



Post Oflag 64 Item

2008 – Fall

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2008 Oflag 64 Reunion
Washington D.C.
October 9-13

Dear Oflag 64 Family,

Time is fast approaching for our annual Oflag 64 Reunion in Washington D.C. and we hope you'll be able to attend. If you're planning to come but haven't yet registered, it's not too late, but please send in your registration form ASAP. (Remember, the survey form you filled out and sent in earlier this year was for headcount purposes only.) A registration form for the reunion (pg. 3) and reservation form for the hotel (pg. 6) are included in this ITEM. Payment needs to be received by September 8. After that date, registrations/reservations will be accepted on a space available basis only.

On the next page of this ITEM is a letter from Pat Bender regarding the White House Tour for **Kriegies Only**. If you are a Kriegy and would like to participate in this tour, it is essential that you send your information to Pat Bender **BEFORE** the Reunion. The list at the end of Pat's letter is of those who have responded to date.

This ITEM will be the last one published prior to the Reunion so if you need a registration/reservation form after the ITEM is mailed, please contact Pat Bender or me at the addresses listed at the left of this page or you can register online for the reunion by going to AFR's web site: <https://www.armedforcesreunions.com/oflag/>.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,

Elodie Caldwell (daughter of Reid Ellsworth)



A LITTLE COMPANY BUSINESS

31 July 2008

Dear Oflag 64 Members:

The private tour of the White House **for the Kriegies only** is almost a certainty, but as you are probably aware, security has been very tight since 9/11, and tours have been cancelled at the last minute. If you wish to go to the White House, please send in your personal information as soon as possible. If you wait until you arrive in Washington, it will be too late. For security reasons, the White House is requesting four pieces of information.

Full Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Social Security Number _____

Do you need assistance **from a volunteer** with a wheelchair or with walking?

_____ yes

_____ no

Your personal information will be kept in a secure database by the White House. Please fill out the information above and send it to me.

Pat Bender
7039 McCallum Street
Philadelphia, PA 19119

The list below includes the names of Kriegies who have responded as of this date. If you have not responded that you will be attending the reunion, please do so as soon as possible so we can finalize our plans. We are all looking forward to a wonderful reunion in October. Thank you for your cooperation.



Sincerely,
Pat DiFrancesco Bender

Maj. Abraham J. Baum, DSC
Stacy Bolten
O. L. Bradford
Thomas J. Bugg, Jr.
Michael J. Calpin
Rolland W. Corbin
John Creech
Vincent J. DiFrancesco
Alan Dunbar

Edward A. Graf
Donald O. Graul
Walter C. Heisler
Curtis S. Jones
George Juskalian
Jimmie Kanaya
Robert G. Moorhead
George Myron
Ray Klinkenborg

Boyce Nunnally
Robert M. O'Neill
Richard B. Parker
Hervey Robinson
Joseph E. Seringer, Jr.
Wilbur Sharpe
Sidney Thal
Robert T. Thompson
William D. Warthen



OFLAG 64 ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC. in the form of check or money order. Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. Returned checks will be charged a \$20 fee. You may also register online and pay by credit card at www.armedforcesreunions.com/oflag. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before September 8, 2008. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. All new registrations accepted at the reunion will be charged a \$10 onsite processing fee. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing. Please do not staple or tape your payment to this form.

Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.
PO Box 11327
Norfolk, VA 23517
ATTN: OFLAG 64

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

	Price Per	# of People	Total
CUT-OFF DATE IS 9/8/08			
REGISTRATION PACKAGE \$150			
Includes breakfast on Friday & Monday, the City Tour on Saturday, the Sunday evening banquet, and reunion expenses.			
<i>Please select your entrée choice(s) for the banquet:</i>			
LONDON BROIL	\$150		\$
CHICKEN MARSALA	\$150		\$
BAKED TILAPIA	\$150		
OPTIONAL TOURS			
FRIDAY: WHITE HOUSE TOUR (FOR OFLAG 64 POWs ONLY)			\$
SUNDAY: ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY TOUR	\$36		\$
Total Amount Payable to <u>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</u>			\$

PLEASE PRINT NAME AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR ON YOUR NAMETAG

FIRST _____ LAST _____ EMAIL _____

SPOUSE NAME FOR NAMETAG (IF ATTENDING) _____

GUEST NAMES _____

POW's STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, ST, ZIP _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____

DISABILITY/DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____
(Sleeping room requirements must be conveyed by attendee directly with hotel)

MUST YOU BE LIFTED HYDRAULICALLY ONTO THE BUS WHILE SEATED IN YOUR WHEELCHAIR IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN BUS TRIPS? YES NO (PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE AVAILABILITY).

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____ PH. NUMBER (____) _____ - _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES NO ARE YOU FLYING? DRIVING? RV?
 For refunds and cancellations please refer to our policies outlined at the bottom of the reunion program. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9:00am-5:00pm EASTERN TIME (excluding holidays).** Call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion.



OFLAG 64
OCTOBER 9 – 13, 2008
HOLIDAY INN NATIONAL AIRPORT – ARLINGTON, VA (WASHINGTON DC AREA)

Thursday, October 9

2:00pm - 6:00pm **Reunion Registration open**
3:00pm - Hospitality Room open throughout the reunion
Evening and Dinner on your own

Friday, October 10

7:00am - 9:00am Breakfast Buffet in the hotel restaurant (tickets provided)
9:00am - 11:00am Business Meeting
WHITE HOUSE TOUR (description follows)
Evening and Dinner on your own

Saturday, October 11

10:00am - 3:00pm CITY TOUR (description follows)
Evening and Dinner on your own

Sunday, October 12

12:15pm - 4:15pm ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY (description follows)
6:00pm - 7:00pm Cash Bar Reception and Social Hour
7:00pm Banquet begins

Monday, October 13

7:00am - 8:30am Breakfast Buffet in the hotel restaurant (tickets provided)
8:30am - 9:30am Memorial Service
Farewells & Departures

CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY FOR ARMED FORCES REUNIONS, INC.

For attendees canceling reunion activities prior to the cut-off date, Armed Forces Reunions, Inc. (AFR) shall process a full refund less the non-refundable AFR registration fee (\$10 per person). Attendees canceling reunion activities after the cut-off date will be refunded to the fullest extent that AFR's vendor commitments and guarantees will allow, less the non-refundable AFR registration fee. **Cancellations will only be taken Monday through Friday from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Time, excluding holidays.** Please call (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain a cancellation code. Refunds processed 4-6 weeks after reunion. Canceling your hotel reservation does not cancel your reunion activities.



TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

WHITE HOUSE TOUR

Friday, October 10

This is still deep in the planning stages, but our hope is to embark on a special tour of the White House, focusing mainly on the West Wing. We're aiming for a Friday afternoon tour, but details will be determined after the cut-off date. **NOTE: This tour is only open to POWs.**

CITY TOUR

Saturday, October 11

See the sites of our nation's capital during a driving tour of Washington, D.C. Ride by the Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial, WWII Memorial, the Mall, Capitol Building, Washington Monument, White House, and other notable monuments and federal buildings. Free time will be allowed at the National World War II Memorial, the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II. Afterward, stop at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, which is the largest building (3.1 million square feet) in Washington, DC and is the first and only federal building dedicated to both government and private use. While there, enjoy lunch on your own at the Reagan Building food court - named one of the "best family food courts" in DC.

