

The Email for the Association is:
goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
WEB Site is: www.34infdiv.org

34th Infantry Division Association

7105 NW 70th Ave
Johnston, IA 50131



Fall 2010 Issue -
The 34th ID Assn. newsletter is
published three times a year.

34th Infantry Division 2010 Reunion – Grand Success at Des Moines, IA

The 2010 Reunion of the 34th Infantry Division was held on September 9-10-11 in Des Moines, IA Holiday Inn.

The association President duties were passed from Pat Skelly to COL Ron Albrecht, who is currently the G3 of the Iowa National Guard.

We had a total of 85 members and guests attend the 34th Infantry Division Reunion Banquet. The main speaker at the reunion was the current 34th Infantry Division Commander, Major General Rick Nash, who had recently returned with the Division HHC from Iraq. He, along with the Division Chief of Staff, COL Neal Loidolt and COL Jon Jensen, G3, did a presentation about the Iraq deployment. They also had gifts for each of the WWII combat veterans of the 34th Infantry Division.

Pat Skelly, the outgoing president conducted the annual meeting and gave a presentation to all members on "Ten Things To Remember about WW II". At the annual business meeting a motion was carried to change the 34th Infantry Division Association from a Regular Corporation to a Non-Profit corporation. The Association Officers and Trustees will accomplish this task prior to the next annual reunion. All by-laws and membership requirements will continue to be maintained as before.

The dates for the 2011 Reunion are now set for 8-9-10 Sept 2011 at Des Moines. Please note that the dates will be on the first Thursday, Friday and Saturday after Labor Day. A special emphasis will be made to invite our new Red Bull soldiers to the 2011 reunion. During the "War on Terror" we have had two major deployments of our units to Iraq and Afghanistan. We plan a special welcome back for these soldiers at the next reunion which will be hosted by the Des Moines Chapter. Watch for news on this appeal in the Winter issue of the 34th Red Bull Infantry Division newsletter.

Next year at the reunion, more time will be made available for people to conduct research by looking through the 34th Infantry Division Association records at the Gold Star Museum. Many people have questions on units and individuals concerning individual WWII service.

In the coming years we hope to have 34th Infantry Division Association Reunion at other cities to include Minneapolis, MN, Waterloo, IA and Council Bluffs, IA. We would like to see a host chapter in other communities sponsor future reunions.

34th ID Association Officers and Trustees

President	COL Ron Albrecht
1 st V P	John Sunins
2 nd Vice Pres	LTC Stephen Osborn
1 Year Trustees:	S. Don Singlestad, Larry Lewer Gene Alexander, Kathie Radford
2 Year Trustees:	Richard Holmes, Darline Smith Rebecca Snyder Phillips, Don Prock
3 Year Trustees:	Pat Skelly, Ed Graybill Jim White, Hal Turner
Secretary	Russell Bierl
Treasurer	Michael Musel
SGT at Arms	Mildred Fencil
Historian/Web Site	Pat Skelly
Historian	CPT Marcus Smoot
Chaplain	Steve Cunningham



Major General Richard Nash, Commander 34th Infantry Division, and outgoing 34th Infantry Division Association President Pat Skelly, are shown reviewing an Order of Battle Book at the reunion. Pat Skelly's father, LTC Walter was commander of 1st Battalion, 133rd Infantry from Dec 1944 thru Aug 1945, during the Italian Campaign. Maj Gen Richard Nash had a uncle, Pfc Albert Woerdehoff, who was in Co E of the 135th Regiment. He was mobilized as a Minnesota National Guardsman in 1941 and served in the Regiment in N Africa and Italy until wounded in action. MG Nash was the main speaker at the 34th Infantry Division Reunion in Des Moines, Iowa.

A Note from Association President Curly Albrecht

Greeting to All soldiers of the Red Bull Division,

Let me introduce myself to the members of this GREAT Association as your new President for the next year since I am young pup. I was born and raised in Waverly, Iowa join the U.S. Navy in 1971 served on U.S.S. RANGER CVA-61 (AIRCRAFT CARRIER--for you land lovers) and did an WEST PAC Tour to Viet Nam. Came home and Served in the Navy Reserve until 1978, attend College at the University of Northern Iowa with my GI Bill received a Degree in Education in 1979.

