



TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION.
3050 HARCROSS ROAD.....REDWOOD CITY, CALIFORNIA.....94062

Copy from the University of Tennessee State College

WINTER 1987

TDA MAIL LIST EDITION...3,500 MAILINGS

NEWSLETTER NO. 2

HONORING "MEN OF STEEL"

S. J. Res. 43

Ninety-ninth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Began and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday, the twenty-first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six

Joint Resolution

Authorizing establishment of a memorial to honor the American Armored Force.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF MEMORIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c), the organizations specified in subsection (b) are authorized jointly to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia or its environs to honor members of the American Armored Force who have served in armored units. The memorial shall commemorate the exceptional professionalism of the members of the American Armored Force and their efforts to maintain peace worldwide.

(b) ORGANIZATIONS.—The organizations referred to in subsection (a) are: the Armored Force Monument Committee, the United States Armor Association, the United States Field Artillery Association, the World Wars Tank Corps Association, the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Association, the Tank Destroyer Association, the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, and 16th Armored Division Associations, the Council of Armored Division Associations, and the National Association of Uniformed Services.

(c) STANDARDS.—The memorial shall be established in accordance with the standards set forth in H.R. 4378, as passed by the Senate with amendments on September 10, 1986, and further amended by the House of Representatives on September 29, 1986, except that section 6(b)(1) of H.R. 4378 shall not apply to the memorial.

SEC. 2. PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.

The United States shall not pay any expense of establishment of the memorial.

Thomas S. Omniff
Speaker of the House of Representatives

Strom Thurmond

Walter F. Rife
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate

APPROVED

NOV - 6 1986

Ronald Reagan



MONUMENT COMMITTEE • P.O. BOX 1148 • FORT BELER, VA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are pleased to dedicate this issue of the Tank Destroyer Newsletter to those soldiers who served their country as a part of the TANK DESTROYER FORCES of the United States Army! The Tank Destroyer Soldier served as an individual and as a member of the ARMORED FORCES of the United States. The Tank Destroyer veteran and his family can be equally proud of those who developed the U.S. Army Tank Destroyer Doctrine of "SEEK-STRIKE-DESTROY" which they carried on to the world's battlefields during World War II. The aggressive spirit of the individual and the Tank Destroyer Battalion saw the need for special vehicles and firepower developed as the tool and weapon to outmatch the enemy.

The late months of 1986 saw the Tank Destroyer Forces join in the prominence of those of the Armored Forces of the United States who have offered more than Seventy Years of hard and aggressive service to their country. Our five years of service, 1941 - 1946, left a history of an organizational existence which will be memorialized at a place of honor in our Nation's Capital within the next five years!

And, who did it? YOU DID! You, and your fellow Tank Destroyer Force soldiers who so proudly served!

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU... "MEN OF STEEL"



The President Pro Tempore
UNITED STATES SENATE
December 18, 1986

STROM THURMOND
SOUTH CAROLINA

ARMORED FORCE
MONUMENT COMMITTEE • P.O. BOX 1146 • FORT MYER, VA. 22211

Colonel G. Atkinson
VF TD Association
12029 Sugarland Valley Drive
Herndon, Virginia 22070

Dear Colonel Atkinson:

It is a pleasure for me to enclose Senate Joint Resolution 43, which was approved by Congress and signed into law by the President on November 6, 1986, authorizing the establishment of a memorial in the Nation's Capitol area to honor the American Armored Force. Your support contributed to the success of our efforts in Congress for this worthy cause. As a memento of this concerted effort, I thought you would like to have a copy of this significant document.

On behalf of Congressman Floyd Spence, Congresswoman Mary Rose Oaker and other Members of Congress, I extend congratulations to the members of the American Armored Force, who contributed immeasurably to the success of our Armed Forces in the past four years. It is indeed proper and important that we establish a memorial to honor those who made the supreme sacrifice for our country.