10:00am board bus, 3:00pm back at the hotel

Price for bus and guide is included in the reunion package. Lunch is on your own.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Sunday, October 12

Before heading to Arlington National Cemetery, we'll stop for a quick bite to eat at the Pentagon City Food Court. The tour of the Cemetery will be aboard Park Service Trams. Ride by Arlington House, home of General and Mrs. Robert E. Lee. The 1,000 acres of the cemetery were once part of the Lee Estate. Visit the Tomb of the Unknowns where you will see the changing of the guard, and then visit the gravesites of President and Mrs. John F. Kennedy and his brother Robert, lit by the eternal flame.

12:15pm board bus, 4:15pm back at the hotel

\$36/Person includes bus, escort, and tram. Lunch on your own.

Driver and guide gratuities are not included in the tour prices. Please plan to be at the bus boarding area at least five minutes prior to scheduled time.

All trips require a minimum of thirty people, unless otherwise stated.

Register online at www.armedforcesreunions.com/oflag

(A \$6 convenience fee will be added)



**HOLIDAY INN NATIONAL AIRPORT/CRYSTAL CITY – ARLINGTON, VA
703-684-7200**

The Holiday Inn National Airport, a full service hotel is located at 2650 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202. The hotel is just one half mile from Ronald Reagan National Airport. Please call the hotel for accurate driving instructions. The monuments, museums and galleries of Washington, DC are just moments away by metro or automobile. Each guest room features a coffee maker, hairdryer and iron/ironing board. For recreation activities, the hotel has an outdoor (seasonal) pool and an exercise gym. Hotel amenities include a gift shop, guest Laundromat, a free newspaper, and a newsstand. The hotel offers handicapped accessible and non-smoking rooms, which are based on availability. Please request these special accommodations when making your reservation. Parking will be complimentary with unlimited in and out privileges for reunion attendees. Check-in time is 4:00pm; check-out time is 12:00 noon. **The National Diner** features breakfast all day and a great selection of American fare from around the country. **O'Malley's Sports Pub & Grill** is the perfect place for happy hour, dinner or a light snack. Room service is available.

The hotel provides complimentary transportation to and from the Reagan National Airport, the Metro, the Pentagon and the Fashion Centre Mall. Upon arrival at the Reagan National Airport, call the hotel from the courtesy phone in the baggage claim area to arrange your pickup.

Due to limited space the hotel does not offer parking for RVs, but for full RV hookup service, the Pohick Bay Park on the Potomac River is the closest park to the hotel, which is approximately twenty miles away, located at 6501 Pohick Bay Drive in Lorton, VA. Call (703) 339-6104 for information, reservations, and directions. Their web address is www.nvrpa.org.

Should you need to rent a wheelchair for the reunion, ScootAround rents both manual and power wheel chairs by the day and week. Please call their toll free number at (888) 441-7575 for details. All prices quoted include delivery fees.

Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

*****CUT HERE AND MAIL TO THE HOTEL *****

**OFLAG 64 REUNION - HOTEL RESERVATION FORM
REUNION DATES: OCTOBER 9-13, 2008**

NAME _____ PHONE (____) _____-

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ APPROX. TIME _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

of rooms _____ # of people _____ Handicap Access _____ King Bed _____ 2 Double Beds _____
(If room type requested is not available, nearest room type will be assigned)

RATE: \$89 + tax (currently 12.25%) for Double or King.

CUT OFF DATE: 9/08/08. Reservations received after this date will be processed on space & rate availability.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Deposit is refundable if reservation is cancelled by 48 hours prior to your arrival day.

All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or first night's deposit, enclosed.

___ AMEX ___ DINERS ___ VISA ___ MASTERCARD ___ DISCOVER

CARD NUMBER _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature (regardless of payment method) _____

Mail to: Holiday Inn National Airport * 2650 Jefferson Davis Highway * Arlington, VA 22202 Attn: Reservations





MAIL CALL



Win Ball from Southington CT (widow of James A. Ball) recently sent a nice note along with a contribution to the Postage Fund. She wrote: "I look forward to receiving the Post Oflag 64 Item and to reading all the informative articles....My family persuaded me to move from NC to CT to be closer to most family members. I'm still trying to get used to such an extreme change. I missed so many reunions because of illness or other commitments. I would very much like to attend the reunion in DC in October. However, I plan to be in the DC area in July for a family wedding and don't think I will be able to plan another trip there in October. I send my very best wishes to one and all for a wonderful Reunion." *Thanks, Win, for your thoughtful contribution to the Postage Fund and for your nice note. Both are greatly appreciated. We would love to see you at a future reunion but certainly understand your reason for not attending this year. Best wishes to you and your family at the wedding in July. Please write again.*



Eleanor Bertrand from Baton Rouge LA (friend of Pat Waters and Oflag 64) recently emailed: "I attended the 2006 Oflag 64 Reunion in New Orleans at the invitation of Pat Waters. Pat was my neighbor in Baton Rouge for 10 years. He is a wonderful friend and the ultimate patriot. I am a registered nurse and have been traveling with Military Historical Tours for six years. I take care of the veterans and other participants who may need medical care. After attending the Oflag Reunion, I convinced MHT that we needed to develop a tour to take POWs back to their Stalags and Oflags. I was privileged to accompany several POWs back to Germany and Poland last September. You probably saw the Power Point presentation by Lynn Kanaya at your last reunion. I have just completed a book featuring 22 veterans who have shared their personal stories with me. Included in my book are Jimmie Kanaya from Oflag 64, Martin Jones from Hammelburg, and Oscar Richard from Stalag I. Also featured are three POWs from the Philippines. Pat wrote a review of my book on the web site which was humbling to me. I simply want my vets to be remembered for generations to come." *Thanks, Ellie, for writing and for letting us know about your book (#18 on the Publications page of this ITEM). We appreciate your efforts in getting the stories told. Hope to see you at future reunions. Please write again.*

Nancy Bryant from Lakeland FL (daughter of the late Arthur W. Bryant, Jr.) recently found our website and wrote: "Your site gave Dad a lot of comfort in these later years even though he had macular degeneration and could not see well. Unfortunately, Dad died this last May." *Nancy, we were so sorry to hear of your dad's passing. Another great man will be missed. Best Wishes to you and your family. We hope to hear from you again.*

T. J. Bugg III from West Chester OH (son of Thomas J. Bugg, Jr.) sent by email a short time ago, a proclamation signed by President Bush in recognition of Former POWs. (Please see the Information Station section of this ITEM.) He also included a great link to other related information. <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/powday/index.htm> *Thanks, T.J., for sending the proclamation as well as the related link. Our ex-POWs certainly deserve recognition not only for their sacrifices but for their devotion and loyalty to their country. Please keep in touch.*

