

# The Old Hickory Chronicle

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Association

July/August 2001

## National D-Day Memorial Bedford, Virginia

*By Brett Bondurant*

On June 17, myself along with family members visited the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA. Bedford is located approximately 20 miles from Lynchburg, VA. and 85 miles north of Danville, VA. The small town was chosen as the site of the memorial due to the fact that Bedford was home to Co. A, 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division, a unit that took 35 Bedford soldiers onto Omaha Beach on June 6, 1944, and lost 19 of those men in the first 15 minutes of the landing. Two more died shortly from wounds. The loss of 21 men in a community of 3,200 gave Bedford the highest proportional loss for D-Day in the United States.

The memorial which began construction in 1997 is a beautiful site filled with sculptures and symbolic architecture. Dedication of the memorial took place on June 6, of this year and was attended by President Bush.

The site is divided in several sections commemorating the different phases of D-Day, from planning to victory.

A English garden in the shape of the SHAEF patch and a Folly (under construction) in classical revival style represents SHAEF operations center at Southwick House in England. Busts of the central SHAEF command staff and a full figure of General Eisenhower will also be included in this area. A wall inscribed with General Eisenhower's D-Day order of the day separates this section from the beach section.

A large plaza is divided into five sections indicating the 5 beaches at Normandy. A wall surrounding the plaza will be inscribed with those U.S. and Allied soldiers who gave their lives on D-Day. The plaza leads down to the reflecting pool which represents the English Channel. In the center of the plaza leading to the water is a stylized Higgins boat with the ramp down to mark the point at which the channel and beaches meet. Also in the pool are jets of air, timed to represent bullets hitting the water. Positioned in the water are two beach obstacles "hedgehogs" and a sculpture of a soldier, M-1 held above the head, trudging ashore. On the opposite side of the pool is sand colored stone, representing the beach where sculptures of a crumpled soldier lies and that of a wounded soldier being pulled forward by his comrade. Facing this is a high wall shaped in the style of the bunkers on the Normandy coast. In the center of this is a sculpture of four Rangers climbing the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc. On either side of this are areas where the Navy, Air Force, glider and paratrooper units will be commemorated for their part. When I visited the site, a beautifully restored Piper L-4A "Grasshopper" reconnaissance airplane and a 1943 dated anchor and Coast Guard ships bell were on temporary display. Above the bunker shaped wall is the sculpture "Final Tribute", a M-1, bayonet fixed, stuck in the ground with a helmet placed on top. Behind this sculpture is another plaza containing the stylized triumphal Arch of Victory plaza, standing 44 feet 6 inches tall, with

the D-Day code word "Overload" inscribed in the top. The very top of the arch is corbiestepped to represent the gables of French homes and is of black and white granite to show the striping on allied planes during the invasion. Formed in an arch are flags representing the 12 Allied countries that fought at Normandy; United States, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland and United Kingdom.

A small gift shop is temporarily located in a trailer nearby and a museum and theater focusing on the Medical Corps, Journalist and cartoonist and the clergy of W.W.II will be added in the next few years. It will include both permanent and rotating displays. Major contributors include filmmaker Stephen Spielberg and cartoonist Charles Schultz of "Peanuts" fame. The entire memorial is surrounded by the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains.

On the Sunday I visited the memorial, it was Fathers

Day and the park was full of people which I felt took away from the serenity of the site. Even with the crowd, I would highly recommend a visit. Although there is no admission charge I read recently that a parking fee was going to be enforced.

The National D-Day Memorial can best be reached by coming to Danville, VA. and going North on Rt. 29. You can either exit off Rt. 29 onto Rt. 43 to Bedford or by staying on 29 into Lynchburg and going West on 460 to Bedford. Once in Bedford follow signs to the memorial (beside Rt. 460). Hours: Tues.-Sunday 10:00am -5:00pm, closed Mondays. 1800-351-DDay, [www.dday.org](http://www.dday.org).