I had a five year break of service, then in 1983 I joined the Iowa Army National Guard in Waterloo, Iowa as a soldier into HHC, 1st Battalion 133 Infantry. I then went to OCS at Camp Dodge, Iowa and was commissioned a 2nd LT in 1984 as an Infantry Officer and returned to the Ironman Battalion. I served with the 133rd Infantry until 1993 and held many leadership positions from Support-Rifle-Mortar Platoon Leader. I had Company Command at A Co and HHC and served as the BN S/4. I was assigned to the newly formed Battalion in the 2nd Brigade, 34th ID, the 334 Forward Support Battalion, and served with them from 1993 to 1997 as a Support Operation Officer, Battalion XO. In 1997 I had the great honor to Command the 2nd Battalion 133 Infantry and in 1998 we retired her Colors. I moved back to the FSB and Commanded that great organization until 2001. Then was selected to be the 2nd Brigade 34th ID XO until 2003. Moved again this time to State HQ's and served in the G3 shop as the Deputy G3. I was selected to Command the Camp Dodge Training Site from 2004 to 2006 and later commanded the 185th Regional Training Institute, OSC School, (which carries the history of the 185th Field Artillery). Once again I received a call, this time to Command the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 34th ID in which I did until 2008.

One would think that would be enough fun for one individual--but not true. MG Nash 34th ID Commander asked me if I would deploy with the Division to Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Deputy Chief of Staff, so what can you say to the Division Commander, Hell Yes!!!!

As you all know, we mobilized to Active Duty on 10 Feb 2009, sixty-eight years after the Division deployed for World War II. We returned in Feb 2010. I currently serve as G3 of the Iowa National Guard.

As you can see I have a little history with the Red Bull Division and I am very proud to serve as your President for the next year. We have some work to get done this year as Pat Skelly has stated many a time. We have young Red Bull soldiers who do not even know about the Association! It is our challenge to inform them and enlist them into this great organization! So my focus is to grow this organization to the level it once was with all of your help. Again thanks for this opportunity! If you have any question please email me at curly.albrecht@us.army.mil

Attack! Attack! Attack!

COL Ron "Curly" Albrecht
honored to be your 2010-2011 President,
"Ironman"

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Closing words from our outgoing President, Pat Skelly. "I am extremely proud of having been asked to represent this proud association for the past year, and will continue to honor the Red Bull heritage." Thank You Pat!

Final Roll Call to Date 2010

Roy T. Terada, B 100th Inf
James K Kumaki, C 100th Inf
Larry A. Kodama, A 100th Inf
Richard C. Yamashina, 100th Inf
Glen Armstrong, 34th ID
Anthony Vella, M 135th Inf
Robert Luckan, 34th ID
Jerry Person, HQ 135th Inf
John Mahl, 34th Inf Div
Eugene Lewis, HQ 168th Inf
Albert E. Zigler, 34th Inf Div
Leroy Lakey, 34th Inf Div
Mataki Takashita, B/F 100th Inf
Tokuji Emoto, D 100th Inf
Donald I. Okano, A 100th Inf
Joseph F. Mete, K 133rd Inf
Leonard Werth, 175 FA
Glenn C. Laird, 34th Inf Div
Alfred B. Ranzenbac, 34th Inf Div
Walter Fette, 34th Inf Div
Paul E. Lackland, 34th Inf Div
Norma, Raner Cannon 133rd Inf
Connie Carsner 109th Eng
Tom B. Aoki A 100th Inf
Tom A. Mizunaka A 100th Inf
Otomatsu Aoki HQ 100th Inf
James T. Yamada B 100th Inf
Robert Kapuniai F 100th Inf
Joseph O. Maxwell K 135th Inf
Norman A. Miller 34th Inf Div
Richard Wilkinson C 133rd Inf
Edward Hayes 168th Inf
George F. Ringeisen 34th Inf Div
Albert E. Bernier 135th Inf
Kazuo Ernest Yamane B 100th Inf
Saburo Hasegawa A 100th Inf
Warren Takaji Iwai C 100th Inf
Stanley Hiroshi Fujiki C 100th Inf
Tokujin Tamashiro A 100th Inf
Thomas T. Uchiyama B 100th Inf
Anthony W. Takashima D 100th Inf
Ronald Haruto Kuroda B 100th Inf
Toshio Miyamoto C 100th Inf

