

THE OLD HICKORY CHRONICLE

Newsletter of the Old Hickory Association

July/August 2002

Profiles of the Greatest Generation

by Mike Fox

Col. Layton Tyner

Like many of his fellow soldiers in the 30th Infantry Division, Layton Tyner began preparing for his role in World War II in the North Carolina National Guard. As a student at North Carolina State University in his hometown of Raleigh, NC Layton joined the National Guard in 1937. He joined as a private and earned \$1 per drill which was big money in those days. He was in ROTC and was assigned to the Service Company of the 120th Infantry Regiment. In 1938 Layton left school and went to work full time but stayed in the National Guard.

By 1940 Layton was in the Civilian Pilot Training Program at NC State and was the number two student out of a class of 60. He was waiting to go to primary flight school in October but the federal call-up of the 30th Division in September of 1940

cut short his young flying career. At Camp Jackson Layton advanced very quickly moving up to Corporal within a week and eventually Staff Sergeant. One day the Division officers were discussing the shortage of officers and Layton was called to Regimental Headquarters. Within 20 minutes, he returned as a brand new 2nd Lt. While at Camp Jackson Layton stayed with the Service Company and was assigned to all the leadership roles within the Company including the Maintenance Officer, the Transportation officer, and the Munitions Officer. Some seventeen months after being called into federal service Layton was awarded command of the Service Company in which he had entered as a private. This occurred shortly after the Division had moved to Camp Blanding Florida.

The Service Company spent their time at

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Tailor(ed) to Re-enactors

Compiled and edited by Will Vanderburg

This begins a series of essays on clothing and equipment manufacture of the US Army during the years 1941-1945, geared toward the re-enactor/collector. While it is nearly impossible to present every facet on the manufacturing of military uniforms and equipment, it is hoped this will provide some interest in this area. Information is taken from already published sources, which is readily available. Further reading and research have enhanced it. In most cases, information is presented in its original form, edited

for content and wordiness, and extraneous information.

As the hobby of World War II re-enacting gains momentum across the country, one finds it increasingly difficult to obtain original uniforms that will fit the re-enactor with some degree of ease. There are various makers of reproduction military garments available to the re-enactor, most having appeared within the last ten years. While there remains a goodly number of original items on the market, one must remember that military clothing is designed for abuse in the

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On far right is S/Sgt Layton Tyner at Ft. Jackson, SC 1940-41

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Camp Jackson and Camp Blanding learning the business of supply and maintenance. With slightly over 200 men in the Service Company, they had the role of supplying virtually every necessary item to the 3000 other men in the Regiment's 15 companies. These supplies included the 5 official class of supply from food to TO&E items (equipment) to fuel and ammunition. Layton mentioned the unofficial "Class 6" of supply which was whiskey. Evidently this was not officially supplied by the Army but heavily sought after by all expert supply troops!

Despite its regular work of supplying the essentials to the rest of the regiment, the Service Company was not relieved of its share of training. Layton recalled a tactic he came up with to help stretch the men's endurance on long marches. He would design circular march routes so that by the time the men got halfway they had to walk to rest of the way to get back to camp. Layton recalled that he was fortunately in good physical shape then and often ended up carrying several rifles or packs by the end of the marches! He also recalled the value of foot powder applied liberally in the shoes during these marches. Layton likened the effect to oil lubricating an engine with the powder allowing the sock to move slightly within the shoe thereby lessening the wear on the foot.

Layton remembered one time that the 1st Sgt. John F. Kelley informed him that the Assistant Division Commander, General Harrison was marching in the rear of the Service Company on one of its hikes. Evidently things appeared ok to the General.

The men managed to make the best of the training and find entertainment where they could. Personally, Layton did this by bringing along a Motorola box AM radio that he had rigged for his jeep under the dash. Whenever they were out on maneuvers he could pick up the local AM stations and hear some music, particularly Roy Aycuff, Earnest Tubbs and Bill Monroe. Layton even carried his radio overseas in his footlocker and listened to the BBC broadcasts in England and in Europe.

After Camp Blanding the Service Company accompanied the Division to Tennessee on maneuvers. Thereafter, the Division moved to Camp Atterbury Indiana where according to Layton they got a real taste of winter weather. The men could hardly see the targets on the rifle range for the blowing snow! Layton noted that the Service Company was generally armed with the same rifles as the infantry they were supporting.

After Camp Atterbury the Division briefly moved to Camp Miles Standish before shipping off to Europe. The Service Company was embarked aboard the SS Argentina for the trip across the Atlantic. The Service Company was billeted on the Promenade Deck in racks stacked 9 tall. The men with the strongest stomachs were allowed to sleep on the top bunks. The men of the Service Company felt somewhat better that they were bunked above the water line in the event of a torpedo hit. The officers slept in slightly more spacious conditions having 4 officers bunked in a stateroom built for two persons. The ship was so crowded with troops that the galley could only serve two

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2nd Lt. Layton Tyner, Ft. Jackson 1941



Capt. Tyner, HQ. 9th Army, G-4 Section, Maastricht, Holland, 1944

(Continued from meals a day and feed everyone. They did have a PX on board where the men all bought Hershey chocolate bars.

Layton and the Service Company were supposed to land on Omaha Beach on June 9, 1944. The Service Company was loaded

on 4 LST's. Layton's LST had a Canadian Captain who said that he was briefed for Utah Beach. So instead they were diverted to Utah Beach. Thus began the Service Companies adventure to rejoin the Division. This included a high speed convoy run through the middle of unliberated Carentan under fire until they found the Regiment.

While in Europe the Service Company was known to be able to find almost anything and Tommy Oglesby was the master scrounger. He managed to find warm tankers jackets for himself and Layton. Tommy would also collect German equipment and Lugers from the front lines and take them to the rear echelon troops down near the beach and trade for needed items of equipment or fresh food. Part of the job of the Service Company was to set up and camouflage the kitchens. As for cooking on the front lines, they typically fed a large meal after dark and then again before daylight. The men on the front lines ate K rations during the day. The service company often worked at night to resupply the front line troops with water, food and ammunition under the cover of darkness.