A few miles away is the beautiful National Parks Blue Ridge Mountains Parkway at Peaks of Otter. There you can dine at the lodge, enjoy a picnic and appreciate the America that was fought for at Normandy.

---

## OHA at Capital Grounds, Memorial Day.

Members of the OHA participated in a Military Through the Ages event over the Memorial Day Weekend. The event was held on the State Capital Grounds in Raleigh, NC, on Saturday, May 26th.

The time line covered from the Revolutionary War through Desert Storm. Clint Yarbrough and Todd Hogan represented 30th Infantry Division, World War I. Ted Hogan and Don Shupe represented 30th Infantry Division, World War II. Andy Sterlen and our good friend from IR226, Scott Hood represented USMC and U.S. Army in Korea.

Each time period had their own small display area set up so the visitors could mill about and ask questions. Twice during the event, representatives of each time period lined up to present information about their uniforms and personal equipment, and give a firing demonstration of their weapons.



*Todd Hogan (left) and Clint Yarbrough flank the "Old Hickory Highway" Memorial at the Capital Grounds in Raleigh.*

# Civilian Marksmanship Program & OHA

## What it means to you!

*By Jim Higgins*

Take out your OHA membership card and look at it. It says:

“OLD HICKORY ASSOCIATION  
MEMBER  
CMP CLUB #36028”

Many of us already know what it means for the OHA to be an affiliated member club of the CMP. But for those who may not know what the “CMP” is or how it can benefit each of us as individual members of the OHA, consider the following.

The U.S. Congress created the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP). They believed that the nation would be well served if the government helped provide civilians more opportunity to learn and practice marksmanship skills so they would be ready if later called on to serve the U.S. military. Over the years the emphasis of the program shifted to focus on youth development through marksmanship. From 1916 until 1996 the U.S. Army administered the CMP. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 (TITLE XVI) created the Corporation for the Promotion of Rifle Practice & Firearms Safety, Inc. (CPRPFS) to take over administration and promotion of the CMP.

The modern mission of the CMP is to promote firearms safety training and rifle practice for all qualified U.S. citizens with special emphasis on youth. The CMP operates through a network of affiliated shooting clubs and associations that covers every state in the U.S. The clubs and associations offer firearms safety training and marksmanship courses as well as the opportunity for continued practice and competition.

You may say, “That’s all fascinating, Boats (yawn). But how does that benefit me as an individual member of the OHA?”

This is how: No federally appropriated funds may be used by the Corporation to conduct operations; therefore, all funds must be generated through authorized sales, donations and fees charged. The Congress has empowered the CMP to sell to qualified purchasers a virtual cornucopia of historically significant materials at very market-competitive prices.

A “qualified purchaser” is someone who is a U.S. citizen aged 18 or older, is not prohibited by federal, state or local law from purchasing or possessing a rifle, has satisfied the CMP criteria for marksmanship participation within the past 5 years, and is a current member of a CMP-affiliated gun club or state association.

Because you are a member of a CMP-affiliated gun club (look

at your OHA membership card again), and if you meet the other above requirements, you are eligible to purchase from the CMP:

- up to five (5) Service Grade M1 Garands per calendar year at \$500 each,
- up to two (2) “Danish” Service Grade M1 Garands per calendar year at \$400 each, AND
- up to four (4) barreled or un-barreled M1 Garand receivers per calendar year ranging in price from \$200 to \$325.

So, that adds up to eleven firearms of historical import that qualified individuals can save from the clutches of some bureaucrat who would rather see them melted down or chopped up. While that is a long way from the old “DCM” days when we were permitted only one rifle per person for life, there is a finite number of these historical artifacts and once the CMP run through their supply, you will only be able to find them on the open market and will have to pay “gun-show prices” for them.

Also with the CMP rifles, you can be assured that prior to arriving on your doorstep they had always been in the care of the US military, unlike most gun-show relics. Even at that, the CMP carefully inspects, tests, gauges and repairs (if necessary) all of the weapons it receives from the military before sending them out, rejecting many which do not measure up to it’s high standards. Many OHA members have received beautiful examples of John Garand’s engineering masterpiece and for some one is not enough.