With kindest regards and Greetings of the Season,

Sincerely,

Strom Thurmond
Strom Thurmond

ST/uj
Enclosure



THE ARMORED FORCE MONUMENT COMMITTEE

cordially invites you and your spouse (if possible)

to attend a Reception on

THURSDAY - 18 DECEMBER 1986 - from 4 to 6 pm

at the

THE RESERVE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HQ BLDG. (Capitol Hill)

HONORING

Senator Strom Thurmond
Rep. Floyd Spence
Rep. Mary Rose Oaker

Senators James A. McClure
Rep. Frank Annunzio
Rep. G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery

Senators Malcom Wallop
Rep. Bill Frenzel
Rep. Peter W. Rodino

for their LEADERSHIP

In gaining Congressional approval of SJR 43 (HJR 167) — a Bill authorizing a monument in the Nation's Capitol Area as a tribute to those "Men of Steel" of the AMERICAN ARMORED FORCE



TANK CORPS—1918

TANK DESTROYER FORCES—1943



A.W.O.L.'s

A TD'er is looking for a long-lost buddy. Won't you help him in his search? Look through your local telephone directory. If you find a potential subject, verify it by a phone call and if successful please notify us at TDA Hqs. Thanks to your help, we have been successful in locating quite a few friends and fellow TDers!.....
THIS LISTING IS DEVELOPED FROM YOUR INQUIRIES TO US BY LETTERS OR FROM YOUR NAMESEARCH REQUESTS.

CLARK, George C. (Capt.-627th)
CLOUGH, Phillip (No unit)
CLOUTIER, Robert E. (Sgt.)
GEARON, Robert J. (633rd)
GOLDSCHLAGER, Murray (No unit)
HIGDON, Charles (No unit)
HOLLAND, James (No unit)
HUTCHENS, William (-C-652nd)
LAWLWER, John R. (Lt.-627th)
MARTIN, Arthur W. (Sgt.-644th)
MILLER, Harold [Duke] (811th)
NIMCHEK, Stanley (671st)
FEART, William (No unit)
MORGAN, Ralph (811th)
STOLTZ, Frank F. (Lt-610th)

REUNIONS

Thanks to one and all for your individual effort advising us of the following listings of our Tank Destroyer Battalion reunions!

We specially want to thank G. R. GAMBLE 666th & 827th T.D. Bns. for his personal effort advising our office of the following listings!

601 May 14-19, 1987 Marriott-Greentree Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA
CONTACT: J.H. Barnes 134 Springrove Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15205
605 Sept 5-7, 1987 Riverside Park, Findlev, OH CONTACT: Lawrence N. Montgomery 120 E. 1st Ave. Plainwell, Mich 49085 (616)685-3739
608 May 1, 1987, Fremont OH CONTACT: Bernard Haas, 719 H. H. St. Fremont, OH. 43420
608 Sept. 11-11, 1987, Host Hotel, Lancaster, PA. CONTACT: Harry Rapp, 317 W. Pine St. Lancaster, PA 17403
609 Sept 17-19, 1987 Brunswick Motor Inn Lancaster, PA CONTACT: George O. Fuhke 3260 Oakford Rd. Treviso, PA 19047
610-"A" Co. Oct. 1988, Louisville, KY. CONTACT: Elmer K. Steig 1404 Haskin Ave. Louisville, KY 40215
612 July 30-Aug 2, 1987 Air Fort Hilton, Nashville, TN CONTACT: Jack Flanagan 139 St. Andrews Rd. Severna Park, MD 21146

625 Oct 21-24, 1987 Myrtle Beach SC CONTACT: Louis Cellentano 400 Blat Chey Ave New Haven, Conn 06513 (203) 776-1907
626 Sept. 11th, 1987 Non Com's Club Hanscom A F Base, Bedford, MA 01731 @ 7:00 p.m. CONTACT: Fred White 18 Spring Park Ave. Jamaica Plain MA 02130. (617)522-9048
627 May 25, 1987, Lodge on Green Painted Post, NY CONTACT: George Lucas, 151 Zettel St., Buffalo, 14210
632-CD. A May 1987 Williamsburg, VA CONTACT: Anthony Kubiak, 215 Grant St. Cape May, NJ 08204 96090 884-7894
636 Aug 9-10, 1987. Auburn, NE CONTACT: L. Collins, Rt. 1. Auburn, NE 68505
638 JULY 25-26, 1987, Anderson, IN CONTACT: Robert Palmer, 1923 Beverly Ct. Anderson, IN 46011 (317)643-6457
643 Oct. 9-10, 1987 Providence, RI CONTACT: Royal J. Little 132 Hishnock Rd W. Greenwich, RI 02816 (401) 397-9873
645 May 8-9, 1987 Marriott Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK CONTACT: Zane Ambrose, 4325 Curson, Ft. Worth, TX 76107 (817) 738-3733
648 Aug. 1987 Minneapolis, MN CONTACT: Melvin Colby, Box 209, Excelsior, MN 55331 (612)474-5393
648 Sept. 1988 Lake George, NY CONTACT: Jack Sonntag, 3 Fettle St. Norwalk, CN 06850
648 Aug. 1989 Claremont Hotel, Dalland, CA. CONTACT: Bill Adams, 16 Del Rio Ct., St. Helena, CA 94574

