 years in Civil War Reenacting.

David Scott Stieghan

(931) 987-0965

Culleoka, TN

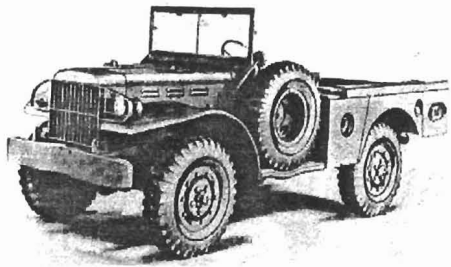
Retired US Army Field Artillery. Reenacting since 1974, Civil War and WWII.

Scott Sturdy

(336) 773-1809

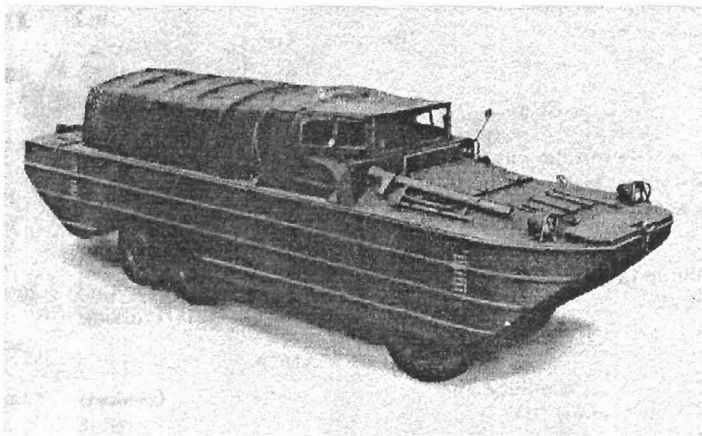
Winston-Salem, NC

Did WWII German for 3 years, does Rev War, Civil War, and Vietnam. Editor of "Battlecry".



# FROM THE MOTORPOOL

So you have always wanted to buy a World War II military vehicle but the love of your life (no, not your M1 Garand, the living breathing sometimes warm one, that is sleeping along side you) has always wanted a boat. Something you can take down to the coast so she can lay in the sun or entertain guests. Well we have just the vehicle for you, the TRUCK, AMPHIBIAN — 2 1/2-TON, 6 X 6 or DUKW (pronounced DUCK).



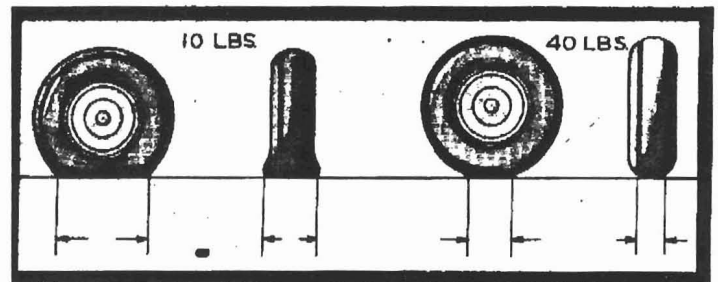
The DUKW is a relatively small, amphibious craft that can transport a payload directly from a deep sea ship to a beachhead. Developed by General Motors, manufacturing began in April 1943. DUKWs were first used during the Invasion of Sicily in Operation Husky.

Until mid-1943, the majority of DUKWs were shipped to North Africa, which received 1,099 of the 1,535 produced through June 1943. By the end of that year 4,508 had been manufactured. Production in 1944 was accelerated to 11,316 units, and 5,376 were manufactured in 1945. This brought the total production for the three year period of 1943 to 1945 to 21,200 vehicles.

But what exactly is a DUKW? The DUKW is the standard 6 x 6, 2 1/2 ton cargo truck made amphibious by the addition of a boat hull. It uses the same engine but operates in the water by means of a 21"

pusher/propeller located in the rear, and is steered by means of a rudder. It is 31 feet long, 8'2" wide and 8' 10" high at the top of the cab. The DUKW weighs in at just over 7 tons net weight with a cargo capacity of 5000 lbs. It can cruise at 50 mph on land and 6.4 mph on water. One in every four was fitted with a M36 ring mount for anti-aircraft defense.