*May they have no more hills to
climb,
nor cold, nor rain, nor mud, nor
enemy fire,
and may they now rest in Peace.*

34th Infantry Division 63rd Reunion -Des Moines, IA - September 2010



World War II 34th Inf Div Veterans with MG Rick Nash and BG Tim Orr, TAG IA. Front Row L to R. Joe Boitnott D/168, Charlie Wise AA/133, Stanley Vomacka H/135, Rocky Riojas, 135, Back Row: BG Tim Orr, John Ray M/135, Ben Krall F/SVC-133, James Machunas SVC/175 FA, Homer Buck D/109 Med, Robert Rogers 125 FA, John Jackson 133 Band, MG Rick Nash, 34th ID Commander and future Adjutant General of Minnesota National Guard.



Rogue Riojas 135th & Joe Boitnott 168th



Ben Krall 133rd & Jerry Barnett 168th Inf Harmonica and Bones players



Long time 34th ID Association members (L to R) Darline Smith, Larry Lewer, Mildred Fencil, Mike Musel and Association President Pat Skelly.



**Charlie Wise
Anti Tank Co 133**



John Ray & John Jackson - 133 Band



COL Ron "Curly" Albrecht, incoming President, shakes hands with outgoing President, Pat Skelly, at the conclusion of the Annual business Meeting of the 34th Infantry Division Association in Des Moines, Iowa. COL Albrecht is the G3 of the Iowa National Guard.



Major General Rick Nash, Commander 34th Infantry Division, Presents an art Print of the 34th Infantry Division in Combat in Iraq, to Homer Buck, 109th Med Bn. Homer won the door prize drawing for the art print at the annual banquet. He attended the reunion with eleven family members .

Street Named for 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division

In June of this year, a street in the community of Webster City, Iowa was named in honor of the 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division, of World War II fame. On February 10th of 1941, four officers and 96 enlisted men from E Company, 2nd Battalion, 133rd Infantry Battalion, 34th Infantry Division were mobilized at the Webster City Armory and departed on the train for Camp Claiborne, LA. Sixty-nine years later the Hamilton County Board of Supervisors named a new street after the Red Bull Division. Art Philbrook, who was 18 years old when mobilized, attended the ceremony and is the only living member of the original E Company of 1941. After almost six years of training and combat, most of the men would be fortunate return to their lives which had been forever changed. The 34th Infantry Division

Association thanks Mr. Doug Bailey, a member of the Board of Supervisor, for making the recommendation for the street name. CW2 (Ret) Bob Manke, former E Company member who is the local military historian the community, provided information for this article. The military speaker who represented the 34th Infantry Division at the dedication was COL Ronald "Curly" Albrecht, who had served in Iraq with the 34th Infantry Division HQ's in 2009. The new Hamilton County Hospital, which was made possible by a \$10 Million donation by Mr. Bob Van Diest, is located on the new Red Bull Division Drive. Thank you to the community of Webster City, Iowa for remembering the men of Company E and the entire 34th Red Bull Infantry Division.

National Office-34th Infantry Division Assn.

The National Office of the association is located at the Iowa Gold Star Museum at Cp Dodge in Johnston, IA.
Phone 515-252-4531
Association Website www.34indiv.org

Treasurer: LTC (Ret) Mike Musel

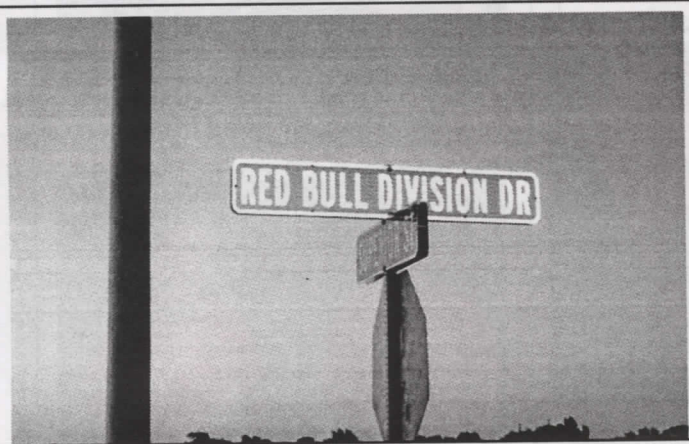
E-mail: michael.musel@iowa.gov 515-252-4531

