

The Old Hickory Chronicle

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Association

July/August 1999

Members of OHA visit Normandy for 55th Anniversary of D-Day

This past June, three members of the OHA were in France for the 55th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy. Accounts of their trip follow.

Brett Bondurant:

During the week of June 3 - 10, my brother Greg and I made the trip across the "big pond" to participate in the 55th Anniversary of the D-Day landings along the Normandy coast in France.

My brother and I flew to London on May 30 to see as much of the sites in the three days we had before going to France as possible. For students of W.W.II, the top three sites have to be first, the Imperial War Museum - a Smithsonian style museum on 20th century conflicts that is heavy on W.W.I and W.W.II, second, the wonderfully restored Cabinet War Rooms, where Churchill and his cabinet met for much of the war, and third, the Blitz Museum, which is devoted to London's trials during the bombing raids of the war. A planned trip to the aviation museum in Duxford was canceled because we simply ran out of time!

On June 3rd, Greg and I met up with the rest of the group in Portsmouth to catch the ferry across the channel to France. There were 3 groups that were formed into 3 platoons, based on nationality, 1st platoon was made up of Dutch and German Reenactors, 2nd platoon was British, and 3rd platoon contained the 18 Americans participating in the event. This group, I felt was a typical platoon right out of W.W.II. We were a good cross section of men from all over

the U.S. A few were from the Midwest (Chicago area), four came from New England, two from New York, one from Pennsylvania, three from Louisiana, and five from various parts of Virginia. Interestingly, 10 men belonged to units that form "Co. K", the organized American company that Mike Fox helped form to fight at F.I.G. One American from Louisiana, who portrayed a medic, and was a former combat medic in the U.S. Army, put his skills to use when he performed CPR on a British W.W.II veteran in a town we stopped at. The platoon was commanded by Sgt. Dave Fornell, from Naperville, Ill. All total, approximately 80 men portraying American soldiers took part.

On the dock in Portsmouth, we saw the vehicles that would transport us for the upcoming week. They consisted of: 3 half-tracks, 1 - Diamond T truck, 1 - M-8 armored car, 3 - jeeps, and one W.W.II Harley. At the ferry, we found out that two half-tracks were not going to make it due to a vehicle carrier breakdown. This shortage would be a problem later in the week. The unit we portrayed was the 41st Armored Infantry, 2nd Armored Division. This explained the M - 8 armored car and half-tracks in the convoy. A small group of MP's went along as well and did a great job directing traffic, etc.....

After an uneventful crossing of the English Channel, we landed in France at Quistreham and started our journey up and down the Normandy coast.

Some of the areas visited and sites

seen: Pegasus Bridge (original lays along the river bank), German batteries - bunkers at Merville, and Longues (featured in movie "The Longest Day"), Arromanches where the remains of the Mulberries can be seen, and where we ran into Sean Foster, Point du Hoc, Bayeux, St. Mere Eglise, St. Marie du Mont, Sword, Gold, Juno, Utah and Omaha Beaches, and the American Cemetery at St. Laurent containing 9, 386 remains of U.S. serviceman. Several museums were visited with the one in Bayeux containing a mannequin dressed in the camouflage uniform of the 30th Inf. Division! The most unusual museum visited was probably the Wreck Museum, which featured various tanks that had been pulled from the channel floor off the Normandy coast. The above list is not by any means the only towns visited, only the highlights.

The trip wasn't without its trials, and the vehicles caused the major ones. I think nearly every vehicle in the convoy broke down at some time during the week. With all the problems we had, I would like to say that anytime you run 55 year old vehicles as long, rough and as loaded down as we did, you will have problems. It was a great effort by the vehicle crews to keep them running and make repairs when they could. A few days into the trip, we lost a half-track to electrical problems, and the M - 8 to a piston problem. With the loss of these vehicles, transportation became a major problem. We used all vehicles to transport the men as well as all supplies, equipment, etc....Through the efforts of

Brit Michael Hanson, who owned a half-track and the Diamond T, and who owns 20 plus military vehicles, a truck was found. A 1944 GMC CCKW 353 duce and half, was purchased for around \$4,500. The truck was used by the U.S. Army in Europe during the war, given away in the Marshall Plan, and was sold for surplus by Norway in the 1990's. It was picked up from a dealer in Holland and brought to Bayeux where we picked up. After we took ownership of the truck, someone produced paint and a brush and we named it "Nick O' Time"! Where, you might ask did we get the money from? Each man had been told to bring money for a slush fund for emergencies and this money was pooled together to buy the truck. So, somewhere in Britain, sits a W.W.II truck that Greg and I and 78 others own a small piece of!