One of the more unique features of the DUKW is the ability of the driver to deflate or inflate the tires while never leaving the driver's seat. This was considered one of the most important preparations for operation over various types of ground. Necessary tire deflation depended upon the consistency of the ground. When operating over good roads or hard surfaced ground, the tires were inflated to maximum operating pressure (40 pounds). When traveling over soft sand the tires were deflated to 10 pounds which more than doubled the ground contact area. If hard sand or boulders are encountered, deflation to 20 pounds is necessary. If the beach is composed of coral or sharp rock, it is necessary to set pressure to 30 pounds.



**TIRE PRESSURES**

More than 2,000 DUKWs were used on June 6, 1944, delivering troops and supplies onto the beaches of Normandy. A total of 370 participated in the Allied crossing of the Rhine between March 7 and March 31, 1945. Of the nearly 15 million tons of equipment and supplies delivered to French and Belgian ports between June 6, 1944 and May 8, 1945,

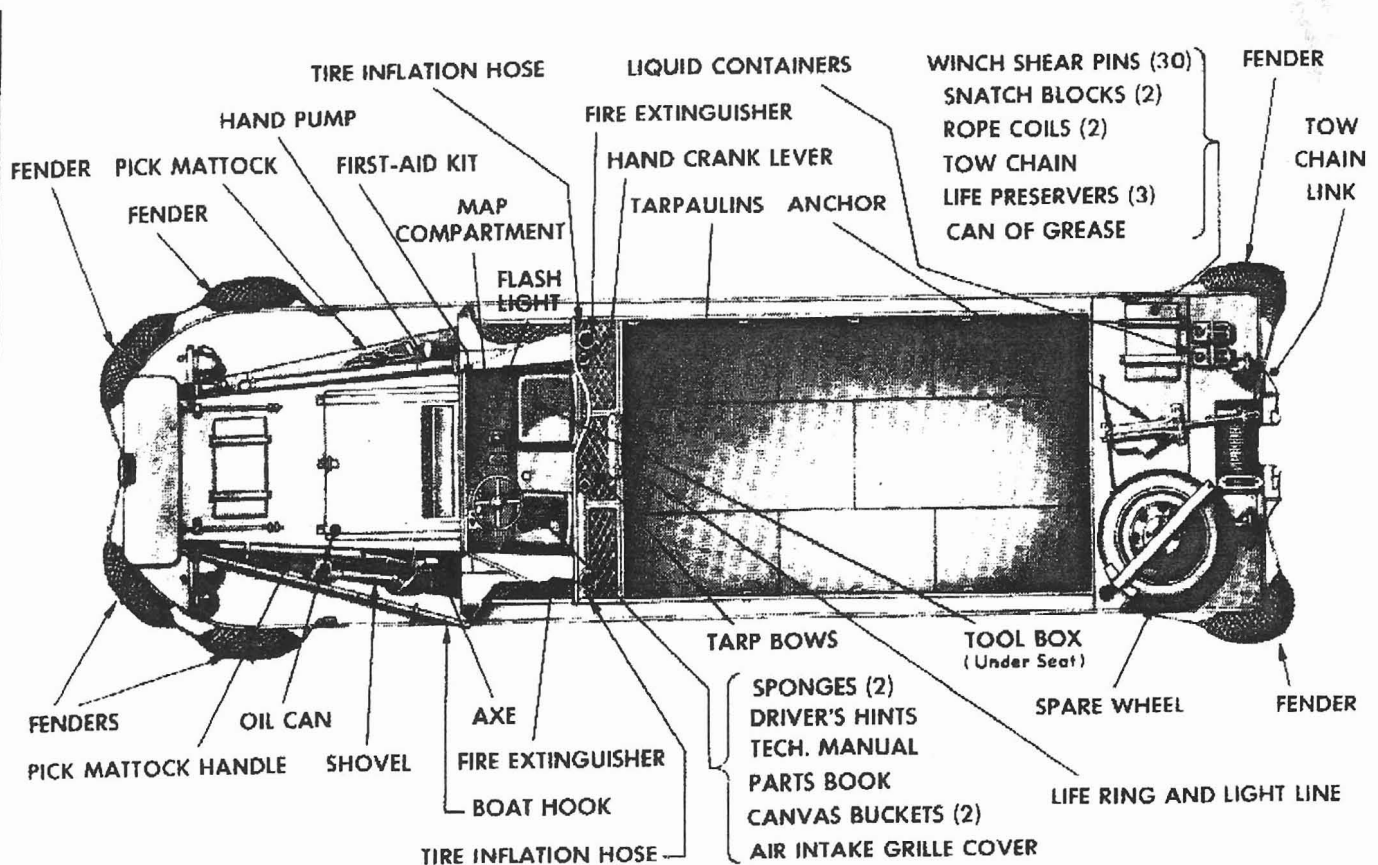
more than three million tons were transferred by DUKW amphibian vehicles.