Secretary: COL (Ret) Russ Bierl

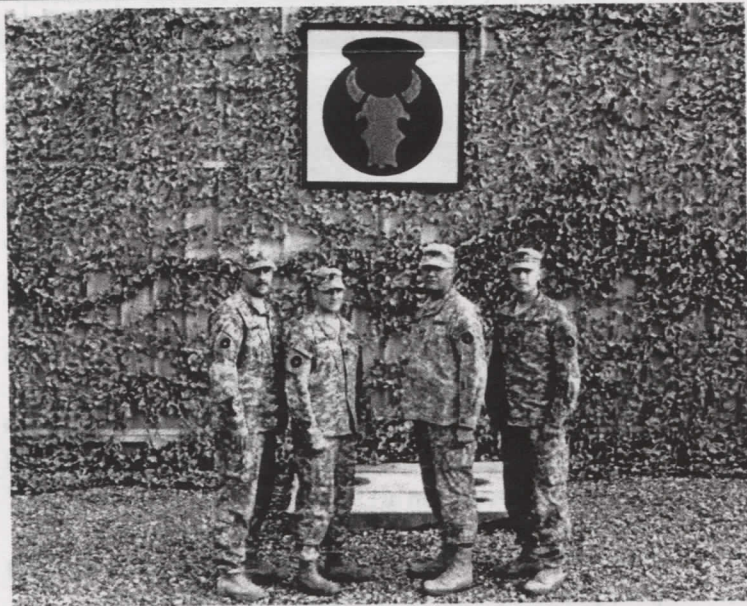
E-mail: bierl@yahoo.com

Historian: Pat Skelly 508-524-3948

E-mail: webmaster@34infdiv.org



Shown is a sign of a new Webster City, Iowa street named after the 34th "Red Bull" Infantry Division of World War II.



COL Ronald "Curly" Albrecht (2nd from right) has been elected President of the 34th Inf Div Assn. at the 2010 Reunion.

The enclosed photo shows four former 133rd Infantry Regiment "Ironmen" battalion members serving with Headquarters, 34th Infantry Division in Basra, Iraq, April 2009-February 2010.

(Left to Right) MAJ Charlie O'Connell, Operations (ORSA) Officer; LTC Steve Osborn, Deputy G3; COL Ronald "Curly" Albrecht, Deputy Chief of Staff; and CPT Allan Heeten, Information Management Officer.

Museum Store - 34th Inf Div Assn Price List – Dec 2009

34 th Red Bull Polo Shirts Size _____	\$ 22.00	34 th Red Bull Div Insignia Pins (Lapel Pin)	\$3.50
34 th Red Bull T-Shirt Size _____	\$15.00	Red Bull Patch (Black & Red)	\$5.00
34 th Div Red Bull Ball Cap	\$12.00	34 th Div Refrigerator Magnet	\$1.00
34 th Red Bull Window Decal	\$1.50	34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie	\$8.00
34 th Red Bull Jacket Size _____	\$30.00	34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5')	\$65.00
34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug	\$6.00	Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet	\$1.50

Books Available:

Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears (The 34 th Red Bull Infantry Division in WWII)	\$30.00
Citizen Soldier in WWII Story of the 168 th Inf from Lt /CPT/ MAJ / LTC Ed Bird)	\$10.00

*Add \$5.00 for shipping any Book. or * Add \$3.00 for shipping any other items.

Sub Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

34th Infantry Division Association
 7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, Bldg A-9
 Johnston, IA 50131

Name: _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Email: lowagoldstarmuseum@iowa.gov or Call 515-252-4531 if you have a question.

34th Infantry Division National Membership Application

NOTE: If your address Label is (L), (W), or (1) you do not owe dues for the Current Year

- () Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Annual Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. Annual membership period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year. (Open to past and present members of units / organizations assigned to the 34th Inf Div or soldiers who have been members of the National Guard or for six years or longer.)
- () Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Associate Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. (Annual Fee) (Period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year). (Individuals who do not meet membership requirements, ie: Spouses ,Friends, Other Services)
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for my LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the 34th Infantry Division Association.
 (See Fee Schedule Below) {No Further Annual Fee}.

To Age 60	\$100.00	At age 62	\$80.00	At age 64	\$60.00
At age 61	\$90.00	At age 63	\$70.00	At age 65 & older	\$50.00
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for a donation to the operation of the 34th Inf Div Assn.
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for my donation to the 34th Infantry Division Memorial Fund.
 (Maintain all monuments and annual flowers for the Cemeteries in North Africa, Italy & U.S.)