I found the Reenactors from the other countries very dedicated and authentic in their portrayal of American soldiers. To a man, they wore completely correct uniforms and equipment. Interestingly, most also do other American time periods, such as the Civil War. (To hear the song "Dixie" sung with a German accent is unusual to say the least!) Some great friendships were made on the trip, especially with the Brits. Each man was provided either a M-1, carbine, BAR, or Thompson to carry during the trip. Due to very strict gun laws, each had been tastefully demilled by plugging the barrel, welding the bolt shut and by destroying the internal parts.

For all the vehicle problems, I think we all experienced a small part of what it like to have been an American soldier in France in 1944. I would encourage everyone to seriously consider any future trips that may be organized.

Sean Foster:

I was fortunate enough to be able to go to Normandy for the festivities of the 55th Anniversary of D-Day. Being an American, I was quick to notice things about American living historians in Normandy. There were many Jeeps and other W.W.II American military vehicles all throughout the area. But many

of these were not painted correctly, not that it mattered to most. Many of the people posing as W.W.II American GI's did a terrible injustice in my opinion. During the parade in Bayeux on the 6th, there were only a few GI's which actually looked correct. Most of the vehicle owners were some of the worst. I did see a group of Yanks wearing camouflage HBT uniforms and they looked pretty good. A lot of the vehicles in the parade looked good also. But finding a good looking vehicle with a proper looking crew was a challenge. Apparently it is popular in W.W.II reenacting circles in Europe to be American troops. But it was done so poorly on the general scale that I decided to present an American soldier closer to being correct. On the 7th I went to the American beaches and the cemetery. I dressed as a W.W.II GI from the Normandy conflict of the summer of 1944. I first visited Sainte Mere-Eglise, which is famous for a large Airborne drop in which one soldier got caught on the town church. There was even a mannequin hanging from a parachute on the church to remind us today. I went into the church and lit a candle for the souls of those who died in Normandy in W.W.II.

My next stop was at Pointe du Hoc, where the US Rangers lived one of their greatest moments in history. While there, I was pleasantly surprised to come across some GI re-enactors who looked exceptionally good! It turned out that they were French and Dutch. I was *very* impressed. Some of them were so convincing that if I were not told otherwise, I would have sworn they were from the USA. After visiting Pte. du Hoc, I went on to Omaha Beach. When I arrived there I was surprised how calm and serene the beach was. It was nothing like it was 55 years past! I walked the beach, looking for relics of the day since past, but I could not find anything identifiable. I scooped some sand into my canteen to take back home. It may seem worthless to some, but it is priceless sand bought with the lives of many men back in 1944.

I then proceeded to the American cemetery nearby which has been seen in the opening and closing scenes of

Saving Private Ryan. This was one of the most emotional experiences I had during my trip. I was stunned at the sight of so many white crosses, each of which represented one man, one husband, one father, one brother. It seemed impossible to believe that so many men had died, and these were only a fraction of the total who passed this earth in W.W.II. As Americans many of us feel that we are very special and important people in the world but the sheer scale of this cemetery shed an entirely different light on our attitudes. And when I noticed the first grave of a fallen soldier from North Carolina, it hit closer to home for me. He was a man from the 120th Infantry Regiment, 30th Infantry Division. It was sacred ground there in that cemetery and I wanted the world to know how great these men from 1944 were. They joined together to do what had to be done, and some of them died in the process. But thanks to them some of the worst enemies of freedom for mankind were put away. May those demons never return again in any form. But if they do, may we again find the strength and dedication which was present in the men in the service in W.W.II. Our unending thanks to you all.

On the 9th I met some Living Historians of the 2nd Armored Division and I was again impressed! I met Brett and Greg Bondurant there and it was so nice to see friends from home. I would have to say I left Normandy with a better appreciation for my American heritage and also a better appreciation of what my countrymen sacrificed 55 years ago. I think that now I have a more serious approach to living history since I have been to the places where everything took place.



From the Foxhole

by Mike Fox

As we all know the World War II generation is getting up in age. Most of us can remember our fathers/grandfathers/neighbors who were veterans as active robust men when we were children. It was not hard to imagine these strong men beating back the tyranny of fascism and saving the world as we knew it.

Now, those men, while still strong in spirit, are losing the physical fight against time. Most of you have probably heard the oft-repeated statistic that more than 1,000 World War II veterans are dying each day. Statistics become very real when they touch someone you know.

That happened to many of us with the death of Mr. James B. Liles on Tuesday June 22, 1999. He was 88 years old. Mr. Liles started his military career with the 30th Infantry Division in 1930. He retired as a Chief Warrant Officer in 1962. He was a chief organizer of the Tar Heel Chapter of the 30th Infantry Division Association.

Those of us who had the honor of getting to know "J.B." as he was affectionately known will never forget him. He was a true prince of a man who went out of his way to help others and never met a stranger. He was one of the first 30th Division veterans to welcome us to participate in their activities with open arms. In fact, J.B. always bestowed a great honor on us by treating us as members of "the family" of the 30th Division.

