

Task Force Spartan Shield Transfer of Authority Ceremony

Story by SGT Andrew Valenza



Soldiers of the 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division assumed authority of U.S. Army Central Command's *Task Force Spartan* during a transfer of authority ceremony held here, March 18, 2020.

More than 600 Army National Guardsmen with the 42nd deployed in March to assume control of the task force comprised of more than 10,000 U.S. service members in the Middle East.

"The 42nd is manned, equipped, and trained to assume the duties of Task Force Spartan." Maj. Gen. Steven Ferrari, the Commanding General of the 42nd ID said. "We look forward to working with Lt. Gen. Ferrell and the Army Central team, our subordinate units and unified action partners knowing that we will face significant challenges ahead in this ever evolving, complex operating environment."

The New York-headquartered division takes the reins from the Indiana National Guard's 38th "Cyclone" Infantry Division which controlled Task Force Spartan since July 2019.

Task Force Spartan is a unique, multi-component organization, made up of active Army and Army National Guard units, rounded out by U.S. Army Reserve support units. The Soldiers' mission is to help build partner capacity in the Middle East, to promote regional self-reliance, deter regional aggression and to increase security.

Photo - U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Corey Cush (left), the 42nd Infantry Division Command Sgt. Maj., and Maj. Gen. Steven Ferrari (right), the 42nd ID Commanding General, uncover the 42nd ID colors during a Transfer of Authority Ceremony, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, March 18, 2020. The 42nd ID was taking command of Task Force Spartan in place of the 38th Infantry Division. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Andrew Valenza) Photos right captions on page 2

CAMPAIGNS

World War I: Lorraine-Champagne-Aisne-Marne-St. Mihiel-Meuse Argonne
World War II: Central Europe-Rhineland-Alsace-Ardenne
War on Terrorism: Operation *Noble Eagle* – Operation *Iraqi Freedom* – Operation *Enduring Freedom*

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE - We pray that the Rainbow Family is safe in this national pandemic of widespread stay at home orders, business closures and social distancing. Something the country hasn't seen in a century.

The 42d Infantry Division Headquarters mobilized and deployed to Southwest Asia and is now in command of Task Force Spartan. The 650 Rainbow soldiers trained for over a year for this mission. They now join over 10,000 soldiers from the Active Component, National Guard and Reserves to partner with nations in the Middle East to promote self-reliance, deter regional aggression and to increase security.

The 75th Anniversary Commemoration of the Liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp was cancelled in mid-March due to the emerging Corona Virus threat. Several WWII Rainbow veterans and their families were scheduled to attend. Unfortunately, they missed an opportunity to honor their comrades and remember the victims of the Nazis.

The 2020 RDVF 75th Anniversary WWII Tour is currently still scheduled for July. The planning committee will meet in early May to make a recommendation to either continue or postpone the tour. This will be based on the public health status here and abroad, and anticipated travel restrictions.

Due to the potential impact of widescale school closings and how it may affect applications for the RDVF scholarships, the Scholarship committee is working on ways to mitigate any shortcomings in documentation to equitably evaluate our applicants.

Planning for our annual meeting has been delayed due to the Corona Virus business closures in New York. Our intention was to hold our annual meeting and awards dinner in conjunction with a family day for the 42d Division in late summer. More to follow on the annual meeting as our country reopens for business.

This health crisis will pass and our country will recover. Please stay safe and take care. **Rainbow! Never Forget. Paul Genereux, RDVF Chairman**

NEW YORK ARMY NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS RESPOND TO COVID-19 CRISIS



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FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN

Paul Genereux
392 NE Abaca Way Jensen Beach, FL 34957-4603
<pgener1788@aol.com>

FOUNDATION VICE CHAIRMAN

Phil Pugliese
27 Estate Drive Castleton, NY 12033
<phillip.t.pugliese.nfg@mail.mil> (518)703-0465

MEMORIALS OFFICER

Paul Fanning
4 Somerset Drive Mechanicsville, NY 12118
<pfanning@nycap.rr.com> (518)441-4106

FOUNDATION SECRETARY

Kelly Fancher
51 June Lane Valatie, NY 12184-4908
<kelly.l.fancher.mil@mail.mil> (518)527-7011

FOUNDATION TREASURER

Peter P. Riley
22 Almond Tree Lane Warwick, NY 10990-2442
<rileycameraeye110@gmail.com>

HISTORIAN

Patrick Chaisson
508 Glen Avenue Scotia, NY 12302-1412
<patchais@aol.com> 518-641-2731

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Gary Yaple
P.O. Box 531 West Stockbridge MA 01266-0531
<gyaple1@gmail.com> (585)507-8363

EVENT COORDINATOR

John J. Willsey
48 McDonald Dr Cohoes, NY 12047-1119
<john.j.willsey.civ@mail.mil> (518)496-2669

REVEILLE EDITOR

Suellen R. McDaniel
1400 Knolls Drive Newton, NC 28658-9452
(828) 464-1466 <jmac1400@aol.com>

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Kelly Fancher, contact info above
With copy to REVEILLE editor, Suellen McDaniel

DUES FOR RDVF MEMBERS (\$25./annually; \$50.LIFE for WWII veterans; \$200.LIFE for all others)

may be sent directly to RDVF Treasurer,
Peter P. Riley, USPS above; or online at
<rainbowvets.org>

CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

God our Father, look with mercy upon our restless and unpredictable times. Save us from ensnarement in the easy answers and dubious solutions to the complex problems that face us today. Guide us to discern the workings of your purposes; that we may accept with patience and hope the meager offering of our service to God and Country, that our actions may be within your great design for the world today. **AMEN**



Norman P. Forde, RDVF Chaplain, 222nd Infantry WWII
First printed in the April 2007 issue of REVEILLE

(right) New York City; The Bronx, NY
New York Army National Guard SGT
Joseph Ryan of Holbrook, NY, assigned to
the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment,
instructs motorists at the entrance of a
drive-thru COVID-19 sampling site in the Bronx, NY April 3.
(Directions read, Windows UP; Vehicle in PARK; ID on
Window; Name & Cell phone #.) (photo by Senior Airman
Sean Madden New York National Guard)



Captions for photos from page one – top right:

Peekskill, NY New York Army National Guard soldiers
move a floor during the placement of tents at the New York Presbyterian-Hudson Valley
Hospital in Cortlandt Manor, NY as medical facilities prepare for the response to the outbreak
of COVID-19 patients March 20, 2020. (photo by COL Richard Goldenberg, NYNG)

Top left: Oriskany, NY – SPC Ayesha Burr, an automated logistical specialist, assigned to Alpha
Company, 427th Brigade Support Battalion, inventories medical supplies while on state active
duty in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, March. 24. Currently more than 2,000
NYNG Soldiers and Airmen are on duty as part of the response effort (U.S. Army photo by
Alexander Rector)

Lower right: Members of the New York Army National Guard discuss procedures at the
Coronavirus Hotline, call center in Hawthorne, NY, March 16, 2020. The New York State
Department of Health established a toll-free Coronavirus Hotline (1-888-364-3065).
(U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Sean Madden).

Lower left: Syracuse, NY – Sergeant 1st Class Gordon Kus, a platoon SGT assigned to Bravo
Company, 152nd Brigade Engineer Battalion and Master Sergeant David Fallon, an Intelligence
non-commissioned officer assigned to Headquarters Company, 152nd Brigade Engineer
Battalion, inventory medical supplies and personal protective equipment bound for New York
City April 6. Currently more than 2800 New York National Guard personnel are deployed in
response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. (U.S. Army photo by SGT Alexander Rector)

15 YEARS AGO – (PART II)

42ND MOBILIZED FOR COMBAT MISSION IN IRAQ

By MG(R) Joseph Taluto



After the alert order was given to mobilize, many hectic days ensued. Mobilization (mob) dates became known. The Division HQ and many of its base units were to mobilize May through June. The Army wanted all of the mobilized units from the 42nd to assemble at Fort Hood Texas. Fort Hood is a major Army post with the capacity to house and train large units. It is also the home base of the Active Duty 1st Cavalry Division that was currently deployed to Iraq. The Army's rationale to make Ft Hood the mob station in addition to

having the capacity, was to keep everyone at one post to build team unity and to acclimate soldiers and their families to the separation that the one-year deployment would bring. However, in the days prior to publishing the mobilization orders, I had a very long conversation with HQ First US Army Commander, LTG Joe Inge. First Army had responsibility for NG and Reserve units once mobilized until their deployment date. Gen Inge asked me if I thought Fort Hood was the right mobilization site for the Division. I suggested that Fort Drum and Fort Dix would be better sites for several reasons. First, these two Army posts were very familiar to 42nd units being mobilized. Second, by using both posts there would be plenty of capacity to house and train all units. Third, the close proximity of the two bases made Command and Control very easy for the Division

leadership and staff. Fourth and finally, because the bases were in the Northeast where the mobilized units were stationed, family visitation and leave prior to deployment would be possible. We felt this to be better for morale. Gen Inge wholeheartedly agreed!



On May 5th the first elements of the 42nd HQ and its units mobilized. The Division HHC was to report to Fort Drum, along with the Engineer Bde HQ, DIVARTY HQ, Signal Bn, Intelligence Bn, MP Co, Chem Co, the Aviation Bde HQ and its Support Bn, Division Support Command (DISCOM) and its subordinate units reported to Fort Dix.

This mobilization represented nearly 3,000 Rainbow soldiers. This was a great set-up! We did not allow leave or family visits for one month to accustom soldiers and their families to the separation. It also allowed the Division HQ to instill discipline in the force for the long road ahead.



As units mobilized and reported for Active Duty, the Division HQ continued to build its manning document, equipment on hand profile and training program. Gen Inge and the First Army Staff along with the National Guard Bureau (NGB) working with other states were instrumental in helping resolve the multitude of issues we faced as this unique, historic mobilization took form.

As stated before, The Division HQ was severely undermanned for the mission. We began identifying requirements upon alert and continued through mobilization and even after deployment. The Division HQ ended up being manned primarily with NG soldiers from the Divisional States, which were primarily, NY, NJ and MA. However, other states contributed volunteers to fill out vacancies within every staff discipline. Active duty soldiers were also requisitioned by Duty Military Occupational Specialty (DMOS) that the NG could not fill. Active duty Officers, Warrant Officers and Enlisted soldiers would help round out the Division Staff. The team was building!