At Mortain, Layton was involved in the effort to resupply the lost battalion.

The regimental S4 (supply officer) was killed one day by shellfire at the Regimental Headquarters and Layton was ordered to take his place. The next morning Layton was also wounded by shellfire in the arm and chest and was eventually sent to England to recuperate. He returned during the first week of December while the Division was near Aachen. Upon his return he was ordered to report to the Ninth Army Headquarters (of which the 30th Division was a part) to work in the G-4 section (supply). He reported to the Ninth Army on December 1944 right after the Battle of the Bulge had begun. While serving with the Headquarters of the Ninth Army Layton got to see first hand the fine logistics skills of Patton's Third Army! Layton said the Third Army got a lot of supplies because they stole them. The Ninth Army would requisition a load of supplies and it would be high-jacked by the Third Army before it got to its destination.

Unlike many of his fellow 30th Division soldiers, Layton stayed in the Army after the war. Because of his hard work and his excellent reputation, Layton was selected to be the Military Aide to General Walton Walker who had earned fame as Patton's leading Division Commander during World War II. General Walker was headed to Japan to command the Occupation forces and the 8th Army. This role gave Layton a ring side seat to the start of the Korean War. Immediately after hostilities commenced General Walker and Layton headed for Korea.

They were there within 3 days of the first American troops. Eventually, Layton was an eyewitness to the tragic jeep accident which killed General Walker. Layton was severally injured in the same crash and had long recovery.

Layton stayed in the Army eventually retiring as a full Colonel. He became a pioneer in the field of logistics and served in many critical roles both in the United States and overseas. He also served many posts in Ordnance roles. His reputation was so good within the Army that on his last 9 assignments he was asked for by name! After the war Layton continued to be active with the 30th Division Association and has recently served as President of the organization.

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field and therefore the majority of items that are obtainable are items that usually never left the United States. I am only referring to clothing. There are guys in our organization that will say clothing is easier to get for smaller-sized men than the Goliaths of the unit. (No disrespect intended.) And, somewhat in that, I agree. I, more than likely, will be replacing my original uniforms with reproduction items as the years pass. The only items I currently wear clothing-wise that are reproductions are a '41 field jacket, waist belt, and boots. It is also easier to say that men were smaller then than now. That may or may not be correct, but lets take a more in depth look as to how the men were clothed and how the Army exactly arrived at what we affectionately called "pencil" sizes.

In the day of the World War I soldier, there were said to be only two sizes of Army clothing: too large and too small. Many a man was provided with ill fitting, shabby uniforms, barely serviceable shoes, and those hated, time consuming puttees (which GI's of WW2 would later say of leggings). The WW2 GI was smartly dressed, pressed and better cared for than his W.W.I predecessors. How?

The answer lies in the meticulous care and great lengths, an almost scientific approach, to which the Office of The Quartermaster General went to make our troops the best-dressed Army in the world. When the incoming soldier appeared at the clothing counter of a reception center, his measurements were carefully taken, his proper clothing drawn to those measurements (sixty-six items in all), and a professional tailor began the task of giving an almost custom-made trimness to an issue uniform. But thanks to the careful compilation of measurements and other research, there were usually sizes on hand to fit most inductees with little, if any, additional tailoring. Approximately 6,000 different sizes of various items of clothing and footwear were stocked and issued by the Quartermaster Corps.

The task confronting the Office of the Quartermaster General (hereafter referred to as OQMG) in clothing and equipping the prospective Army on October 16, 1940, when the first registrations under Selective Service began, was one for which there were no precedents or adequate schedules. The only information available was in an Army Regulation published in 1937, which was based on the requirements of a smaller

peace-time Army, in no way applicable to the needs of the rapidly growing Army. This Army was being inducted from civilian life to take part in a maelstrom that would bear witness of the largest army ever recorded in the free world. Furthermore, any information from World War I was useless because of the differences in the basic garments.

The first registration embraced men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-five. As the rigid requirements of the Army had to be lowered considerably for Selective Service, the OQMG had to look to civilian sources for information as to the sizes which would be required for men in the twenty-one to thirty-five age brackets. Such information was obtained from the nation's chain store organizations and mail order houses, such as Macys, Woolworth's, Sears & Roebuck, whose volume of country-wide distribution would, it was thought, provide a fair representation of the sizes of clothing being sold throughout the United States. From this information size charts were prepared, and they proved exceedingly helpful as a starter. The ever-increasing number of draftees beginning in 1941 would prompt extended research and the gathering of more explicit information for sizing. This was obtained by a procedure requiring that a copy of the initial clothing size form for each inductee be sent to the OQMG.

January 1942 brought still another change in the draft ages, but the impact from a clothing size standpoint would not be noticed until early 1943. Legislation was enacted requiring the induction of youths from eighteen years up, and simultaneously rescinding the order for taking men over thirty-eight. The effect of this upon the existing size charts was immediately anticipated, and the OQMG sent letters to approximately seventy-five leading educational institutions having ROTC units for information on the sizes of clothing required by college youths within the age group of eighteen to twenty years. This information resulted in further revised charts, which showed an increase in the smaller sizes and a comparable scaling down of the larger sizes.