J.B. was also well thought of by his comrades. He rose through the ranks to become a Warrant Officer and served as Regimental Adjutant throughout W.W.II. For most of his

career he served in a staff capacity and was seen as an advocate for the average guy in overcoming the relentless army bureaucracy and paperwork headaches.

I will also miss J.B. because he was probably the greatest single source of information about the 30th Division I knew since he had the vantage point to see a lot more than the average guy. Which brings me to the point of this article. How many of you would love to ask a Civil War veteran about his experiences? In a few short years, the opportunity for doing the same will be gone with the World War II veterans also. So, please take every opportunity you have to talk to the vets about their experiences and learn something to pass on to future generations. Better yet, write it down. Best of all, take notes and do an article for the newsletter.

Finally, and most importantly, don't forget to say "Thanks!" All Americans owe these men a debt that we can never repay for the sacrifices they endured for the freedom and liberty we enjoy today. The very least we can do is say "thank-you" while we still have the chance.

The Old Hickory Association sent a card to the Liles family.

J.B., rest in peace.

Editor's note: The Old Hickory Association has copies of the forms used by the North Carolina History Museum for conducting interviews with veterans. These include suggested questions and tips for conducting interviews. Anyone that would like copies of these forms should contact Don Shupe at (919) 467-3119.



Sean Foster on Omaha Beach

Working Within The System

by Paul Gill

On 22 May 1999, a squad of OHA members traveled to Chesapeake, MD to attend an umpired tactical event sponsored by the W2HPG. W2HPG is made up primarily of the Grossdeutschland Division headed by Bob Lawrence. This event used the Graef Combat System to assign objectives and time limits to forces and to add or deduct points from each side based on actions and reactions. This system employs umpires/observers to monitor and score the battle.

The event was held at the C&D Canal in Chesapeake City, MD, the same location where we fought the Duel On A Dutch Levee a few years ago. Fortunately, the mosquitoes were not yet out and the ticks did not seem as bad as before, probably because Mike Owens was spraying Agent Orange everywhere.

There were eleven of us reporting for duty Saturday morning. We had three new guys just in from the Repple-Depple, Jim Higgins, Mark Trimpe, and Kent Triplett. We spent a couple of hours that morning training, going over squad formations, signals, fire and maneuver, etc. The tactical would start at 1300 and run for a little over two hours. The Allied force was made up of elements from the 4th Armored Division, 1st Infantry Division, 36th Infantry Division, 51st Combat Engineers, 45th Infantry Division, British SAS, and the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, whose three members were attached to our squad. On the German side, troops from 3rd Panzer Grenadier Division, 6th Abteilung Recon., 2nd Mountain Division, 28th Jaeger Division, Infanterie Regiment 226, 7./GR (mot.) GD, 1st SS, 9th SS, 12th SS took part.

The historical backdrop for the event was the battle for the town of Montelimar, near the Rhone River. The German Nineteenth Army was retreating from the U.S. VI Corps. If the Americans could hold the town, they would cut off the Ger-

mans.

The objective of the Germans in this tactical was to force troops down four roads, three of which converge on a small bridge that represented the town. Their mission was to capture and hold the town long enough for their rear guard and transport to cross the bridge within the time frame allotted.

The Allied objectives were to close the roads, delay and harass the Germans as they attempted to move down the roads, and hold the bridge and town.

We were designated 2nd squad and our first mission was to conduct a harassing attack on the Germans as they assembled their vehicles and prepared to move out. They had to remain in the assembly area for 15 minutes before they could begin to move out. After delaying the Germans, we were to haul butt back to the midpoint area of the road, where the 4th Armored and the 51st Engineers were setting up a chokepoint. We then would form the right flank of the Allied line.

From the start, things did not go quite according to plan. The Germans and Allies each had designated starting areas that, as I discovered too late, were of-limits to each other. We had set up on either side of the main road, in the German area, and were receiving fire before the starting time. Once we got things sorted out with the Germans, we moved off the road and down into our own area. So much for any element of surprise. At this point, I decided to move away from the German road, along the road we had planned to use as our withdrawal route. We proceeded away from and then parallel to the Germans and attempted to come back and hit their left flank along the road. This meant fighting our way through tall (8' - 10') rushes and weeds only to be fully exposed one we

broke out. We attempted to bring fire upon the Germans but were in open ground, about 15' – 20' below the Germans on the road. The umpire with the Germans let us fight for a little while and then ordered us to break off. We were quite glad to comply.

