

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 Resoulution 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 Fencl

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 Fencl read the Names of 111 for their Last Roll Call.

60th Reunion
The 34th Div Assn will be held 6 – 9 Sep
2007at 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 <u>jlg34d@msn.com</u> Phone: 515-276-5677

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?

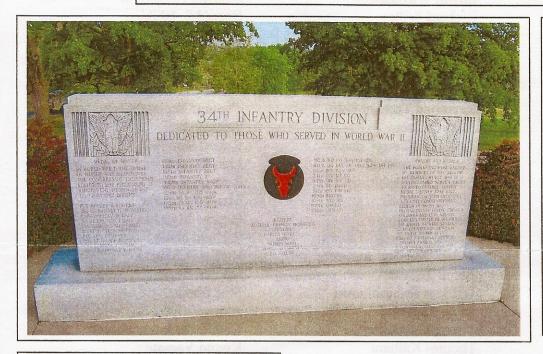
1942 ?

1943 ?

1944 ? 1945 ?

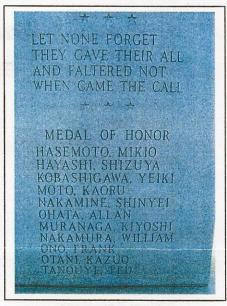
If you haven't told your family - do so.

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 I, SILVER STAR 1052.
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS
3, 15 UNIT COMMENDATIONS
LEGION OF MERIT II6,
DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS I
SOLDIERS MEDAL 15, BRONZE
STAR 1713, PURPLE HEART 15000.
AIR WEDAL 34 WITH 52 OAK
LEAF CLUSTERS IN ADDITION
TO THOSE SHOWN PHEY
EARNED 7 BRITISH, 7 TRENCH
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 140 & 140 BTRY 34th INF 125th FA BN 105-110W 151st FA BN 105-140W 175th FA BN 105-140W 185th FA BN 105-140W



MEDAL OF HONOR
IN WORLD WAR II THE MEDAL
OF HONOR WAS AWARDED BY
THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED
STATES TO 292 PERSONS, IO OF
WHICH WENT TO MEN OF THE
34TH INFANTRY DIVISION

PVT POBERT D BOOKER
2ND LT FRNEST H DERVISHIAN
CAPT WILLIAM W GALT
S. SUT GEORGE J HALL
PFC SADAO S MUNEMORI
IST LI BERYL R NEWMAN
PFC LEO J POWERS
2ND LT PAUL F RIORDAN

TVT DURMAN E SMITH
2ND LT THOMAS W WIGLE

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 causalities. 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 ROLLCALL

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 Wavnee 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' Inouve

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 Fuiise

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 Shoii

Akira Viiiye

Charles S. Watanabe

Kiyoto Yamate

Satoru Yoshimoto

MAY THEY ALWAYS WALK THE HIGH

GROUND.

MAYTHEIR ENEMY

SURRENDER.

MAY THE CHOW BE

HOT.

MAY THEIR SOCKS BE

DRY.

MAY THEY ALWAYS GET

MAIL

MAY THE WAR BE OVER

OUICKLY.