Copy from the University of Tennessee Special Collections Library

More REUNIONS (from Pg.2)

Copy from the University of Tennessee Special Collections Library

656 & 771 Aug 7-9, 1987
 Pittsburgh, PA CONTACT: R A Walter
 267A Akron Wadsworth Rd.
 Barberton, Ohio 44203
 661 Apr. 30-May 3, 1987
 Charlottesville, VA Best Western
 Mount Vernon Hotel CONTACT:
 William R. Beswick POBox 576
 West Point, VA 23181
 691 Sept 18-19, 1987 Norfolk, VA
 CONTACT: Glen Linton, Rt #1, Box 6
 Paint Bank, VA 24131
 702-Co. B June 1987 Cave City,
 KY CONTACT: James Ridenhour, Box
 422 Cooleemee, NC 27014
 (704)284-2244
 702-Co. C Aug 13-15, 1987
 Meadow Court Hotel, Ithaca, NY
 CONTACT: Dick & Betty Sage
 306 Chestnut St. Ithaca, NY 14850
 Res (607)272-8748/Bus (607)272-3143
 704 Sept. 1987 Pittsburgh, PA
 CONTACT: Rod Torbich 166 Linmar,
 Aliquippa, PA 15001 (412)375-5234
 705 June 1987 Louisville, Ky
 CONTACT: Paul Yeomans, 1674
 University Parkway, Sarasota,
 FL 34243
 749 June 1987 Kingston, NY
 CONTACT: James Lee RFD Box 448
 Kingston, NY 12401
 749 Sept 1987 Lincoln
 City, OR. CONTACT: John Carlson
 E.749 Wabash, Spokane, WA
 99207
 756 June 1987 Kingston, NY
 CONTACT: Charles Harris
 628 S. Schodock, Schodock Ldg.
 NY 12156

756 Sept 1987 Lincoln
 City, OR. CONTACT: Walter
 Venema POBox 33179 Seattle, WA
 98133
 ****Please note we received
 two listings for the
 756th's 1987 dates!
 771 See listing with 656th;
 a joint reunion! If you miss
 that reunion then see below!
 771 Sept 18-20, 1987 Brown's
 Hotel, Loch Sneldrake, NY
 CONTACT: Joseph Klein 5 Cres-
 cent View, Rock Hill, NY 12775
 (914)796-3508
 773 Sept. 26-28, 1988 Reno, NV
 Holiday Inn. Details to follow.
 774 Oct 6-8, 1987 Savannah,
 GA CONTACT: Bill Hart 932 Key
 West Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15239
 801 Oct. 1987, Albany, NY
 CONTACT: Albert Weir, 10 Crest-
 haven Ave., Albany, NY. 12205
 802 May 1-3, 1987, Virginia
 Beach, VA CONTACT: Tom McCutchen
 428 White Rd. Mineola, NY. 11501
 (516) 747-4599
 803 "Recon" May 11-12, 1987
 Red Coach Inn, I-35 & W. Crawford
 Salena, PA. 67401 CONTACT: Walter
 George, 3671 So. Osage, Independ-
 ence, MO 64055
 803 May 19-21, 1987, Holiday
 Hotel, Reno, NV CONTACT: Louis
 Frinchi, 5315 - 104th St. SW
 Tacoma, WA 90499 (206)854-1169
 805 Sept 1987 Lancaster, PA
 CONTACT: Willard C. Hunt POBox
 452, Danville, Ky 40422