Thanks to my lousy map reading, we had pretty much failed to be much of a nuisance to the Germans as they assembled. By now, we had to get moving to take up the Allied right flank. The only problem was the road we planned to move along was elevated and exposed to German fire from the other road. We had to move down a trail, which was behind our road. We moved well and occasionally stopped to stick our heads up and take a bearing. At one point, we could see a number of Germans exposed on the far road, about 400 yards away. Scout Yarbrough, never one to miss an opportunity to shoot at Germans (or Airborne), wanted to blast away at them. Ordinarily, this would just be a waste of ammo, but one of the things the Graef system scores is how you react to fire, even if it's off in the distance. The Germans had an umpire with them so we lined up on the crest of the hill and each ran about 3 clips through our M1's.

We continued to move towards the Allied lines to take up our secondary position. The terrain made it slow going but we finally made it to the high ground near the bridge. It was at this point that we as a squad made a major mistake. We had allowed ourselves to get split up and attacked as 2 – 3 man groups in different directions. When this happens, we are pretty

ineffective. As squad leader I should have been paying more attention and not allowed this to happen and we all need to be more aware and make a better effort to maintain squad integrity.

Thanks to some great work by the 45th Division, the 51st Engineers and 4th Armored, the Germans were never able to push a significant force across the bridge.

After dinner, served by Combat Caterers, Mark Graef gave the final scoring. It was a complete and total victory for the Allies. Each side receives points for things done well but is penalized for things done wrong. Both the Germans and the Allies did many things well but in the end, it was the side that screwed up less that won.

I was really impressed with the Graef system and I think that any of us that enjoy a challenging tactical would like it, too. We were only in the field for a little over two hours but with the intensity and physical exertion, it was plenty. The event was very well run and I feel the W2HPG is at the front when it comes to good tacticals. I look forward to attending more of their events.

I have copies of the Graef System for anyone that would like a copy. I'll bring them to various events and can e-mail you a copy. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about it.



Photo by Kent Triplett

UNIT NEWS

Tennessee Maneuvers

Don't forget the 1941 Tennessee Maneuvers Reunion and Reenactment at Lebanon, Tennessee, September 11, 1999, hosted by the Tennessee National Guard. The original 30th Infantry Division was a participant in this war game. There will be static displays and a 1944-style afternoon reenactment. Those who have the 1941 impression (i.e., M1917 or M1917A1 helmets, pre-1942 gear, M1903/M1917 Rifles, M1918 BAR, or M1917/1917A1 Browning, etc.) are encouraged to fall in with the 1941 demo squad in the morning and pick up your M1 helmet and M1 Rifle for the afternoon. We are trying to get early jeeps and M3A1 White Scout Cars there for the Demos. Contact David Stieghan (931) 987-0965 if interested.

Shoot at Camp Butner

Since we won't be doing the 30th Reunion in October we've decided to hold our weekend shoot and Annual meeting at Camp Butner. We don't have a set date yet but it should be the weekend of October 9/10. Further info in future newsletter.

Ammo Purchase

By the time this newsletter is received we should have our ammo allotment form the CMP. It is scheduled to arrive by July 9th. We have been authorized by the CMP to purchase up to 6400 rounds of 30-'06 M2 Ball ammunition at \$.17 a round plus shipping. With shipping it should come out to around \$.21 a round, but we won't know the final price until we receive it. If you are interested in purchasing any of this ammo contact Dave Curtin (804) 590-1965.

30th Division Patches

We received two requests for 30th patches in response to the last newsletter. Since all the rest of you apparently have all you need, we expect to see them on all your uniforms at future events.

Unit Roster Published Again

Now that the newsletter editor has figured out how to use the sort option of the address software, a unit roster of the members of the OHA is included in this newsletter. It includes name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. This time it is in alphabetical order. Please review this as

soon as possible for mistakes or omissions. Contact Don Shupe with any corrections.

Fort Jackson, SC Veteran's Day

We have been invited to participate in the Veteran's Day Parade and display to be held in Columbia, SC on the weekend of November 6th and 7th. Last year was the first of these events and they pulled out all the stops. They'll be looking for all the vehicles and people they can get again this year. Remember, Fort Jackson is where the 30th was activated. We received some information about the event but it is primarily for people that want to bring military vehicles. A registration form for those people is included with this newsletter. If anyone with a vehicle would like to go but needs assistance with transportation to and from the event contact MSG William F. Campbell (803) 783-3570.

They didn't supply any information about what facilities will be available for Reenactors, but they are looking for at least a platoon of infantry to set up a unit field area with pup tents, etc. I will get more information before the next newsletter.

4th of July Demonstration

We received a copy of the following note which speaks for itself. Sounds like David Stieghan did a fine job on the Ft. Knox event. Robby Gouge joined David for this event and it sounds like they have recruited a number of new members.

Dave -

I deeply appreciate all of your work. The public, as well as the senior officers on the post, were highly impressed with the actions of the American Infantry on the field. In light of this, I want to know if you would be interested in taking on the position of American Infantry commander for future events? Think it over. You and your unit have a permanent and open invitation to attend all of our future events. The events on both the 3rd and the 4th would not have been possible without your assistance and I am in your debt. I hope that I left as good an impression with you and your troops as you have with me.

