

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



CROIX ROUGE FARM COMMEMORATION
The Second Battle of the Marne
26 July 1918 – 24 July 2021



Photography by Béatrice Dahm

A letter of appreciation to Béatrice Dahm, France, from Patrick J. Chaisson, RDVF Historian 11 September 2021

I am writing this note to accompany the enclosed Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation Certificate of Appreciation.

Today, the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation Board of Directors voted to recognize with this certificate for your extraordinary talents as a photographer. Many of us recall meeting you back in 2018 at several ceremonies that commemorated the 100th anniversary of key World War One battles. Since that time, we have come to learn that you share our foundation's passion for keeping alive the memory of those American soldiers who fought to help keep France free during the summer of 1918.

It is only proper, then, that Mrs. Cathie Jarvis, a Rainbow Division descendant herself, nominate you for award of the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation Certificate of Appreciation. We hope you will display it as a small token of our appreciation for the fine work you do on behalf of the soldiers who sacrificed so much for freedom over one hundred years ago.



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE RDVF members and supporters, we held our Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner on September 11th this year. Great to get together in person again. The Foundation awarded \$14,000. in scholarships this year, less than in previous years but we have a plan for outreach to expand applications in 2022.

The Finance Committee reports our investments are in great shape and we are well positioned for the future.

We welcome MG(R) Harry Miller and COL(R) Reggie Sanders to the RDVF Board of Directors. General Miller is a former Division Commander and Colonel Sanders a former Division staff officer and commander of the 369th Sustainment BDE.

Finally, I would like to thank MG John Andonie and BG(R) John Nunn on their retirement from the Board of Directors. Both are long serving Rainbow soldiers and veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Rainbow! Never Forget. Paul Genereux, RDVF Chairman



Photo: A group of 42nd Infantry Division combat veterans gathers for a group portrait during the Rainbow Division Veterans Foundation Annual Awards Dinner held September 11th, 2021, in Troy, New York. From left to right are: LTC Dennis Martinez, COL(R) Glenn Marchi, COL(R) Phil Pugliese, LTC(R) Vince Memole, LTC Dage McNitt, MG(R) Joe Taluto, COL(R) Bruce Fein, COL Rich Goldenberg, COL(R) Jude Mulvey, MG John Andonie, BG(R) Paul Genereux, and MG Mike Natali. Not shown in photo - Paul Conte and Pat Chaisson. Photo by Victoria Martinez.

**From Dr. Monique Seefried,
 U.S. WWI Centennial Commissioner**

On November 11, 2021, a WWI commemoration event will take place in Montgomery, Alabama.

The event is organized by the City of Montgomery, the Alabama National Guard and the Croix Rouge Farm Memorial Foundation.

Besides a Veterans Day celebration, we will have the inauguration of a statue entitled "The Return from the Argonne" by James Butler R.A., the same sculptor who did the memorial to the 42nd Division in WWI at Croix Rouge Farm.

This time, the "The Return from the Argonne" memorial will be honoring all WWI soldiers from Alabama, not only the 167th Infantry Regiment which was part of the Rainbow Division, but also the other Alabamians who fought in WWI. The only other unit, besides the 167th, who fought in the Meuse-Argonne campaign and had a majority of Alabamians, was the 366th Regiment in the 92nd Division. Otherwise, there was a large number of Alabamians in the Dixie Division and they served as replacements in other units.

We will honor as well the two Medal of Honor recipients from Alabama and also James Reese Europe, the band leader of the 369th, who was a native of Mobile.

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

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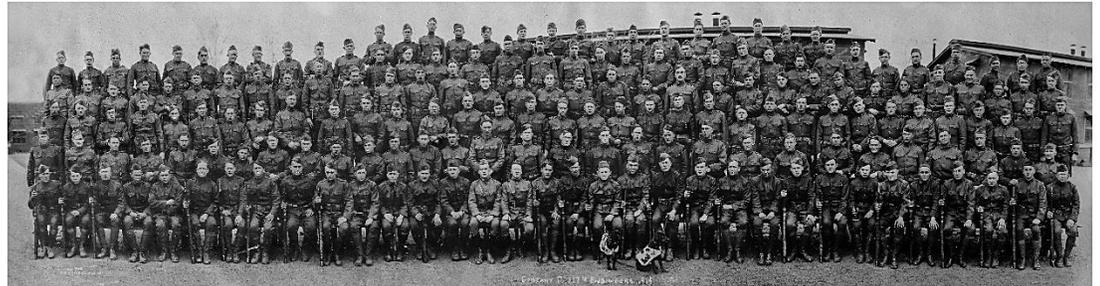
CHAPLAIN'S PRAYER

First printed in *The Rainbow Reveille* February 1962

Our Heavenly Father, hear our prayers and teach us to study the history of our day. Give us understanding as we read and listen to news reports. Help us to evaluate these events in the Light of Christian values. Help us to seek Thy will revealed in the events of nations and give us a sense of optimism and courage in these troubled times. In Thy name we pray, Amen.