807 July 2-4 '87 Asheville, NC
 CONTACT: Walter T. Ellum Rte 12
 Box 429 Salisbury NC 28144
 (707) 636-4651
 808 Sept. 23-26, 1987 New Tower
 Inn, Omaha, Neb. CONTACT: Al
 (Swede) Schlueter, 7137 S 56th
 Omaha, Neb. 68105
 811 Aug. 7-9, 1987 Richmond, Ind.
 CONTACT: Virgil M. Murphy 3657
 Brown Rd. Oxford, OH 45055
 813 "C Co." Labor Day, 1987
 CONTACT: Frank Reese, 4201 Crest-
 field Rd. Knoxville, TN 37421
 814 June 27-28, 1987, Savannah,
 MO. CONTACT: Robert DeKoo, Box
 Springfield, MO 65762 (505)369-2444
 817 June 5-7, 1987 Holiday Inn
 Niagra Falls El., Buffalo, NY
 CONTACT: William Sobczyk, 503
 Park Ave., Dunfink, NY 14048
 (716) 366-8198
 818 Aug. 13-15, 1987, Lubbock,
 CONTACT: Joe Raycroft, PO Box 167
 Lubbock, TX 79408 (806) 832-4504
 820 Oct. 1-4, 1987 Portland, OR
 CONTACT: Harold Lutz, 490 10th
 Lake Oswego, OR 97034
 822 Sept 17-19 1987 Lee Apts, 11
 CONTACT: Joe Tricomi, 319 Millers-
 ROAD Niles, OH 44446
 823 Sept. 1987 Washington
 CONTACT: T.L. Ramey, Box 177,
 Fairfax Sta VA 22039 (703)778-9100
 893 Sept. 10-17, 1987 Hazleton, A
 CONTACT: Michael Swirble, 290
 N. Wyoming St. Hazleton, PA 18201
 (717) 453-0277

TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION SERVICE AND SUPPLIES...CONTRIBUTION AND ORDER INFORMATION FORM

SKETCHES: 11" x 14" pen and ink sketches of our faml Destroyer Vehicles and Towed "3" gun; suitable for framing! They are identified and marked with our "LD Logo and reproduced since we started the TDA. We offer them as a set of five (5) with a 6th sketch of a M-10 with the tube in travel position as a bonus! Shipping in a good container at a cost of \$2.50-you will enjoy them either individually or as a set!

SEARCHES: Looking for a long-lost buddy or fellow IDer? Send \$1.00 for a current address. If we do not have that reference we will ask for information in our ANOL column! Let's hear from you!

DECALS: Two decals form this set; a big 3" diameter ID PATCH in four colors and the second as a two line 1" high block letters "TANK DESTROYERS WW II". They look great! Put them on the rear window of your auto; you will be pleased how many of your fellow IDers will find you!

All orders must be made on the Order Form below. If you do not wish to cut up your Newsletter you may type or copy the form in your own hand writing.

NO.	DESTROYER UNIT	PRICE	TOTAL	HOW TO ORDER: Please print. Mail with check or money order		
.....	75mm GMC M3	\$10.00	.....	To: 3050 Harcross Road, Redwood City, California 94062-2321		
.....	3in GMC M10	\$10.00	.....	(Last Name) (First Name) (Unit)		
.....	76mm GMC M18	\$10.00	.....	(Street Address or PO Box) (City) (State & Zip)		
.....	90mm GMC M36	\$10.00	.....	Yes, I want to continue receiving the Tank Destroyer Newsletter.		
.....	3in Towed	\$10.00	.....	Here is my VOLUNTARY tax-deductible contribution of		
.....	Set of all o	\$48.00	.....	\$_____	
Packaging & shipping (on prints only) \$ 2.50				Have you included your UNIT number?		
INDIVIDUAL SEARCH \$ 1.00				.....	
(Name-Rank-Unit) \$ 1.00				.....	
(Name-Rank-Unit) \$ 1.00				.....	
TD Decals \$ 2.50				.....	
UNIT # _____ ROSTER \$ 10.00				GRAND TOTAL OF ORDER \$ _____		

PATTON MUSEUM OF CAVALRY AND ARMOR



COLLECTION POLICY STATEMENT

31 MAY 1985

1. Acquisitions. The Patton Museum serves as installation property account for all historically significant items owned by Department of the Army at the U.S. Army Armor Center and School. All such items will be considered part of the museum collection. The Patton Museum seeks historically significant items that help fulfill the museum mission. There are three means whereby the museum acquires objects:

a. Transfers. Transfers from other museums and federal agencies. These items are already property of the federal government. They are transferred to the museum for preservation and to fulfill the museum mission.