Roy and Helen Chappell from Kaufman TX sent an email recently saying: "We had an exciting call yesterday, June 6, from Nils Cowan, Henninger Productions, asking Roy for details of the Oflag 64 POW Group. He wants to do an hour-long production for the National Geographic channel in Jan, 2009 (hopefully) if he can get enough material he desires. He told me he was in touch with you, and I enjoyed so much meeting him on the phone. He asked me about several 64 'Kreigies" that we have known. I really hope



we can meet him in person if he comes to Dallas at any time. We invited him. Roy's short term memory did not enable him to answer some of the questions he asked, but I think this is the beginning of something enjoyable and informative. I will mail Nils a copy of my book (which we discussed) for more POW info and some pictures that might prove valuable to his purpose. Robert Galloway wrote me that Henninger productions had been in touch with him, so we will share what Robert needs. How I wish Roy and I were able to attend the Washington Reunion, but it is not possible. We are so blessed to be in care of a wonderful LVN nurse for healthcare. *Thanks, Helen, for sharing your communication (with Nils Cowan) with us. We hope our Oflag 64 Kriegies are able to provide the information he's looking for and that those without email have been able to contact Nils directly. We hope, also, that you find a good source for reprinting your book. Our best to you both. We will certainly miss you in Washington D.C.*



Bill Cory from Louisville KY (88) recently wrote and sent not only photos of Oflag 64 taken in 1986 by folks who had visited the camp but others that had been taken of some of our Kriegies while at Oflag 64. He spoke of Oflag 64 friends past and present and of tunnel mates "Spud" Murphy, Bill Fabian and Hervey Robinson and of their escape plan. He also spoke of Bill Warthen, stating: "Although from Vidalia, he should send us all pecans at Christmas Time as he told me he doesn't grow Vidalia onions – only Georgia pecans!".

Thanks, Bill, for your letters and for the great photos. It's always a pleasure to hear from you. Hope to see you in Washington D.C. in October. Please write again.

Nils Cowan from Arlington VA (television producer) emailed "I just wanted to send a quick note of thanks for all the help you've provided in getting the message about our film out to all the Oflag-64 Kriegies. It was great to see the posts in the Summer ITEM and hopefully we'll get some more great responses and stories very soon. As you may have heard, I had a wonderful conversation with Helen and Roy Chappell on Friday and got a lot of helpful information. I also had a great talk with Wilbur Sharpe recently. I plan on speaking with Vincent DiFrancesco and George Juskalian early this week. I will indeed keep you updated on our progress!" In a subsequent email, Nils commented that he will also be speaking with Royal Lee soon. As you may be aware, Royal Lee is the last surviving member of the four referred to in the book The Escape Factory. *Thanks, Nils, for keeping us posted on your film production. What an exciting project! We hope all goes well in the interview process and that we'll hear from you again soon.*

Gary Fox from Tiffin OH (new to our organization) found the Oflag 64 website recently and asked to be added to our email list. Gary is gathering information and writing a book pertaining to the 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment and officers from the 507th who were interned at Oflag 64. He has also been able to help us locate Gordon K. Smith, with whom we had previously lost contact. Gary has requested notification of ITEM postings on the website. *Thank you, Gary, for contacting us and letting us know how to contact Gordon Smith. We hope your book project turns out well and that you are able to find the information you desire. We'd love to hear from you again and to hear how your writing is coming along. ITEM notifications will be forthcoming.*

Anne Fratzke from Staunton IL (wife of Alfred R. Fratzke) recently emailed news of her husband with whom we had previously lost contact. She wrote: "Alfred is 90 years old now and in poor health. He has macular degeneration, difficulty walking, memory problems and other significant disabilities. His ability to travel is severely limited. Though he enjoyed his prior association with Oflag 64, because of his disabilities, he is no longer interested in being a current member of the organization or receiving the newsletter." *Thanks, Anne, for sending updates on Al. We are sorry to hear of his health problems and that he is not able to continue contact with our organization. Our best to you both. We hope you'll keep in touch and that you'll be able to access future ITEMS on the Oflag 64 website.*

Chris Heisler from Wakefield RI recently emailed that he has a new email address. He sent compliments on the ITEM and also commented: "Hope to see our friends in DC in October." *Thanks, Chris, for sending updates and also for your kind words about the ITEM. They are greatly appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you and Gloria at the October reunion. Hope to hear from you again.*



David Henry from Fort Worth TX (son of the late Robert T. Henry) recently found our website and has been added to our email list. He is in touch from time to time with Amon Carter's sister, Ruth Carter Stevenson, who lives in the same area. David emailed: "Please let me know if I may be of any assistance. As a writer (and webmaster), I have to ask, has a book ever been written about Oflag 64 from inception on?" After sending him resources to check, in another email he expressed: "You've given me tons of stuff to look at ... Thank you so much for your help and references and links." *Thanks, David, for writing. We're happy you've found our website and hope you'll let us know how your research into our site goes. It would be great to meet you at a future reunion. Please contact us again.*

Glen Jackson from Atlanta GA (friend of Pat Waters) asked to be added to our email list and wrote: "Thank you for including me. It is an honor. My dad, Ed Jackson of Columbus, Georgia, landed on Utah Beach on D-Day. He drove a Sherman tank as part of the 70th Tank Battalion, and was wounded on June 9 and spent the following months interned at Stalag 7A in Moosburg, Germany. Dad escaped from Stalag 7A only to be recaptured. We visited the POW camp in 1980 with dad before he passed away in 1983. It was a poignant trip for many reasons. My mom and dad have three sons. We all live in Atlanta. I am the keeper of my dad's diary he kept as a POW. It is so special and includes drawings, maps and other memorabilia." Glen's dad served with General Waters. *Thanks, Glen, for writing. We're happy to welcome you to our Oflag 64 family. We have a wonderful group. We hope you'll have an opportunity to check out our website and to attend our Reunions. Please write again.*

Bret Job from Minnetonka MN emailed the sad news that his mother-in-law, Bette Holmquist (widow of Kriegy Ray Holmquist) recently passed away. She was just short of her 85th birthday. Please see the TAPS section for her obituary. *Thanks, Bret, for writing. Our sincere sympathies and heartfelt condolences are extended to members of the family. We know she will be missed.*



Jimmie and Lynn Kanaya from Gig Harbor WA in a recent email wrote: "We have received a copy of Eleanor Bertrand's new book, "Tours of Duty". It is a series of stories told by veterans who have traveled with Eleanor to the Pacific and European WWII battlefields with Military History Tours. The first part of the paperback is written by veterans from the Pacific, but the last portion talks about the tour we took to German Oflag (Oflag 64) and Luftfs. I wanted you to know that there are the following pictures:

Abe Baum and comments about the Raid. p. 138

Picture of the reunion attendees from New Orleans. p. 139.

Pat and Martha Waters. p. 140.

