



# Company I Poopsheet

Company I, 502 PIR, 101st Airborne, US Army

January 2010



*The Ardennes, photos by Donald van den Bogert.  
[www.pararesearchteam.com](http://www.pararesearchteam.com)*



*Happy New Year*

**PLEASE HELP UPDATE MAIL & PHONE LIST!!!**

**Returned mail .. It ruins my day...Co I-502, you are in our hearts and prayers every day. Please make plans now for someone to let us know your new address anytime it changes or a family member to receive the Poopsheet if it cannot be sent to you.**

**Also, update your email with me if it has changed or send me your email address if you haven't done so. We need your address, phone no., email address, and most of all your notes just to let us hear from you.**

**Betty T. Hill, 2222 Settlers Way Apt 914, Sugar Land, TX 77478. Phone: 281-277-3787  
Email: [bjth23@yahoo.com](mailto:bjth23@yahoo.com)**

### **Just Stay**

A nurse took the tired, anxious service- man to the bedside. 'Your son is here,' she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened. Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed soldier standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand.

The soldier wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement.

The nurse brought a chair so that the soldier could sit beside the bed. All through the night the young soldier sat there in the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength Occasionally, the nurse suggested that



the soldier move away and rest awhile. He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the soldier was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital - the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the other patients. Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night.

Along towards dawn, the old man died. The soldier released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse.

While she did what she had to do, he waited. Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the soldier interrupted her. 'Who was that man?' he asked. The nurse was startled,

'He was your father,' she answered. 'No mam' he wasn't,' the soldier replied. 'I never saw him before in my life.' 'Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?'

'I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed.'

**The next time someone needs you ... just be there.. Stay.**

*Author unknown*

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**2010 SNOWBIRD REUNION, ORLAND, FL  
February 18-19-20, 2010**

**Wyndham Orlando Resort, Ph. 407-351-2420**  
Register asap with **Karen Lindsey, 407 . 889-8902**  
Questions? Contact: Tony Mabb at (904) 744-8429 or email him at [deucerecon@aol.com](mailto:deucerecon@aol.com) and/or Karin Lindsay @ (407) 889-8902 or email her at [klindsay@corplanservices.com](mailto:klindsay@corplanservices.com) Forms available in Screaming Eagle magazine or online at [www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org) (Reunions). So far, we know planning to attend from I Co. are Harry and Joan Nivens, Ed and Clara Mobley and Joe and June Hennessey, Betty Hill, Lori Novotni. Hope to see you!!

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**This is a beautiful story of a bagpiper who was late for a funeral.**

As a bagpiper, I was asked by a funeral director to play at a graveside service for a homeless man who had no family or friends. The funeral was to be held at a cemetery in the remote countryside and this man would be the first to be laid to rest there. As I was not familiar with the backwoods area, I became lost and being a typical man, did not stop for directions. I finally arrived an hour late. I saw the



backhoe and the crew who were eating lunch but the hearse was nowhere in sight. I apologized to the workers for my tardiness and stepped to the side of the open grave where I saw the vault lid already in place.

I assured the workers I would not hold them up for long but this was the proper thing to do. The workers gathered around, still eating their lunch. I played out my heart and soul.

As I played the workers began to weep. I played and I played like I'd never played before, from Going Home and The Lord is My Shepherd to Flowers of the Forest. I closed the lengthy session with Amazing Grace and walked to my car.

As I was opening the door and taking off my coat, I verheard one of the workers saying to another, "Sweet Jeezuz, Mary 'n Joseph, I have never seen nothin' like that before and I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years."

*(Thanks to Ronald Stassen for this story.)*



Clara and **Edward Mobley**, Lawty, FL, Ph. 904 782 1378 Just a few lines to let u know we are all getting along great. dad and clara have had a few problems but all is going fine now. We will be seeing everyone at the reunion in 2010. Hope everyone had a filling Thanksgiving and have a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year. Our

love and prayers. Barbara, Cecil, Edward and Clara

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Did you ever notice: When you put the 2 words 'The' and 'IRS' together it spells 'Theirs...'

