

ROQUE J. RIOJAS
President



34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Avenue
Johnston, Iowa 50131

NEWSLETTER 20 DECEMBER 2006

Happy Holidays to all Red Bulls

REPORT ON COUNCIL BLUFFS

The Red Bulls and their ladies ATTACKED IN FORCE on the Holiday Inn Hotel in Council Bluffs, Iowa for their 59th Reunion.

Chapter 7 of the 34th Inf Div Assn Council Bluffs hosted a fine Reunion. Early birds signed on Thursday, Sep 7, 2006. Friday most of our members arrived and gathered around the hospitality room and hall ways to reminisce with old friends. Our standard Ice Cream Social was held in the afternoon. The evening was spent with a Buffet and entertainment provided by the "Dancing Grannies." Saturday began with President's/Trustees Brunch.

The Business meeting began with a Color Guard from the 1-168. Sadly President Bill Smith had suffered a stroke and was unable to attend. Motion was received for Roque Riojas the 1st Vice President to serve as President for the Reunion. He then will serve as President for the 2006-2007 year as well. The various reports were read and approved. The Resolution for including the Battle of Cassino on the WWII memorial was not approved the Battle Monuments Commission even tho we had received support from Iowa's Congressmen and Senators. The Resolution supporting the wearing of the Red Bull patch by the units mobilized for combat was approved. Red Bull units of the 1st Brigade Combat Team

from Minn and the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of Iowa are in fact wearing the 34th Inf Div "Red Bull" patch in the combat zone.

The new officers were elected as follows: President – Roque Riojas
1st Vice President - Don Singlestad
2nd Vice President - John Taylor
SGT at Arms - Mildred Fencil
Chaplain - Howard Ashcraft
Historian /Web - Pat Skelly
Trustees 1 years - John Jackson
- Dick Tennant
- Paul Barnett
Trustees 2 years - Ben Krall
- Ellen Ankrum
- Phil Daurio
Trustees 3 years - Lloyd Jerome
- John Churchman
- David Holmes

Larry Lewer swore in the new officers for 2006-2007. The Des Moines Chapter will host the 2007 and the 2008 Reunions.

Bus tour took place in the afternoon. An excellent Banquet was held in the evening. MAJ Todd Lucas S-3 of the 168 IN Bn gave an address about the 168 Task Force that had deployed to Afghanistan. Two of President Bill Smith's daughters received Bill's Presidential momentos. "Jim Pikes Band" provide entertainment into the night. Sunday Chaplain Howard Ashcraft delivered the Memorial Service. Mildred Fencil read the Names of 111 for their Last Roll Call.

60th Reunion

The 34th Div Assn will be held 6 – 9 Sep 2007 at the Holiday Inn 4800 Merle Hay Road.

Tri-State Reunion

July 12 – 17 2007 in Holiday Inn, Pittsburg, PA. More info to come.

Reunion – ANZIO BEACHHEAD VETERANS OF WWII. May 3-7, 2007
Branson, MO. Contact Clyde Easter, 299 Panorama Dr, Fancy Gap, VA. 24328, PH 276-728-7293.

INQUIRY – FRED EDGAR.

Does anyone remember Chaplain Fred Edgar who followed Chaplain Hoffman as Regimental Chaplain for the 133rd? His son Fred Edgar, Jr of 3224 Oliver St Dallas TX 75205 would like to be contacted. Ph: 214-528-1479 or 214 303- 1688.

HELP WANTED.

We are still looking for stories of your army life- funny or sad. – Books, notes, journals, letters home etc. They will be archived in the museum under the 34th Division file for researchers, historians, and casual readers alike. You are a potential library of stuff the army experience is made of.

National Office

The National Office is located at the Iowa Gold Star Museum on Camp Dodge in the suburb of Johnston. Address:

34th Division Association
7507 NW 75th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131

The National Secretary is Jerry L. Gorden
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WebSITE : www.34indiv.org

Final Roll Call since Reunion 2006

Paul Barnett – Past President
Charles Brown
Robert Popejoy
Oris Gentry
Bill Hutchison
Floyd Ferrin
Elmer Hack

Meet the President – Roque Riojas

Roque was inducted 11 November, 1942. He took his basic training at Camp Roberts, California. In April 1943 he was sent by troop train to Pennsylvania and then to New Jersey. He landed in North Africa at Oran in May '43. He was a Communications Lineman and was assigned to 1st Bn 135th Infantry. He went on frequent patrols stringing wire one of which with the Company Commander where he received the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star medals. He took part in the landing at Solerno with his unit. He was released from the Combat Zone on points and was discharged Nov 15, '45 at Ft Leavenworth, KS.

He was found in Kansas City by Darline Smith who recruited him for National Membership and Reunions. As the 1st Vice President he stepped in to handle the Reunion of 2006 when Bill Smith could not for health reasons. He is proud to serve as our President for 2006-2007. Sadly his wife Elizabeth passed away shortly after the Reunion this year.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Where were you during the Holidays ---

1941 ?

1942 ?

1943 ?

1944 ?

1945 ?

If you haven't told your family – do so.

34th Infantry Division WWII Memorial Camp Dodge, Johnston Iowa



AWARDS AND MEDALS
THE FOLLOWING WERE EARNED BY MEMBERS OF THE 34TH INF DIV DURING WORLD WAR II:
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS 98, DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL 1, SILVER STAR 1052, PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS 3, 15 UNIT COMMENDATIONS, LEGION OF MERIT 116, DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS 1 SOLDIERS MEDAL 15, BRONZE STAR 1713, PURPLE HEART 15000, AIR MEDAL 34 WITH 52 OAK LEAF CLUSTERS. IN ADDITION TO THOSE SHOWN THEY EARNED 7 BRITISH, 7 FRENCH, 6 ITALIAN AWARDS, 525 DIVISIONAL CITATIONS, 6 WAR DEPT MERITORIOUS SERVICE PLAQUES.