Equipment continued to flow in for all mobilized units of the 42nd against an operational need requirement's document that the Division HQ built. In some cases, new equipment training would become necessary for several units and sections. New equipment would include the latest in technology such as intelligence systems and the latest in trucks and individual soldier equipment. Manning and equipping continued across all 42nd mobilized units.

The Training program started to take a more stable form as mission requirements emerged. Our dialogue with the 1st Division, which we would replace, offered the Division HQ a

greater vision of the requirements we needed to prepare for. The Army assigned a retired four-star mentor for the Division HQ. General John W. Hendrix arrived at Fort Drum in late May. Gen Hendrix was the former Forces Command (FORSCOM) Commanding General. FORSCOM is responsible for Training and Readiness for all Active and Reserve Army forces in the US. A great relationship between him and the Division Leadership was developed. Gen Hendrix would assist in helping the Division develop its operations order for the deployment and help resolve issues as they arose.

One of the most helpful events during mobilization were authorized reconnaissance (recon) trips to Iraq for Division leadership and staff as well as other 42nd units. The trips gave key personnel in all these units the opportunity to see firsthand what was happening on the ground. It helped everyone who went to be able to fine-tune training and operational plans for the actual deployment. It also gave us the opportunity to see the battlefield and begin to visualize how we would deploy Task Force (TF) Liberty in North Central Iraq.

The Army defines a Task Force as a temporary grouping of units to accomplish a specific mission. As explained earlier, an Army Division has base units assigned directly under it. The base units of a division provide combat support, i.e. helicopter support, artillery fire and combat service support like maintenance and medical services. Rounding out an Army Division are three or four Combat brigades that are permanently assigned to the division. Regarding our mobilization, only the Division HQ and its base units were mobilized. None of the permanent combat brigades from the 42nd were mobilized at this time. Rather, we were assigned two active duty brigades, the 1st and 3d from the 3d Division and two NG Bde's, the 278th from Tennessee and the 116th from Idaho. There were many other smaller units assigned as well. This temporary grouping of units totaled some 23,000 soldiers and would be known as TF Liberty!

During mobilization the Division HQ did not have command and control of the Combat Brigades. The active forces would ready themselves under their normal command while the NG Brigades would be trained and equipped under First Army Control. However, Division leadership and staff did interact and coordinate with these units. Visits were made in order to monitor readiness and to build cohesion. Building TF Liberty was certainly a challenge from alert to deployment but the results were a solid team that was ready to do its job.

All units had validation exercises to insure they were ready to go. The Division HQ validated in September 2004, a short five months after the first units mobilized. By October 2004 elements of TF Liberty began to deploy to the theater of operations. Advance detachments arrived in Kuwait to begin coordination for operations and training of the main body. The majority of TF Liberty would deploy in a phased manner according to a timeline for relieving 1st Division units in NC Iraq. Training and final preparations would happen in Kuwait until units were called forward to their area of operations in Iraq.

The mobilization was a huge success. We were ready to go!

Lead photo: The "Rainbow Rock" symbolizes the 42nd Infantry Division's long history with Fort Drum, New York. In 2004, Rainbow Division soldiers relocated this large boulder to a small memorial park in the Officers Loop area of Fort Drum's Old Division area, where it was then painted with the 42nd INF DIV's distinctive unit crest insignia. The "Rainbow Rock" commemorates the service of nearly 2,000 42nd Infantry Division soldiers who trained at Fort Drum before deploying to Iraq as part of *Task Force LIBERTY* in 2004-2005. (photo from COL Richard Goldenberg; caption by RDVF Historian, Patrick J. Chaisson). **Photos 2, 3 and 4** include images of mobilization training at Fort Drum and are provided by COL Richard Goldenberg. These include soldiers moving through urban areas during training; and, members of the division staff conducting a readiness exercise.

(The Division HQ deployment ceremony was in late November. I have provided my remarks below from the Deployment ceremony, for those interested).

Intro: Gov Pataki, Secretary, Adjutants General, Former Division Commanders, Distinguished Guests, Veterans, Friends, Family and Soldiers of the Rainbow Division and Task Force Liberty,

It is always a pleasure to be in the company of Great Americans. Today's deployment ceremony offers us an opportunity to reflect on the past six months and the next 12.

While there is a great deal to think about, my comments will be directed toward three elements, a feeling of pride, an understanding of mission, and a sense of history.

As I take in today's events, and I look out at you and your families, I am filled with an enormous sense of pride. Pride in our country, pride in our armed forces, pride in our Division and of course, pride in you.

As your commander, I want to publicly say how honored I am to serve with each and every one of you. I am awed by your patriotism

and sense of duty. I appreciate the way you have approached your work and the spirit you have shown in building our Task Force Liberty team. You have been focused and committed to the training program and to the mission.

Many of you have joined the Division along the way and have done so in a professional and enthusiastic manner. You will forever be part of the Rainbow Team.

(Mission) As we contemplate the mission ahead, we recognize its challenges. Our mission is a difficult one. It requires us to be balanced warriors: What that means is we must always be ready to conduct combat operations in order to neutralize insurgents and eliminate those that do not want to see a peaceful and prosperous Iraq.