William C. Mead, Co. F, 166th Regiment (4th Ohio) WWI

IN HONOR OF ARMISTICE DAY/VETERANS' DAY 11 November 2021 A Brotherhood of Rainbow History



This photo and tribute are from James G. Davis, RDVF Member, Historian and last living survivor of the 1204th Army Engineer Fire Fighting Platoon; North Africa – Italy – France – Germany, World War II. His father, 1st Sgt Arthur C. “Top” Davis is on the first row, 15th from the left. The above photo is of Companies E and F, 2nd Battalion, 117th Engineer Regiment (California) WWI.

Below is a condensed version of his speech read on the occasion of the recent retirement of COL Gilbert Roldan, California National Guard, 578th Combat Engineer Bn.

Photo right was taken at the Rainbow Division Monument, Exposition Park, Los Angeles, California Memorial Day 2019 - wreath presented by COL Gilbert Roldan, California National Guard, 578th Combat Engineer Bn., whose roots are E & F Companies, 2nd Bn, 117th Engineer Regt., 42nd Division AEF WWI.



“My thanks to Colonel Gilbert Roldan for assuming the role of memorializing the dead of the Rainbow Division in WW I and its involvements in later wars. The Colonel is a splendid officer under whose command I would have been pleased to serve. Last, but certainly not least, Gil is a very good friend. What is below is the history of the Rainbow Memorial Grove and its monument to the Rainbow dead, now of all the wars in which it has taken part.

- First Sergeant Arthur C. “Top” Davis, F Company, Second Battalion, 117th Engineer Regiment, 42nd (Rainbow) Infantry Division, AEF, WW I, chaired the Memorials Committee of the Southern California chapter and created the Rainbow Memorial Grove and its Monument.
- Corporal James G. Davis, 1204th Engineer Fire Fighting Platoon, WW II reactivated the Memorial Day Service after TOP’s passing.
- Lieutenant Colonel Gilbert Roldan commanded the 578th Brigade Engineer Battalion, CA NG. whose origins are with Second Battalion, Companies E and F, 117th Engineer Regiment, WW 1, when he took over the Rainbow Division Memorial Day Service.
- Colonel Gilbert Roldan, Chief of Staff, 40th Division, CA NG retires.
- 578th Brigade Engineer Battalion takes over the Rainbow Memorial Day Service.”

2021 RDVF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS Gary S. Yaple, RDVF Scholarship Board Chairman

Greetings All, I’m happy to announce that another round of scholarships has been awarded to the descendants of our Rainbow family. This year’s application pool was challenged by the struggles of COVID creating what we hope was a temporary blip on the screen that drove a lower number of applications. Compared to last year’s 23 applicants, we were presented with only 8 this year. Setting these numbers aside, the application pool this year was simply

outstanding. The quality of the submissions was among the very best in recent history with an average GPA of 3.8 and an average ACT of 26.5. We should all be very proud of these fine young men and women. They all have very bright futures.

This year's Scholarship Review Board was held in person on August 3, 2021, at the Joint Forces Headquarters—NY in Latham. The RDVF Executive Board authorized funds in the amount of \$30,000. to be granted as merit-based scholarships based on eligibility criteria. The review committee was comprised of the dedicated and talented team of Jude Mulvey, recently retired 42nd ID Staff Judge Advocate; Patrick Chaisson, retired AGR Cavalry Officer; Kelly Fancher, Military Personnel, Human Resources Manager; and Tammy Moss-Hicks, Public High School Master Teacher. In support of this effort was Chris Ciccone, Board Recorder, Public High School Teacher and yours truly providing oversight as the RDVF Scholarship Committee Chairman.

After careful scrutiny and consideration, the Scholarship Committee recommended and the RDVF Board of Directors approved the following awards for a total of \$14,000:

MacArthur Award (\$5,000.)

Andie Klisz

Ted Simonson Award (\$2,000)

Serena Marchi

The News Corp-Robert T. Kennedy Award (\$2,000.)

Tierney Solmo

Lon and Colleen Peck Award (\$1,500)

Emily Oakes

Edward and Lillian Kaiser Award (\$1,500)

Emma Ellenbecker

42nd Infantry Division Association Award (\$1,000)

Andrew Blank

RDVF Award (\$500.)

Tyler Schin

RDVF Award (\$500.)