Oflag 64 Monument in Schubin. p. 141

Master Sgt. Heinlein in Hammelburg, Germany

Jimmie Kanaya receiving his battlefield commission from Mark Clark. p. 158

Jimmie Kanaya's story about escaping from Nuremberg. p. 158-162

Jimmie and Lynn with Eleanor. p. 163

The book is available at Amazon.com on line. Maybe you could find it at your local library. We will bring it to the next reunion for you to see. The part that relates to the Kriegies is a small part at the very end of the book: p. 137-162. We have new stories to share about our revisit to Korea this spring sponsored by the South Korean government." *Thanks, Jimmie and Lynn, for sharing this information with us. We look forward to seeing you in Washington D.C. and hearing about your visit to Korea.*

Susie Barnum Koprowski from Meredith NH (daughter of William H. Barnum III pictured here) recently found our website and wrote: "We ran across your web site and we were delighted to see the wonderful work you have done. My father, William H. Barnum was in Oflag 64 in Sept of 1944. He is living in New Hampshire. He is 91 years old and living in an assisted living facility. He often talks about his time at Oflag 64. We printed out some of the information on your web site. We were not sure if you knew his whereabouts so we thought we would drop you a line. We would love to hear from you." In another email she wrote: "My mom and dad are at the same facility in New Hampshire but they had to separate



them after 62 years of marriage due to her Alzheimer's disease. Thanks for sending a copy of the ITEM." *Susie, we're so happy you found us and happy that we now have a new address for your dad. He was one we had temporarily lost contact with. We're sorry to hear about your mom's Alzheimer's and that she and your dad must be separated, but we hope all goes well for them. We also hope you enjoy the ITEM and that we might be able to meet you at one of our future Reunions. Please keep in touch.*

Patti McCullough Lay from Melbourne FL (daughter of the late Lory L. McCullough) has been corresponding by email with Frank van Lunteren from the Netherlands about her father and other members of the 504th Parachute Infantry Division who resided as POWs at Oflag 64. In a recent email to him she wrote: "I'm so excited and happy to hear from someone like yourself who has more information about my father during the time when he was a prisoner of war than anyone to date." (See Mr. van Lunteren's email in the Information Station section of this ITEM for more information.) *Thanks, Patti, for writing and for sharing with us your email to Mr. van Lunteren. What an exciting bit of news! We hope your continued communications with him yield a treasure trove of information. Please keep us posted. It would also be great to see you at a future reunion.*

Nancy Leavitt from Gloucester MA (cousin of the late Irv Yarock) sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with a short note. *Thanks, Nancy, for writing and for the thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund. It is very much appreciated. We hope you're able to stay in contact with the Oflag 64 group and that you'll be able to access future ITEMS on the internet. Hope to hear from you again.*

Lloyd LeClair from Milwaukie OR when emailed about attending the reunion this year, answered "I have been in and out of the Vets Hosp., have had surgeries, I will not be able to attend the RE-Union." *Lloyd, it was good to hear from you again but we're so sorry to hear about your surgeries and hospital visits. Hope you return to normal health soon and that we'll see you at future reunions. Best wishes to you and please email again.*

Phil Lester from Plano TX emailed the sad news that his mother-in-law, Lucy Littman (wife of Herm Littman), recently passed away. She was 86. Please see the TAPS section for her obituary. He also reported that Herm will not be attending the Reunion this year. *Thanks, Phil, for writing. We mourn the loss of a wonderful lady. Our thoughts, prayers, and best wishes are extended to the family at this difficult time. We know she will be missed. We will also miss Herm at the Reunion.*



Eugene "Gene" Liggett from Vancouver WA when asked about attending the reunion this year, emailed: "A number of years ago I would have jumped at the opportunity or the excuse to go to our Nation's capitol and see all the inspiring sites. Now, however "old Father Time" has taken his toll. Thanks to the various News Media, this is about the closest I am able to see all the sites. I do wish I could go, but it is beyond my capabilities and I know better than to try it." *It was good to hear from you again, Gene. Sorry to hear that you will not be able to attend future reunions, but we certainly understand. Our best to you and your wife. Please write again.*

Paul Marable from Waco TX sent a donation to the Postage Fund along with a note letting us know that he no longer has email due to the high volume of junk mail he received. He also sent compliments on the ITEM. *Thanks, Paul, for your thoughtful donation to the Postage Fund and for your compliments on the ITEM. Both are very much appreciated. Thanks also for letting us know about your email address. Most of us with email can certainly relate to the problem with unwanted junk mail. Hope to see you at the Reunion in DC. Please write again.*

Robert O'Neill from Prescott AZ sent a donation to the Postage Fund. *Thanks, Bob, for your thoughtful and generous contribution. We so much appreciate the generous support of our members. Thanks also for the SMILES, one of which is included on the next page. They're always a pick-me-up. See you at the Reunion.*

Suzu Parker from McLean VA (daughter of the late Chaplain Robert Scott) has recently emailed lists and notes that her late father kept while a POW at Oflag 64. There are lists of Kriegies, foods,

expendables, calendars, etc. Four of his lists are included on page 18 of this ITEM. She hopes to attend the banquet at the Reunion. *Thanks, Suzy, for sending the lists your father kept. It's interesting to see the names of Kriegies we know and of other things associated with the time the men were interned. Looking forward to seeing you in Washington D.C. Hope to hear from you again soon.*

Bob Thompson from Tulsa OK recently made an interesting connection with John Glover, a new member of our organization, as a result of an inquiry in the last ITEM. John had posted a query asking for information on his grandfather, A. B. Rodriguez. Bob saw the query and responded thusly: "I noticed your inquiry in the last issue of the Post Oflag 64 Item about A B Rodriguez. I looked in the roster of all the men at Oflag 64 and there was only one A B Rodriguez. He was in our cubicle at Oflag 64 and was a good friend of all of us in the cubicle. We were on the long cold march and I remember him very well. I tried to locate him in San Antonio a few years ago and I think everybody in San Antonio is named Rodriguez. Anyway, I had no luck on locating him. All the other men in our cubicle are now departed, I think!! I will answer any questions you have that I am able to." In a separate email Bob sent his new email address. *What a great connection, Bob! Thanks for sharing with us and thanks for sending your new email address. We hope your health continues to improve daily and that you will once again be able to attend our Oflag Reunions. Best Wishes to you and your family. We'd love to hear from you again.*



Frank van Lunteren from Arnhem in the Netherlands recently found our website and asked to be added to our email list. He is writing a book about the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division during WWII and is looking for information. He is currently in contact with Herm Littman and Arthur LeSage, with the son of Bill Fabian, and with the daughter of Lory McCullough. Please see a copy of his email in the Information Station section of this ITEM for more information. (You may want to check out his website at: www.freewebs.com/tuckerstroopers) *Welcome, Frank, to our organization. We hope you will be able to find the information you seek for your book. Best wishes to you. Please write again.*



Bill Warthen from Vidalia GA forwarded an email from Peter Domes, one of our Oflag 64 friends from Germany, regarding a new book about the Hammelburg Raid. The email can be found in the Information Station section of this ITEM. Bill also wrote: "I'm sure someone has forwarded this message from Peter Domes, about his book which he has been planning for over a year. He came to our Minneapolis Reunion and talked to our group and the Host Historical Organization and was most impressive. I've corresponded with him for at least 5 years, and he has hosted several groups of ex-Kriegies, including Abe Baum and other members of his raiding party. This will be of great interest not only to our Oflag 64 folks but the huge number of ex-Kriegies from the 106th Div. who were involved in that "unbelievable night". Peter is a Col. In the German army and is still active, I think, though he had a serious injury Summer before last, and that might have initiated retirement, he is about 50 years old." *Thanks, Bill, for sharing Peter's email. We appreciate the work Peter Domes and Martin Heinlein have done over the years to help make the Hammelburg Raid story available to all of us. We'll see you at the Reunion in October.*

SMILES from Robert "Bob" O'Neill

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed him to hear 100%.