By September 1943 the sizes of more than 6,000,000 individuals had been tabulated, studied, and again made into new size charts. At this time the procedure requiring that a copy of the individual measurements be sent to the OQMG was discontinued. However, the charts thus tabulated did not remain static. Semi-monthly reports from

points where clothing was issued were constantly checked against the charts. In this way, they were kept up-to-date and in conformance with any changes which might appear in size trends. A problem which presented various degrees of difficulty at first was that, in many instances, men had to be held at reception centers because their unusual stature required special-measurement clothing not provided for in the regular chart. It became apparent to the Army that not all men were created equal and that there were some anomalies to be expected. To meet this situation a group of sizes, known to the commercial trade as "extra size" garments (commonly referred to today as Big & Tall), were provided but were designated as "supplemental" sizes. Information from the sizing charts dictated that only small quantities of these sizes need be placed at the reception centers to eliminate delays in processing. Disappearing, albeit slowly, was the practice of divesting oneself of their civilian clothing, and proceeding from station to station, emerging as a fully clothed soldier. Providing those "extra size" garments was initiated as a way to reduce the need for any special tailoring for the GIs. This would explain the scarcity of larger size uniforms available to collectors and re-enactors. But even with these provisions, exceptions crop up and special clothing must be made. The periodical check on the charts as new inductees came into the Army revealed that they were not working uniformly in all sections of the country. An immediate analysis was made and it was found that a difference in average stature prevailed in different geographical sections. Men along the northeastern Atlantic seaboard run to stocky builds and short height, while those inducted in the southern area are taller and more slender. The Middle West inductees are men of medium stature, generally requiring more of the medium-to-large sizes, while on the West Coast are found a combination of all sizes on an equal basis. In view of these findings a procedure was established in May 1944 whereby camps, posts, and stations were authorized to establish stock levels of sizes and maintain inventories based on their individual experiences. In order to achieve this balance and have adequate stocks to equip all inductees without delays, an infinite variety of sizes were to be kept on hand. Ninety different shoe sizes were stocked in proportions indicated by the size charts, thirty different sizes of trousers, and

twenty-two different sizes of shirts. Data compiled for millions of inductees shows the following to be the actual measurements of the "average" newcomer to the Army as he appeared at the clothing counter of a reception center: 5' 8" tall; 144 pounds in weight; 33-1/4" chest measurement; 31" waist measurement. The frequency in size issues is found to be: 7 to 7-1/2 hat, number 9 gloves, a 15 shirt with a 33" sleeve, a 36 regular jacket, a pair of trousers with a 32" waist and a 32" leg length, size 11 socks, and size 9-D shoes. These figures may be taken to indicate the size of the "average" American young man. Of course, you would need to take into consideration which part of the country you are living in as to what surplus may be had there.

Lastly, but just as important, are the women enlistments of the WACS and other branches of the military for females. Until WW2, there were no Army regulations that had been developed specifically for the fitting of clothes for women. However, data was compiled for women through the same procedure followed in the case of male inductees-the tabulation of the initial measurements at the time of enlistment. Women, not surprisingly, gained weight after enlistment and training. Men were by necessity more active with more demands being placed on their bodies. Therefore, men more readily maintained their original weight.

Commercial clothing sizes, which had been used initially in creation of size charts for male soldiers, were found to be of no use for women's Army uniforms. Commercial size charts were geared to one-piece dresses, on average, and were not appropriate. The charts created from research revealed greater size variations in women than in the men. The smallest woman soldier in WW2 was 4' 7-1/2" tall and weighed 77 pounds. Women, on the other end of the spectrum, at the most were 6 feet tall, with a weight of 224 pounds. Though the minimum height and weight for WACS was 5 feet and 100 pounds, an exception was made for women of Oriental descent, whose normal height is usually below the minimum. The predominant size of the typical woman soldier was 5' 4" in height and 128 pounds in weight. She had a waist circumference of 26-1/2", wore a 22-hat size, and a 6-B shoe. Instead of being the traditional "perfect thirty-six" she took a size 14 jacket. The collar of her OD shirt was 13 inches, and her ankles were neatly encased

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<p>30TH INFANTRY DIVISION: DISTINCTIVE INSIGNIA BY CLINT YARBROUGH</p>

The next in our series on Distinctive Insignia will be the 105th Combat Engineers. For some reason the 105th has DI's that can be found into two different designs. While the colors and symbols are the same, the shields on which they are found are completely different as seen in photos.

If you are going to wear 105th Engineer DI's on a dress uniform be sure that you wear the proper collar device for the Corps of Engineers. These are the turreted castles that everyone should be familiar with. If you are adding the DI's to an officer's dress coat you may want to find some Engineer Buttons. Officers of the Corps of Engineers wear different buttons than the common Eagle Buttons. The Buttons of the Engineers bear a fortification modeled after an early structure in New York Harbor. It also bears a flying eagle carrying a banner with the motto " ESSAYONS" which is French for "Let Us Try."

105th Engineers
Blazonry

Distinctive Insignia: Approved October 29, 1929

Shield: Gules, three fleur-de-lis two over one a bend eradicated argent.

Description: The Shield and ordinary (broken bend) are in the Engineer Colors (Scarlet and White). The three fleur-de-lis are from the coat of arms from St. Quentin and also represent the principal engagements of the organization during the First World War. The eradicated bend indicated participation as combat troops in breaking the Hindenburg Line.

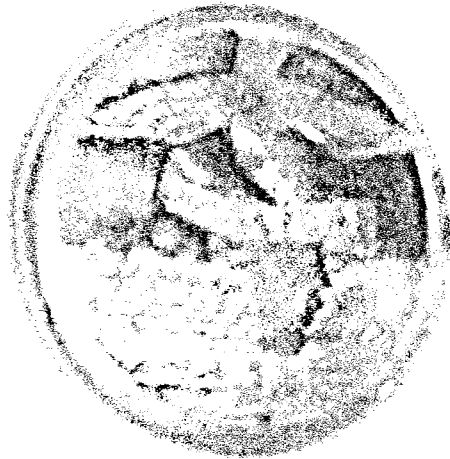
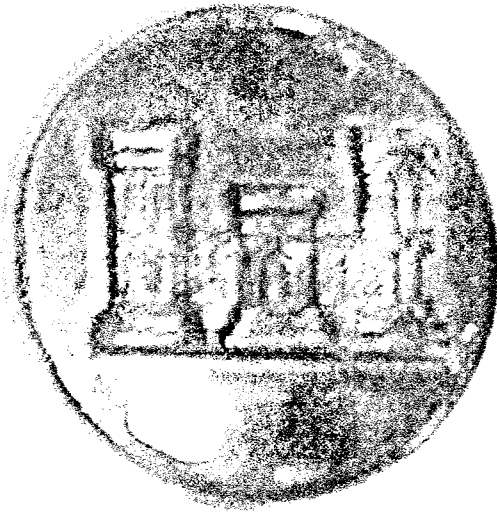
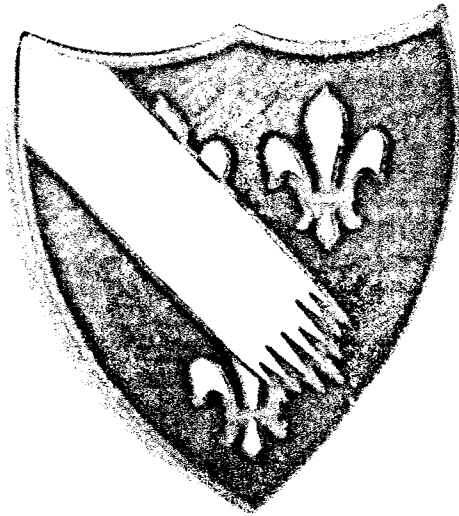
Motto: Ever Dependable.