b. Purchases. The museum only purchases items that cannot be acquired through transfer or donation.

c. Donations. The primary source for new acquisitions is donations from private individuals and groups. Donations to the museum are unconditional and irrevocable. The museum reserves the right to use donated objects at its discretion to accomplish the mission. Since the museum and the museum staff are "interested parties" to any donation, the museum will not provide appraisals for objects donated to the museum. (Donors requiring appraisals for tax purposes must obtain these at their own expense from a qualified appraiser.)

2. Type of Objects Collected. a. Specialized Armor and Mechanized Cavalry Equipment of all nations from World War I to present. One example of each type that was developed for Armor or Mechanized Cavalry will be collected, maintained, and preserved as the U.S. Army's example of that item. Additional examples will be collected for demonstration or exhibit purposes as specific needs develop.

b. General Military Equipment of all nations from World War I to present. Only such items of military equipment which were used with Armor and Mechanized Cavalry equipment will be collected. The quantity of each item will be limited to the number necessary to complete the specialized equipment in the collection. Only objects that had the widest use will be collected. Special variants will not be collected.

c. United States Horse Cavalry from 1775 to 1941. As an introduction to Cavalry and Armor of the 20th Century, the museum exhibits items that provide a background. Only such items as required to provide a historical introduction to Mechanized Cavalry will be collected. Generally, these items will be

collected for a specific exhibit or instructional class. Items collected will be those that had the widest use. Special purpose items or those associated with a personality will not be collected.

d. Association Items. Items that have a special association to one of the following will be collected regardless of the designed use. Each item must be identifiable as having a strong association to:

- (1) Fort Knox area from 1918 to present.
(2) General George S. Patton, Jr.

(3) Other Armor personalities that are both deceased and recorded U.S. Army Center of Military History historical publications for notable Armor or Mechanized Cavalry actions.

e. Library Material. The museum seeks books, manuals, papers, other documents, photographs, slides, films, and other audiovisual materials that provide information on the above categories whether historically significant or not. Personal papers will be limited to those subjects that provide background information of donor and those subjects that provide information on items classified in the above categories. Historically significant items will be accessioned part of the museum collection. Those items that are not historically significant will be accessioned as part of the library. If they are part of the library, accountability will be in accordance with library regulations.

f. Art. Objects created for aesthetic purpose whether paintings, sculpture or other media that are one of a kind or one of a limited series, under the direct control of the artist, are sought. The museum seeks only those objects that depict the role of Armor or Mechanized Cavalry from World War I to present. Athletic trophies, mementos, prizes and unit awards are of transitory significance. They will not be accepted into the museum collection.

3. Honor Recognition. In recognition of the contribution of the donors of objects, the museum will provide letters and certificates of donation. Records of donor information will be retained in the donor file. Donor labels will not be placed on items on exhibit.

4. Loans to the Museum. Loans will be accepted only for specific exhibits or instructional classes. They will be retained by the museum only for the duration of the exhibit or class. The period of the loan will be for one year or less and may be renewed for an aggregate of two years. Loans for a greater period will be submitted, through channels, to the Secretary of the Army in accordance with AR 1-100 for approval.

5. Loans from the Museum. The museum will make loans of objects in the collection to agencies for projects that are consistent with the general goals and

POST OFFICE BOX 386 FT. KNOX, KY. 40121 Phone (502) 634-3412



MEMBER: U.S. Army Museum System; American Association of Museums; American Association for State & Local History; and International Association of Arms and Military History.

ACCESSION NO. Page 1 of 1



POST OFFICE BOX 386 FT. KNOX, KY. 40121 Phone (502) 634-3412

UNCONDITIONAL DONATION TO THE UNITED STATES ARMY

purpose of the museum. Consideration of the individual objects will be determined by the nature of use, security and environmental controls provided by the agency. The museum reserves the right to cancel the loan and recall the objects.