In addition to the Garands, some of the other items only CMP affiliated club members may also buy (at very attractive prices) are:

- M1 Garand repair parts and supplies,
- surplus government ammunition, (.30-’06, .30 Carbine, .22 cal.),
- Mossberg M44 cal .22 rifles,
- Kimber Model 82 Government Single Shot Target Rifle Caliber .22 Long Rifle,
- Remington Model 541X Target Rifle Caliber .22 LR, and
- Harrington & Richardson M12 Match Rifle.

So, whether you want to enhance your collection of historic firearms, or need repair parts or ammunition, for more information go to [www.odcmp.com](http://www.odcmp.com).

# A Little Bit of the 30th Returns to Oxford, NC

In early April we received a call from the Granville County Museum asking if we could supply a Color Guard for the kickoff of their three month long exhibit honoring the World War Two Veterans from the county. They stated that they were gathering items from residents of the county to put on display and we asked if they needed any help. Knowing that the Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, 30th Infantry Division had an armory in Oxford, we were anxious to help in any way we could.

Mark Burfete, Anthony Dawkins, and I met with the museum staff on Good Friday to see what their facility would

those that served during the war and a reading of the names of those that made the ultimate sacrifice.

What started out as a “what have we gotten ourselves into” event as turned into one of the finest displays I have seen the Old Hickory Association present. The staff at the Granville County Museum has done everything they could to ensure that everything that is on display is correct. They have even removed display items and replaced them when we told them the items weren’t correct. They put a tremendous amount of work into the backgrounds for the displays. They decided that since we couldn’t get the display from Spartanburg, they would build their own using photographs we supplied of our barracks display at the 30th Reunion in Winston-Salem. We got another bunk and set of uniforms, and since we couldn’t duplicate the footlocker display we suggested they just place a closed footlocker at the foot of the bunk until we could retrieve the one in Spartanburg.

They borrowed a bombed out building display from the NC History Museum, and asked if we could think of anything to put in it. After seeing it where was only one thing to do, put in the field HQ. The museum staff said that would be fine but what would we put in the space the HQ was going in. A quick phone call to Mark, and we came up with the idea of the medic display.

The display will be up until at least the end of August (they are trying to get it extended into September so the schools would have an opportunity to get classes in to see it.) I would encourage anyone in the Oxford, NC area to visit this display. The museum is located on Museum Lane in downtown Oxford. Their hours are Wednesday – Friday 10 am – 4 pm, Saturday 11 am – 3 pm. Phone (919) 693-9706.



*Our Field Headquarters inside the bombed out building.*

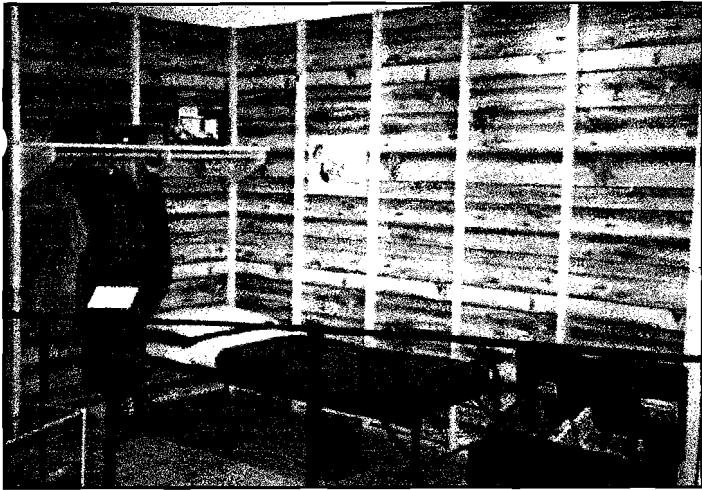
support as they had mentioned that they only had a one room display area. Actually it was a good-sized room that could easily support a number of displays. The staff said that they had received a number of uniforms and weapons on loan from local residents, that they planned to display but other than that they were at a loss as to what to do.