However,

**HOW SURPRISINGLY RICH WE ARE!!**

We are so rich!! Silver in the Hair. Gold in the Teeth. Stones in the Kidneys. Sugar in the Blood. Lead in the Feet. Iron in the Arteries. And an inexhaustible supply of Natural Gas.....We never thought we'd accumulate such wealth.

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### Christmas and New Year Holiday Greetings

Happy holidays and a Merry Christmas from me to you. Signed:; **Robert Hartzell** and family

Happy Holidays from our home to yours.  
Bob and Louise Young, (cousin of **William Nesbitt**)

Christmas shines in the prayers of a child, the love of a friend, the faith of a heart, that believes in miracles...and Christmas wishes to very special people who bring joy to the world all year through. Wishing you a beautiful Holy season.  
Josephine Kokol, sister of **Louis Morong**

My daughter Sherry and I went to Winston Salem, NC for Thanksgiving with Ted, Cindy and their family. We plan to attend the Snowbird Reunion. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.  
**Harry and Joan Nivens.**

Merry Christmas, I write to say Hi and thanks for everything. We get the Poopsheet every time and love to read it. Wish you all a nice Thanksgiving and Christmas. The weather is nice today in Oklahoma. This (enclosure) isn't much but maybe it will help a little. (with Poopsheet expenses). Love, Sybil (Mrs. **Denver Hatfield**, I-502)

Enjoy the Holidays! Just want to thank you for the Poopsheet. Wonder if you ever hear from Marlyn Holson or Mary Garcia, gonna have to give them a call. Keep up the good work. Mabel Howell (Mrs. **James (Jim) Howell**), I-502, Aberdeen, MS

With warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a very happy new year. Hope all is well. Enclosing something for the Poopsheet. We hope to make the Snowbird. June and **Joe Hennessey**, I-502, Southbury, PA and Sarasota, FL

Happy Holidays - happiness is found when Christmas is all around.

David, Jenn & Lorilai Warren, Jenn is granddaughter of **Robert Hartzell**, I-502, Tiffin, OH. (Poopsheet donations enclosed from Jenn & David and Bob and daughter, Clara, Hartzell).

May the love, joy and peace that only He can bring be yours at Christmas and always. Loretta Minotti, our airborne friend in Easton, PA.

Happy Holidays from Fawn, Scott and Jesse Jones, Frisco, Texas granddaughter of **Edward M. Smith**, I-502

We had a large storm a few days ago - loads of snow, unusual for this area in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

I am still doing volunteer work at both museums - have been doing docent work for 27 years. We have lots of good rich history to talk about.

Hope all is well with you and a big thank you for the Poopsheet. I miss Walt very much

There's no nicer time than Christmas to remember special people like you. Love, Kay (Mrs. **Walter Murdock**, I-502), Placerville, CA

### SNOW DAY IN BELGIUM AND HOLLAND



Belgium, December 17, 2009, Snow!!

Merry Christmas and Happy New year from Francois and Nelly van Loo

Belgium, December 17, 2009, Greetz from a white IJsselstein Will Christmas be white this year ???  
Love Donald and Sophia van der Bogert

[www.pararesearchteam.com](http://www.pararesearchteam.com)

*Editor's note: Our thanks to Donald for the beautiful Ardeene pictures on front page from January 2008.*



## Battle of the Bulge remembered 65 years later

Dec 14, 2009 By [Christie Vanover \(USAG Benelux\)](#)

Photo Credit: Christie Vanover (USAG Benelux).



Airmen from the 52nd Fighter Wing honor guard based at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany and re-enactors from Belgium and the Netherlands prepare to present the U.S. and Belgian colors during a ceremony Dec. 13, 2009, in Sainte Ode, Belgium. (only 3 photos from article shown here).

**BASTOGNE, Belgium** -- World War II veterans were surrounded by servicemembers, political leaders and appreciative citizens when the city of Bastogne commemorated the 65th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge Dec. 12-13.

The U.S. Ambassador to Belgium, two of Gen. George S. Patton's grandchildren and Gen. Anthony McAuliffe's nephew were among the dignitaries who came to render honors.

"We honor those lucky enough to be able to be with us today through whom we will forever owe a great debt, and we honor those especially who are not lucky enough to be with us today," Ambassador Howard W. Gutman told a crowd gathered at the Mardasson Memorial in Bastogne.