6. Deaccessions. All items in the museum's collection are the property of the U.S. Army. None will be sold or traded or given to any agency outside the control of the Chief of Military History without his approval. Historical properties in the collection that, for reason of duplication or unsuitability to the museum's mission, are considered excess to the museum's needs will be offered to the following agencies in order of priority:

- a. Other U.S. Army Museums.
b. Other Department of Defense or Federal Museums.
c. Museums or other nonprofit institutions in accordance with Chapter X, DoD 4160.21-M.
d. Department of Defense Property Disposal Agency.

Documentation of all deaccessioned objects will be retained in the museum's property records.

Signature of John H. Getgood, Colonel, GS, Director of Plans and Training

Enclosure Sample of ATZK-DFT Form 638, "Unconditional Donation to the United States Army"

Item No. Description

SAMPLE (Large diagonal stamp)

I own the items described below, and have full legal authority to dispose of them. I desire to give unconditionally the described property to the United States Army. I understand that... Curator of the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor, located at Fort Knox, County of Hardin, State of Kentucky will accept the unconditional gift on behalf of the United States Army. To carry out my purpose, I do hereby give and deliver to the United States Army, the property described as follows:

It is distinctly understood that it is my purpose and intention to vest all the incidents of absolute ownership of the property in the United States Army from this time forward. Dated: 19__ Signature of Donor

The above items have been accepted as an unconditional donation to the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor. Dated: 19__ CURATOR

Copy from the University of Tennessee Special Collections Library

 My husband was a TD driver with the B13th during WWII. He died on Dec. 26, 1985. We got your paper about what was going on in his old outfit. He told me that he only saw a few familiar names of some of his old comrades in it. I would be willing to send some of his personal effects from his army days to the TDA museum collection. MRS. RAY TOREK (813) 900 Portsmouth Dr. Apt. B, Elkhart, IN 46517



 Herb died in 1980, suddenly, but I have always enjoyed the TD newsletter. Naturally Herb shared a lot of stories and was always so proud to have been associated with the TD unit. I only have one patch left on Herb's jacket. Herb always considered going to a reunion but he waited too long. MRS. HERBERT E. HESS (607) Rt. 1 Box 60, Wallace, WV 26448

 I'm a member of 'C' Co. 805th TD Bn. 'C' Co. has held a reunion every year since 1946. We get a turnout of 60 to 70 members every year. Can you top this? ROBERT RAGER (805) RD 4 Box 423863, Blairsville, PA 15717

 My deepest appreciation for the guidance and direction for the recognition of our short lived corps. We take no back seat in the accomplishments of our deeds or in our efforts. JAMES M. SCHOPPE (609) Normandy Vlg. #11A3, Nanuet, NY 10954

 I have noted the recent article regarding the "Armored Force" monument that is being planned for location in Arlington Cenetery. I would appreciate your consideration in including the "Amphibious Tractor Battalions" that were converted from Tank Destroyer Battalions. We were originally designated Armored Infantry and later changed to Armored Branch. You may be well aware of their contribution to the initial assault landings of the Pacific Islands. They were not just troop carrying vehicles as they initiated both infantry support and tactics. Our 672nd Battalion was instrumental in the battle at Manila along with the rescue of prisoners held at Los Banos. This was a coordinated effort with the 11th Airborne. Our tank destroyer training at Camp Hood enabled us to be a coordinated unit with aggressive tactics. Thank you for your consideration in including the Am Tracs. EDWIN J. PINIGIS (672) 111 Middleboro Pl., Lynchburg, VA 24502

 I served with the 632nd TD Bn. in the South West Pacific and in the Philippine Islands on the Leyte and Mindoro Islands. Never did make it to Luzon with the rest of my battalion because I ended up in an army hospital on Christmas Day 1944 and have been confined to a wheelchair ever since as a quadraplegic. This past year 1985, I took a trip to Killeen, TX to see Fort Hood, enjoyed going through the base. Spent 2 days there going through the museums and other armoured displays. I never was stationed there for training because the 632nd shipped out for the Pacific in April of 1942 before Fort Hood was opened. We started out with 37mm anti-tank guns and then got our M10's while we were in Australia just before we were shipped to New Guinea. Not much room to maneuver an M10 in the jungle but it was a damn good vehicle. GEORGE RATKOVITCH (632) 117 E. Sherwood Rd., Alvin, TX 77511