When first produced the cost of a single DUKW was \$10,000 — more than the cost of a three bedroom home at that time. Shortly after the war they were available on the surplus market for \$200 each. Now for a vehicle that needs restoration the starting price is around \$5,000. For a completely restored swimming truck, I have seen prices as high as \$35,000.

If you decide that you would really love to have one of these unique vehicles but just can't afford one, there are several companies around the country that offer tours using DUKWs. There is one in



Washington D.C., one in Boston Mass. and one in Wisconsin called Original Wisconsin Ducks, Inc. which owns 80 DUKWs.



Stowage Diagram

## QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER

You've gotta know your metals in this man's army. You've gotta be able to say, "That ain't tin, " and know exactly what you're talking about.

Why? Because Cir. 277, WD, 2 Nov 43, says men going overseas should have aluminum or stainless steel meat cans and canteen cups - - *when these types are available*. Zinc or tin coated ones will then be replaced.

This means there are plenty of people who must know the difference between the preferred types and the zinc or tin coated models. Specifically, these persons are:

1. Unit commanders who are responsible for Preparation for Overseas Movement inspections.

2. QM's, especially at Staging Areas and Personnel Replacement Depots, through whose hands such troops pass. It's the QM's who furnish the aluminum or steel meat cans and cups and take back the zinc or tin coated ones.

### CUP BEADS ARE THE GIVE-AWAY

To tell the difference in cups, get a bead on the top rim. (*See illustrations on next page.*)

It's the D-ring on the cover that's the

tip-off on the meat cans.

If you want an even simpler method for telling the difference, use a magnet, although this method will only single out the aluminum cans and cups from the other types. Aluminum is non-magnetic. The zinc coated, tin coated, and stainless steel models will attract a magnet.

There's one more fine point you must take into consideration. It seems that a limited quantity of stainless steel meat cans were issued which can't be distinguished in the usual ways. Here's what you have to do to get correct identification.

1. See if the can is stamped "Volrath - 1942". If it is, you've got to watch out because this manufacturer made both the steel and plate coated types with *D-rings attached to the covers by two welded loops*.

2. Take the bottom part of the meat can and examine the top edge.

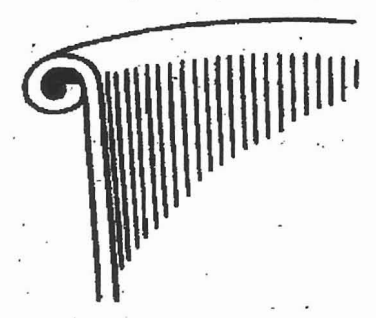
3. If the bead is open, you've got a zinc or tin coated can.

4. If the top edge has a *tapered, flat, closed* bead, it's stainless steel.

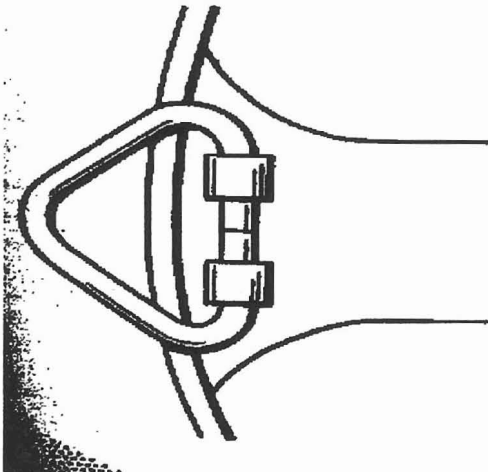
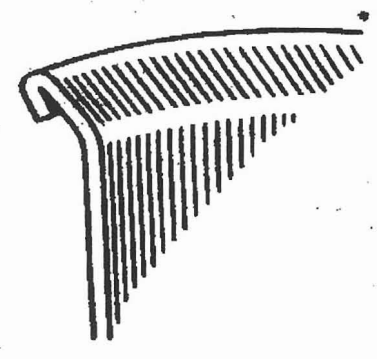
THIS IS WHAT the zinc or tin coated canteen cup looks like. Notice that the *round, open* bead is rolled only half way down. It's formed of one thickness of metal.