Again, thank you. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Thank You

Charles R. Lemons
Curator, Patton Museum

WW2HPG Western Front Event

Oakridge Mansion in Charlottesville Virginia

Oct. 22-24, 1999

Maximum effort tactical event for the Old Hickory Association.

This event will be hosted by the same group that did such an excellent job at the recent Chesapeake City event this past May. The event will again be run using the "Graf Combat System," which is a system which relies on points being awarded or subtracted by umpires to determine the winner of any particular scenario. Even more important than determining winning and losing, the combat system encourages realistic and authentic behavior and discourages unrealistic behavior. With our emphasis on authenticity and correct period tactics and doctrine the Old Hickory should have a good head start towards success!

In addition to the combat system, this event has the advantage of a great site. Oakridge Mansion is about 4,800 acres about 2 hours south/west of Washington DC. For those of you who regularly drive 8-10 hours to Pennsylvania or Maryland for tactical events, Charlottesville is alot closer! If we want to keep this event going we should support it!

The selected site for the event begins at an old chapel in the woods continues down the road to an old barn some ways down the road. This site has everything including "hedge roads", open fields, and wooded sections. WW2HPG says it will be one of the best sites they have used in years and hopefully for years to come.

Please contact Mike Fox either by phone at 336-282-6301 or by e-mail at foxms@msn.com if you are interested. More details will be available in the next newsletter.

OHA Shirts

Through the hard work of Brett Bondurant, OHA Tee shirts and Sweatshirts can be ordered. The shirts will feature the Division patch in original colors on the left breast and in Black, "30th Infantry Division " over the patch and "Old Hickory Association" under the patch.

Tee shirts:

Gray, 100% cotton, heavy Hanes Beefy T with 30th Inf. Div. patch same size and color as original on left breast. Sizes: S - XL \$10.00, XXL \$12.50

Sweatshirts:

Gray heavy Lee 95/5 cotton sweatshirt same logo as tee shirt. S - xl \$18.00, XXL \$20.00

If you need them sent to you, include \$3.50 per item to be shipped. I will try bring them to next event after order arrives.

I must have money by August 11. That is when I will place order. Any questions?

Brett Bondurant, 1308 Westover Dr., Danville, VA 24541
804-791-2155, bondo@gamewood.net

Living History Weekend

September 11/12

In celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the VFW, Scott Hood of the IR226 has made arrangements for a Living History Weekend on September 11/12, 1999 at the VFW Hall in Cary, NC. On Saturday afternoon they would like to do a presentation of U. S. Military Uniforms from 1899 through present day. Present plans are for the uniform presentation 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.

There will be a USO dance at the VFW Hall on Saturday night.

If you wish to participate in the uniform presentation contact Scott Hood at (919) 556-6805.

If interested in participating in the Living History contact Don Shupe by August 27th.

Liberty Ship John Brown

Note on all Liberty Ship Bay Cruises: because of our hard work on the Brown cruise in Charleston last year we might have the opportunity to bring a group of Army troops to Baltimore for one of the day long Bay cruises out of Baltimore. It looks like July is the most likely date at this point. Space is limited and you will definitely have to work for your room and board but its a great experience. Contact Don Shupe ASAP if you are interested so we can get our request in. Anyone interested in the Naval Armed Guard crew for the cruises should contact Jeff Bockert at the USS North Carolina since he is coordinating that aspect with the Naval Historic Interpretive Detachment.

Amphibious Training Demonstration: August 7-8, 1999 Solomon Island, MD

This second annual event is being coordinated by Tom Williams and the Marine Historical Detachment. Once again, it will involve a Marine Platoon and an attached Army section simulating the amphibious assault of a beach after disembarking from a Liberty ship into landing craft. This will be a highly demanding event from a physical and interpretive point of view. Naval Armed Guard crew is also needed. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Mike Fox for more information.

Ft. AP Hill: 1-3 October 1999 (not yet confirmed)

Hosted by Rick Kiester's 80th IDMA, this event will be a non doctrinal urban combat training weekend. There will be classes on urban combat, practical training and a practical application with both sides having an opportunity to clear the village. This will be an excellent chance to prepare for the GD's proposed western front event at Ft. Pickett's combat town in November. The fee for Ft. AP Hill has yet to be set but anticipate \$ 10.00 if the Army does not charge a facility fee for the village. Contact Paul Gill if you are interested in attending.

80th IDMA FALL TACTICAL

In an effort to provide units an opportunity to train in a tactical environment versus just busting caps we will again hold our fall tactical at Whitney State Forest in Warrenton, VA. The dates are 12-14 November.

At this time we anticipate having two platoon size elements per opposing side. Therefore we will limit registration to 60 men per side. This is open to British and Commonwealth units on the Allied side this year although command of the Allied forces will be by an American.