 Finally have time to do what I want. Have been the secretary and manager of a fraternal lodge the past year. Worked seven days a week, 16-18 hours a day without pay or compensation to help them. Was only supposed to be for 90 days. Finally have a replacement and he is in the chair. Lodge has three bars, lounge, full kitchen and 1,500+ members. Odd that I can do all that for nothing, yet the VA, Army and Dept. of Economic Sec say I am not rehabilitatable or employable! The TD reunions are the high point in my year. A wonderful group of men and their wives. R. W. COOPER (805) 9242 E. 30th St., Tucson, AZ 85710

 My name is Bob Abell and I live over in Marin County. I saw your address in my copy of Council on America's Military Past. After getting through OCS in early 1943, I was a member of the 650th TD Bn. at Camp Hood, Camp Bowie and Louisiana maneuvers. The 650th was changed into a Field Artillery outfit when they were no longer needed in Europe and I had to go back to Ft. Benning to rejoin the Infantry and then off to the South Pacific. The best years, the most fun and the best friends were the years in the 650th. I would be interested in getting together with the TDA group. ROBERT ABELL (650) 376 Los Cerros Dr., Greenbrae, CA 94904

 The 671st was activated at Camp Hood and while we were there we held the firing range record for accuracy. I don't remember whether we had M10's or M18's. From there we marched 28 miles north to activate Camp Hood. From there we shipped to Camp Swift for a short time. While there we won the camp basketball tournament by beating the camp MP team. I only remember one member of our team and he was the coach, a Sgt. McIntyre from somewhere in MA. From Camp Swift we were shipped to Fort Knox, KY for a couple of months before going to a camp outside of Seattle, WA for embarkation to Hawaii. Having spent about 5 months in Hawaii we then shipped to the Island of Leyte in the Philippines. We were attached to the 9th Corps along with the 77th Div., 81st Div. and the 98th Div. While there, the U.S. dropped the A-bomb on Japan and Japan surrendered. Our battalion was shipped to Manila where some went one way and some went another. For myself, I re-enlisted for one year and spent most of that time in California. I am proud to have served my country in the Tank Destroyers. RAYMOND BELL (671) 11368 93rd St. N., Largo, FL 33543

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 HAVE YOU MOVED? BE SURE TO SEND YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS
 This Newsletter is sent to you by bulk mail. If you move it will NOT be forwarded. Be sure to send us a Change of Address card.

 Finally have time to do what I want. Have been the secretary and manager of a fraternal lodge the past year. Worked seven days a week, 16-18 hours a day without pay or compensation to help them. Was only supposed to be for 90 days. Finally have a replacement and he is in the chair. Lodge has three bars, lounge, full kitchen and 1,500+ members. Odd that I can do all that for nothing, yet the VA, Army and Dept. of Economic Sec say I am not rehabilitatable or employable! The TD reunions are the high point in my year. A wonderful group of men and their wives. R. W. COOPER (805) 9242 E. 30th St., Tucson, AZ 85710

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 The 671st was activated at Camp Hood and while we were there we held the firing range record for accuracy. I don't remember whether we had M10's or M18's. From there we marched 28 miles north to activate Camp Hood. From there we shipped to Camp Swift for a short time. While there we won the camp basketball tournament by beating the camp MP team. I only remember one member of our team and he was the coach, a Sgt. McIntyre from somewhere in MA. From Camp Swift we were shipped to Fort Knox, KY for a couple of months before going to a camp outside of Seattle, WA for embarkation to Hawaii. Having spent about 5 months in Hawaii we then shipped to the Island of Leyte in the Philippines. We were attached to the 9th Corps along with the 77th Div., 81st Div. and the 98th Div. While there, the U.S. dropped the A-bomb on Japan and Japan surrendered. Our battalion was shipped to Manila where some went one way and some went another. For myself, I re-enlisted for one year and spent most of that time in California. I am proud to have served my country in the Tank Destroyers. RAYMOND BELL (671) 11368 93rd St. N., Largo, FL 33543