He went back in a month and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

ARTICLES

The Jews of Iwo Jima

**Submitted by Kathy Ezell (daughter of William Warthen)
December 2007**



Yesterday marked the 60th anniversary of the start of the battle for Iwo Jima. I thought it appropriate to spotlight some news and information about the Jews who fought and died in the five-week battle between 70,000 American Marines (1,500 of which were Jewish) and an unknown number of deeply entrenched Japanese defenders. An interesting fact that many of you may be unaware of is the historic events that surrounded a Jewish chaplain on the island. Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, assigned to the Fifth Marine Division, was the first Jewish chaplain the Marine Corps ever appointed. Rabbi Gittelsohn was in the thick of the fray, ministering to Marines of all faiths in the combat zone. His tireless efforts to comfort the wounded and encourage the fearful won him three service ribbons. When the fighting was over, Rabbi Gittelsohn was asked to deliver the memorial sermon at a combined religious service dedicating the Marine Cemetery. Unfortunately, racial and religious prejudice led to problems with the ceremony. What happened next immortalized Rabbi Gittelsohn and his sermon forever. It was Division Chaplain Warren Cuthriell, a Protestant minister, who originally asked Rabbi Gittelsohn to deliver the memorial sermon. Cuthriell wanted all the fallen Marines (black and white, Protestant, Catholic and Jewish) honored in a single, nondenominational ceremony. However, according to Rabbi Gittelsohn's autobiography, the majority of Christian chaplains objected to having a rabbi preach over predominantly Christian graves. The Catholic chaplains, in keeping with church doctrine, opposed any form of joint religious service. To his credit, Cuthriell refused to alter his plans. Gittelsohn, on the other hand, wanted to save his friend Cuthriell further embarrassment and so decided it was best not to deliver his sermon. Instead, three separate religious services were held. At the Jewish service, to a congregation of 70 or so who attended, Rabbi Gittelsohn delivered the powerful eulogy he originally wrote for the combined service:

"Here lie men who loved America because their ancestors generations ago helped in her founding. And other men who loved her with equal passion because they themselves or their own fathers escaped from oppression to her blessed shores. Here lie officers and men, Negroes and Whites, rich men and poor, together. Here are Protestants, Catholics, and Jews together. Here no man prefers another because of his faith or despises him because of his color. Here there are no quotas of how many from each group are admitted or allowed. "Among these men there is no discrimination. No prejudices. No hatred. Theirs is the highest and purest democracy! Whosoever of us lifts his hand in hate against a brother, or who thinks himself superior to those who happen to be in the minority, makes of this ceremony and the bloody sacrifice it commemorates, an empty, hollow mockery. To this then, as our solemn sacred duty, do we the living now dedicate ourselves: To the right of Protestants, Catholics, and Jews, of White men and Negroes alike, to enjoy the democracy for which all of them have here paid the price. "We here solemnly swear this shall not be in vain. Out of this and from the suffering and sorrow of those who mourn this, will come, we promise, the birth of a new freedom for the sons of men everywhere."

Among Gittelsohn's listeners were three Protestant chaplains so incensed by the prejudice voiced by their colleagues that they boycotted their own service to attend Gittelsohn's. One of them borrowed the manuscript and, unknown to Gittelsohn, circulated several thousand copies to his regiment. Some Marines enclosed the copies in letters to their families. An avalanche of coverage resulted. Time magazine published excerpts, which wire services

spread even further. The entire sermon was inserted into the Congressional Record, the Army released the eulogy for short-wave broadcast to American troops throughout the world and radio commentator Robert St. John read it on his program and on many succeeding Memorial Days. In 1995, in his last major public appearance before his death, Gittelsohn reread a portion of the eulogy at the 50th commemoration ceremony at the Iwo Jima statue in Washington, D.C. In his autobiography, Gittelsohn reflected, I have often wondered whether anyone would ever have heard of my Iwo Jima sermon had it not been for the bigoted attempt to ban it. Posted by Lt. Rubin in Great Stories, History.

* * * * *



“Kriegie” Heroes

by

Helen Chappell

(wife of Col. Roy J. Chappell, Jr.)

“Yep, it’s me” could be heard from the line
“Home at last.....after making the climb”
“I’ll be there right away.....you just mark the day
“Won’t be long...just be strong...nothing gets in the way...”

It was voices we heard when the ships did descend
No stopping them now.....they had come to the end
Of a perilous journey.....a hard time of capture
But it’s joy from now on.....a real change for rapture

Wives and Sweethearts were waiting.....so faithful and true
With families strong.....a time to renew
This kind of HAPPINESS few history books knew
Such JOYOUS CELEBRATION.....there’ve been very few

Their lives made impressions.....for LOVE and SUCCESS
Contributions galore.....never failing their tests
Remembering values that counted the most
For BRAVERY untold we give them a “toast”

Back home through the years they did surely “Unite”
Telling stories and yarns.....how well they did fight
Keeping MEMORIES alive – making BLESSINGS their aim
Never once seeking their well-deserved FAME

We salute you, Dear Friends, and send you OUR LOVE
You stand out as HEROES WITH GOD UP ABOVE
You deserve every honor.....you’ll never “retreat”
Our respect never waivers – so keep up the “BEAT”.

Sept. 13-17, 2006

INFORMATION STATION

EMAIL ADDRESS UPDATES NEEDED

We're looking for updated email addresses for:

**Herb Garris
Robert E. Levin
Wilbur Sharpe**

For others with email, if you have recently changed your email address or are not yet receiving notifications by email, please send your updated information to Elodie at: elodie-oflag64@comcast.net or to the mailing address on the front page of this ITEM.

CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDED

We have lost contact with the men listed below. If you know where they are and/or can confirm death dates (dates listed are unconfirmed), please send updates to Elodie Caldwell at one of the addresses on the front page of this ITEM.

Benedict V. Amato (84)	DOD	10/31/95
Orville L. Barks (82)		05/07/94
William H. Barnum III		<u>found</u>
Wayne C. Clark (82)		04/04/00
Leonard Feldman		
Al R. Fratzke		<u>found</u>
Gordon G. Frey		<u>found</u>
Joseph S. Friedman		
Hugh G. Hogan		
Arthur E. Mallory (80)		08/25/99
Julius G. Parker (87)		05/16/05
Theodore A. Pawloski (89)		02/18/07
Weldon L. Plants (74)		12/04/93
Donald L. Rockwell (88)		12/16/03
Gerald F. Searle (78)		10/19/98
Gordon K. Smith		<u>found</u>
Francis B. Stevens		
Garland F. Vaughn, Sr. (93)		11/04/02
Anthony L. Vetrano, Jr.		
Henry J. Weintraub		
John C. Wood (80)		01/07/96
James C. Young		

From: Pdomes@aol.com

To: Majorb@san.rr.com; THO7448@aol.com; Zawada11@msn.com; billwarthen@gmail.com

Cc: ulrich.koch-dob@gmx.de

Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2008 1:35 PM

Subject: Our Book of the Hammelburg Raid

Hello my friends,

Please find attached an excerpt from an e-mail I received from Dr. Philipp Blood, who read the book for his friend Dr. Cirillo who is a publisher. His suggestion is very encouraging:

Let me begin on a positive note by stating from the outset that your book is well done and very innovative in its outlook.