We mentioned to them about our barracks display that was set up down in Spartanburg, SC but unfortunately the two displays were to overlap. If worst came to worst, we could get the display from Spartanburg after it closed and bring it up to Oxford the next week. We also suggested a field headquarters display, a field inspection, field kitchen equipment, and our display boards with the history of the 30<sup>th</sup> ID.

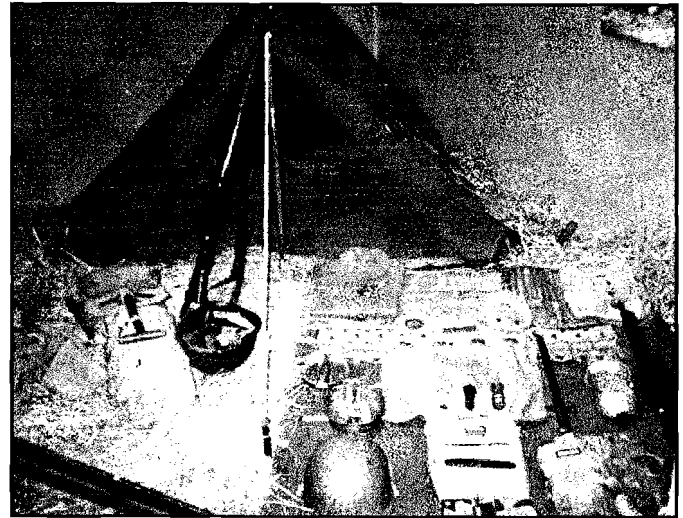
With that settled, we asked what they had planned for the color guard. They said, “We want the color guard to do whatever it is that a color guard does.” We then explained that there should be some type of ceremony at which the Color Guard would present the Colors. In short order it was decided to have a brief ceremony honoring



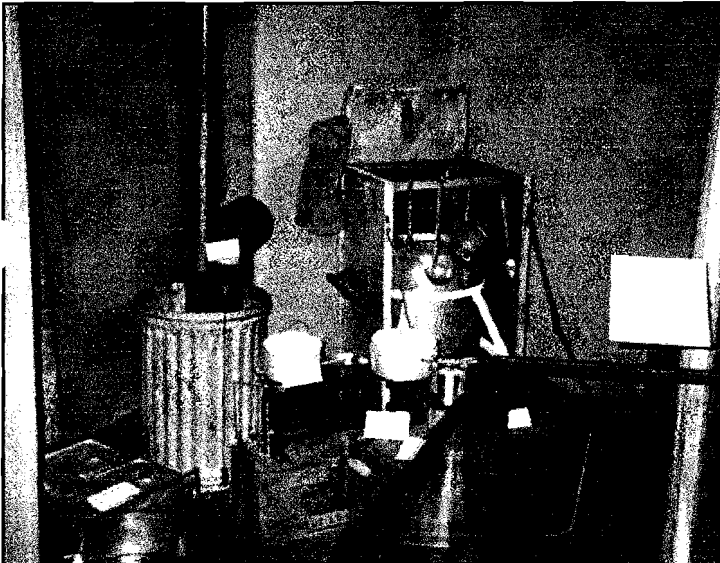
*The OHA at Grand Opening Party. John Hedgepeth, Brett Bondurant, Anthony Dawkins, Don Shupe, Jim Higgins and Clint Yarbrough (kneeling)*



*left: Barracks built by the Granville County Museum. The bunk, uniforms, footlocker, and pin-ups were furnished by the OHA.*



*Right: pup tent with field inspection on right side and full M1928 pack on left .*



*left: Kitchen equipment included one of our M1937 field ovens, a small detachment stove, M1942 two-burner stove, M1941 and M1942 one-burner stoves, one of our immersion heaters, and a round mermite can with inserts.*



*Right: Giving plasma at a battalion aid station. The medic is dressed in M1943 uniform with shoepacs. The infantryman is dressed in wools with a five button sweater, overcoat, and golashes. The wounded GI is bandaged and covered with a Medical Dept. blanket. To the right side of the display is a lay-out of what was carried in the medic's pouches, and other medical items.*

# UNIT NEWS

## From the Editor:

So far we have had one person volunteer to take over as newsletter editor. If there is anyone else that might be interested, now is the time to speak up. We would like to make a decision soon so we can have a smooth transfer.