Name _____ Street _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Phone Number _____
 AGE _____ Military Unit/ Organization _____ Signature: _____

Note: The purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association is to preserve the history of the 34th Divisional units & attached organizations and soldiers that have served their nation since 1917. The National Association schedules an annual meeting each September.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E Mail address is bierlhome@msn.com The National Association WEB Site is <http://www.34infdiv.org/index.html> Phone No 515-252-4531 or email goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
 A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year by U.S. mail. All newsletter are shown on the Association WEB site.
 The Gold Star Military Museum maintains an office for the association. WEB site www.iowanationalguard.com

KILROY WAS HERE!

Who the heck was KILROY??

In 1946 the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the REAL Kilroy, offering a prize of a real trolley car to the person who could prove himself to be the genuine article. Almost 40 men stepped forward to make that claim, but only James Kilroy from Halifax, MA had the evidence of his identity.

Kilroy was a 46-year old shipyard worker during the war. He worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. Kilroy would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be counted twice. When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then that he realized what had been going on. The tight spaces he had to crawl in to check the rivets didn't lend themselves to lugging around a paint can and brush, so Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk. He continued to put his checkmark on each job he inspected, but added KILROY WAS HERE in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks.

Ordinarily the rivets and chalk marks would have been covered up with paint. With war on, however, ships were leaving the Quincy Yard so fast that there wasn't time to paint them. As a result, Kilroy's inspection "trademark" was seen by thousands of servicemen who boarded the troopships the yard produced. His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific. Before the war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long haul to Berlin and Tokyo .

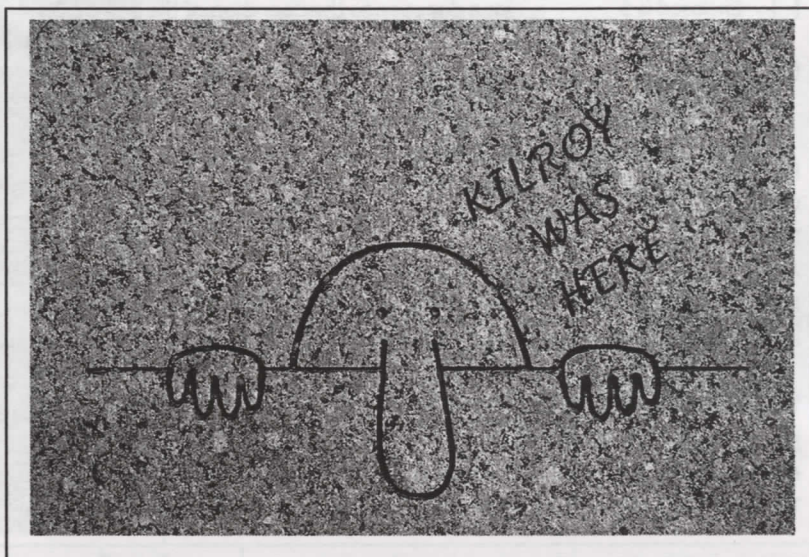
To the troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that some jerk named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, The Statue of Liberty, and the underside of the Arch De Triumph. And as the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for the coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

In 1945, an outhouse was built for the exclusive use of Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill at the Potsdam conference. The first person inside was Stalin, who emerged and asked his aide (in Russian), "Who is Kilroy?"

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought along officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters. He won the trolley car, which he gave to his nine children as a Christmas gift and set it up as a playhouse in the Kilroy front yard in Halifax, Massachusetts.

So now You Know!