 I served with the 632nd TD Bn. in the South West Pacific and in the Philippine Islands on the Leyte and Mindoro Islands. Never did make it to Luzon with the rest of my battalion because I ended up in an army hospital on Christmas Day 1944 and have been confined to a wheelchair ever since as a quadraplegic. This past year 1985, I took a trip to Killeen, TX to see Fort Hood, enjoyed going through the base. Spent 2 days there going through the museums and other armoured displays. I never was stationed there for training because the 632nd shipped out for the Pacific in April of 1942 before Fort Hood was opened. We started out with 37mm anti-tank guns and then got our M10's while we were in Australia just before we were shipped to New Guinea. Not much room to maneuver an M10 in the jungle but it was a damn good vehicle. GEORGE RATKOVITCH (632) 117 E. Sherwood Rd., Alvin, TX 77511

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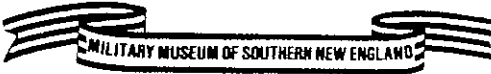
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 I've never seen any history on the 815th which went to the Pacific. Perhaps I could help you out with a little information. I hope this leads to a later history in which I would be most interested. First, we all got together at Camp Bowie, TX. Many of us were from NY, IL, MI, PA and WV. We took our basic at Bowie and then moved on to Camp Hood. We had 3" towed guns. Afterwards we went to this Camp in California. It was about 8 miles from Needles, CA and damned hot. We had M10's here. After manuevers we left from Camp Stoneman for overseas. We stopped at Goodenough Island then on to New Guinea. After New Guinea we went to the Philippines to both Leyte and Luzon. Of course the rains came and I guess they didn't think the tanks could move in the mud so we were broken up. A lot of us went into or formed the 112th Cavalry Regimental Combat Team which was part of the 1st Cavalry Division. We then went through the paddy fields and mountains. We left out of Lingagen Gulf for Japan. It was a tremendous armada of ships of all different sizes loaded with everything thinkable. Our ship was along side of the battleship, Missouri when the Japanese went aboard to sign the peace treaty. We were some of the very first troops to land on Japanese soil. We landed in a place called Tateyama which is the tip of land in Tokoyo Bay. Our job was to confiscate all military material and destroy it. We loaded on their ships. They were taken out in the ocean and used as target practice for the navy planes. We patrolled the area until Dec. then headed for home. We came in at



Bremerton, WA then went on to Fort Knox where I was given my honorable discharge in Dec. 1945. I wish I could remember the dates of events but nobody cared about the dates in those days. We only wanted to get it over with and get home. If there are any guys from the 815th out there please drop me a line. PAUL WILLOVER (815) BOX 434 Brown St., Collins, NY 14034



P.O. Box 2342
 Danbury, Connecticut 06810

(203) 790-WARS

ESTABLISHED MAY 1985
 JOHN V. VALLUZZO, ADMINISTRATOR
 RECREATING "A" COMPANY OF THE 643rd TD Bn.
 DENNIS A. AMBRUSO, COMMANDING
 1987 SCHEDULE
 AFTER 4:00 p.m. CALL (203) 334-3041

I hope to get to Fort Hood or Camp Hood or whatever its called now, in the near future. I joined the 643rd when it was first organized and served in Europe until the war ended. I went to Camp San Luis Obispo, CA and was discharged later in CA also. Keep up the good work. It is great to hear that the TD's are alive and well. BRADLEY THOMAS (643) 64 Sunset Terr., Newport, VT 05855

 Although I find few names listed from the 671st TD Bn. I am not surprised. We never saw action but we did quite a bit of traveling. After training at Hood we were stationed at Camp Swift TX, Fort Knox, KY, and on Oahu T.H. We were on Leyte when the war ended, training for the invasion of Japan. I guess the outfit ended up doing MP duty in Manila, but I got to Japan by transferring to the 77th division. This was the division M. G. Bruce commanded after leaving Fort Hood. My wife and I attended the reunion and memorial dedication at Fort Hood. It was well done! EB KNOP (671) 205 Finch, Horicon, WI 53032

Enjoy your newsletter and would like to use it to contact any of my old buddies from the 602nd Hdqts. Co. at Fort Hood in 1942. I was later shipped out to Camp McCoy in Wisconsin then to Shelby in Mississippi. We were there made the 607th Hdqts. Co. In 1943 we were sent overseas to Tent City Oahu, Hawaii, later stationed at Scoffield Barracks and attached to Unit Jungle Training Center. It would be great to hear from any of the great men I served with. I can be reached by phone at 607-729-2940, or please write to JOHN HICKEY 200 N. Broad St., Johnson City, NY 13790

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO IDA ARE TAX DEDUCIBLE

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