In early September 1944, Allied forces liberated Belgium, but days later, Adolf Hitler devised a counterattack to cross the border once more. His objective was to occupy Antwerp and to again reach the English Channel.

After three months of planning, on Dec. 16, 1944, more than 200,000 German troops and nearly 1,000 tanks launched the planned offensive, catching the Americans by surprise. On Dec. 18, the town of Bastogne found itself at the heart of the war in what became known as the Battle of the Bulge.

More than 600,000 American Soldiers deployed to the frontlines in the Ardennes to fight off a fierce Nazi

offensive that surpassed 500,000 troops. At the end of the battle, which lasted 41 days and spread over 85 miles, more than 19,000 American Soldiers and 3,000 Belgian civilians lost their lives.

"For those who died in the Battle of the Bulge, they remain on active duty," said Gutman. "Their mission is for us to remember them. And every Soldier is entitled to his mission. So we have our part to do. We will always remember them."

Today, although the number of surviving veterans is dwindling, the support for their sacrifices continues to grow. During this year's annual historic walk, approximately 4,100 people trekked the defensive lines held by Americans in 1944. It was the largest turnout to date.

As snow fell on the city and temperatures dropped below freezing, American and European children and adults lined the narrow main street of Bastogne, anxiously awaiting the annual parade.

This year's parade, however, was unlike any other. The U.S. Army Garrison Benelux has been celebrating the liberation of Belgium throughout 2009. Through that commemoration it has rekindled the Belgian-American partnership by allowing a Belgian Soldier to carry his nation's colors with the U.S. color guard in official ceremonies.

The 2009 Battle of the Bulge parade was the first time a Belgian 1st Field Artillery Soldier joined with the American Soldiers to lead the parade through Bastogne.

"For many years, the U.S. Army Garrison Benelux Color Guard has carried the national colors of Belgium and the United States while our 1st Field Artillery Regiment friends paraded individual flags of the 50 American states," said Col. James Drago, USAG Benelux commander.

"Now, a Soldier from the Belgian unit marches alongside the U.S. Soldiers, forming one team - one USAG Benelux Color Guard."

The parade continued as the Belgian 1st Field Artillery Regiment marched in formation behind the Color Guard followed by Headquarters and Headquarters Company USAG Benelux, a local band and surviving Belgian World War II veterans of the 5th Fusiliers Battalion.

Following the parade and official wreath layings at Patton's monument and McAuliffe Square, the ambassador joined the Benelux Commander, the 1st Field Artillery Commander Lt. Col. Henri Badot-Bertrand and Bastogne Mayor Philippe Collard as they signed a formal partnership, culminating decades of friendship.

To conclude the commemorative events, an official





65th anniversary ceremony was held at Mardasson Memorial, the colossal monument in Bastogne that pays tribute to America's Battle of the Bulge casualties.

Ambassador Gutman joined Belgian Minister of Defense Pieter De Crem, Luxembourg Province Governor Bernard Caprasse and Mayor Collard to render their final honors.



Unlike past commemorations, there were less than a dozen U.S. veterans present, a sign that the men, who are now in their 80s, are slowly joining their fallen brethren.

The veterans joined local children in the center of the monument and placed individual roses into a display to spell out the word "freedom."

Caprasse presented his remarks to the crowd and then turned directly to the veterans and assuredly announced, "We will never forget."

This article taken from [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)

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**When you smile, the world smiles back..**

**Think on this....**

"To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did."

When God takes something from your grasp, He's not punishing you, but merely opening your hands to receive something better

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**A SENIOR STRIKES BACK...**

An older gentleman had an appointment to see the urologist who shared offices with several other doctors. The waiting room was filled with patients. As he approached the receptionist's desk, he noticed that the receptionist was a large unfriendly woman who looked like a Sumo wrestler.

He gave her his name.

In a very loud voice, the receptionist said, "YES, I HAVE YOUR NAME HERE; YOU WANT TO SEE THE DOCTOR ABOUT IMPOTENCE, RIGHT?"