Jared Hrycak

All of the award recipients were so grateful for the opportunity and generosity the RDVF Scholarship program provided to them. A few personalized thank you notes from the students are included for your enjoyment. We send them all heartfelt congratulations and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

In addition to approving the Scholarship Committee's award recommendations this year, the RDVF Executive Board of Directors concurred with the committee's recommendations for improving the scholarship program. To expand on the generosity of this program, the RDVF will now allow *Gold Star* family members the ability to apply and receive awards each year *throughout their college career*. To meet the ever-diverse Rainbow Division Soldier population currently serving, a new *Trades and Certificate Scholarship* will be added as a separate competitive program. And finally, the Scholarship Committee has been approved to prepare a *Graduate Studies Scholarship Program* proposal for Executive Board consideration.

As I've said so many times in the past, we should all be very proud of our Scholarship Program. Not only does it support and promote the mission of our organization, but it is proving to be adaptive, diverse and incredibly meaningful, even in the face of these most complex times we live in today. I can't thank the Board of Directors enough for their steadfast support and determination towards ensuring the success of this important program.

Thank you to all who had a role in this year's Scholarship Program's success. I ask that everyone who reads this message to please seek out a currently serving, college-aged, Rainbow Division Soldier or a descendant of an RDVF member and help them apply for a scholarship. The more we spread the word, the better this program becomes. We certainly owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women who have served and continue to serve under the Rainbow. Let's continue to do whatever we can to give a little something back.

RAINBOW! Never Forget.

Gary Yaple RDVF Scholarship Board Chairman

August 27, 2021

Good afternoon Mr. Yaple,

I hope this email finds you well! I wanted to reach out to thank you and the scholarship committee again for your selection of me to receive such a generous award. I am overjoyed to represent what the program and Division believe in. I would like to also apologize for the delay it took me to send this email. I moved into my dorm room earlier this week and things have been a bit hectic!

I had hoped I would be able to make it to Albany to receive the award in person, but, unfortunately, with my school schedule, I will be unable to attend the event.

Thank you again and please keep an eye out for a letter from me!

Best,
Andie Klisz

thank you

Mr. Yaple: RDVF Scholarship Committee
Thank you so much for recognizing me with the Edward and Lillian Kaiser Award. I am humbled and honored to be recognized by the scholarship committee. I will always strive to honor the Rainbow Division with hard work, patriotism and respect to our veterans. Sincerely, Emma Ellenbecker

Finding Your Father's War A Book Review for the Rest of Us

By Patrick J. Chaisson, RDVF Historian

The most enjoyable part of serving as your Foundation historian is connecting with the families of those who fought with the Rainbow Division during World War One and World War Two. It is incredibly rewarding to help these people learn more about their ancestor's military service.

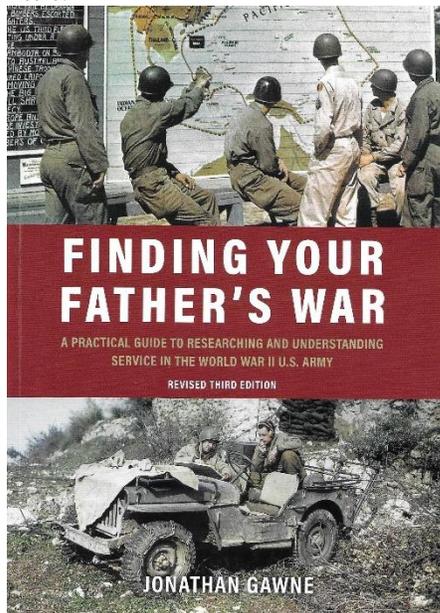
Typically, this connection starts with an email from either a son, daughter, or other relative (most messages come from the RDVF website). Often, these folks begin by admitting they know very little of the Rainbow Division or its wartime exploits. Yet I can clearly see they are supremely interested in

learning more about what their loved one did and where he served during the war.

Our historical team does its best to assist. The group of experts we've assembled deserves far more recognition than I can express here, yet it's a privilege to collaborate with them. Mrs. Suellen McDaniel, Rainbow Reveille editor and daughter of a WWII Rainbow vet, deserves special recognition as a priceless source of Second World War 42nd Infantry Division information.

Oftentimes, we are able to fully answer our readers' inquiries with a photo, award citation, or one of Suellen's superb regimental histories. The family members are happy, having learned more about their ancestor's service, and we feel good having helped keep alive the history of the 42nd Inf. Div.

Occasionally, though, our Rainbow descendants are seeking more. Perhaps they require copies of Grandpa's service record, or they want to identify the ribbons and medals found on his old uniform. But the devil is in the details, and providing too much information can be as discouraging as offering too little.



More than once, for example, family members have asked me, "what's a regiment?"

It's a fair question. The World War II military had its own language, terminology and organizational structure, most of which are completely unfamiliar to people living today. And while the Internet has become our society's "go-to" source for just about everything, it's sometimes hard to find the answers we need unless we know where to look.