2nd Brigade, 34th Infantry Division

Mobilization & Deployment

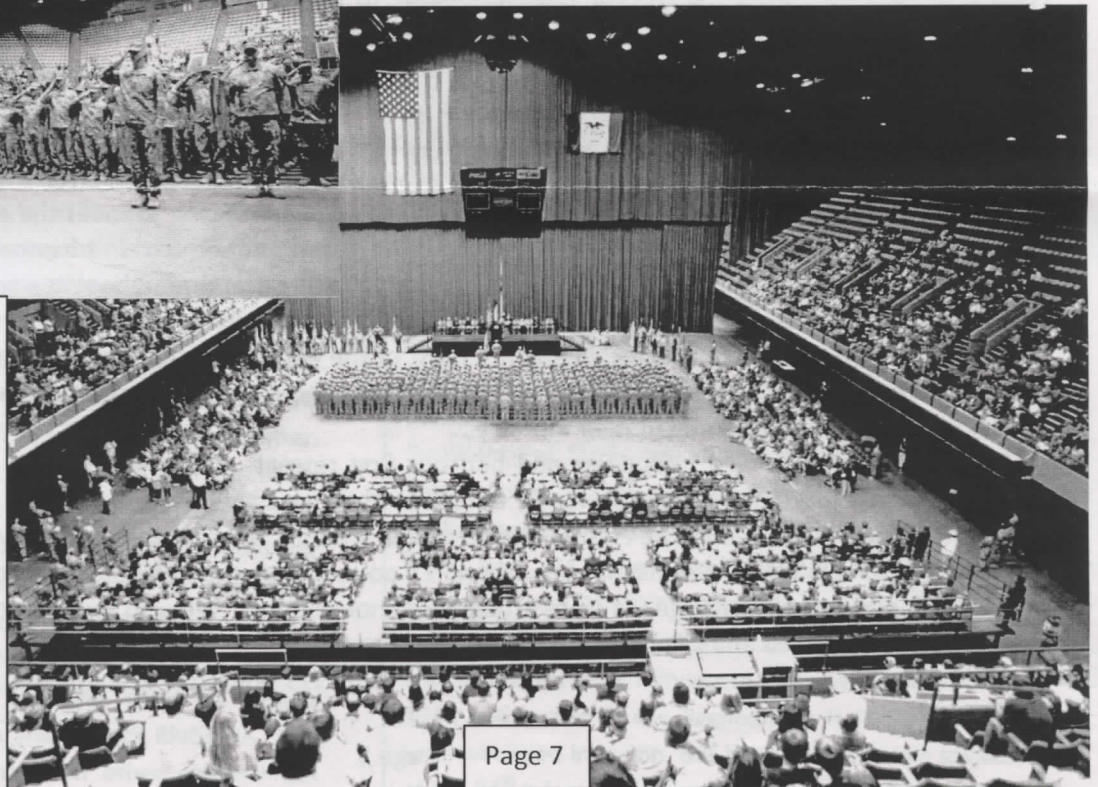
Approximately 3,200 men and women assigned to the units and battalions of the 2nd BCT Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, were mobilized from communities across Iowa for deployment to Afghanistan. The soldiers were members of the 133rd and 168th Infantry Battalions, 194th Field Artillery, 113th Cavalry Squadron, the 334th Brigade Support Battalion and Special Troops Battalion. Supporting units were the 2168th Transportation Company and the 834th Engineer Company. The brigade units were mobilized from the communities of Boone, Cedar Falls, Council Bluffs, Cedar Rapids, Dubuque, Algona, Eagle Grove, Spencer, Mt. Pleasant, Keokuk, Storm Lake, Carroll, Davenport, Denison, Estherville, Johnston, Red Oak, Shenandoah, Charles City, Clinton, Iowa City, Iowa Falls, Oelwein, LeMars, Sioux City, Marshalltown, Des Moines and Sheldon. Additional soldiers were mobilized from the Nebraska National Guard. The final send off ceremony was held at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines for the 334th Brigade Support Battalion attended by the Governor of Iowa, Chet Culver and the Adjutant General of Iowa, MG Tim Orr.



Send off formation of the 334th Brigade Support Battalion, 2nd BCT, 34th Inf Div at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines on August 7th, prior to transport to Camp Shelby, MS to join the rest of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team for pre deployment training. Photo by Justin Cato and Iowa National Guard Public Affairs Office.

The 2nd BCT will deploy in late fall to the Eastern Regional Command in Afghanistan near the cities of Bagram, Kubul and Khost after they have completed training at Camp Shelby, MS and Fort Irwin, CA. The commander of the brigade, COL Ben Corell, from Strawberry Point, has previously served as commander of the 133rd Infantry Battalion during their extended deployment of 16 months in Iraq during 2006-07. The soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team will hopefully return from their one year tour in mid July 2011. COL Corell stated that, "This will be the best trained and equipped force of soldiers that the Iowa National Guard has ever deployed and the largest group since WWII." He also stated, "The weight that I carry is to look families in the eye, knowing that they've trusted me with their son or daughter, or their spouse." One of the soldiers who will deploy with COL Corell is his son, SSG Wade Corell.