The regimental Flag of the 105th Regiment of Engineers bears the following honor inscriptions: Flanders, Ypres-lys, Somme Offensive.

The above information was taken from the 105th Engineers 1941 annual from Fort Jackson.

The 105th Regiment of Engineers was created under General Order No. 4, Headquarters 30th Division, Camp Sevier, South Carolina, dated September 12, 1917. It was composed of the First Separate Battalion of North Carolina Engineers as the First Battalion, and the First Battalion of the First Infantry, North Carolina National Guard as the Second Battalion.

The 105th was inducted into federal Service for World War II on September 16, 1940. The unit moved to Fort Jackson, SC where the Headquarters Company, Service Company and C, D, and E Companies were redesignated 105th Engineers Combat Battalion on February 7, 1942. The Headquarters of 1st Battalion, as well as Companies A, D and F were redesignated as part of the 175th Engineer General Service Regiment. The 175th took part in the campaigns for Tunisia, Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, North Appennines, and the Po Valley. While in Europe the 105th served mainly as separate Companies attached to the Infantry Regiments of the Division. For the most part A Company was attached to the 117th, B Company to the 119th, and C Company to the 120th. Presidential Unit Citations were awarded to 3rd Platoon, B Company for the Vire River crossing and 1st Platoon, B Company for the Ardennes Offensive.



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in size 9-1/2 rayon stockings.

The Army was also experimenting with various uniform designs during this period, such as the "experimental" combat uniform in 1943 which never saw extended service, and camouflage design uniforms which were withdrawn for European Theater because of similarities with German uniforms.

As you can see, the Army took a vast amount of time and information and created a solution to the clothing problem that any large organization would encounter with that many people involved of varying shapes and sizes. By eliminating all but the "average" and building odd sizes only out of necessity, the Army was able to provide for its "family" of brothers and sisters. In a future essay we will see how the Army produced the millions of uniforms it would ultimately require.

UNIT NEWS

30th ID National Reunion - update

The upcoming 30th ID National Reunion to be held at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront, Myrtle Beach, SC, October 16-20, 2002.

We have been told they may be interested in us supplying a Color Guard for their Memorial Service and putting up a small display. Jim Higgins is heading up our detail. Those planning on attending should stay in touch with Jim for details.

Butner Shoot October 11/13

We have received confirmation from the National Guard that we are scheduled for the KD range for our annual live fire shoot. Put this on your calendars now! We would like to see a maximum effort from the members of the OHA to attend this event. This will be a pre-registration event. Watch for registration forms in the September newsletter.

Message to our Members

When you all joined the OHA you were sent a list of uniform and equipment requirements. This was considered by the leaders of the OHA to be the minimum or basic requirements. We figured it would take about a year for new members to acquire this equipment. Now it is time to build on that basic equipment and become more of an asset to the organization.

The next step would be to work on a field inspection lay-out. It is not that difficult to find the items especially with all the repro toiletries now available. You should all have a copy of FM21-100, the Soldier's Handbook. If you don't have a copy, get one now. Get a WW2 dated blanket, shelter half, pins, pole and rope. Get a raincoat or poncho. Pick up a set of long johns. They don't have to fit you to lay out in a inspection. Gas masks are readily available. Find yourself a WW2 cot. They are listed on ebay all the time. No they didn't have folding aluminum cots. Can you picture what it would look like if we could have 20 or 30 members lined up with their gear all laid out for an inspection.

Once you have all your field inspection gear and high dry place to sleep,

consider adding to your uniforms. Many times we are limited in how we can present ourselves at an event because not everyone has the same uniform. Believe me, we would have much rather been wearing Khaki's at the Memorial Day service, only a few members have them, therefore, we wore OD's. We should all try to have a set of OD's, HBT's, and Khaki's. Don't forget to get the appropriate headgear to go with the uniform. A wool overseas hat should be one of the first things you get after your helmet.

Say a couple of years go by or you win the lottery, it is time to move up again. Pick a specialty field. Be it communications, engineers, medical, vehicles, whatever. Find something that catches your interest, study it and build on it.

So you say, I have done all those things you've asked. What else can I do to help the OHA? I'm glad you asked. Help with event organization and management. I don't think the general membership appreciates what goes on behind the scene to create an event for you to attend. Events are planned sometimes a year in advance to ensure that everything is covered. Step forward and volunteer to help.

So these are your goals. Build on that basic gear. Have a full field inspection. Start adding to your uniforms. Think about what it is about this hobby you love and build on it. And help make the Old Hickory Association an even better group than it is now.

OHA purchases Nazi Banner!