Noted author and historian Jonathan Gawne has written a book specifically for individuals who want to learn more about what their loved one did and saw during the Second World War. It is entitled *Finding Your Father's War: A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II U.S. Army*, and is published by Casemate Publishers in Havertown, PA (www.casematepublishers.com). Gawne's work, now in its third edition, has become my steady companion whenever I attempt to answer a Rainbow descendant's questions about WWII.

The author begins by telling a story familiar to many of us. His father, a World War II veteran, returned home in 1945 but never again talked about his combat experiences. Only after the elder Gawne passed away did Jonathan discover in an old basement closet the physical evidence of his dad's service as an Infantry lieutenant in France.

This discovery inspired the author to write *Finding Your Father's War*. He intended it for amateur researchers who – like so many visitors to the RDVF website – want to know more about their relative's military service in World War II. This volume succeeds in doing just that.

Finding Your Father's War contains five major sections. These parts include an introduction to Army units, information on individual and organizational records, how to find those files, and a chapter on identifying tangible evidence (physical items) of service.

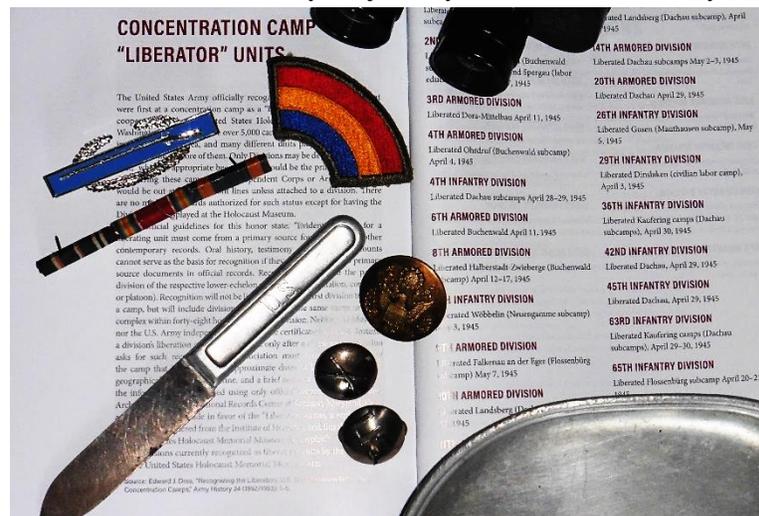
The volume also has several useful appendices, such as a summary of Army divisional histories, a campaign overview of WWII, a list of Concentration Camp "Liberator" units, and even

descriptions of the most common Military Occupational Specialties held by soldiers during World War II. It also contains an extensive list of films, websites, and other books for those interested in learning more about a particular aspect of the U.S. Army or the war itself.

Gawne's volume is heavily illustrated with maps and charts, as well as a superb collection of color photographs. Images of insignia, medal sets, and organizational patches will help many readers identify what was pinned or sewn onto Grandpa's service coat. Other tables explain the U.S. Army's admittedly-complicated organizational structure.

"It was a big war," states the author in his introduction. There isn't enough room to cover every unit, or list all useful websites, in a 396-page softcover book. For this reason, Gawne does not address the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps in this work. *Finding Your Father's War* does effectively capture the shared experiences and history of those 8,267,958 American men and women who served their nation as members of the U.S. Army in World War II.

We at the RDVF are always happy to help readers who want more in-depth information on the Rainbow Division in wartime. Contact me at Patchais@aol.com or Suellen McDaniel at jmac1400@aol.com with your questions and we'll do our best to answer them. For those folks who are thinking of starting a research project on their ancestor's military service, I recommend *Finding Your Father's War* by Jonathan Gawne as a useful first resource for your journey of historical discovery.



From Schweinfurt to the Danube on the Rainbow Trail (April 1945)

By Robert Munson



Adapted from Hugh C. Daly, 42nd "Rainbow" Infantry Division (1946), Crossing the Danube map, 97.

After the Rainbow took Schweinfurt in early April 1945, it turned south. General Eisenhower feared guerrilla resistance in the Alps and wanted a quick advance to extinguish Nazi hopes of further struggle. However, two large cities, closely connected with the ruling Nazi party, lay ahead. The city of Nuremberg hosted the spectacular annual party rallies and Munich was the

birthplace of the party. The US Army feared stiff resistance in these cities.

Traveling from Stuttgart with Steve, my Royal Air Force colleague at US Africa Command, we have been following the *Rainbow Trail* across southern Germany. This trip picked up the *Trail* south of Schweinfurt and followed it via Fürth/Nuremberg to the Rainbow's crossing of the Danube and Lech Rivers, the last large obstacles before Munich. This trip tried to follow the route of my dad, PFC Bob Munson of "G" Company/232nd Infantry Regiment from about 14 to 27 April 1945.