Send off ceremonies were conducted at each of twenty-eight individual armories for the soldiers and their families prior to the commands departing on chartered busses for the beginning of their training mission. Families and supporters can track the deployment of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team on the Facebook page of the Des Moines Register under Iowa National Guard deployment. Updates will also be posted on the WEB Site of the 34th Infantry Division Association. (<http://www.34infdiv.org>)



I was in charge of the local security section consisting of four 50 Cal Machine Guns. The machine guns were put out in defense against aircraft as their chief function, one on each side of the Battery.

The Battery had done some firing in the morning and I was helping the first gun section with ammunition. We hadn't fired long before enemy shells started landing in a field east of us and then nearby with one hitting an ammo box beside the gun.

At about 10 o'clock in the morning the guard spotted some troops on the road and reported to Lt Carr, who was in charge of the Battery while the Battery Commander was out on Recon. At first we figured they were friendly troops. After they got about 600 yards from our position 1Lt Carr reported they were enemy troops, about two to three hundred strong. It was then a German ME 109 flew over the battery position. Lt Carr ordered all 50 calibers in the position and the rest of the men to take positions around the Battery and commence firing on the enemy with everything we had from the "03" Springfields to the 25 pounders in direct fire, leaving three men to man the pieces. At this time the Germans opened up on us with mortars and tanks, with 75's and 88's.

I went around to check all the machine guns and while on my way back to the first section the enemy infantry started firing with rifles and machine guns. We moved the two MG's that were on the west to our east flank to take on the enemy tanks and infantry.

Lt. Carr told me to take all the artillerymen that could be spared to a ravine 200 yards north of our position because he expected the enemy to try to come up the draw.

The nearest machine gunner was having trouble with his gun so I went back to help him fix it. He was firing at infantry and tanks near the train station while the other three machine guns were firing mostly at infantry further south. I fired a few rounds with my 03 on my way to the other machine guns. The enemy couldn't observe us well because there were rows of pine trees with branches to the ground plus other growth.

Our maintenance section was in position to our right and spotted the enemy coming up on the Battery and took up position where they were and fired about two thousand rounds of 03 ammo, and headed them back.

We were told to be ready to move out in a hurry so we got our equipment ready to load. It must have been an hour later our truck arrived. It had been 200 yards west of the gun. While we were loading the truck mortar shells kept coming in and we had to take cover a couple of times. There were fourteen British infantrymen that came up to help us and I was ordered to place them out by the ravine and let our men come back and help with the loading. It was just getting dark when we were ready to move. I then went to the British to let them know we were leaving and they came back with us.

After we had gotten on the truck and were waiting to move out a number of artillery rounds landed about the farmyard with one hitting a stonewall beside our truck and shaking us up a bit. We jumped off the truck and took cover behind a building while we waited to move out. A man that had been wounded was holding us up a bit. We finally got the order to move and had just gotten around the corner outside the farm gate when several more heavy shells came in. One hit the front end of our truck and we started running away from the vehicle when more shells came in. One killed the corporal on the section just as we were running from the truck. By this time it was pitch dark.

The enemy opened up with their machine guns again as we were going to meet the rest of the battery on a muddy road a half mile from there. There were six of us in our group and we couldn't locate the rest of the battery so we started out across country to where we knew some British were stationed about ten miles from us. On the way we met twelve more of our A Battery men and the eighteen of us went on together.

I know we were under continuous enemy fire most of the day without let up. We withstood their shelling until the enemy withdrew. We knocked out about half of their tanks and blew up the railroad station where the enemy had set up their mortars and killed some of their infantry.

We had suffered our first casualties and had our first retreat. It had been a big day. We had also gained in knowledge and experience. We had proved ourselves that we could take it and still hold on and that by sticking together that day we had given the enemy a good deal of trouble. More than an artillery battery would be expected to give. We used our rifles, 50 Cal machines guns and 25 pounders to good effect. For once we found out that our rifles were very important even though we were artillery and not infantry. We also found out that the Krauts are not Super Men and can be stopped and killed.

/ S/ T/5 Wilfred H. Iverson, Battery A, 175th FA Bn.