What have we crossed over to the dark side? Not a chance! While standing watch at the rallying point for our first Annual Meeting which was held in conjunction with the Militaria Show in Raleigh on June 1st, a gentleman saw our 30th ID sign and said he had something we might be interested in. It turns out the gentleman was Mr. Frank Hall, recently retired from the 120th NCNG, and a fierce competitor of ours for 30th memorabilia on Ebay. He pulled out a Nazi banner, about 2 x 3 foot. Printed in part of the white of the banner was 30th Infantry Division. Randomly about the banner were a number of signatures, most with home

addresses. he mentioned that he had received the banner in trade and really didn't have any room to display it, but didn't want to sell it to a dealer who wouldn't appreciate it for what it was. We told him we would be interested in it but we wanted to authenticate it has actually being signed by members of the 30th. He agreed to let us take it with us and if we wanted it we could send him a check.

I copied the names and addresses down and emailed to George Kennedy, the 30th Division News editor, and to Frank Towers, the executive secretary of the 30th ID Association to see if either was familiar with any of these gentleman.

While making up the list I had noticed that a number of the address were in Tennessee. Seeing how we had recently obtained a copy of the 1942-43 yearbook for the 117th Infantry Regiment (TN National Guard), I thought that might be a good place to start searching. In the meantime, Paul Gill started searching in the list of decorated individuals in the back of Workhorse of the Western Front. Following is a list of the names on the banner and the information we have found. Page numbers indicate the page in "Workhorse" that Paul found the names.

- Joseph E. Zehner, Capt., New Orleans, La. In the 42-43 Yearbook was listed as Lt., Platoon leader of I Company, 117th. Passed away last summer.
- Willie A. Martin, Pineville, La. page 311 T/5 117th BS
- Rinsy G. Abshire, Boones Mill, Va.
- S/Sgt. Lewis W. Russell 117th .page 321 BS. Word from Frank Towers is that Mr. Russell is still living in Roanoke.
- T/Sgt Elmer S. Johnson, Dagus Mines, Pa. page 305 117th Inf. BS
- Joe Young, Phil., Pa.
- PFC Harry E. Sutton, Casper, Wyo. page 326 117th Inf. BS
- PFC William Wills, East Carnegie, Pa. page 331 117th Inf. BS
- Albert Fusco, Tonawanda, NY
- Felix B. Johnson, Newbury, SC
- S/Sgt Tom Underwood, Knoxville, Tenn page 328 117th Inf. BS
- 1st. Lt. Richard M. Bode, page 287 117th Inf. BS w/OLC
- William Virgin, 1st Lt., Paducah, Ky page 329 117th Inf. BS w/OLC
- Lt. Jody M. Earnly, Memphis, 10 (that is how he signed it)
- 2nd Lt. Joseph H. Owen Cleveland, Tenn page 316 117th Inf. BS w/OLC
- "Snake" Wilson, Lakland, Fla.

- "Doc" Darland, Champaign, Ill. page 293 Pvt. Garrett Darland 117th Inf. BS
- Pvt. Sylvester M. Kasprzyk, Chicago, Ill. page 306 117th Inf BS

Needless to say we considered the banner authenticated and completed the purchase. The banner will become part of our historical display.

Hurt, VA Event:

In April members of the Old Hickory Association made the trek to Hurt, VA to the Historical Reenactments of Virginia annual spring event. While the events at Kevin "Tiny" Dawson's Farm are nothing new to our organization it was a new experience for most of those who attended. For Walt Sowinski and Clint Yarbrough it was the second spring event in as many years. Also in attendance were Tom Flowers, Robbie Gouge, Ray Oakes, Don Shupe, Adam Weber, and Tim Williford. With eight members we formed an under strength squad and for at least part of the day we were joined by members of Mike Butler's 29th Guys.

Those of you who have never been to one of HROV's events you are really missing something. They are small in nature but big on fun and that is the one thing Tiny requires is that everyone has fun. Tiny has put a lot of effort into making the reenactments more bangs for the buck. The terrain is well suited for the defending force with plenty of hills and trees. A formidable creek divides the property. If the terrain wasn't a large enough advantage to the defender Tiny has augmented the landscape by building bunkers, dugouts and foxholes. At most events guys carry e-tools because that is what GI's are supposed to carry. Well at Tiny's you better not carry that pristine T-handle unless you want it to get scratched up. This is also an event where you definitely want plenty of blanks. You will have the opportunity to expend them. Having two bandoleers is a necessity. And when the firing is over you better have your appetite ready. This is one event where you won't go away hungry. There is always a big feast after the event.

There were about 75 guys total for this event. And on Saturday morning the Allies were organized into tactical units. They were divided into the Airborne, leg infantry comprised by the 30th and 29th guys,

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and the British with approximately 12-15 guys representing each force. There were also about 5 French Partisans and one representative of the British or Irish Navy (what are these guys thinking????) HROV also has an event in the fall that we hope to attend. More information on this event will be forth coming. If interested let someone on the tactical committee know. We hope to see you there.

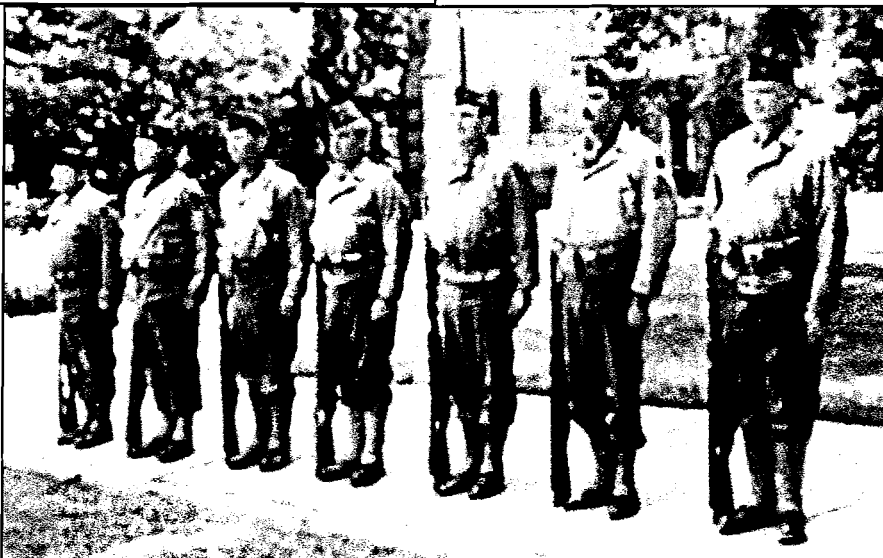
Memorial Day Service Honors Veteran's of 30th ID