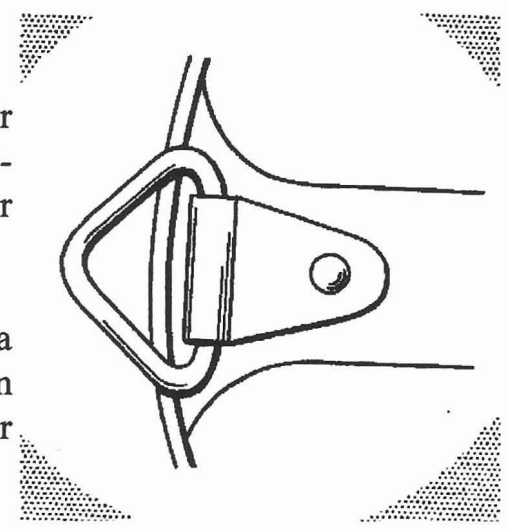
AND HERE'S an aluminum cup. Look at that round bead, rolled full until it closes under the rim.



SPOTTING STAINLESS STEEL cups is a cinch. Instead of a roll, there's a *flared, flat* bead which is formed by folding the metal at the edge of a double thickness.



HERE'S A D-ring that's attached to the cover with two separated loops which are *electrowelded* in place. This means the can is zinc or tin coated.



THIS D-ring is attached to the cover with a folded sheet metal clasp which is *riveted* in place. You know now that it's *aluminum* or *stainless steel*.

# Coming Events

**January 2/3, 1999**

Militaria Show  
State Fairgrounds, Raleigh,  
NC

**January 27-31, 1999**

Battle of the Bulge  
Ft. Indiantown Gap, PA  
Always the biggest WWII  
event in the country, there  
are big changes this year for  
this event.

**March 19 - 21, 1999**

Tar Heel Chapter of the 30th  
ID Association Reunion in  
Raleigh.

**April ? 1999**

Possible Reenactment spon-  
sored by the OHA.

**May 20 -22, 1999**

Aberdeen, Maryland. 26th  
East Coast Military Vehicle  
Rally. Large flea market/  
swap meet, Plus an oppor-  
tunity to visit the Ordnance  
Museum. Aberdeen Proving  
Grounds. Exit 85 on I-95.

**May 29,30 1999**

Memorial Day Display at  
VFW Hall in Cary, NC.

**October 20-24, 1999**

National Reunion - 30th Di-  
vision Veterans  
Myrtle Beach, SC  
At present we plan to partic-  
ipate in some type of dis-  
play for this reunion. As

these veterans advance in  
age, there will be fewer and  
fewer attending reunions.  
Since this one is close, its our  
big chance to honor the 30th  
Division vets. Contact Don  
Shupe at 919-467-3119 if you  
are interested in participating.

## Marketplace

**For Sale:** 60mm mortar. Complete with sight, bipod, baseplate, dummy rounds w/ cardboard tubes, muzzle cap and sling, cleaning rod, aiming stake, and wooden carrying case for the whole works. BATF approved deactivated. \$750.00

Les Monroe (910) 425-2617 or LMON@aol.com

### Reproduction 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 Johnson, 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 3rd pattern, all three meals for a total of nine meals for \$20. Scott Miller (719) 633-6421 until 2300 Mt time.

Complete K-Rations 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.