We may be willing to separate the editor position from the secretary/treasurer. The group's scanner will be passed on to the new editor.

Anyone interested in taking over this position should contact Don Shupe at (919) 467-3119 or email at shupeda@msn.com.

All candidates will be reviewed by the Board of Directors and they will make the final decision.

## Adopt a Vet!

Thanks to Dave Curtin and Clint Yarbrough for making donations to our Adopt a Vet program. These donations help to offset the cost of sending our newsletter to our friends from the 30th that have asked to receive it.

## Speaking of Donations!!!

We recently received a check for \$500 from the 30th Infantry Division Association. In a letter from Mr. Frank Towers he stated;

"We wish to make this donation to your Association, so as to assist you in furthering the educational goals of promoting the history of the 30th Infantry Division of W.W.II.

We certainly appreciate and support you in your good work in this area, and we hope that this will be a small token of our appreciation for your continued volunteer efforts.

We also want to thank you for the splendid static display that you presented at our Annual Reunion in Winston-Salem last September."

## 30th Division Merchandise

You might recognize Mr. Towers name as he use to handle all the 30th Division merchandise, such as regimental crests and units histories.

Mr. Towers earned a much deserved rest from that duty and the 30th merchandise is now available ONLY through the Camp Blanding Museum.

Orders should be sent directly to: Camp Blanding Museum, Rt. 1, Box 465, Camp Blanding, Starke, FL 32091-9703. Checks should be made out to, "Camp Blanding Museum" (Sorry, no credit cards.) For information and availability, contact Captain Gregory Parsons at (904) 533-3196 or gregparsons@FL.ngb.army.mil. You can also see a listing on [www.30thinfantry.org](http://www.30thinfantry.org).

## Support for the 30th ID Association.

This past spring the OHA was approached by 30th ID Association concerning their future reunions. There is a serious chance that the Association could cease to exist. As these gentleman age it becomes increasingly difficult for them to organize and run their reunions. According to their bylaws, if a reunion site is not proposed two years in advance of the current reunion date, the 30th ID Association must cease to exist.

To prevent this from happening, the OHA has offered to help organize a future reunion. The following was received from the 30th ID Association:

### **Resolution To Support The Transition of 30th Infantry Division Member's Knowledge And Information To The Old Hickory Association.**

Whereas, the 30th Infantry Division Association was originally established for the following purposes: 1, To keep alive as long as possible the friendships formed by serving together, 2, to perpetuate the memory of our comrades who did not return with us, and 3, to assure that our successors are familiar with and strive to emulate the high standards and achievements of the Division, and

Whereas many descendants of former members of the 30th Infantry Division are unaware of how and where these members served or were lost in battle and these descendants desire additional information about our former members, and

Whereas there appears from time to time efforts to rewrite the history of World War II which downgrades the actions and decisions made to win World War II, and

Whereas there is a desire by many members of the 30th Infantry Division to have an opportunity to get together annually after the dissolution of the 30th Infantry Division Association, and

Whereas, the Old Hickory Association, an organization whose purpose is to inform the public regarding the actions of the 30th Infantry Division, and which strives to emulate the high standards of the 30th Infantry Division, has indicated a willingness to perpetuate the memories, incidents and activities of the 30th Infantry Division in World War II.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by members of the 30th Infantry Division Association assembled in National Reunion at Cape May, New Jersey, 7 June 2001, that the Old Hickory Association by encouraged to attend future annual reunions for the purpose of establishing the liaison necess

sary for the transfer of knowledge and information about the incidents and activities of the 30th Infantry Division during World War II to members of the Old Hickory Association for the purpose of perpetuating these incidents and activities.

Approved with no negative votes by the members attending the meeting on this 7th day of June, 2001.