On the other hand, we must be peacemakers and humanitarians who continually support the Iraqi people as they rebuild their country and develop a government that works on their behalf.

I believe it is fair to say you all are familiar with the combat side of our mission since it gets the preponderance of media coverage.

What I'd like you to better understand about our mission is the human side. The video you are about to see was put together by the organization we will replace, the 1st ID. The images you will see in the video are different than the ones you see on your nightly news and offer a human dimension to what we are trying to achieve. The video is known as New Dawn.

Iraq is still a dangerous place and we know it. We will be vigilant, aggressive warriors but we will be as vigilant and aggressive on the humanitarian side.

The third element is a comparison between the WWI Rainbow Division and today's Rainbow Division. Imagine it is 1917 and our nation has been thrust into war. The war requires mobilization and the country decides to utilize its national guard combat forces. A plan is presented to form a multi-state division using NG units as the core. The plan gains support, especially from a young COL named Douglas MacArthur who promotes the plans and states that the Division would stretch over the entire country like a rainbow. The plan is adopted and a multi-state division consisting of units and soldiers from 26 different states is formed, mobilized and trained at Camp Mills, NY. AC soldiers are added to the formation to provide depth and experience. Once trained the 42 ID deploys to Europe to serve alongside other Army divisions, most notably the 1st and 3rd Infantry Divisions. The Division performs magnificently and is immortalized in memorials all across France.

Let's fast forward some 87 years to 2004. It's the spring of 2004 and the US finds itself again thrust into war. The Global War on Terrorism is a difficult war and the country decides to employ a NG division to Iraq. In March, the HQ 42nd Rainbow Division and its base units are alerted, mobilized and trained at Fort Drum, NY and Fort Dix, NJ for OIF III. The division is a multi-state division consisting of ten states. From May to October the Division builds depth and experience by adding National Guard, Army Reserve and Active component soldiers to the Division base units. In addition, two active component Brigades from the 3D Division and two NG brigades, one from Idaho and the other from Tennessee are subordinated to the 42nd Division to complete the formation of Task Force Liberty. The Division now includes soldiers from 24 states. The Division trains hard, builds a cohesive team and deploys to Iraq to replace one of its WWI partners, the 1st Infantry Division and to serve alongside another WWI partner, the 3D Infantry Division.

The rest of this history is yet to be written; however, some of the soldiers that will write it are here in this auditorium. The comparison between the WWI Rainbow Division and today's is amazing. The Rainbow Division also has a great WWII history and I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our great WWII vets, some of whom are with us today. They, too, were called upon to return liberty to a foreign land.

These Rainbow soldiers also had a mobilization day and a deployment day some sixty years ago this fall. They fought in harsh conditions in southern Europe and among other victories liberated the concentration camp at Dachau. They, along with their families, have experienced the weight of sacrifice. Thank God for them. Thank God for their service and bravery. It is part of our enduring motto to Never Forget.

I cannot end my comments without thanking all of our families for their sacrifice. You are an important part of our mission's success. Thank you for your love and support. You and your soldier have earned some well-deserved time together. I ask Rainbow soldiers and their family members to be safe during the leave period.

Finally, to our Rainbow Soldiers: We have come together from many places and walks of life, but we have a lot in common.

It began with the oath we all took to protect and defend our nation and to obey the orders of our chosen leaders. Now it's more than an oath. Now it's personal. Look around you, these are your teammates. Teammates bound together by a common mission with a common purpose. We depend on each other to be disciplined and committed to do the job to the best of our ability.

Pride/Mission/History. I am proud and honored to lead this formation, I look forward to accomplishing our mission and making history with you.

Never Forget – God bless you and your families. God bless America.

WIRED TOGETHER

Rainbow Soldiers in World War II Relied on Wire to Communicate
By Patrick J. Chaisson, RDVF Historian

Corporal Rudolph Wodgenske knew what had to be done. Called "Rudy Wood" by his comrades, Wodgenske served with Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 242nd Infantry Regiment, 42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division, during World War II.

Normally assigned to the battalion intelligence section, this German-speaking noncom found himself in the center of a firestorm when on January 9th, 1945, Nazi tanks and armored infantry attacked his outfit's paper-thin defensive line at Hatten, France.

"The Germans laid down a murderous barrage of mortar and '88' artillery shells with pin point accuracy," Wodgenske recalled years later. The enemy bombardment had cut all communication lines between Battalion HQ and its rifle companies; someone needed to go out, find the break, and fix it.

Rudy Wodgenske volunteered for this hazardous duty even though he was not a trained wireman. Three times that awful day he left the safety of his fighting position to repair the lines – for his valor under fire at Hatten Wodgenske later received the Bronze Star medal.

It is important we recognize how vital wire communications were to the World War II infantryman. Although U.S. soldiers in those days did carry FM radio transceivers, that technology was still in its infancy. Most orders and reports were sent by field phone.



Wire communication had several advantages over radio. It was less reliant on heavy dry-cell batteries that went dead quickly in cold weather. It worked better over long ranges – theoretically, a private on outpost duty deep inside Germany could pick up his EE-8 and be "patched through" to the telephone on Gen. Eisenhower's desk.