- There is considerable research, including well found photographs and interviews with surviving participants in the events during the raid.*
- The size of the book makes it easy to **use** it and should it be desired, a staff ride could follow the route. This is facilitated by its many maps.*
- In regards to the translation. Your writing is pleasant, flowing and interesting. You appear not to bombard the reader with pathos, sentimentality or other "Germanisms". Instead you keep the ball rolling and for a less engaged reader it becomes quite interesting. You have used the chronological form to structure the book which given the story is the best format.*
- From this regard I have already spoken with Dr. Cirillo and **recommended it as a potential publication for the AUSA.***

Well this is great news and I hope to get in contact with Dr. Cirillo pretty soon. My special thanks goes to Bob Zawada, who opened the door for our book. It seems to be quite difficult to find a publisher in the USA for German writers. So I hope I climbed the first obstacle!

Best regards from me, Martin Heinlein and our families,
Peter Domes

From: wynnkimble@bellsouth.net
Subject: question
Date: May 31, 2008 11:55:38 AM
To: elodie@oflag64.org

I know a lot of OFLAG 64 officers went East toward Odessa in their escape effort.

Is there any accounting or history of who, and when? Importantly, per my uncle "Roger Teyssier", his group started with perhaps 6-10, but very few actually made it to Odessa, and a lesser number made it on shipboard, for eventual return to the USA.

Thank you for your effort.

Wynn Kimble
3381 Wilderness Drive
Powder Springs, GA 30127-4447

From: [Brandon Bies@nps.gov](mailto:Brandon.Bies@nps.gov)
Subject: P.O. Box 1142 and Oflag 64
Date: July 1, 2008 1:28:58 PM PDT
To: elodie@oflag64.org
Cc: [Vincent Santucci@nps.gov](mailto:Vincent.Santucci@nps.gov)

I believe Megan Strand has let you know a little bit about our project, and that we may be contacting you regarding Oflag 64 and the relationship with MIS-X and P.O. Box 1142. We're juggling a number of different projects here at the park...but none of these projects is nearly as interesting and exciting as uncovering the story of P.O. Box 1142! I'm happy to provide as much background as I can on 1142 and its roll during the war. But I assume that you are generally familiar with the MIS-X program, which attempted to communicate with and assist American soldiers held prisoner. Their entire operation was based out of 1142, which is now Fort Hunt Park, part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

We have been coordinating an extensive oral history program that has sought to locate and interview surviving WWII veterans with a link to 1142. To date,

we have identified approximately 50 living veterans who served at 1142 during the war, and we have conducted formal oral history interviews with over 80% percent of these. Many men were involved in a larger interrogation program, but several were assigned to the MIS-X program.

Megan has let us know about your group, and your planned reunion this fall. We would love to let your group know about our project, as it would be interesting if any of the survivors from Oflag 64 knew of the MIS-X program. Specifically, we'd love to know if any of them ever communicated with 1142 via coded messages, or if any recalled receiving escape aids via care packages. Any opportunity to meet veterans from Oflag 64 who might recall these experiences, would be extremely beneficial to our project.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Brandon S. Bies
Cultural Resource Specialist
George Washington Memorial Parkway
Turkey Run Park
McLean, VA 22101
703-289-2534 (office) 202-439-7330 (cell)

(NOTE: Brandon Bies and Nils Cowan are in contact with each other on this program.)

From: macfrank82@hotmail.com
Subject: Oflag 64
Date: July 13, 2008 2:35:30 AM
To: elodie-oflag64@comcast.net

I am a Dutch historian and I live in Arnhem, the Netherlands. I am writing a book about the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment of the 82nd Airborne Division in World War Two. Several officers of the 504th were sent to Oflag 64 after they were captured:

- LTC Charles Kouns (BN CO 3rd BN, 504th PIR)
- LT Herman Littman (H Company 504th PIR)

- LT Bill E. Fabian (I Company, 504th PIR)
- LT Harry Evans (presumably G Company, 504th PIR)
- LT Louis Otterbein (presumably H Company, 504th PIR)
- LT Lory L. McCullough (G Company 504th PIR)
- LT Charles R. Witt (may have been 509th PIB)
- LT Arthur LeSage Jr (D Company, 504th PIR)

I am looking for any information about these officers and/or any photo's of them while they were in captivity. I know that Lieutenant Littman was placed in solitary confinement a number of times for attempts to escape. Lieutenant Fabian was among the small group of officers that hid in the tunnel when the camp was evacuated. All these men, except McCullough who was captured in Holland and LeSage who was captured at Anzio, were made POW on Sicily in July 1943.

Frank W. van Lunteren
 Oudeschanspad 19
 6835 BH Arnhem
 The Netherlands

MEDALS OF AMERICA

Occasionally the question is asked where military medals or patches can be obtained. The following websites might be helpful.

- <http://usmedals.com/StoreHome3.aspx?service=airforce>
- <http://usmedals.com/StoreHome3.aspx?service=army>
- <http://usmedals.com/StoreHome3.aspx?service=navy>
- <http://usmedals.com/StoreHome3.aspx?service=marines>
- <http://usmedals.com/StoreHome3.aspx?service=coastguard>

The Oflag 64 organization does not endorse or recommend particular products, but here are some comments from members who have used Medals of America.

John Allen Albree LTC. USA (Ret.-former Aide-de-Camp to Gen. John K. Waters) – *“I had my medals mounted in a wall display by Medals of America. They do a beautiful job. They can be reached at 1-800-308-0849.”*

John Creech – *“I use Medals of America because they are so close and offer every kind you can imagine.”*

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From the Editor

Oflag 64 Website/Email Information

Some of you may be experiencing problems as you try to access the Oflag 64 website or as you attempt to email the oflag64.org email addresses. We apologize for any delays you are experiencing or for any bounce back emails you're receiving. We're not yet sure why, but the Oflag 64 server keeps going down and that affects accessing the website as well as emailing to related Oflag64.org addresses. We hope you'll keep trying, but until we're able to get the problem resolved, please use this comcast email address to contact me: elodie-oflag64@comcast.net

The Fall 2008 ITEM with updates to Reunion information will be uploaded to the Oflag 64 website as soon as possible but will also be temporarily available online at: <http://home.comcast.net/~2caldwells/Items/2008FallITEM.pdf>

Thanks very much for your patience and understanding.



National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, 2008

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America is blessed to have brave men and women willing to step forward to defend our freedoms and keep us safe. The members of the United States Armed Forces have proudly held fast against determined and ruthless enemies, protected our citizens from harm, and freed millions from oppression. On National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, we pay tribute to the courageous and selfless individuals who were taken captive while serving the cause of peace and securing liberty across the globe.

America's former prisoners of war set an example of vision, valor, and unshakeable love of country that inspires our citizens. Through unspeakable conditions, they upheld their oath to defend America with honor and dignity. Their extraordinary spirit, patriotism, and resolve helped defeat tyranny and build democratic and just societies, enabling decent men and women around the world to live in freedom.

Our Nation is extremely proud of our former prisoners of war, and we owe them and their families a debt we can never fully repay. On National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, we honor our country's heroes who were prisoners of war, recognize their sacrifice, and express our deepest gratitude to those who helped write a more hopeful chapter in our history.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2008, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day. I call upon the people of the United States to join me in honoring the service and sacrifices of all of America's former prisoners of war. I call upon Federal, State, and local government officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GWB", located at the bottom of the proclamation text.

Submitted by T. J. Bugg, III (son of Thomas J. Bugg, Jr.)