Anthony Villardi  
President

### **OHA Items for sale**

Anyone interested in purchasing OHA clothing items should contact Brett Bondurant, 1304 Westover Drive, Danville, VA. 24541, (804) 791-2155, bondo@gamewood.net  
Grey Tee Shirts W/ OHA logo - S-XL \$10, XXL \$12.50  
Grey Sweatshirts w/ OHA logo - S-XL \$18, XXL \$20.00  
Ball Caps, Grey body w/ Blue bill, w/ logo - \$11.00  
Golf Shirts, white or Grey, w/ logo - S-XL \$22.50, XXL \$25.  
Patches, repro 30th ID, \$2/patch.  
S&H extra.

### **Tennessee Event - CANCELLED**

A reenactment in September 2001 had been designated as a maximum effort event for the OHA. Unfortunately there was a conflict with another event at Camp Atterbury and the organizers decided to cancel the Tennessee event. We will keep an eye out for a future event in that area.

### **New Recruits Procedure**

If anyone has someone interested in joining the OHA they should contact David Stieghan or Clint Yarbrough. Contact information is on the last page of each newsletter. They will in turn contact that person and conduct an interview with them. If they feel they would be a good addition to the group they will send them an information sheet and an application which will be completed by the new recruit and mailed with their dues to Don Shupe.

### **New Member**

It never fails that right after we print a membership directory, we get a new member in the group. Please add the following to your directory:

Timothy Bostic  
30091 Dorner Circle  
Raleigh, NC 27606  
(919) 851-2899  
email: bostic@nc.rr.com

### **Butner Shoot on for October 5/7 2001.**

We have received confirmation for the date we requested to hold our annual Shoot and Business meeting at Camp Butner. We missed last years shoot because we were notified at the last minute that the range was committed to another organization. We will hold the event as in the past. Watch for your registration form and details in the next newsletter.

### **Code of Conduct**

When each and every one of you reupped this past January you signed off on a Code of Conduct that was printed on the back of the form you filled out. At a past event a infraction to the Code was noted. So as a reminder here is the Code you swore to uphold:

#### **OLD HICKORY ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT**

#### **YOU WILL:**

- Act in a safe and responsible manner particularly around vehicles, firearms, pyrotechnics, and all other equipment.
- Conduct yourself in a military manner.
- Be expected to obey the orders of the designated commander and all superiors at every event.
- Refrain from using inappropriate language when the public is present.
- Understand that there will be no consumption of alcoholic beverages at events were the public is present or when firearms are not secured.
- Understand that the designated commander reserves the right to deny participation at an event to any member that is intoxicated.
- Understand that the designated commander at an event will determine when or if drinking will be allowed.
- Be responsible for guests you bring. Guests violating the Code of Conduct will be asked to leave the event along with hosting member.
- Not be allowed to use illegal substances of any kind.

# Giving the Jerries All they Could Handle!

by Todd Hogan

Albano Road, Italy – April 27-29, 1944

With the final push toward Rome, US VI Corps comprising of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, 2 para battalions, British 1 Division, and commandos, with newly appointed Major General Lucius Truscott, ran into the yet skillful rearguard actions of the Germans who fought just long enough for the escape of all German Forces in the area.

Albano Road, Italy – April 27-29, 2001

Even though the 30<sup>th</sup> Division was not in Italy, a small-detached group found themselves giving the Jerries all they could handle. A small 5 man squad of Company K lost their leader in Anzio and private Clint Yarbrough took charge and led the attack on the German camp that was comprised of several bunkers, slit trenches, and pill boxes. The first assault was against the far left flank in which we crossed a swinging bridge. Privates Jim Higgins and Mike Owens knocked off a couple of snipers and held the bridge until the airborne relieved our position.

Instead of pushing on their flank, we were pulled out and attached to the airborne right in the front. We performed the fire and maneuver tactic to a "T" and crossed the creek with the support of the King's Own, the Camerons, and the sweet sound of a .30 Cal. Machine gun. Even with Pvt. Higgins graceful dive, we moved forward, eventually over running the bunkers and pillbox, with everyone getting some long awaited trigger play.