Our trip took us 170 miles (270 km) south and a little east along small country roads. Most of our trip covered gently rolling countryside, from one small town to the next. I find these towns fascinating with their own local stories, unique faces and charm, if you have time to stop and explore. However, the countryside becomes monotonous as the towns look the same if only passing quickly.

I imagine that my 18-year-old dad and the other Rainbow soldiers moving through here in 1945 would have felt about the same – they were certainly not sightseeing and needed to stay wary of what might come. Here the Rainbow was moving fast, but always prepared since they did not know what might be around the next corner or over the next hill. By mid-April 1945, the Germany military was crumbling but the division continually hit pockets of fierce resistance. On the soldiers' battlefield level, small intense exchanges can be the same as large engagements – the privates and sergeants only see and fight in the local area!

As we took up the *Trail*, the first town of any size we passed through was Kitzingen, laying astride the Main River. As a reminder of the US Army, we drove past the former US garrison barracks which housed American troops until 2007. From Kitzingen, we followed the 232nd's line of advance through the picturesque-sounding towns in the Rainbow's reports: from Willanzheim to Markt Bibart, Unternesselbach to the banks of the Aisch River.



Here we surveyed the small river with the city Neustadt in the distance. The Aisch (photo left) was perhaps 15 feet wide and not deep but would certainly hinder the advancing vehicles. The flat plains on both riverbanks

would have provided the German defenders with a good view of the advancing American troops. The Rainbow, according to the division's history, saw this as the "historic defense line of Nuremberg" and while the 222nd Regiment attacked across to the small town of Neustadt, my dad's battalion crossed the river and supported the attack from the south, allowing a quick occupation of the town.

After taking Neustadt, the Rainbow continued another six miles the same day, and we too continued southeast towards Nuremberg and Fürth, its twin city. We followed "G" Company through small towns, but as we neared Fürth, the towns had grown larger, coming closer together. While the Rainbow's 222nd and 242nd regiments advanced into Fürth (to support the US Army's occupation of Nuremberg), my dad's 232nd Regiment remained south of Fürth. The 232nd was tasked with blocking escape routes from the two cities to prevent retreating German forces from reinforcing Munich. The 232nd advanced east to the Rednitz River, the rough separation between the Fürth and Nuremberg.

On this river's western bank, my dad's company overnights in Neumühle. Here we discovered what is now a small industrial enclave surrounded by what is now a nature preserve. The now-preserve had been from 1896 to 1994 the large Hainberg military training area. In 1945 it made sense for Company "G" to secure this area as it likely would have been retreat route for German troops.

Once the US Army occupied both Fürth and Nuremberg, the "race to Munich" began. Now, the 42nd competed with other divisions to be the first one to occupy the Nazi city. My dad's "G" Company turned straight south from Neumühle and advanced across rolling countryside, dotted with small towns, forest groves and cut by small rivers. We followed the advance and passed through such as Grafensteinberg and Meinheim which the 232nd liberated or occupied. The regiment was occupying enemy soil, but the Rainbow history recorded local people greeting the American soldiers. These people wanted to avoid the unnecessary and senseless destruction of a town which might be seen to be resisting. The German military could do little to oppose the overwhelming American artillery firepower and people knew the war was drawing to a close.

We continued south across the countryside and ended up on a hill "with" the 232nd Regiment, overlooking the small town of Altisheim (right on map) and the Danube River valley. About five miles to the west, elements of the Rainbow's 222nd and 242nd regiments had taken the small town of Donauwörth (left on map) after the German defenders blew up the bridge over the river. The division reported that the German soldiers trapped in the town fought "with all the savage ferocity of a cornered rat. It was the most fanatical resistance ever encountered by the Rainbow." This battle lasted six hours and at the end, the Rainbow took only 16 prisoners from the estimated 700 defenders. The German military was crumbling, but elements could and would still fight aggressively, posing a danger to the 18-year-old soldiers (and all others)!

From our point above Altisheim, we descended



gradually down the hill, through the town and out onto the Danube's wide flood plain. Here we stopped on the riverbank to see how the infantry might have crossed. We looked over high banks down to the water, but in the spring of 1945 the water likely flowed higher. Germany has been dry for the last couple of years and the rivers show it. In any case, the Danube here is not particularly wide; it has not picked up the volume and power it has further downstream. Early in the morning on the April 26th, my dad's battalion (232nd Regiment is *yellow* on the map) crossed the river in small assault boats: "The boats turned and twisted in the swift current of the beautiful blue waters of the DANUBE. The first company crossed in 12 minutes, and the remainder of the [battalion] followed rapidly."