All the patients in the waiting room snapped their heads around to look at the very embarrassed man. He recovered quickly, and in an equally loud voice replied 'NO, I'VE COME TO INQUIRE ABOUT A SEX CHANGE OPERATION BUT I DON'T WANT THE SAME DOCTOR THAT DID YOURS.'

The room erupted in applause!

LESSON: BE KIND, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, DON'T MESS WITH OLD FOLKS!! They're smarter beyone your imagination.....

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**EXPENSE REPORT**

<i>Balance on hand prior to last issue</i>	<i>\$311</i>
<i>Donations received</i>	<i>\$221</i>
<i>Cost of last Issue and supplies</i>	<i>\$212</i>
<i>Balance on hand prior to this issue</i>	<i>\$320</i>

*Your contributions keep us going... Betty T.. Hilll, 2222 Settlers Way # 914, Sugar Land, TX 77478*

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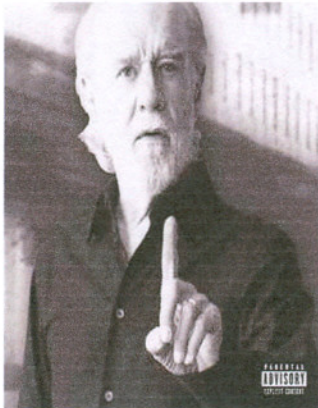


## China claims world's fastest train

Saturday, Dec. 27, 2009, BEIJING, China on Saturday unveiled what it billed as the fastest rail link in the world -- a train connecting the modern cities of Guangzhou and Wuhan at an average speed of 350 kilometres (217 miles) an hour.



## Comedian, George Carlin on aging!



Do you realize that the only time in our lives when we like to get old is when we're kids? If you're less than 10 years old, you're so excited about aging that you think in fractions. 'How old are you?' 'I'm four and a half!' You're never thirty-six and a half. You're four and a half, going on five! That's the key.

You get into your teens, now they can't hold you back. You jump to the next number, or even a few ahead.

'How old are you?' 'I'm gonna be 16!' You could be 13, but hey, you're gonna be 16! And then the greatest day of your life! You **become** 21. Even the words sound like a ceremony. **YOU BECOME 21. YESSSS!!!**

But then you **turn** 30. Oooohh, what happened there? Makes you sound like bad milk! He **TURNE**D; we had to throw him out. There's no fun now, you're Just a sour-dumpling. What's wrong? What's changed?

You **BECOME** 21, you **TURN** 30, then you're **PUSHING** 40. Whoa! Put on the brakes, it's all slipping away. Before you know it, you **REACH** 50, and your dreams are gone....

**But wait!** You **MAKE** it to 60. You didn't think you would!

So you **BECOME** 21, **TURN** 30, **PUSH** 40, **REACH** 50, and make it to 60.

You've built up so much speed that you **HIT** 70! After that, it's a day-by-day thing; you **HIT** Wednesday! You **get into** your 80's, and every day is a complete cycle; you **HIT** lunch; you **TURN** 4:30; you **REACH** bedtime. And it doesn't end there. Into the 90s, you start going backwards; 'I **was** **JUST** 92.'

Then a strange thing happens.. If you make it over 100, you become a little kid again. 'I'm 100 and a half!'

May you all make it to a healthy 100 and a half!!

## AND, ALWAYS REMEMBER:

**Life isn't measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.**

**Life's journey is not to arrive at the grave safely in a well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, totally used up and worn out, shouting '...man, what a ride!'**

*Thanks to Hank VanZeldren for send us this George Carlin topic.*

## Secret stories of WWII spies revealed

December, 2009

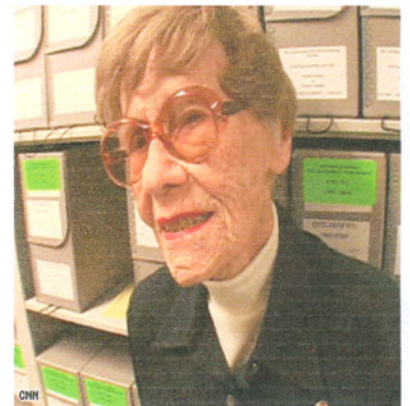
From Paul Courson - COLLEGE PARK, Maryland (CNN) -- At 94, Barbara Podoski finally gets to tell the story of how she punched a German sergeant in the face during World War II, when she was a secret U.S. interrogator.