The particulars are these:

- fee is \$ 10.00 per man
- meals are available from the American Legion Post where we will bivouac. \$ 4.00 for breakfast and \$ 6.00 for dinner. This will begin Friday evening through breakfast Sunday. You may opt for any, all or none.

Paul Gill attended this event last year and said it was good. Contact Paul for additional information (704) 948-2884.

50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration

Another war? Yes, that's right. Next year will be the 50th anniversary of the Korean War. On Sept. 15-17, 2000, The McArthur Memorial in Norfolk, Virginia, will be having a commemoration of the Defense of the Pusan Perimeter/Inchon Landing/Pusan Breakout.

The event includes:

Inchon Landing reenactment, living history displays, USO dance and show and a parade.

The Impression: The good thing about doing a Korean War Army impression is that you should already have everything you need. 2nd or 3rd pattern HBTs, '45 pack, '45 suspenders, '43 shovel, helmet, M-1 & bayonet, and buckle boots. Throw your M-1943 jacket in just in case to top off your impression. We would probably be portraying the 7th Inf. Div.

With a little over a year to go, you should have plenty of time

to put your kit together!

Any questions can be addressed to: Brett Bondurant, 1308 Westover Dr., Danville, VA 24541, 804-791-2155, bondo@gamewood.net, or Mark Burfete, 221 Montibello Dr, Cary, NC 27513, 919-677-1888, mark.burfete@wheaton.com.

Butner Training Weekend

The Old Hickory Association conducted its first new member training and orientation weekend on 19 and 20 June at Camp Butner in North Carolina. New members Robbie Gouge, Jim Higgins, John Runyon, and Kent Triplett were joined by veteran members Yarborough, Shupe, Owens, Johnston, Howes, Freeman, Foster, Eatmon, Dawkins, and Burfete as several aspects of the OHA were discussed, such as how the association is organized and led, and how events are initiated and managed. Also discussed were different GI uniforms and when they are appropriate, as well as the correct arrangement, wear, and use of field gear. The correct layout of personal gear for inspection was also presented.

After a review of guidelines for military courtesy and discipline, the "recruits" and along with others needing or wanting practice, were given basic instruction in "the school of the soldier" with and without arms. This included position of attention, facings at the halt and in marching, and manual of arms.

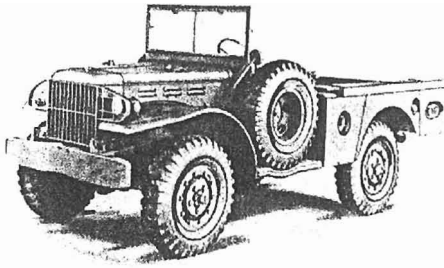
Don Shupe then conducted a presentation including demonstration of basic field communications of the small infantry unit. This included handie talkie, walkie talkie, sound powered telephones, and switchboards, as well, as a brief review of the phonetic alphabet for use in radio/telephone communications.

After lunch off post, Courtney Johnston lead the group in small unit tactical formations and squad conduct in the field. This included hand signals, fire-and-maneuver, and fire discipline. This was an actual, physical field exercise. The evening meal was brought in, after which the guys enjoyed watching some W.W.II documentary films, followed by "Saving Private Ryan."

Rain on Sunday morning curtailed any further activities, but most of the weekend objectives had been accomplished by then.