It was harder for the enemy to eavesdrop on conversations held over field phone. Radio signals could be intercepted or jammed, and the Germans often used direction-finding apparatus to target Allied commanders who talked too much on their FM radios.

As seen at Hatten, wire communications had some disadvantages as well. To find an American command post, Nazi infiltrators only had to follow the black strands of W-110 wire. The wire itself was vulnerable to artillery, bombs, or even careless vehicle drivers.



Signal personnel often had difficulty keeping up with fast-moving tactical units, making radio the preferred mode of communications during offensive operations.

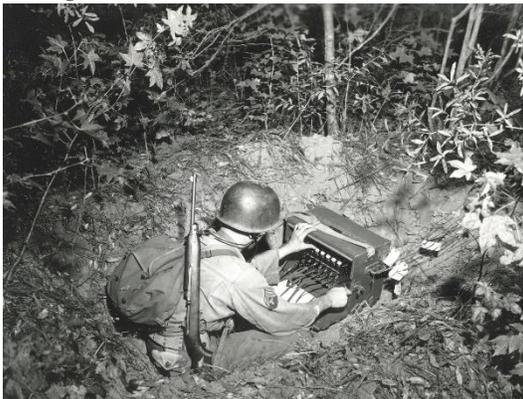


communications in combat.

To help maintain security, each unit received a code name used in all tactical communication. The Division HQ was designated FURY, while each infantry regiment also had a callsign. The 222nd was known as FURNACE, the 232nd FULLER, and the 242nd used FUNNEL.

Each regiment had three battalions, with the 1st Bn. code-named RED, the 2nd WHITE, and the 3rd known as BLUE. The regimental cannon company was designated GREEN. For example, the 222nd Infantry Regiment's Cannon Company was called FURNACE GREEN.

Other subordinate commands had numerical codes assigned. Each regiment's anti-tank company became "36" while the medical detachment used "16" as its code. The number "6" referred to a unit commander, "5" its executive officer, and "7" the first sergeant. Battalions, regiments, and the division HQ used a simple number system to identify staff sections: "1" was the personnel officer, "2" the intelligence officer, and so on.



By plugging in a few cables, the two commanders – perhaps miles apart – would be connected in short order.

Today, of course, it's all done with sophisticated frequency-hopping radios. But sound-powered field phones – direct descendants of the WWII-era EE-8 – remain in the modern Army's inventory. These combat-tested communications devices continue to serve a new generation of soldiers who, like their forefathers, proudly wear the Rainbow Division patch.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The author is seeking the callsigns used by the 232nd, 392nd, and 402nd Field Artillery Battalions, the 142nd Engineers, and the 122nd Medical Battalion in WWII. If you know any of these code names, please contact him at Patchais@aol.com and help keep history alive. (See page 2 for author's USPS address and tel. #)

PHOTO ONE: The EE-8 field telephone was used during World War II, and weighed about 9.5 lbs. with battery included.

Photo: www.olive-drab.com.

PHOTO TWO: The battery-powered BD-71 tactical switchboard would normally be found at battalion level. Photo: National WWII Museum.

PHOTO THREE: This Rainbow Division soldier is shown making a report from his log dugout somewhere in Europe. Photo: *42nd Infantry "Rainbow" Division: A Combat History of World War II*.

PHOTO FOUR: Seen here in use by a soldier in training at Fort Benning, Georgia, the BD-71 switchboard weighed about 48 pounds. Photo: National WWII Museum.

Whenever an infantry company, field artillery battery, or support unit stopped for the night, though, unit signalmen rapidly wired individual platoons and gun crews into the commander's network. Before long, another group of wiremen came by to run lines back to the battalion command post. It was astonishing how quickly the division could establish wire

Excerpted from THE FOUNDATION OF BAVARIAN MEMORIALS Press Release to cancel plans for the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Dachau Concentration Camp -

"The demonstrations planned for the ceremonies in the memorials of the Dachau and Flossenburg concentration camps on May 3 and April 26, 2020 on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of their liberation, will not take place. This cancellation is due to the corona virus...For the events planned at Dachau and Flossenburg, 100 survivors and liberators had promised to come...."

From the Letter to Dee R. Eberhart from General Jean-Michel Thomas, President of the Comité International de Dachau, December 20, 2019:

"Dear Mr. Eberhart, I have great pleasure to inform you that the International Dachau Committee (CIC) has decided to award you the CID Prize, General André DELPECH, former deportee and president of CID.

"The purpose of this award is to honour the merits of a personality who particularly contributed to the memory of the Dachau camp. You undoubtedly fulfilled this mission during your presidency of the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation, in memory of the liberation of the camp of Dachau. Because you transmitted the history of this concentration's camp and contributed, in the United States, to the work which animates us: Never forget.

"You are also a combatant witness to this liberation, as rifleman of the 42nd Division, having taken part on April 29, 1945 in this fact of arms which marked your life and directed it towards the memory of the victims of Nazi barbarism. It is therefore both the liberator and the bearer of Dachau's memory that we wish to salute by presenting this high distinction. The Prize, created in 2005, has so far only been awarded to a few people, including Chancellor Angela Merkel.