After a long break for chow and a brief nap, a new scenario was devised and most everyone was put into position but the 30<sup>th</sup> had a different plan. Facing the same basic scenario except the allies would attack the other flank near the bridge; the 30<sup>th</sup> broke off and attempted to hit the enemy camp from the rear, while the main attack was happening.

With Walt Sowinski guarding our back, scouts Mike Owen and Todd Hogan found the enemy camp and the squad formed a skirmish line atop a steep hill. We all attacked and advanced while sliding down the hill. This maneuver couldn't have been performed better and the result was the literal scaring the shit out of the German camp. They had no clue we were there and no fighting chance to take us down.

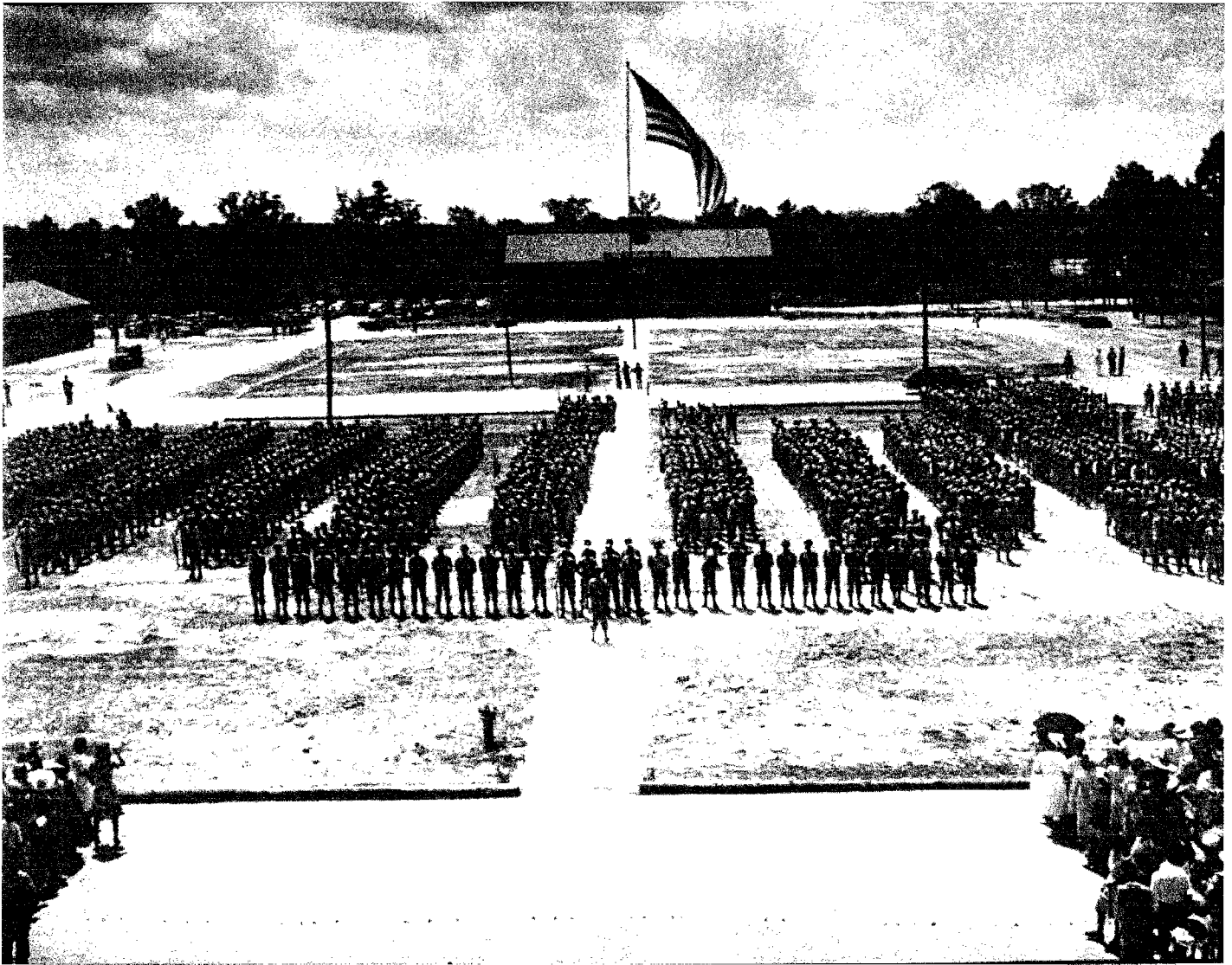
We broke back to camp as the third scenario was for the Germans to attack the American camp, a chance for us to dig in and await the assault. Foxholes were dug and log fortifications were built.