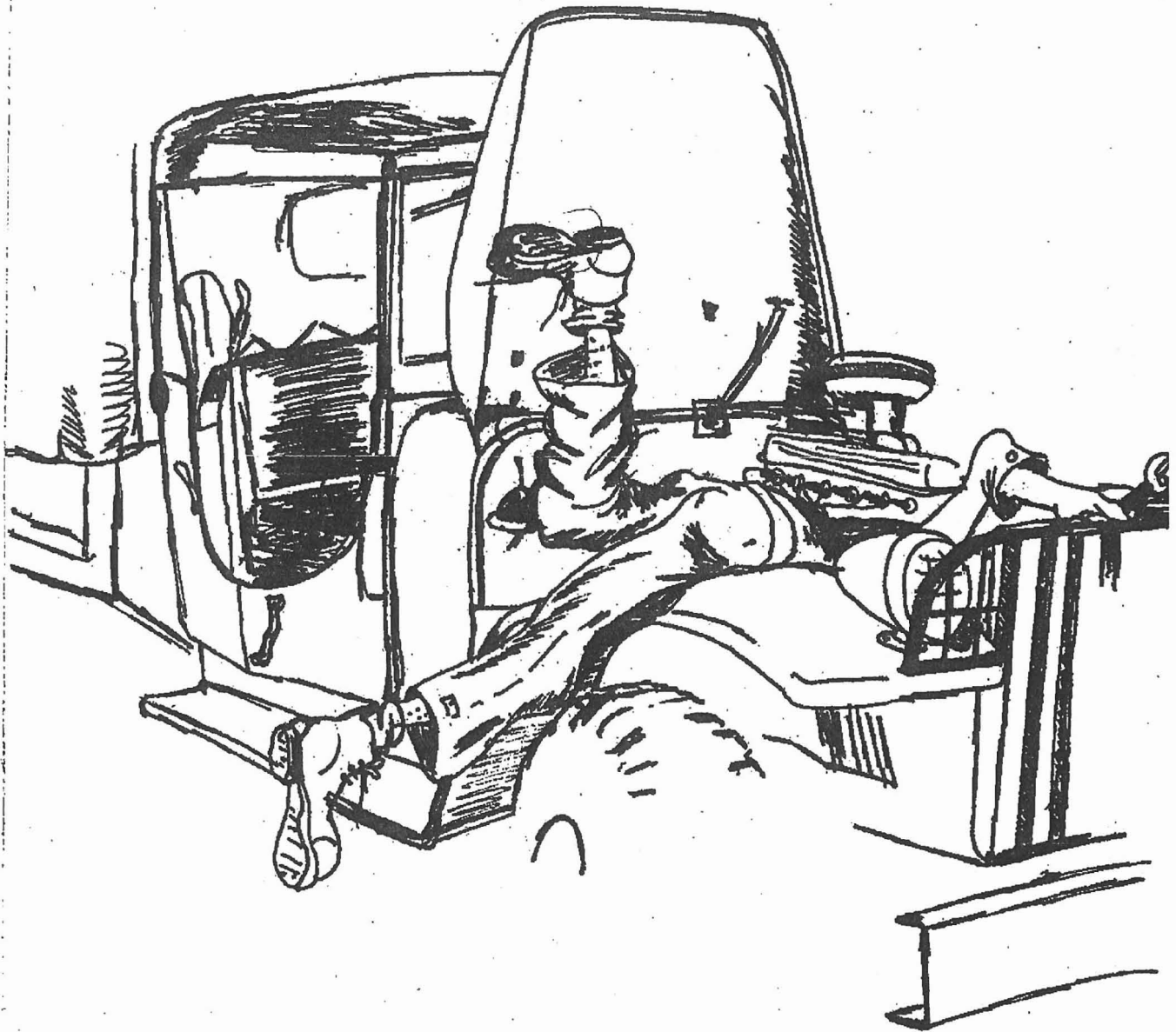
Special thanks to Gouge, Runyun, and Triplett for traveling considerable distances to attend the weekend. Special thanks also to Dave Howes for driving his deuce-and-a-half all the way from Wilson to Butner. The truck was inspected by a National Guard Brigadier General at midday on Saturday. The General greeted all present, and tried to recruit our own John Runyon (currently an Army Reserve Recruiter) into service for the National Guard.

Attendees at this first training/orientation weekend are encouraged to make suggestions on how to improve our next training event.



FROM THE MOTORPOOL

Thanks go to David Howes for supplying this drawing while I have a brain fart trying to come up with an article for this issue.



Damn Fuel Pump!

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11 99 00

Quartermaster's Corner

Selected excerpts from Quartermaster Bulletins:

A NEW FIVE-GALLON WATER CAN

A new five-gallon liquid container has been developed by the Supply Division of QMC. The can is identical in size and shape with the five-gallon gasoline container, and consequently fits readily into the universal gas-can bracket. However, water must never be carried in gasoline cans (and vice versa). The two containers are easily differentiated by their caps. The water can has a wide mouth and a cam-type cap, but the gas can has a screw cap. (Army Motors, October 1942)

THE NEW TRUCKS

All cargo vehicles are now being manufactured with wooden bodies. It will no longer be necessary to line the body with wood when carrying gasoline or ammunition. All cabs will be completely open to give clear vision in all directions, including up. Collapsible windshield and canvas top provide protection from weather in quiet zones. (Army Motors, October, 1942)

BRASS BUTTONS

In an effort to conserve brass, the brass buttons on soldier's uniforms may be replaced by plastic buttons. - November 30, 1942

WEARING OF THE SERVICE UNIFORM

Change 9, AR 600-40 provides:

Commanding generals of independent forces outside the continental limits of the United States operating directly under the War Department are authorized to prescribe the method of wearing insignia. (par; 41d)

Shoulder sleeve insignia will be worn on the service coat, overcoat, mackinaw, field jacket, and the shirt when worn as an outer garment. (par. 47c) - November 30, 1942

RANKS

Technicians of the third, fourth, and fifth grades will rank immediately below the staff sergeants, sergeants, or corporals of their grade. (Change 1, par. 9, AR 600-15) - November 30, 1942