From the south bank of the Danube, the regiment pivoted to the east and crossed the nearby Lech River just before it flows into the Danube. With this second river crossing the way to Munich was free and the division could again turn south.

Steve and I crossed the Lech and then, late in the afternoon, it was time to head back home as the rain began to fall. On this April day, perhaps as a fitting remembrance of the Rainbow, the rain turned to snow as we made our way back to Stuttgart. This was spring snow, just like the Rainbow would see a few days later in early May 1945 after capturing Munich.

FORMER 'FIGHTING 69TH' COMMANDER TAKES CHARGE OF NATIONAL GUARD'S 27TH INFANTRY BRIGADE

Photo and story by
Maj. Avery Schneider,
New York National Guard

FORT DRUM NY

07/17/2021

Colonel Sean Flynn, an Albany resident and a veteran of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, who served in the Operation World Trade Center response to the 9/11 terror attacks, took command of the New York Army National Guard's 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team during a ceremony here on July 17.



Flynn took over from Colonel Robert Charlesworth who has headed the brigade since 2019.

The 27th Brigade is headquartered in Syracuse and is a light infantry brigade of more than 4,000 Soldiers, composed of three infantry battalions, a cavalry squadron, an artillery battalion, a brigade engineer battalion and a support battalion. Elements of the brigade are located across New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

“Under the command of Col. Charlesworth, the brigade accomplished tremendous tasks at both the tactical and strategic level, all while supporting COVID operations across the state,” said Maj. Gen. Thomas Spencer, commander of the 42nd Infantry Division, the brigade’s higher headquarters.

Charlesworth saw the 27th through a successful warfighter exercise at the start of his command, led thousands of Soldiers activated in support of New York’s response to the coronavirus pandemic, and oversaw the deployment of troops to the 59th presidential inauguration and follow-on security missions in Washington, D.C.

Charlesworth is retiring after more than 28 years of service in the Army and Army National Guard.

During the change of command ceremony, the 27th’s colors, or flag, was transferred from Charlesworth to Flynn, signifying the change in authority. Historically, the colors of an Army unit indicated the location of the commander on the battlefield. The tradition allowed Soldiers to see who they should follow in battle.

Upon assuming command, Flynn thanked his Soldiers for their selfless commitment to their community, their states and their nation.

“Your service at home and abroad over these past 20 years have been decisive in preventing both individual loss here, as well as another massive attack on our homeland,” Flynn said. “And though the campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan are ending, the natural and manmade threats against our families, against our peace and prosperity and, sadly, against all of humanity

have no end. Thank you for sacrificing your time at home.

Thank you for sacrificing at your place of business and your livelihood, to stand ready between the unthinkable dangers of this world and those that we love.”

The 27th IBCT is headquartered in Syracuse and is a light infantry brigade of more than 4,000 Soldiers, composed of three infantry battalions, a cavalry squadron, an artillery battalion, a brigade engineer battalion and a support battalion. Elements of the brigade are located across New York, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

For Flynn, the new command represents a return to the 27th.

He began his career in the Army National Guard with the brigade’s historic 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment – the “Fighting 69th” – as a platoon leader, company commander, and eventually battalion commander. In honor of his time with the battalion, two Irish Wolfhounds – the mascot of the 69th – were part of the formation of troops at the change of command ceremony.

Flynn also served in executive officer roles for the brigade’s 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment, and for the brigade headquarters.

He most recently served as operations officer and chief of staff of the 42nd Infantry Division, including a deployment to Kuwait in support of Operation Spartan Shield.

Flynn continues to work in his full-time role with the New York Army National Guard as Director of Plans, Training and Operations (G-3) while serving as the 27th IBCT commander.

About Col. Sean Michael Flynn:

Flynn joined the New York Army National Guard in 2000, where his key assignments include Platoon Leader and Company Commander in the historic 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment – the “Fighting 69th” – in New York, Executive Officer of the 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry Regiment in Utica, Battalion Commander of the Fighting 69th, Brigade Executive Officer of the 27th IBCT in Syracuse, and Division G-3 and Chief of Staff of the 42nd Infantry Division in Troy. He is currently the Director of Plans, Training and Operations (G-3) for the New York National Guard.

Prior to joining the Army, Flynn served in the U.S. Air Force from 1994 to 2000, with active duty assignments as a Public Affairs Officer for the 81st Training Wing in Biloxi, Mississippi and the 354th Fighter Wing in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Flynn earned his commission in 1994 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps.

His major operational deployments include Operation Spartan Shield in 2020, Operation Enduring Freedom in 2012, Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004, Operation Noble Eagle in 2001, and Operation World Trade Center in 2001.

Prior to joining the New York Army National Guard full time, Flynn worked in New York as a financial communications and public relations consultant from 1997 to 2006.