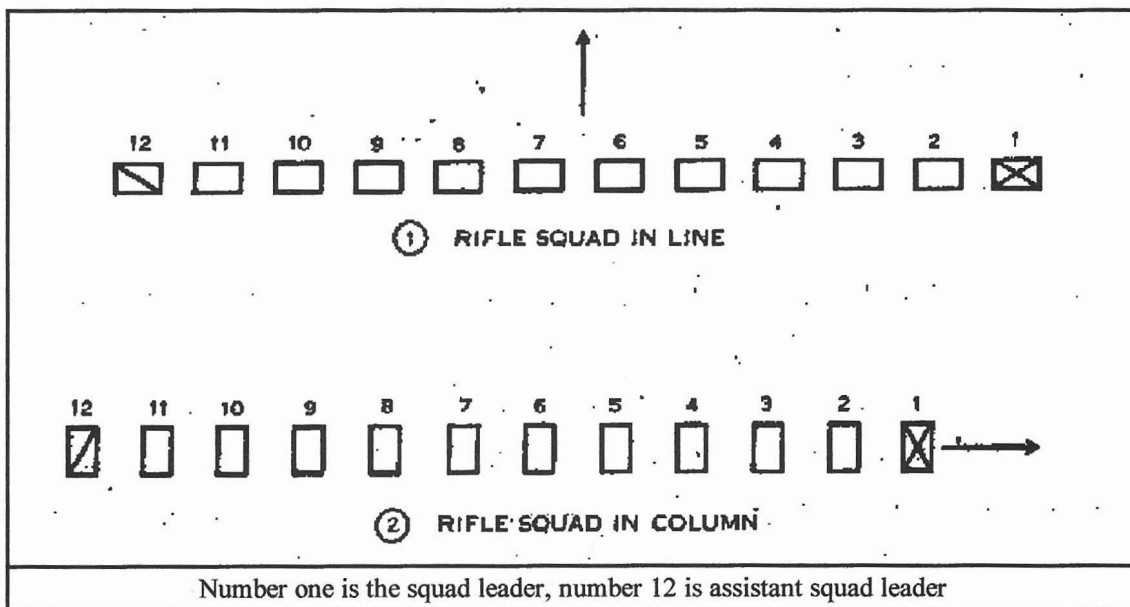
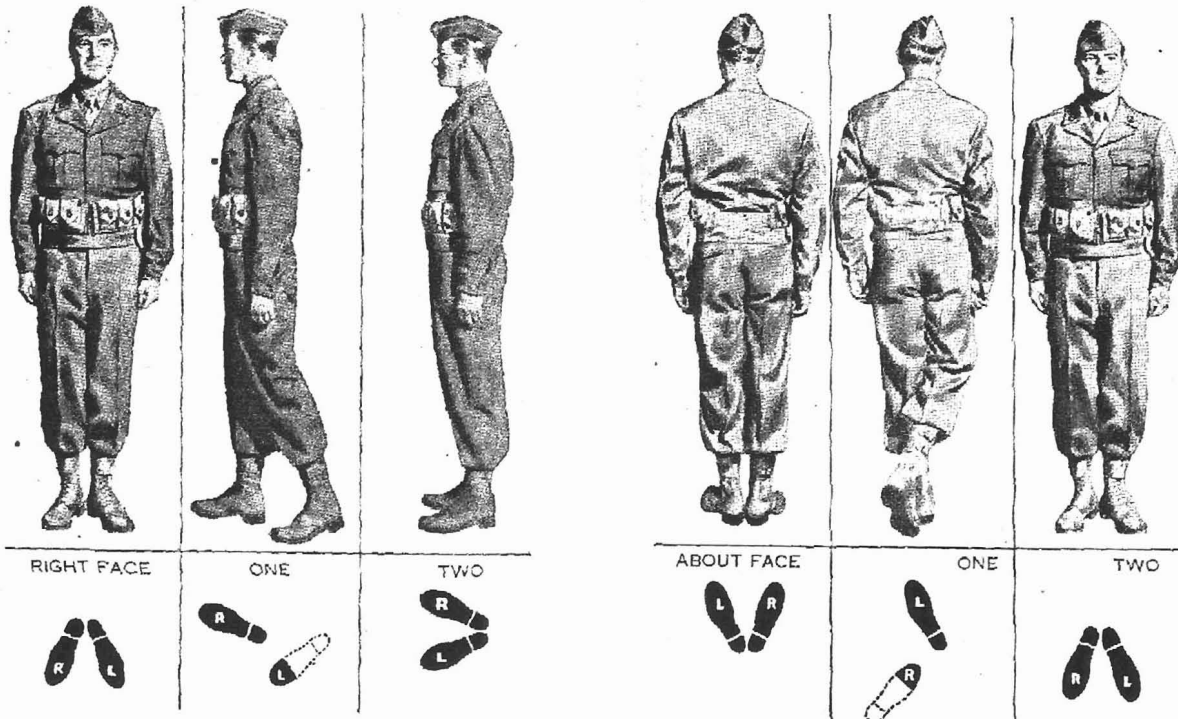
Fax and phone (562) 927-6922