This was the first event I have been to where the allies were on the defense and frankly it was nice to lie around waiting for the Jerries. The attack finally came as we were marching to the G.P. medium for chow. The Airborne and French partisans put up a good fight but the smell of kielbasa and kraut was hanging in the air. A nice way to end a day of heavy fighting is with a good meal. Half of the allied camp broke off after chow and the tactical resumed afterward for more fighting. Fortunately we all have passes to go on leave and we let the Brit's fight that battle.

Kevin Dawson put on a great event and basically ran it single handed almost to perfection. With all the work he has done on his land, this has the potential to be another Oak Ridge. He is talking about having two events a year there and rest assured, YOU WILL FIGHT AT THIS EVENT. It is a shame we only had five Reenactors for the OHA at this event, seeing we have 50 plus members. Who exactly are the Reenactors in this unit? It makes you think, What Have You Done For The Unit?



# Scenes from Camp Butner.



Activation Day, 78th Infantry Division, Camp Butner, North Carolina. 15 August 1942.

The area where the troops are standing is the site of the first public display put on by the Old Hickory Association in 1994.

## Marketplace

**For Sale:** Uniforms, equipment, weapons, etc., mostly American military. Call or write: Stieghan Consulting, 2046 Powell Dr., Culleoka, TN 38451, (931) 987-0965 (central), or dstieghan@aol.com

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

### Reproduction Items:

World War 2 Reproduction Rations

Complete reproduction of WW2 K ration, C ration, and D bars, as well as other accessories such as Foot Powder, Charms, PK gum, fuel tablets, batteries, and more. Catalog Available.

www.angelfire.com/nc/stug

Todd Hogan, 224 S. Melville Street, Graham, NC 27253

email: thogan@triad.rr.com

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

## Coming Events

### July 14-15, 2001

Military Collectors Show  
Elks Lodge  
Wilmington, NC

### July 19 -22, 2001

MVPA International Convention  
Ft. Lee, VA

### Maximum Effort

### September ?, 2001

Reenactment - *CANCELLED*  
Tennessee

### Maximum Effort

### September 29-30, 2001

Militaria Show  
Greensboro Coliseum  
Greensboro, NC

### October 5/7, 2001

Butner Shoot  
Camp Butner, NC

### October 19 -21, 2001

reenactment  
Oakridge, VA.

### November 3/4, 2001

Celebrate Freedom  
Owens Field, Columbia, SC

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:

Board of Directors:

Brett Bondurant (804)791-2155, bondo@gamewood.net,

Mark Burfete (919) 562-1639, mark.burfete@wheaton.com

Paul Gill, (704) 948-2884, oldhick120@carolina.rr.com

Don Shupe, (919) 467-3119, shupeda@email.msn.com

Clint Yarbrough, (336)299-1981, cyruswc21@aol.com

Reenactments: Mike Fox (336) 282-6301, foxwinston@msn.com, Paul Gill, Courtney Johnston (919) 661-4946

Marksmanship: Clint Yarbrough

Displays, 30th ID History, and Newsletter: Don Shupe (919) 467-3119

Drill and Ceremony: Mark Burfete (919) 562-1639

Recruiting: Clint Yarbrough or David Stieghan, (931) 987-0965 (central), or dstieghan@aol.com