Barbara Podoski remembers giving a Nazi prisoner of war a "knuckle sandwich" during questioning.

Her story was one of many brought to light Thursday, when the National Archives released declassified personnel records from the old Office of Strategic Services, the CIA's predecessor.

The names include Julia Child, who would later become a famous chef. Child was stationed in Sri Lanka and China as a researcher for the head of the OSS, Gen. William Donovan.

Two other OSS operatives, William Casey and William Colby, later led the CIA, the intelligence agency that replaced the OSS.





Podoski was on hand for the release Thursday in a climate-controlled, high security room at the National Archives where thousands of documents are stored in an area normally off-limits to the public. She said she and thousands of other OSS agents were told not to talk much about their work. Their employment files had remained sealed.

"They used me mostly to interrogate prisoners of war," said Podoski, a native of what then was called Czechoslovakia. "I was multilingual."

Podoski said she became a U.S. citizen and joined the Army as WWII began. She recalled preparing to question the sergeant, a Nazi prisoner of war.

"He was very vociferous against America and was vilifying President Wilson," Podoski said. "I told him to stop, and he didn't, so I took my little fist and hit him over the face. I gave him a knuckle sandwich."

"I was very ashamed of myself because I had a pistol under my jacket, and he was unarmed," she added.

The German she questioned told her that Adolf Hitler was using Czechs and Slovaks to do "dirty work" along the Italian Front.

To counter that, she borrowed a Czech typewriter from the Vatican, and distributed an underground leaflet encouraging them to abandon the Germans.

"Within a week, about 600 guys, with my appeal, crossed the lines," she said, smiling. She was honored for her intelligence-gathering efforts with a Bronze Star that she wore with other military awards Thursday, after years of secrecy.

"Today, it's history," she said.

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**MORE HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

A special star, a special season, a special wish. the Blessings of Christmas. Lori Novotni, g-niece of Edward Sowder, I-502

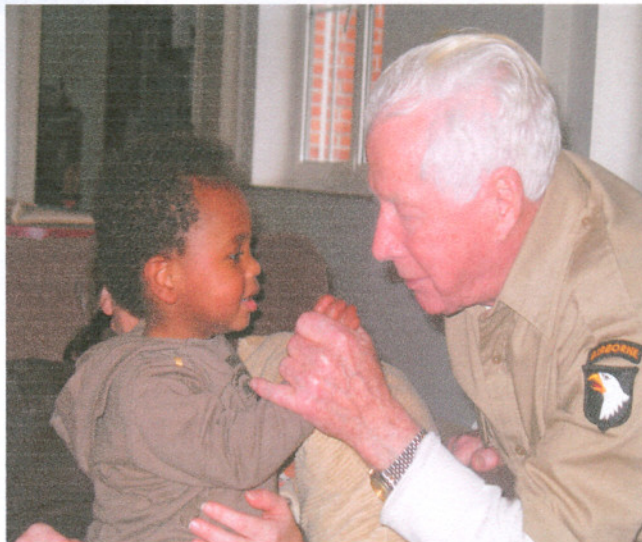
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from



Reg, Anne and Mathieu Jans, Bastogne, Belgium. Anne and Reg traveled this past year to Ethiopia to adopt Mathieu, now a joyful part of their family and our airborne family of friends. Reg is working hard to

safe the McAuliffe HQ cave near Bastogne as an historical site. Updates on this in future issues.

*Mathieu Jans, son of Anne and Reg Jans, Bastogne, Belgium, chats with Ray Nagell, 321 GFAB, WWII from Minneapolis, MN when Ray and his wife, Helen, visited for the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, December 2009.*



Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe pictured in HQ (nicknamed "The Cave" near Bastogne in 1944-45.