e-mail: WWIIPRESSIONS@MSN.COM

**Wanted:** New guy in the group needs cartridge belt and canteen with cover, any condition. Scott Sturdy (336) 773-1809 or batlecry@nr.infi.net

# SCHOOL OF THE SOLDIER

As our Association becomes more involved in Living History Displays and ceremonial duties it is important that we improve our formations, movements, and manual of arms. Information on all these is available in the Soldier's Handbook FM 21-100 which everyone should have. As an aid to learning these we will be publishing a few basics in each newsletter. Take the time to practice them, over and over and over, until it becomes automatic.



# PHONETIC ALPHABET

The phonetic alphabet was developed to cut down on confusion in telephone conversations. Two words may sound alike, but when spelled, they are completely different words. Spelling also became confusing with the "b", "d", and "e", therefore this alphabet was developed to ease problems in communications. There were other problems during WWII the Army used word "ABLE" for "A", while the Navy used "AFFIRM". By 1961, we again have one alphabet used by all services, maritime units, aircraft, and amateur radio operators

Since we do primarily a late war European impression, it is suggested that you become familiar with the 1944 Signal book. The other books are presented for comparison.

## 1916 SIGNAL BOOK

A - ABLE  
B - BOY  
C - CAST  
D - DOCK  
E - EASY  
F - FOX  
G - GEORGE  
H - HAVE  
I - ITEM  
J - JIG  
K - KING  
L - LOVE  
M - MIKE  
N - NAN  
O - OPAL  
P - PUP  
Q - QUACK  
R - RUSH  
S - SNAIL  
T - TARE  
U - UNIT  
V - VICE  
W - WATCH  
X - X-RAY  
Y - YOKE  
Z - ZED

## BASIC FIELD MANUAL FM-24-5 SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS, 1939

A - AFFIRM  
B - BAKER  
C - CAST  
D - DOG  
E - EASY  
F - FOX  
G - GEORGE  
H - HYPO  
I - INTER  
J - JIG  
K - KING  
L - LOVE  
M - MIKE  
N - NEGAT  
O - OPTION  
P - PREP  
Q - QUEEN  
R - ROGER  
S - SAIL  
T - TARE  
U - UNIT  
V - VICTOR  
W - WILLIAM  
X - X-RAY  
Y - YOKE  
Z - ZED



**BASIC FIELD MANUAL FM 24 - 20  
FIELD WIRE SYSTEMS 1944**

A - ABLE  
B - BAKER  
C - CHARLIE  
D - DOG  
E - EASY  
F - FOX  
G - GEORGE  
H - HOW  
I - INTER  
J - JIG  
K - KING  
L - LOVE  
M - MIKE  
N - NAN  
O - OBOE  
P - PETER  
Q - QUEEN  
R - ROGER  
S - SUGAR  
T - TARE  
U - UNCLE  
V - VICTOR  
W - WILLIAM  
X - X-RAY  
Y - YOKE  
Z - ZEBRA

**TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS  
CENTER OPERATIONS 1961**

A - ALFA  
B - BRAVO  
C - CHARLIE  
D - DELTA  
E - ECHO  
F - FOXTROT  
G - GOLF  
H - HOTEL  
I - INDIA  
J - JULIETT  
K - KILO  
L - LIMA  
M - MIKE  
N - NOVEMBER  
O - OSCAR  
P - PAPA  
Q - QUEBEC  
R - ROMEO  
S - SIERRA  
T - TANGO  
U - UNIFORM  
V - VICTOR  
W - WHISKEY  
X - X-RAY  
Y - YANKEE  
Z - ZULU