"We will also present this award collectively to a representative of the 42nd Rainbow Division, a large unit in which the memory of this liberation and the memory of the Dachau concentration camp have been remarkably perpetuated...."

HEBERTSHAUSEN Russian Memorial Service by Dee R. Eberhart

Come with me to
the rifle range
to a secluded place
beyond the wire.
Come with me on this
raw spring day,
to see the open concrete shell
like a Westwall pillbox
cracked open wide,
formed in a hillside
with scarred insides
all pocked and chipped.
Note the candles
in imperfect line,
flickering, smoking,
in a fitful wind,
memorializing the
thousands of victims,
Russians, Ukrainians
and all of the others.
See nearby mounds
of covering earth
over the bones
of our eastern brothers
who were hunted
and tracked and
shot to death.

No hope at all here,
at this rifle range;
at this SS perfected killing range,
where back-up shooters
denied all hope to the
chosen prisoners doomed to die.

Hear haunting music
from accordion keyed,
harmonic mouth organ
and voices joined,
wringing the sadness
from the northern taiga
and distant, forlorn
wind-swept steppes,
bringing it here to
this place of pain,
to this place
of lasting sorrow,
in memory of comrades
lost forever, forever lost.
what the mind rejects
the soul can embrace!

Who will ever be free of Dachau?
Not the inmates who
somehow survived.
Not the Americans of '45.
Not the visitors who come to see.
Not the old guards with their secret thoughts.
Not the townsfolk of ancient Dachau.
Not Germany.
Not the rest of the world.
And not the spirits
who stand in rows
in the Appellplatz
waiting for the last transport call,
or who stir the leaves of the memorial birch
and breathe the gentle sighs
on the candle's flames.

From
ILLUSIONS
World War II Poems
Dee R. Eberhart
The Saurus Press
2004

From one of the three speeches Dee had been invited to make during these 75th Anniversary events (to have been given at the Dutch Memorial Site, near Barrack 29, 29 April 2020) :



“Seventy-five years ago today we met for the first time, and to borrow from the World War II British songbird, Vera Lynn’s lyrics, “We’ll Meet Again,” we now meet again, at this place of sorrow and remembrance.

We remember those who lost their lives at this terrible place, and those who against all odds, somehow survived their *Nacht und Nebel*, expectation that they disappear as if in night and fog.

We remember, in awe, the fortitude and determination of these who endured the unendurable day after day, and then night after

night in Barrack 29, a prison within a prison. Those were legendary, mythic people, but most who survived revealed later in their lives their innate goodness, high character, greatness of soul, and generosity of spirit.

Our collective memory is renewed by the return visits to this sad place. We have met again, for the last time, for some of us. Thus, for me, it is now almost time for a final, farewell to the memories in this place of those who suffered and died here, to those who survived and who I counted as friends, and to those family members who rightly, pay tribute to their people who endured evil which stalked this place, and struck down the innocent.

It must be farewell, but perhaps we will meet again in a better place. Farewell, and may God bless you.

Dee R. Eberhart, a Liberator, once, long ago.

Photo - Dee R. Eberhart, Bavaria, before the Inn River assault boat crossing, early May, 1945; photo by Jack Parry, both men members of I/242 Infantry Regiment.



HILBERT MARGOL, who served with his twin brother, Howard in the 392nd Field Artillery Battalion, 42nd Division Artillery has been one of the WWII veterans chosen by National Geographic for its documentary series, temporarily postponed due to the restrictions we are all facing now. Here is a description from Hilbert’s email:

“As to my personal participation, a couple days after we visited the WW2 Museum, in New Orleans, in early December, I received a phone call from Tom Gibbs, an executive at the Museum, advising that I would be receiving a phone call from the National Geographic TV, for a phone interview. Bethany Jones, Associate Producer, called and asked, “What were my thoughts, when I received the news that the war, in Europe, was over”?

After responding, our conversation led her to advise that NatGeo was planning to produce a documentary about VE day. I suggested that since the Atlanta WWII Roundtable monthly meeting would be held on Jan. 16th, and a number of WW2 vets would be present, they may want to attend. She got back to me the next day and advised that the production crew would be at the meeting. I suggested that she contact

Jeff Johnson, a member/friend, who is with Cox communications, and he could supply their needs.

On Jan. 16th, they interviewed me, on camera, for almost an hour. The next day, Bill Newcott, with the NatGeo magazine, interviewed me for almost 3 hours, advising that he would prepare a 700-word article for the magazine. I don’t know the status of that. Before the TV interview, Bethany asked me to bring some military pictures with me. After viewing them, they selected a few, including the letter from the White House, that my mother received, in response to her letter, to President Roosevelt, requesting that my twin brother, Howard, and I be allowed to serve together again, since the Army had separated us.

At this point, they probably haven’t decided what they will show on the program, but have advised that I will appear. The 42nd “RAINBOW” DIVISION should be included since I mentioned it many times during both interviews.

I was advised that due to the Corona virus situation, the program may have to be delayed. Previously, I had been informed that after the production crew had done their interviews in Detroit (Jan. 15th) and in Dunwoody, GA, they did WW2 vet interviews in England, France, Germany and Russia.