BIGGEST SHOE

QM officers at Ft. Bragg, N. C., report that Pvt. Frank Lloyd, North Carolina Negro, has been issued a size 18-7E shoe, built to special order. Largest regular army shoe is 16-4E. One of the smallest special shoes issued was a size 1½ to Pvt. Odell Fowler. (THE ARMY OFFICER, Nov. 1942)

SHAVETAILED

Jersey City QM Depot declares that the expression "shavetail", as applied to second lieutenants, arose from the practice of converting G.I. enlisted men's shirts to officers' shirts. When the man is commissioned from the ranks, he takes his usable G.I. shirts and snips from the tail to be used in making officer's shoulder loops for them. Hence, a new second lieutenant usually has a short-tailed or "shave-tail" shirt. (YANK, Dec. 16, 1942)

SALUTES FOR COMMISSIONED NURSES

Commissioned nurses are now entitled to the same privileges with reference to salutes as commissioned officers of corresponding grades and ranks. (Change 1, AR 40-20) - January 4, 1943

SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

Coming Events

July 17, 1999

John Brown, summer Chesapeake Bay Cruise.

August 7 - 8, 1999

Solomon Island, MD
Amphibious training demonstration.

August 13 -14, 1999

Militaria Show. Fri. 3-8, Sat. 9-6
Smoky Mt. Convention Center
Pigeon Forge

September 4, 1999

John Brown, Fall Chesapeake Bay Cruise.

September 11, 1999

1941 Tennessee Maneuvers Reunion and Reenactment at Lebanon, Tennessee, hosted by the Tennessee National Guard.

September 11/12, 1999

Living History Weekend. Uniform Presentation, USO Dance. VFW Hall, Cary, NC.

September 25/26, 1999

Battleship North Carolina.
Naval Detachment and Army Display.

October 9 - 10, 1999

Annual meeting at Camp Butner plus qualification shoot.

October 20-24, 1999

WW2HPG Western Front Event
Oakridge Mansion in Charlottesville, VA

November 6-7, 1999

Veteran's Day Parade and display in Columbia, SC.

November 12-14, 1999

80th IDMA FALL TACTICAL
Warrenton, VA.

Sept. 15-17, 2000

50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration. Norfolk, VA.

September, 2000

30th Infantry Division Association National Reunion. Winston-Salem, NC.



"Some day the lieutenants are gonna catch on he stands here purposely to salute 'em!"

- Private Breger's War, courtesy of David Stieghan

The Old Hickory Chronicle is the newsletter of The Old Hickory Association. It is published 6 times a year in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The editor of The Old Hickory Chronicle is Don Shupe and he should be contacted concerning any questions or suggestions. Articles are contributed by members of the association.

Other contacts of the Old Hickory Association are:

Reenactments: Mike Fox (336) 282-6301, Paul Gill (704) 948-2884, Courtney Johnston (919) 833-0426.

Marksmanship: Anthony Dawkins (919) 575-4622,

Displays and Newsletter: Don Shupe (919) 467-3119

Drill and Ceremony: Mark Burfete (919) 677-0990

Liberty Ship John Brown Information: David Curtin (804) 590-1965

Marketplace

For Sale: Original leather garrison belts, new in the box in real and larger sizes. David Stieghan (931) 987-0965.

For Sale: W.W.II U.S. wool shirt size 16 excellent condition \$40; W.W.II Wool overcoat, size 42 regular, no buttons, good condition, \$25; British Tunic 1945 dated, excellent condition, \$75; British Pants, 50's style, excellent condition, \$25; British dispatch Riders Helmet, excellent condition, dated, \$35; W.W.I US bayonet wood grips, good condition, dated, \$50; Korean War era U.S. wool pants, large size, excellent condition, \$25. Tony Bean (336) 721-0481

For Sale: 1944 jeep, very complete, no canvas, needs restoration, \$2200 or best offer; two W.W.II Navy bomb trailers with extra tires, \$1200 for the pair. Frank Brewer (252) 223-3437.

For Sale: If anyone needs Navy items contact Greg Bondurant (757) 631-4697

For Sale: Original '41 jacket, EC, size 40 with original field modified sock cuffs, \$85. Wool shirt 14 1/2 x 32 \$10. Wool pants with belt W32 L31 \$15. Leggins small size \$5. Original cap toe shoes, used, size 9, \$25. Combat suspenders, khaki, \$10. Pack marked '44, GC, \$20. Meat tin marked '45, \$5. Please include \$3.00 postage with order. Scott sturdy, 800 S. Hawthorne Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27103,

batlecry@nr.infi.net (336) 773-1809

FOR SALE: 3/4 MANNEQUINS, CONTACT TIM AREY AT 704-636-0358, FOR AVAILABILITY.

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.

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

At the Front - High Quality Repro's. Saving Private Ryan overruns. Some original equipment. Complete sets available. 5674 Shepherdsville Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40228 (502) 969-4440, www.anderfront.com



Rhone Valley Event
Photo by Kent Triplett