1st Lt. Jas. B. Berry, 3020 Forest, Kansas City, Mo.
 2d Lt. Gordon C. Berg, New Richmond, Minnesota
 Chalton, Howard R., 1366 Scenic Hi. Way, Baton Rouge, La.
 Cheattle, Leonard, St. Marys, Pa.
 Diamond, Henry, 41 East Norwich Ave, Columbus, Ohio
 Ellsworth, R. F., 166 Taft Ave, Pocatello, Idaho
 Fenton, Blondell, 521 Da Klyn Ave, Trenton, N. J.
 Habig, Francis M., 1105 N. Main St, Jasper, Indiana
~~Harvey~~ Kech, Delmar C., Route 1, Nyssa, Oregon
 Kurolec, Walter J., 829 Forest Ave, West Homestead, Pa.
 Manton, Richard M., 1152 Whitney Ave, Niagara Falls, N. Y.
 Morris, Wm. H., 4825 Winthrop Ave, Indianapolis
 Schmitz, Jas. R., Illinois Tax Commission, 27th Floor, 33 N. La Salle St. Chicago, Ill.
 Skintan, Hisee, Kekaha, Kauai, T. Hawaii
 Tschantz, Carl, 373 Paul St, Akron, Ohio
 Taylor, Albert, 2359 E. 15th St, Brooklyn, N.Y.
 Warnette, Donald R., Maccocton, Michigan
 Cable, Robert, 70 River St, Sidney, N. Y.
 Hall, Raymond S., 16 Louist St, Lynn, Mass.
 Moker, Jeremiah W., 14 910 Southampton Ave, Detroit
 Bohmy, A. W., Highway Drive, Wyckoff, N. J.
 Uppercus, Martin T., 706 Oldhome Rd., Baltimore

	Expendables
Communion set - 65.00	Grape Juice - 8 quarts
2 covers	Wafers - 3000
4 scarves ^{2 quarts} _{of chordin}	Candles
Patn, velvet cover \$ 3,	Peanut butter
Chalice Insert	3 pints, Jam, Jelly
2 Candlesticks 5.00	Candy, 4 boxes
Flag	Chocolate
Chambers cloths	Chewing gum - 3 cartons
Bible, leather case	Fruit Juice - 5 cans
Church Manual	Butter
Bottle pourer	Potted meats
Springback Notebook	Soap
Bottle opener	Tooth powder
Can opener	Shaving cream
Book clamps	Inks, pencils
Cork Screw (STERLING) \$2 1/8	Glue, paste, cement
	Cellophane tape

	grams (per day)	calories	grams food eaten November 13-20, 1944 lbs. ounces per month
Food Meat (25% bone)	35.7	41	
Bread	318.0	817	
Potatoes	393.	373	
Turnips	317.	80	
Fresh Vegetables:	96.	29	
Beets			
Carrots			
Cabbage			
Sugar	25	99	
Jam-sugar but pulp	25	10	
Margarine	21.4	165	
Cottage Cheese	8.9	9	
Barley	25.	72	
Sauerkraut	48.2	12	
Cooking Oil	9.7	70	
Salt	20.	-	
Dill Seed	.017	-	
Caraway Seed	.164	-	
Vinegar	.007	-	
Breathng Powder	10.7	20	
Coffee (instant)	2.5	-	
Tea (instant)	1.0	-	
	1357.6 grams, 1807 calories per day		
	425 (includes cooking, digestion, absorption - 25%)		
	1356 final total, calories per day		
Normal caloric requirements, at bed rest: 1728, man 5 feet 8 inches, weight 158 lbs. 1920, man 6 feet, weight 180 lbs.			
Sitting, standing, walking, increases caloric requirements 5, 10, 60%, respectively			
Exposure to cold can increase requirements up to 40%			
Daily deficit, about 1000 calories; equivalent to 1 lb fat every 4 days, OR 1 lb protein every 2 days - up to 15 lbs. per month			
CALORIC VALUES:			
FATS - 9 calories per gram			
PROTEINS - 4 calories per gram			
CARBOHYDRATES - 4 calories per gram			

Submitted by Suzy Parker (daughter of Chaplain Robert S. Scott)

ITEM COMMENTS

Let us know how we are doing. Constructive comments and criticisms are welcomed and appreciated. Here are some nice comments from some nice folks.



The last ITEM was very well done. ~ **Pat Bender, Philadelphia PA**

What a great edition you put out. Thank you! ~ **Kathy Ezell, Coral Gables FL**

The ITEM is without doubt the very best of any military organization's newsletter. It's hard to put down once I start reading it - the same goes for my wife, Gloria. ~ **Chris Heisler, Wakefield RI**

You, as usual, have edited a great Post Oflag 64 Item! ~ **Paul Marable, Waco TX**

Kathy sent me a copy and we all have enjoyed it. So professionally done. ~ **Bill Warthen, Vidalia GA**

Thanks for all your good work as editor of the Post Oflag 64 Item. ~ **Jack Stewart, Lincoln NE**

OFLAG 64 WEB CONNECTION

Your site gave my Dad a lot of comfort in these later years....Thank you, to all you at this site, for what you do for all the Oflag 64 veterans and their families!!! ~ **Nancy Bryant, Lakeland FL**

We ran across your web site and we were delighted to see the wonderful work you have done. ~ **Susie Barnum Koprowski, Boulder CO**

I was very happy to find so many information about Oflag 64 on your website. ~ **Frank van Lunteren; Arnhem, The Netherlands**

New Visitors to our Oflag 64 Web Site

Eleanor Bertrand – Military Historical Tours

Nancy Bryant – daughter of Art Bryant

Binnie Solensky Burke – daughter of John P. Solensky (TFB)

Ellsworth Cundiff –

Gary Fox – writing a book about 507th PIR held at Oflag 64

David Henry – son of Robert T. Henry

Glen Jackson – friend of Pat Waters

Susie Barnum Koprowski – daughter of William H. Barnum III

Margaret Spence McClone –

Major Bill McCulloch – Military Historical Tours

Frank van Lunteren – Dutch Historian writing about the 504th PIR held at Oflag 64



PUBLICATIONS

The following publications might be of interest to you. Many of them were written by our men. Your local library is a good place to check for availability. If you can't find what you're looking for there, check Amazon.com or write to the author or publisher.