They said that they had enough material to produce at least 10 one-hour TV programs. The next step was for the decision makers to decide what the premier program will contain. Apparently, the decision makers decided to stay home, due to the virus. Not sure when they can resume their work to finalize the program. When I receive a new air date, I will advise you. After the premier showing, the program will be available, on demand, no charge, for many months.

My wife and I, together with 6 family members, had made plans to attend the 75th Anniversary of the liberation of the Dachau concentration camp, followed by 4 days in the Salzburg, Austria area, where my brother and I spent months in the Army of Occupation. Included was a visit to General Collins’ grave, to pay our respect. Needless to add that we were all disappointed when the Dachau event was cancelled.

A MESSAGE TO DACHAU LIBERATORS RAINBOW DIVISION VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES From the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

The USHMM is very grateful to those of you who responded to the request published in the July issue of Reveille to help the museum document firsthand experiences of Liberators by recounting their stories and donating treasured papers and photographs as well as oral testimonies and memoirs. These are preserved by the museum, digitized, and shared on the USHMM website. We are continuing this effort and we welcome introductions to other Rainbow Division Vets and their families who may have items to donate to the museum - or who have not been interviewed and are willing to do an oral history.

In commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Dachau, we would also like to ask for your reflections on this auspicious occasion as a “virtual reunion,” even as we face the many challenges of the global pandemic Covid-19. We hope that you will consider participating. Your responses will be published in a future edition of Reveille and will be archived by the USHMM. Also, please respond to the questions below so that we may contact you.

Rainbow Division Liberators - Records of your experiences:
At the time of liberation did you write home about your experiences and your impressions and were your letter(s) saved?

Did you ever write about your experiences and your impressions as a liberator at any time? Were you ever interviewed about your military service and being a liberator?

We thank you and look forward to hearing from you.
Dr. Grace Cohen Grossman, Acquisitions Curator, Americans and the Holocaust Initiative, National Institute for Holocaust Documentation, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
ggrossman@ushmm.org phone: 202-488-0456
(Editor’s note: for responses to be sent by US Mail, please send them to the REVEILLE editor, address on page 2, and these will be forwarded electronically to Dr. Grossman until the Museum has reopened for its normal operations.)

RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIPS 2020 UPDATE From Gary Yaple, RDVF Scholarship Chairman

Greetings,

It's hard to believe but yes, the 2020 Scholarship Application window has begun. From March 1st through July 15th college aged students can submit their applications and compete for their share of more than \$25,000. The RDVF has been very generous over the past several years providing more than \$135,000 in scholarship awards to support the educational dreams of so many Rainbow Division descendants attending some of the world's most prestigious institutions. We should all be very proud of the positive impact this program has had on their lives.

I am happy to report that there are a few new and exciting changes to the Scholarship Eligibility and Sponsorship requirements. First, the RDVF Board of Directors voted to support a change that makes immediate Gold Star Family members eligible to apply. This wonderful news allows for the submission of an application by an immediate Gold Star Family Member of an OIF/OEF (or more recent Named Operation) Soldier who died in service under the command of a 42nd Infantry Division unit. Eligibility includes the Soldier's Mother, Father, Sibling, Spouse, or Child. This one simple change to our Scholarship program is incredibly powerful and could mean the world of difference for our Rainbow Division Family members who have endured so much in service to our nation.

Another change made to the Scholarship Program is that the sponsor of an applicant must be an RDVF life-member. It's important to note that the sponsor's role is an important one. The sponsor must vouch for the applicant's eligibility in writing and can only sponsor one applicant per scholarship year. In some cases, we might need to match a sponsor to an applicant who is a Soldier, or a Gold Star applicant. With this in mind, we are seeking a pool of life members who are willing to take on this important role. Please send me an email at Gyaple1@gmail.com if you are interested. If you are not yet a life member, I encourage you to upgrade your membership. The membership dues are very reasonable, and life membership helps stabilize the growth of our membership. In the spirit of service to this great organization, please consider doing this and providing your services to support the scholarship application process in the future.

I also ask that all who read this message to please promote the scholarship program by spreading the word to eligible college-aged students. While the program has been very successful in the past, we are actively seeking to expand the pool of applicants and increase the competition for the awards. I encourage the leadership at all levels in the 42d Division to compel their Soldiers to apply. With the 42d ID Headquarters serving overseas, it would be a great thing to be able to award a few of them a Scholarship to use when they return home.

Well that's all for now. Thanks for reading this and we'll see you next time. Never Forget! - Gary

RAINBOW MILESTONES 2020



EDWARD "TEDDY" DIXON, veteran of F/222, 42nd Division celebrates his 100th birthday – Story by SGT Trevor Cullen, New York National Guard; courtesy photo Headquarters, 42nd Infantry Division.

From Belfast, Northern Ireland to the WWII trail of the 42nd "Rainbow" Division, Dachau and the Monuments Men, the story is found here -

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/365274/world-war-ii-veteran-42nd-infantry-division-celebrates-100th-birthday-infantry-division-celebrates-100th-birthday>

DEE R. EBERHART, veteran of I/242, 42nd Division was honored by the Yakama National Tribal Council in Toppenish, WA on 13 March 2020.

Dee wrote, "I gave a short presentation about my growing up on the Yakama Reservation and a few anecdotes about my military experience, related somewhat to my intolerance of injustice, which began early in life and was reinforced by encountering close-up the fall-out from the Nazi specialized brand of injustice, including the visible evidence at KZ Dachau."