133RD INFANTRY REGT
135TH INFANTRY REGT
168TH INFANTRY REGT
100TH INFANTRY BN
442ND INFANTRY REGT
HQ & HQ BTRY 34TH INF
125TH FA BN 105-HOW
151ST FA BN 105-HOW
175TH FA BN 105-HOW
183TH FA BN 155-HOW

LET NONE FORGET
THEY GAVE THEIR ALL
AND FALTERED NOT
WHEN CAME THE CALL

MEDAL OF HONOR
HASEMOTO, MIKIO
HAYASHI, SHIZUYA
KOBASHIGAWA, YEIKI
MOTO, KAORU
NAKAMINE, SHINYEI
OHATA, ALLAN
MURANAGA, KIYOSHI
NAKAMURA, WILLIAM
ONO, FRANK
OTANI, KAZUO
TANOUYE, TED

MEDAL OF HONOR
IN WORLD WAR II THE MEDAL OF HONOR WAS AWARDED BY THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO 292 PERSONS, 10 OF WHICH WENT TO MEN OF THE 34TH INFANTRY DIVISION
PVT ROBERT D BOOKER
2ND LT ERNEST H DERVISHIAN
CAPT WILLIAM W GALT
S SGT GEORGE J HALL
PFC SADAO S MUNEMORI
1ST LT BERYL R NEWMAN
PFC LEO J POWERS
2ND LT PAUL F RIORDAN
PVT TURMAN L SMITH
2ND LT THOMAS W WICLE

The 34th Infantry Division in WWII had the distinction of being not only the first to land in the European Theater, but also had more days in combat (Over 600) than any other, and is accredited with capturing more that 40,000 prisoners. The Division had 16,401 casualties. Soldiers assigned to the 34th Infantry Division received 20 Medals of Honor during WWII.
Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, North Apennines, Poe Valley
20 MOH's, 98 DFC's, 1052 Silver Stars, 1713 Bronze Stars, 116 LOM's, 3 Pres Unit Citations

FINAL ROLL CALL

Fredrick Evans
William A. Carlson
George Danchik
Woodrow Devine
Verl K Farnsworth
Alfred Flocker
Bill Fisher
Kenneth Gardner
Frank J. Gombotz
Ralph J. Guisinger
Robert L Gorno
Howard Harper
S.Roman Henrich
Robert Hoerner
Gordon H. Holscher
Arold Huber
Warren Huffman
Walter Marshall
Emil Mantifel
Hugh Shockley Jacobs
Thomas Kaihara
Everett Kirkman
Mitchell J. Knapp
Frank H. LaCrosse
Glen Little
Robert E McCann
Clement V. Marrier
Richard Murphy
George R Nehls
Carl Norman
Richard Ollinger
Willard B, Olson
Bobby Popejoy
Thomas Rosell
Lester E Rydeen
Charles Sanders
Calvin Smith
Donald Smith
AK Spurlock
Lawrence Starr
Pete Stefani Jr
John Sweeney
Jasper Thompson
C.L.Thornhill
Mitchell "Trivo"
Trivanovich
Robert M Wagner
Clayton L Wallin

Edwin Wayne
Richard Willey

100th Inf Bn – 2005 – 2006

Aketo Doi
Raymond Tadashi Sato
John Tsukano
Tsukasa "Terry" Santo
Hisaki Murakami
Edwin I. Nakasltima
Lloyd Toda, Sr.
Charles Okimoto
'Nash' Takayuki Tahara
Sadao 'Stanley' Inouye
Isamu Tomita
William Kobashigawa
Saburo Ishitani
Young Oak Kim
Thomas Kaihara
Hatsuo Satoshige
Edward Mamoru Yamane
Ben Yamanoto
Tadao Ibaraki
Masata Fujitani
Kiichi Kohatsu
Isami Yamashiro
Raymond Harada
Yasuto Furusho
James Ishikawa
Tadaso Muraoka
Satoshi Furuya
Richard Arakaki
Ralph Fukunaga
Jurei Kuyabu
Robert Oshiro
Wataru Kansshina
Katsum Murai
Raymond Kitsu
Shird Maki
Shigeru Tokuuke
Kiyoshi Yonemori
James Kawashima
Yeiho Higa
Ben Takayesu
Hichiro Hashimoto
Tom Fujise
Raymond H. Harada
Noboru Sugahara

Michael Hanamoto
Donald S. Ishiki

442nd 2005-2006

Yoshimi Hiraoka
Thomas Espineda
Takao Fukai
Robert Honda
Lizo Hanma
Ryuzo Horie
Monte Matsuda
George Myashiro
Richard Naito
Richard Okinaka
Herbert Sasaki
Mac Shoji
Akira Vjiiye
Charles S. Watanabe
Kiyoto Yamate
Satoru Yoshimoto

***MAY THEY ALWAYS
WALK THE HIGH
GROUND.***

***MAY THEIR ENEMY
SURRENDER.***

***MAY THE CHOW BE
HOT.***

***MAY THEIR SOCKS BE
DRY.***

***MAY THEY ALWAYS GET
MAIL.***

***MAY THE WAR BE OVER
QUICKLY.***