Members of the OHA conducted a Memorial Day Service honoring the Veteran's of the 30th

ID from both W.W.I and WWII. The service was held on the Old State Capital Grounds in Raleigh, at the Old Hickory Highway Monument. After a short speech about the history of the 30th to a crowd of several hundred people by Mark Burfete, Buster Simmons, Chaplain of the 30th ID Association placed a wreath presented by the OHA at the Monument. A firing party composed of, members of the OHA then fired a salute, followed by the playing a Taps by guest bugler, Dan Farinella.



Above: B.uster escorted by FJ Hale places the wreath. Right: The Color Guard stands ready. Below: Members of the firing party following the ceremony. Left: Bugler Dan Farinella plays Taps.



The Saga of the Italian Campaign Reenactment-Hurt, VA.
 Pvt. Sowinski Goes to War With His Idol Sgt. Shupe.
 And...How Do You Protect Your Squad From A Grenade Magnet?



PVT. SOWINSKI IS GOING TO BATTLE WITH HIS IDOL...



DON SHUPE...THE LEGEND OF THE 30th DIV.



SGT. SHUPE SPOTS A TARGET AND GIVES ORDERS...



SKI...GET TO THAT TANK AND GIVE COVER TO THE SQUAD...



...WHAT THE HEY...



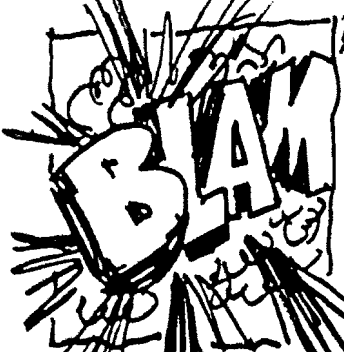
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY???



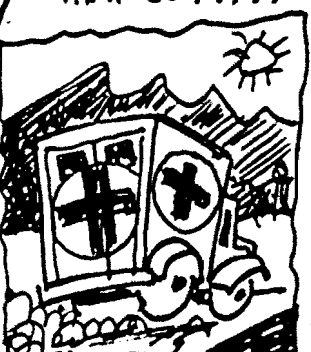
SKI...UPON THE RIDGE...COVER OUR FLANK!



OH OH... NOT AGAIN!...



BOY... DOES HE EVER ATTRACT GRENADES!



MEAT WAGON ONE MORE TIME!



HEY SARGE... IS SKI DOIN' O.K.?



HE'S OK - NOW... I RECOMMENDED HIM FOR OCS!

ROAD TRIP! By Mark Burfete

How would you like to take a few days off from the "old grind" and hit the road with no other objective than to see military museums, W.W.II living history events, militaria vendors, and junk stores? Well, that is exactly what Don Shupe and I did from June 5 through June 8. And, except for the money spent at the flea markets, we did it cheap!

How so, you ask? Like this: We left early Wednesday morning 5 June and traveled to the Marine Corps Air - Ground Museum at Quantico, VA. We took Don's pick with him driving and me in my usual misguided navigator role. We got to Quantico to find the base open, but security increased by a maze of concrete barriers at the guardhouse.

After asking to see some ID, the guard allowed us to drive into the base to the museum. The Donster had been there before, so he got us to the museum area without a hitch.

For those who haven't been there, this museum is a series of three buildings housing vehicles, aircraft, weapons, commo gear, and all manner of uniforms and equipment used by Marines from ancient times to Desert Storm. The building housing the oldest artifacts was closed for renovations, but the other two buildings were replete with W.W.II and Korean War paraphernalia, from Amtraks to torpedo bombers, all in exquisite condition. You can get close up to the displays, and the explanatory signs are excellent.

We then got back on the road and didn't stop (well, we had to stop a couple of times for a "haircut"—you know what I mean) until we reached New York's Hudson Valley. Here we crashed at Don's parents' place in Fishkill NY, just across the river from the United States Military Academy at West Point. Even before we got to West Point, I was awestruck by the beauty of this part of the country. If you've seen pictures of the Hudson Valley you can imagine what it is like in person.

It was rainy and cold on Thursday morning when we drove with Don's old re-enactment buddy and fellow militaria nut Paul to Highland Falls to see the West Point Museum. Now I am not really going to be

able to explain this place and do it justice. Suffice to say that it is extensive. There are displays and dioramas from Roman times through the present. Excellent exhibits dealing with W.W.II abound: Vinegar Joe Stilwell's campaign hat and service shoes, MacArthur's cadet bathrobe, Patton's Cadet jacket, to name just a few. If you really took the three to four hours you need to really read everything, you would come away with a very complete overview of military history.

The museum, which lies outside the main gate to the campus, is also the point at which you arrange for a bus tour of the Academy. This is the only way to get in nowadays, as security measures now prevent you from taking your own driving tour. You even have to pass through a check by an MP before boarding the bus.

The campus is everything you imagined. The imposing stone building cling to the mountainside overlooking the Hudson. We were only able to disembark to see the Chapel, the "Plain" (famous parade ground), and Trophy Point. This was OK because the weather was raw. The solemnity of the place was broken only by "Beat Navy" and "Beat Air Force" painted everywhere.

That evening (Thursday night) we went over to Paul's place to first check out the jeep he is restoring and to drool over the hundreds of pieces of W.W.II ordnance he has pulled from some junk yard. We then retired to his house to look at other items in his extensive collection.

The next morning we went by Don's friend Ray's place for Don to pick up some kind of stand thing (*RL-31C*, - ed.) for field wire and a wheel and tire for his 1-ton army trailer. This guy didn't just have extra tires, he had a half-track, a deuce, one ton trailer and a M-48 tank in his backyard! He is dangerously close to being an Anthony Dawkins clone!