Flanders, Belgium... M3rry Christmas and a Happy New Year, Filip, Claudine and Leandro Willems. Leandro's birth day was March 5, 2009. Filip is the webmaster of the 101st Airborne Division --- 463rd Parachute Field Artillery website at [www.w2airborne.net](http://www.w2airborne.net)

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! Hoping you have many happy days in 2010...Stay healthy, and enjoy life. Love to you all, Charlotte and **Marvin Cartwright**, I-502, Elk Mound, WI

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, Melanie Janssen, Eindhoven, Netherlands

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Best wishes for the holidays and through the coming year. Don Caughran, Signal Mtn, TN

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Good wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mien Lavrijssen, Son, Netherlands

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We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy 2010. Sjef and Fien van Dingenen, Hapert, Netherlands

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*Loretta Menotti, of Easton, Pennsylvania (pictured at the Snowbird Reunion Feb. 2009)) last month won the raffle in her NJ 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Chapter Fundraiser. The prize was a gun, a very nice one, but she had a better idea, and the chapter agreed.... The following letter describes her generosity. Way to go Loretta!!!*



FROM: Jim Agins, 101st Airborne Division Assn. General Anthony C. McAuliffe New York - New Jersey Chapter, December 12,2009

TO: Screaming Eagle Support Fund 10151 Airborne Division Association P. O. Box 929, Ft. Campbell, KY 42223

Dear Screaming Eagles:

Enclosed is our check for \$550 to be used for the Screaming Eagle Support Fund. Ms. Loretta Minotti donated these monies as a result of winning our annual fundraising raffle. Her ticket was drawn on 12/5/09 during our annual memorial dinner celebrating the Battered Bastards of Bastogne in Wildwood, NJ. Instead of accepting the prize, she instructed the McAuliffe Chapter to forward the cash value of the prize to this very important fund.

Loretta has been a long-time Life Member of the McAuliffe 10 I 51 Chapter, as well as a Life Member

of the National organization. She is a valued supporter of our group. Please acknowledge her gift. (Ms. Loretta Menotti, William Penn Court Apts. 6087 WilJ.iam Penn Highway Easton, PA 18045-2947) I am pleased and honored to send this check on behalf of Loretta. Signed: Jim Agins

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My wife, Minnabel, and I wishes you and your Family a Happy New Year, Bob Lott, 327/401, GIR

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**May you walk always in sunshine.  
with blue skies every day.**

**May your journey be a safe one,  
may you never go astray.**

**May your burdens all be light ones  
and small the cross you bear.**

**May your future be a bright one  
enshrined by love and prayer.**

**May the wings of love enfold you  
like a blanket in the night.**

**And the arms of faith uphold you  
until the sky is bright.**

**May life's storm clouds quickly vanish  
as rainbows come your way...**

**May you walk always in sunshine  
with blue skies every day.**

**Author, Clary Harrison.**

May the joy and beauty of Christmas bring an invincible measure of bright and happy hours and all that gives you pleasure. Lisa and Harriett van Berkel, Son, Netherlands

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**THANK YOU**

We thank you for your support through donations to the expense of the Poopsheet since the last issue: Charlotte and **Marvin Cartwright**, I-502 Lori Novotni, g-niece of **Edward Sowder**, I-502 Mathias Oswald, Shenorock, NY.....and the others, listed in the Holiday Greetings sections. Without your support we could not continue. Again, thank you for all your warm Christmas & New Year greetings. **Please let us hear from you in 2010, Let's stay in touch!!**

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We are tougher than men  
and unseen as the night.  
We are a few against an army,  
But we make the odds even.  
We are the dreaded winged  
vanguard of the world's best soldiers.  
We are airborne.



This is taken from email from our Dutch and Belgian friends who are responding to the items in the news recently where a Catholic Bishop has said there was no Holocaust during WWII. The photo involved is a rather famous one from WWII books. Maybe our friends and the author will not mind our sharing this part of history with you.

### THE BULLSOZER STORY

Hallo Friends,

It's awfull that some people , even a Bishop, dare to deny the fact that there are so many people murdered by the Germanns and that ther not have been concentrations camps.

I've an friend, an English veteran who has been many times our guest at our house. He has been six years in the Army in WW II. He was an engineer. He landed on D.Day in Nomandy and fought with his unit his way trough France, Belgium, Holland were he also was involved in the fierce fightings around Overloon. Later on he went with his unit into Germany.