1. **Americans Behind the Barbed Wire** by Frank Diggs, Story of Frank's trip across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Vandemere Press, P. O. Box 5243, Clearwater FL 22205 (New price is \$22.00 and includes Shipping and Handling.)
2. **Diary of A Kriegie** by Ed Beattie. Diary of Ed Beattie, A UPI Correspondent captured near the Moselle River in Sept '44. Publisher: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., New York NY
3. **Escape to Russia** by Howard "BOOMER" Holder. Story of Boomer Holder as he went across Russia in 1945. Publisher: Iberian Publishing Co., Athens GA
4. **Home Was Never Like This.** Diary of Col Yardley. Publisher: Yardley Enterprises. Evergreen, CO.
5. **In the Presence of Mine Enemies** by Eugene L Daniel (**NOTE**: No longer available through Rose Daniel.)
6. **Justifiable Pride** by William D. Stevens (**NOTE**: Now only available in paperback from Amazon.com)
7. **Katyn Forest Video** (Beta or VHS). Ray Towers, Jr., 25105 Vista Greens Court, Hayward CA 94541, 415-582-4871
8. **Kriegie** by Kenneth Simmons. Diary of an Air Force Pilot. Publisher: Thomas Nelson and Sons. New York NY.
9. **Kriegsgefangenen** (Prisoner of War) by Clarence Ferguson. Publisher: Texan Press, Waco TX
10. **OFLAG 64, 50th Anniversary Book.** Anniversary Committee (Co-authors: Bill Cory, Jim Bickers, Frank Diggs). Publisher: Evanston Publishing Co., Evanston IL.
11. **Passages to Freedom**, Joseph Frelinghuysen, 1990, Publisher: Sunflower University Press, 1531 Yuma (Box 1009), Manhattan KS 66502-4228, 800-258-1232 (\$17.95, includes S & H)
12. **Roads to Liberation from Oflag 64** by Clarence Meltesen. Story of Liberation from Oflag 64. Publisher: Oflag 64 Press. San Francisco, CA (\$25.00)
13. **A Ramble Through My War** by Charles T. Marshall, Publisher: Louisiana State University Press, 1999. (\$29.95)
14. **The Escape Factory** by Lloyd Shoemaker. Story of a secret organization in Wash DC that maintained contact with all POWs in WWII. St Martins Press. New York NY
15. **The Water and The Rock** by Charles Jones. Diary of a man captured in Africa. Publisher: Anchor Publishing Co., Northwood, IA
16. **The Welcome Swede** by Frank Diggs. Publisher: Vantage Press, New York, NY (\$11.00)

17. **33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III** by Albert P. Clark. Publisher: Fulcrum Publishing, 16100 Table Mountain Parkway, Suite 300, Golden CO 80403, 800-992-2908 (17.95 pb)

18. **Tours of Duty: World War II Veterans Personal Stories** by Eleanor Bertrand. Includes stories of Jimmie Kanaya from Oflag 64, Martin Jones from Hammelburg, and Oscar Richard from Stalag I. Publisher: BookSurge Publishing (2/22/08). \$17.99 from Amazon.com, 1-800-201-7575

Other Publications

These publications are available through the Oflag 64 organization. (Please make your check payable to Oflag 64 Postage Fund and mail it to Joe Seringer.)

Oflag 64 Audio CD	5.00
The Oflag 64 Directory	3.00
Original Roster-Oflag 64	10.00
The Men of Oflag 64	20.00
My Tour of Russia	5.00
Tribute to TF Baum	15.00
Hammelburg Roster	7.50
The Waters Story	19.50

WRITE DIRECTLY TO THESE CONTACTS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Press Releases by Ted Roggen, 101 Westcott, Houston TX 77007 (\$10.95)

Vic Kanners Diary. Contact Dave Kanners, 5479 Sandy Lane, Columbiaville MI 48421, 810-793-2719 (NO CHARGE)

Raid. The story of the Task Force Baum raid on the Hammelburg POW Camp. Publisher: Dell Publishing Co. (A few copies are available at \$8 each through our organization. Please make checks payable to the Oflag 64 Postage Fund c/o Elodie Caldwell.)

Roads to Liberation by Clarence R. Meltesen is available free of charge except for a \$5 per copy shipping fee. If you would like a book shipped to you, please contact:

Lynne Meltesen
12163 West Exposition Drive
Lakewood CO 80228-3300
Phone: 303-987-1833
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Joe Seringer
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Note: Joe Seringer will soon be stepping down as Treasurer of the Oflag 64 organization. Bret Job, a long-time member of the group and son-in-law of the late Ray Holmquist, will be taking over the reins. We thank Joe for many years of wonderful and dedicated service and we look forward to Bret's involvement as Treasurer. More information will be available soon.

TAPS

Charles M. Wilkinson 1920-2008

Charles M. Wilkinson, of Model CO, died June 21, 2008 at age 88.

A native Texan, he graduated from Texas A&M University in June, 1940. In March of 1941, he entered the Army as a 2nd Lt., and was assigned to the 756th Tank Battalion, where he spent his entire military area.

His unit sailed to Casablanca, Morocco in January 1943. They progressed through North Africa, and then, in September 1943 to Italy where they landed on D plus 3. In January 1944, at the battle of Cassino Italy, his tank was knocked out behind German lines and he became a POW. He escaped two days later, and survived for six weeks in the Italian countryside before being recaptured.

He was a prisoner at the 'Movie Studio' near Rome, at Laterina, at Moosburg and then at Oflag 64. At the Oflag, he lived in Barracks 7A, worked on the Oflag 64 'Item', played softball, football and soccer, and helped run the 'exchange' store.



On the march out of Poland, Wilkinson walked for 16 days until he developed a gangrenous foot, when he was put a board a boxcar and ended up at Luckenwalde, which was liberate by the Russians on April 21, 1945.

After the war, he worked for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, hauling livestock overseas to replenish the herds in Poland, Germany, Greece, and the Isle of Crete.

In 1951, he bought a cattle ranch near Model CO and resided there until his death. At this time, he owned two ranches in Las Animas County CO and another in Menard County TX.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Josephine. He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, Bill and Nancy Wilkinson, also of Model; a daughter, Barbara Wilkinson of Denver CO; and one granddaughter, Sydney Wilkinson.

Elizabeth "Bette" Holmquist 1923-2008

BENSON -- Elizabeth Ellen Charlotte "Bette" Holmquist, 84, of Benson, died Wednesday at North Memorial Residential Hospice in Brooklyn Center. The service will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Benson. Private family burial in the church cemetery.

Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service.

Memorials preferred to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Arrangements are with the Zniwski Funeral Home in Benson.

She was born Aug. 3, 1923, in Fort Clark, N.D., to Eugene and Gertrude (Alderin) Kirby. She grew up in Hazen, N.D., and attended public school there. She went on to graduate from the University of North Dakota with a degree in home economics.

She married Ray Holmquist on April 18, 1949, in Grand Forks, N.D. She worked as a home economics teacher. They lived in Warren until 1961, when they moved to Benson. She was involved with the Koinonians, a Christian singing group. She was a member of Monday Club and many bridge clubs.

She is survived by her daughters: Elizabeth (and Thomas) Lang of Benson, Kristen (and Robert) Pulford of Mora, Susan (and Jeffrey) Kramer of Blooming Prairie, Judith (and John) Moritz of Springfield, and Lisa (and Bret) Job of Minnetonka; 16 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and one sister, Ruth (and James) Williams of St. Joseph, Mo.

She was preceded in death by husband, Ray, in 2001; one brother and two sisters. **(Note: Ray Holmquist was one of our Oflag 64 Kriegies.)**

Lucille Whatley Littman 1922-2008



Lucille Whatley Littman was born April 1, 1922 in a small town near Birmingham, Alabama and died August 9, 2008 in Spokane, Washington. She leaves behind her loving husband of 67 years, Herman Littman, six living children, sixteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Lucy, as she like to be called, was a military wife but called Spokane home for the past forty some years when her husband retired here. She gave her family lessons in strength, love and dedication in everything she did. Lucy was a woman of great warmth and humor, traits that she frequently shared with members of the many organizations she was a part of. She was active in St Joseph Catholic Church and was a member of the Catholic Daughters, being named Catholic Daughter of the Year for the Diocese of Spokane this year. Lucy was a long time member of the Spokane Lilac Association and the Federated Garden Club as well. When visitors to Fairchild Air Force Base enjoy the lilacs planted there they have Lucy Littman to thank for their colorful presence. Her family and friends mourn her passing but celebrate her life.