Flynn is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Advance Courses, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Department of Defense’s Joint Public Affairs Officers Course.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism from the University of Maryland at College Park and a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal with one Bronze Star, Iraq Campaign Medal with one Campaign Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with One Campaign Star, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve

Medal with "M" Aperture and Silver Hourglass, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with "3" device, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, the NATO Medal, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Flynn is the author of *The Fighting 69th: From Ground Zero to Baghdad* (Viking 2008), a narrative non-fiction account about the evolution of the National Guard from a strategic reserve to an operational force in the wake of the attacks of September 11, 2001.

He resides in Albany, N.Y. with his wife Lori Ann and their two children.

The 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team:

The 27th Brigade traces its history back to the 27th Division of World War I. Originally known as the 6th Division, the unit was composed of New York National Guard units and was renamed for service in France in 1917.

During World War I, the 27th Division served under British Army command and helped defeat the Hindenburg Line during the attacks which ended that war. In World War II the 27th Division fought in the Pacific, invading the islands of Makin and Saipan and fighting on Okinawa.

In 1968 the division was reorganized as a brigade. In the 1980s the 27th Brigade was reconfigured as an enhanced brigade and was slated to "round out" two Active Army Brigades of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum.

Elements of the 27th Brigade were mobilized for security duties at airports and other critical locations as part of Operation Noble Eagle following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. In 2008 the brigade deployed to Afghanistan as the main elements and command of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix, a multi-national training mission in Afghanistan.

In 2012 the brigade deployed once again, with some elements serving in Kuwait while others deployed to Afghanistan.

NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD'S "WILD BILL" DONOVAN COMMEMORATED IN COMIC BOOK



LATHAM, N.Y. -- William "Wild Bill" Donovan, the New York National Guardsman and Buffalo lawyer who commanded New York's 69th Infantry Regiment in World War I and went on to become America's top spymaster in World War II, is the latest subject in a series of digital comics about Medal of Honor recipients.

The eight-page comic, published by the Association of the United States Army, is scripted by noted comics author Chuck Dixon, who has written comic books in the Batman and Punisher series, and provides a quick outline of Donovan's life.

The comic focuses mainly on an October 14-15 battle near Landres-et-Saint Georges, France in 1918 during which Donovan led the 69th, renamed the 165th Infantry Regiment by the Army, in a bitter struggle to take the main German line during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

The 165th, which was part of the 42nd Infantry Division, known as "The Rainbow Division," was assigned to join in an assault on the German main defensive line known as the Kriemhilde Stellung.

In that two-day battle, Donovan led his regiment from the front, scouted forward at night to find weaknesses in the enemy

line so the attack could be renewed, continued to lead his men after being hit in the leg by machinegun fire, and eventually ignored an order to resume the attack when he determined it was not possible.

Donovan was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, his second, for his role in that battle and eventually that award was upgraded to the Medal of Honor in 1923.

Donovan grew up in Buffalo and went on to graduate from Columbia University and then Columbia Law School after he decided to become a lawyer. He graduated in the law school class of 1907 along with future president Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

He returned to Buffalo and eventually opened his own law practice. He also joined the New York National Guard and organized a troop of the New York National Guard's 1st Cavalry Regiment. In 1916, when the New York National Guard was sent to the Mexican border after the incursions of Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa, Donovan went too.

When the United States entered World War I, Donovan joined the 69th Infantry and was given a promotion and command of one of the regiment's battalions. Those New York National Guardsmen gave him the nickname "Wild Bill" because of his endurance during training and coolness under enemy fire.

In France, Donovan was also awarded a French Croix de Guerre and a Distinguished Service Cross for action in the summer of 1918.

After the war Donovan became a crime-busting U.S. Attorney in Western New York and a department of justice official who ran for governor of New York in 1932 as a Republican and lost.

But he became part of a network of businessmen who kept track of what was going on overseas and provided information to his old law school classmate Franklin Roosevelt who was now president. He undertook fact-finding missions for Roosevelt, which resulted in his meeting Winston Churchill and having lunch with King George VI.

He became famous again in 1940 when his World War I exploits were featured in the movie "The Fighting 69th."

As the U.S. prepared for World War II, Roosevelt made Donovan head of America's civilian intelligence effort. In 1942 that operation became the Office of Strategic Services, known as the OSS which was the predecessor of the CIA and Donovan was made a one-star general.

Donovan controlled a world-wide network of 13,000 OSS agents and was later promoted to Major General.

The New York National Guardsman from Buffalo is the only American to have received the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, and the National Security Medal, the highest award for intelligence work.