His son, Urban Eberhart, Manager of the Kittitas Reclamation District, (irrigation water for farmers/ranchers and restoration of salmon habitat for the Yakamas and others) took photos and wrote, "The Yakama Tribal Council and General Council honored Dad on Friday the 13th day of March. One of the members said that it was a lucky day for them because he was there. It was a special ceremony at the tip of their arrowhead table. Each member spoke to him.

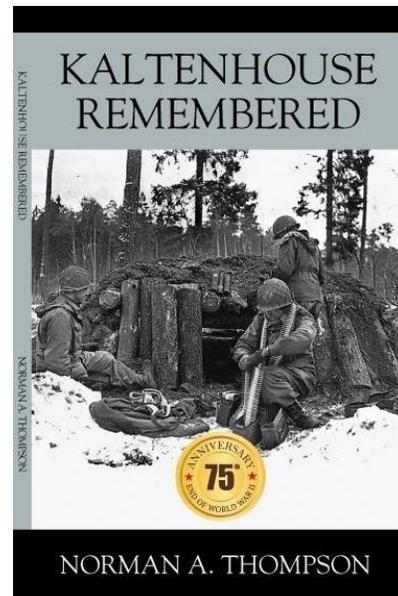
"He spoke to them about growing up on the Reservation and then going to War and the liberation of Dachau. It was very powerful and emotional. They were very honored to have him there and he was honored to be there. They told him that his being there was for them equal to when they had one of the Navajo Code Talkers in their Chambers. They gave him a nice Pendleton Blanket in a special folding ceremony. Council member Gerald Lewis gave a prayer followed by all singing of a very long song to him that they sing when their Warriors return home. The Yakama Warriors organization invited him to join them as a member. The Tribal Council Chair, Phil, Paul and others also mentioned to him their appreciation for the work that I am doing with our irrigation district to help them with both fish and irrigation."

THOMAS C. "TOM" DILLINGHAM, veteran of I/242, 42nd Division celebrates his 95th birthday, April 4, 2020.

Photo is sent by his daughter, Anne Devens.



NORMAN A. THOMPSON, G/242, 42nd Division WWII wrote his memoir, titled **KALTENHOUSE REMEMBERED** in the 1980s and now, his sons are reprinting the book in honor and memory of their father and the men of Company G. Their unforgettable experiences as members of Task Force Linden in stemming the tide of the last German offensive, *Operation Nordwind* in January 1945 at and in the vicinity of Kaltenhouse, France are hauntingly recounted by "Norm", the author, a mortarman with the company. If you would like to be notified when the book is published (estimated to be during May 2020), please email nextpix@gmail.com and write "Kaltenhouse Notification" in the subject line. REVELLE will also provide more details in our July newsletter.



**WWII RAINBOW MEMORIAL LIST
Deaths Reported since January 2020**

BARRETT , Richard M.	H3B/232 nd Infantry
BELCH , Robert M. Sr.	142 nd Engineer Combat Bn
BOYD , Woodrow Wilson	B/222 nd Infantry
FLATT , Rethel William	H1B/222 nd Infantry
HESS , Thomas M.	Anti-Tank Co./222 nd Infantry
JOHNSON , James R.	142 nd Engineer Combat Bn
ROMANO , Joseph C.	M/242 nd Infantry
SCHULTZ , Otto H.	Btry A/392 nd Field Artillery Bn
SPRUANCE , James	Cannon Co./222 nd Infantry
STANBERRY , John	D/222 nd Infantry
VON ARX , Herbert J.	F/232 nd Infantry

If you would like to make a contribution by U.S. mail, please send your gift to the RDVF Treasurer, check payable to RDVF and mailed to:

Peter P. Riley

22 Almond Tree Lane Warwick, NY 10990-2442

We may also support Rainbow online at <rainbowvets.org>

All gifts are gratefully received and acknowledged

Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation, Inc.
Contributions 10 January 2020 – 10 April 2020
SCHOLARSHIP and FOUNDATION
Endowment and Operating Funds

Foundation Operating

SGT Gregory Wilk – 50. *In honor of All Soldiers of the 42nd*

Foundation Endowment

SGT Gregory Wilk – 50. *In honor of All Soldiers of the 42nd*

Scholarship Operating

SGT Gregory Wilk – 50. *In honor of All Soldiers of the 42nd*;

Wilma D. Miller-Potts – 100. *In honor of Irvin Miller*

Scholarship Endowment

SGT Gregory Wilk – 50. *In honor of All Soldiers of the 42nd* ;

Rev. Patricia Cockrell Wood – 100. *In honor and memory of her*

father, Alan J.W. Cockrell, 150th Field Artillery Btry C, 42nd

Division WWI; John J. Bobb – 125. In honor of D.R. Eberhart,

I/242; Cassidy Anne and John D. Wilson, Sr. – 100. In memory

of PFC Lowry R. Wilson, Jr. HQ/242nd Infantry KIA 25 April 45;

American Legion Post 237 – 25. In honor and memory of William

J. "Bill" Lahmann, HQ Btry/542nd Field Artillery Bn, 42nd

Division