

Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos

Colonel Roy E. Lindquist, Commanding Officer, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment. A magnificent, courageous leader. He activated the regiment in Camp Blanding, Florida on October 20, 1942, and he led it throughout WW II.



Col. Lindquist employed the regiment intelligently and skillfully, achieving assigned objectives within the capabilities, safety and welfare of the men he loved and respected.



Harry J. Harrison, Commanded the First Battalion from its activation until early 1944 when he moved to Regimental Executive officer. He was killed on November 17, 1944 while leading an attack.

The Coast Artillery Battery "Harry J. Harrison" in Los Angeles, CA is named in his honor.

Shields Warren, Commanded the First Battalion from June 1944 until early 1945. He assumed command of the battalion in Normandy and led it brilliantly throughout the remaining campaigns..

A courageous leader that enjoyed the confidence of the men of the battalion. Shields Warren was interred in the Arlington National Cemetery in the late 1990s.



Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos



Gerald P. Guillott died in 1948.



Harold E. Snow died in 2003.



Arthur F. Snee was killed in Normandy.

Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos

John Pavlich was killed in Normandy.



Larney Vancourt died in the late 90s

Thomas Gintgee died in 1994.
Tom designed the 508th PIR Association logos,
stationary, etc



Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos



Mel Beets died June 2001. An out-standing soldier.

He was captured in Normandy while on a volunteer mission but escaped from the Germans. Mel refused to return to the States electing to remain with his buddies.

Joe Atkins died May 1997. A great guy always humorous. His brother Charles also served in Hq1.

Charles "Chuck" was wounded and captured in Normandy.

Joe continued to fight courageously with the regiment.

Chuck and Joe attended Hq1 and Association reunions. Charles died June 9, 1994



Gerard. A. Ruddy was killed in Normandy

Loved and respected throughout Hq1.

Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos

Gene Merritt (AKA "Brother Gene") was a distinguished Associate member of Hq1. He was Rock Merritt's beloved brother. Within Hq1, he was everyone's friend.

Gene died in 2003 and left an impossible void in Hq1

In the photo Gene is not counting his money, we already had it, he is busily checking a multitude of "raffle" tickets hoping to win another raffle prize for Sally Merritt.

Gene was unique. He was a WW II submariner, however he acted, thought, and behaved like a WW II paratrooper. If you knew Gene, you will agree that he was a outstanding member of the "Greatest of the Greatest Generation."



Many Hq1 men mention in their memoirs the long miserable ride to Werbomont, Belgium in "open" trailer trucks, when the 508th PIR joined in the "Battle of the Bulge."

The photo shows two of the miserable trucks,

It is quite true! There are no "Atheists" in foxholes.

A service/mass on the hood of a Jeep is as comforting as a service/mass in a Cathedral.



Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos



In 1943, Betsy Jacoby decided to replace the irreplaceable Jake Jacoby.

She donned his Jump Suit, boots, and cap and "reported" she was ready to go!

Hq1 erred! We should have accepted Betsy; she definitely was the better option.

Joe & Ollie Esposito. They did not respond to requests for information for the Album. They live at 132 Lynnhaven Dr. Hampton, VA 23666-2345



Leland & Edna Chitwood our cherished friends.

Edna died August 1, 2004. Leland resides at 3607 Stembridge Court, Wilmington, NC 28409-2844

Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos

Bill & Frances Williams.

Frances died in 2000. Bob did not provide information for the Album. Bob lives at 326 Falling Tree Road, Fayetteville, NC 28306



The March 1945 photo below depicts Hq1 men and their “friends” in Sissonne, France. A few days later, the troopers tried to qualify their friends as parachutists. Sadly, the young dog experienced a canine malfunction. The birds took flight and probably lived happily ever after. All of the men in the picture are difficult to identify (after 60 years).



Pete Reynolds is the man with the pipe, the man on his left wearing the cap is Garfield Wilkinson, and the tall man with hair is Joe Bressler. [We think!]

Warren Brown standing in the Hq1 tent area in Sissonne. Note the white painted rocks, evidence of the “beautification of the area” skills the Hq1 men learned in 1943 at Camp Mackall.

Warren and his tent mates burnt down (or up) their tent a few nights later. Someone used gasoline to start the tent stove, an absolute no! no! Warren blames the deceased Larney Vancourt. Accept that explanation with a grain of salt.

A kindly officer told Warren where he could procure a tent to replace his loss, thereby avoiding some kind of punishment. Warren ought to send the government a check to pay for the tent.



Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos



Hq1 Company Street in Heddernheim, Germany – Photo by William & Monica Winkler. May 1947

Another view of the Hq1 Company Street in May 1947



Hq1 “Dudes” Ready to Go!

Unfortunately they are probably going for a guard mount or honor guard formation.

(L to R) Bottom row. Jim Maroney and Ralph Booth

Standing (L to R) Jim Wynne, Leo Purdin, Rock Merritt, Bill Barrett

Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos

They do clean up nicely!

Ready for town.

(L to R) H. Metcalf, G. Johnson, W. Good, O.B. Hill and George Luperchio.

Only G. Johnson is still alive.



An early Hq1 reunion sponsored by Glenn Sommerville in 1972 in Lost Creek, West Virginia.

Top Row (L to R) John Corbin, Larney Vancourt, Arnold Foster, Warren Brown.

Front Row (L to R) Bill Frickel, Bill Goudy and Glen Sommerville.



Same guys after having a few "samples" of West Virginia home brew.



Appendix 1

A Gallery of Relevant Photos



John Forrest says he lost all of his records in a fire and therefore could not provide information for the album.

John's address is Box 844, Hoodsport, WA 98548-0844

Joe & Betty Andrews did not contribute information for the album. We do not know why!

They live at Box 106, Mission. TX 78572