The article continues here –

[DVIDS - News - NY National Guard's "Wild Bill" Donovan commemorated in comic book \(dvidshub.net\)](https://www.dvidshub.net/news/ny-national-guard-wild-bill-donovan-commemorated-comic-book)

All currently published graphic comics in this series may be read online or downloaded for free, here –

[Medal of Honor Graphic Novels | AUSA](https://www.ausa.org/medal-of-honor-graphic-novels)

RAINBOW 2021 MILESTONES OBSERVED WITH OUR GRATITUDE AND BEST WISHES!!

17 July **Larry Rosen** HQ Btry, 542nd Field Artillery – 98 years

7 December **Raymond Deming** Cannon Co., 232nd Infantry (photo right)

Regiment – 97 years





A message from Hilbert Margol, Btry B/392nd Field Artillery, 42nd Division WWII upon being invited to participate in a 3-part series, *Invisible Years: Hiding in the Netherlands during the Holocaust* presented by The Ghetto Fighters' House; *Part I: (10 October 2021) Holocaust Drawers*.

The First Session: "Holocaust Drawers": October 10, 2021 is now on UTube, here:

[The Ghetto Fighters' House Talking Memory Series-Invisible Years: Holocaust Drawers October 10, 2021 - YouTube](#)

"E-mails & Zoom, plus other programs are certainly helping to teach history to people. This helps, in some cases, where schools fail to do so. Recently, I did two personal interviews, one for a 17 yr. old, planning to attend college to obtain a History Major Degree to become a History teacher. A week later, a video interview for a young married couple expecting their second child, due to the wife compiling a history of the Holocaust. Some months ago, I did a Zoom presentation to a college prep class in Toronto, Canada. This resulted in a request by a teenager, for a Zoom follow up interview, some weeks ago, plus a 15 yr. old, in Canada, for a Zoom interview, to take place this coming Monday morning. Yesterday, I did my semi-annual Zoom presentation to the Holocaust class at the Webber (Jewish) High School here in Atlanta. Coming up soon, I will do my semi-annual presentation to the Roswell, GA public High School senior history class, pending health authorities' ok. I feel blessed that I am still able to tell my 42nd Division experience, especially about the liberation of Dachau, etc."

WWII RAINBOW MEMORIAL LIST Deaths Reported Since July 2021

BARRETT, Robert M.	H3B/232 nd Infantry
BENO, Donald H.	Cannon Co./222 nd Infantry
DOBBS, Gilbert James	E/222 nd Infantry
GUISTOLISE, Joseph S.	B/122 nd Medical Bn
HAVEY, Birney T.	Anti-Tank Co./ 222 nd Infantry
LYNCH, Thomas	Cannon Co./ 222 nd Infantry
TEDRICK, Donald L.	D/232 nd Infantry
VAN NESS, Claude N.	H/242 nd Infantry

Rainbow National Auxiliary Deaths Reported



Myrtle M. Wallace

Past National Auxiliary President 1991-1992
Wife of Ivan H. Wallace Medical Detachment/222nd Infantry

Mildred L. Hoch

Wife of Kenneth W. Hoch K/232nd 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 July 2021 – 10 October 2021

Rainbow Scholarship Endowment Fund

Renee Cobin - 100. *in honor and memory of her parents, John G. Schneider, 42nd MP Platoon and Loretta J. Schneider*; Bill L. and Donna Priebe - 70. *in honor and memory of his father, Wilbur L. Priebe, K/242nd Infantry*; Daniel and Robin Singer - 50. *in honor and memory of Daniel Singer, MD and 50. in honor and memory of Gregory Hodowanec, G/222nd Infantry*; 42nd ID Rainbow Association - golf outing fundraiser; Clint and Carla Carmichael - 250. *in honor and memory of Joseph S. Guistoliese, B/122nd Med. Bn.*; Charles Potok and Sharon Cook - 50. *in honor of John Roberts*; Charles Podhaizer - 36.; Patricia M. Weiss - 50. *in honor and memory of her father, Carmine Sacco, H2B/222nd Infantry*; Liz Williams - 75.; Thomas Kinley - 500.

The following gifts are made in honor and memory of Sergeant Codi T. Patenaude, Headquarters Battalion, 42nd Infantry Division - Charles and Carol Palmeri - 150.; Donna M. Ogden and Janice Cellucci - 50.; Carla J. Ward - 50.

The following gifts are made in honor and memory of John R. Walker, G/222nd Infantry and include personal messages to the Walker family - Mayland Crosson - 100; Lisa and Scott Myers - 100.; Marylinn Hatch - 50. "In memory of a great man who made many contributions to his world;" Greg Myers - 165.; Kristin and Patrick Sweeney - 500. "In memory of your amazing father"; Betty Devine - 35. "In loving memory of John, a proud WWII veteran who served in the Rainbow Division, may he rest in peace."; Natalie Holmes - 100.; Nancy Hadad - 321. "In loving memory of Carol's father, John R. Walker."