After the tire pick up, we began the drive south to Reading, PA, for the now famous Reading World War II Weekend. The weather was just starting to clear up from two days of wind and rain. Friday was the opening day, so the crowd was not too bad. By the acres of land reserved for parking, we could tell that this show gets a huge

crowd on Saturday.

When we got there a convoy of about thirty W.W.II vehicles was pulling out for a motor march through downtown Reading. We later learned that the German re-enactors staged an ambush of the Allied column right in downtown Reading!

Now I lived in Reading for many years and one of the last things I would do downtown is to fire a gun, even if they were only shooting blanks. My fear would be the tremendous counterfire that would ensue from the local populace!

Well, no one got hurt, and it was a big success, we heard.

The show itself combines W.W.II aircraft fly-ins and fly-overs, activities for and by W.W.II veterans, loads of military vehicles, homefront displays, and massive collections of W.W.II equipment. Oh yeah, there is a flea market there, too.

There were several living history setups including a flight ops center, the MASH unit that most of you have heard of, and a jungle headquarters camp. The latter was set up by our friends in the 30th Div. Re-enactment from central Pennsylvania, whom we met at Fort Indiantown Gap this past January. For this show they do a 24th Infantry Division impression because the Pacific theater is somewhat under-represented overall. They had a large, highly organized and impressive camp scene, with bamboo, machine gun emplacements, field-rigged shower, and even a latrine (two seats, no waiting!). Since this is the biggest event they do other than the Battle of the Bulge at the Gap, they expected about 30 guys to participate.

We saw some other unusual things, such as a guy who had an extensive display of engineer gear, including every imaginable type of explosive. Also, there was a 18 ton M4 High Speed Tractor towing an 8-inch gun. The vehicle was marked as the 113th FA, 30th Div. Were we pleasantly surprised!

One comment about the displays we observed: it seemed that many were just guys that came out with their private collections of very nice military stuff, but most lacked a theme or, at least, any method of truly informing the public. It

was kind of like a lot of junk on the bunk, if you know what I mean.

The best was the MASH guys, of course. They inform the public by guiding them through their display and dramatizations. The other displays, Don and I agreed, needed some management of the viewers to get them involved and focus them on what you are trying to impart.

The guys doing the 24th ID jungle camp, although they had a great location with high foot traffic, probably could have benefited from more signage and prescribed scenario run several times throughout the day. (In all honesty, they might have done this later in the day or on Saturday, and we just didn't see it.)

I am not trying to be critical. It is more like thinking out loud about how we can make our living histories and displays better. We must guard against the tendency to just throw a bunch of equipment out and let people walk by it. We owe our veteran-heroes better than that.

Finally, the flea market. It is very focused on W.W.II, with plenty of everything: uniforms, original and repro; equipment; books and manuals; and forties-vintage civilian garb. No weapons or ammo. There was even a guy there selling repros of old-style squad pyramidal and command tents. At the Front and What Price Glory were there, but they didn't bring much merchandise. W.W.II Impressions was not there.

Overall, this show was worth attending, at least once. I believe we would have to think long and hard about doing anything as a unit at this affair, but, individually, it is a good experience.

This was especially true for me as Friday night we drove 25 minutes from Reading to Boyertown, PA, and spent that night with my parents.

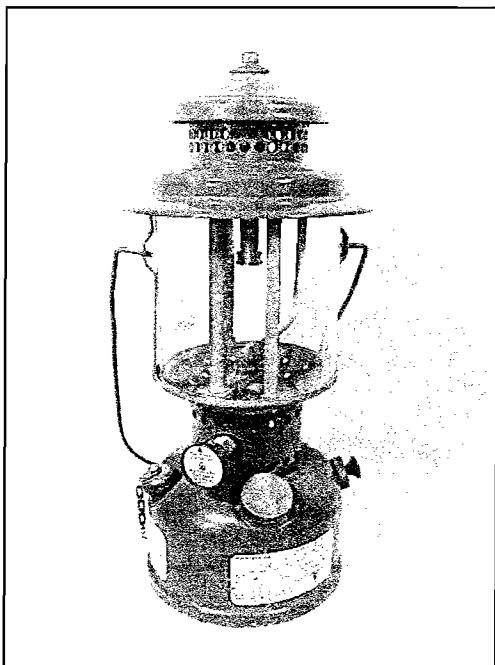
Saturday morning we rose early to turn a six-hour return trip to Raleigh into a 12-hour gauntlet of roadside flea markets, junk shops, and antique stores. We arrived home around 12:45 AM, tired and broke, but happy.

Man, now that's livin'!

Lights In the Field

Portable Field lanterns in WW2, Part I

When I first got started in doing World War 2 displays I assumed that if I used a modern military Coleman lantern it would be close enough. It was 8 years before I saw my first real World War 2 Coleman. (This was before the Internet became a major research vehicle.) While going through the flea market at the 50th Anniversary of D-Day reenactment at Fort Story, VA, I came upon an old beat up Coleman lantern. It had a tag describing it as WW2. At first I didn't believe it as it looked more like the lantern I used for camping than the milspec one I used for displays. Sure enough stamped on the bottom of the fuel tank was a big "U.S." and "1944". The color was the same as the commercial lanterns still being used today, not OD. I passed on that lantern as it was more than I was willing to pay for one in poor condition. I was also thinking I could just use my commercial lantern for display and be more correct than using a modern military one. Little did I know how correct I would be in that assumption.



Lantern, gasoline, 1945

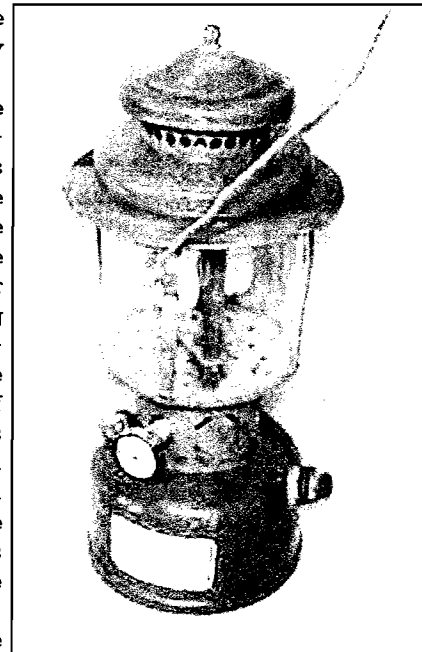
as, "Lantern, gasoline, two-mantle, commercial." In another TO&E for the Infantry Company, dated January, 1945, it had changed to, "Lantern, gasoline, leaded fuel." Now with the availability of the Internet for research I have found that at

This was just the beginning of my study into U.S. Army field lighting and there are still more mysteries I am trying to solve on this subject. Going through the Table of Organization and Equipment for the Infantry Company, February, 1944, I noted there was an item identified

the beginning of the war the U.S. Army was desperate for supplies and would just requisition commercial items. Using the Coleman lantern as an example, I haven't seen any before 1943 marked as U.S. However you begin to see some that have a date code of 1943 along with the manufacturer's trademark and a U.S. stamped in an open area of the fuel tank base. Lanterns made in 1944 and 1945 are marked on the base, "U.S. 194X Leaded Fuel". Apparently at first they just used commercial items, then they took the same commercial items and added a U.S. to it. Finally the item was made just for the Army and marked U.S. without the trademark. Interesting in its own right is the fact that the color of the lanterns never changed during the war. Significant changes were the addition of a spare parts well in the fuel tank and all lanterns I have seen marked as U.S. are single mantle.

Another example of this is the "Lantern, electric, portable, hand." According to the Feb. 44 TO&E, 2 of these lanterns were issued to each Infantry Company. But what was it? It wasn't a flashlight. That was designated as a "TL-122". In Jan 45 this item too had a name change to "Lantern, MX-290/GV". I discovered that the MX-290/GV was a military version of the Delta Powerlite. After finding several examples we see the same progression as the Coleman Lantern. The earlier examples have been painted green and a U.S. has been added next to the Delta trademark. The later model has no trademark and is marked:

Signal Corps U.S. Army
Lantern MX-290/GV
Delta Electric Company
Spare Lamps LM-202/U
Housed under Diffusing Dome
Use with battery BA-200/U



Early War two mantel
Lantern

There are two major differences between the

early and late war Delta Powerlites besides the markings. The bail and the lamp guard on the dome light of the early version are bare metal while on the late war version both of these are painted. The second difference is in the retainer for the searchlight. The early version has a clamp-type retainer that is tighten with a screw and nut. The later version simply rotates to a slot and is then removed. No parts to lose!

There are two other lanterns I am still trying to identify. One is in a photograph that is in each of the 30th Division 1941 Annuals. It shows an inspection of a Quartermaster supply tent. Hanging from a meat hook is a small lantern that appears to be battery powered. The closest I've seen to it is a small lantern by Gensey Electric Company with a patent date of 1926.

The second lantern I am trying to find information on appears in the TO&E for the Engineer Combat Battalion, 2 August 1944. The list of changes for this TO&E includes, "Lamp, electric, portable, command post". This item is in addition to the "Lantern, gasoline, leaded fuel", and the "lantern, electric, portable hand". If anyone has

information on either of these two, I would appreciate hearing from you. Next issue, Kerosene Lanterns in W.W.2.



*Delta Powerlite
MX-290/GV*



Above: Don Shupe explains the workings of an M1 mine.

Right: Mike Owens and Jim Higgins answer questions concerning a field inspection.

Some members of the OHA gladly sacrificed their 4th of July holiday to help America celebrate its birthday by presenting displays on July 4th at the Old Capital Grounds and on July 6th at the Historic Oak View Park, both in Raleigh. The heat was a killer on the 4th but we got a great crowd. An added plus was we were able to hook up two 120th vets who hadn't seen each other in years. Thanks to Ted and Todd Hogan, Mike Owens, Jim Higgins, Mark Burfete, Walt Sowinski, Clint Yarbrough, FJ Hale, Chuck Eatmon, and Don Shupe.



Marketplace

For sale. W.W.II Dodge WC-63,6X6 with winch. Was a great running truck, but after owners death sat for years will need a complete restoration. If you can work with wood, should be a good project. This truck is very complete. \$3500.00

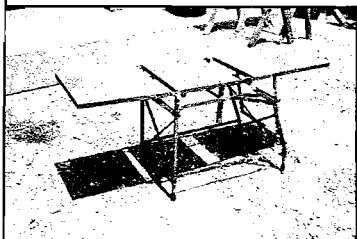
M-101 3/4 trailer, has all the racks, top bows, and canvas. Very good shape, good tires, and the spare tire carrier. \$800.00

M100, jeep trailer, USN, \$550
Call Frank at 252-223-3437.

For Sale: World War II folding field operating table. No date but it matches pictures in the Medical Supply Catalog. Very few medical items were marked during the war. \$100. See pictures below.

Norwegian M1943 Field Jacket. Excellent reenactment jacket. Looks just like the U.S. 43 jacket except for the color of the buttons and lining. U.S. size 42. \$40

Call Don (919) 467-3119



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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.

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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: WWIIIMPRESSIONS@MSN.COM

For Sale: Old Hickory Patches

We still have original Thirtieth patches. We are selling them at \$5.00 a piece with a limit of two per member. There will be a \$1.00 shipping fee if you want them mailed to you. Contact Brett Bondurant at (919)431-0984 or bbondo@bellsouth.net.

Coming Events

August 10, 2002

W.W.II Public Battle

Pigeon Forge, TN

www.mypigeonforge.com/celebrate_freedom.asp

October 11/13, 2002

Butner Shoot

October 16/20, 2002

56th National Reunion

Myrtle Beach, SC

November 8/10

Celebrate Freedom

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.

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