Yesterday I a phone call from him. When he was our guest again about ten years ago, he looked in my book cuboard in which are a lot of war books. He became very suddenly very emotional.

I did not know why. But he showed me the picture with the bulldozer in my book The Yellow Star (about Jews) and said; "Some people are saying that I'm on that bulldozer, but I'm not sure about that. But what I



know for sure, is that we were billeted at Celle, Germany, when I and three other men got the duty to go with our bulldozer

on a big load truck, to the concentration camp Belzen. There, we had to push all those dead people in big mass graves which we dug there. And it is sure that it is our bulldozer which is on the picture.

We did that work in turns, each one hour, because it was an real awful task with the smell which you never forget. So, one of us four is on that shovel or Bulldozer, that's for sure.

He wrote this statement down and has done that page of paper in my book.

Bestr wishes to you all.

Geurt van Rinsum. The Netherlands

### THE FINAL INSPECTION

The soldier stood and faced God,  
Which must always come to pass.  
He hoped his shoes were shining,  
Just as brightly as his brass.

'Step forward now, you soldier,  
How shall I deal with you ?  
Have you always turned the other cheek ?  
To My Church have you been true?'

The soldier squared his shoulders and said,  
'No, Lord, I guess I ain't.  
Because those of us who carry guns,  
Can't always be a saint.

I've had to work most Sundays,  
And at times my talk was tough.  
And sometimes I've been violent,

Because the world is awfully rough.  
But, I never took a penny,  
That wasn't mine to keep...  
Though I worked a lot of overtime,  
When the bills got just too steep.

And I never passed a cry for help,  
Though at times I shook with fear.  
And sometimes, God, forgive me,  
I've wept unmanly tears.

I know I don't deserve a place,  
Among the people here.  
They never wanted me around,  
Except to calm their fears.

If you've a place for me here, Lord,  
It needn't be so grand.  
I never expected or had too much,  
But if you don't, I'll understand.

There was a silence all around the throne,  
Where the saints had often trod.  
As the soldier waited quietly,  
For the judgment of his God.

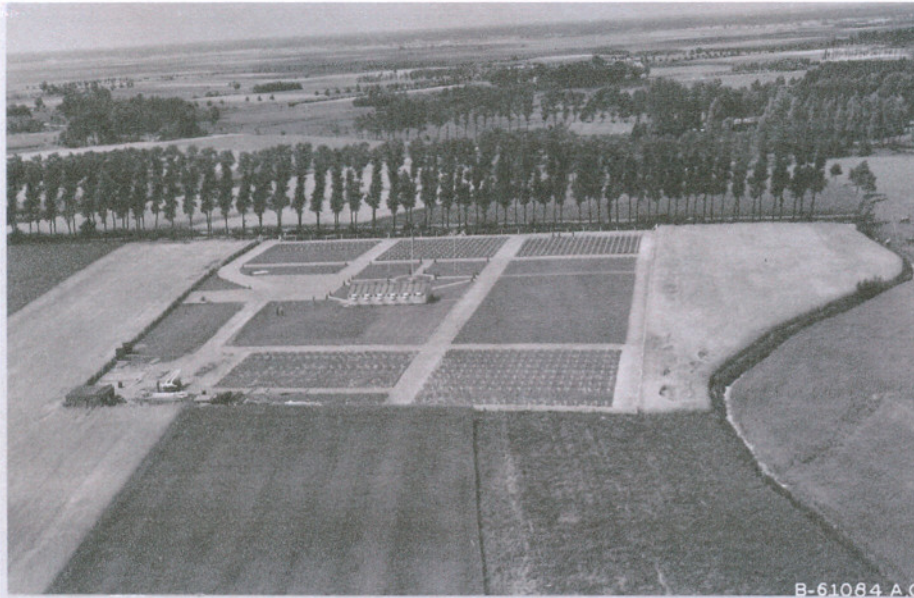
'Step forward now, my soldier,  
You've borne your burdens well.  
Walk peacefully on Heaven's streets,  
You've done your time in Hell.'

Author Unknown

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Left: The temporary cemetery at Wolfswinkel, near Son and Best, Netherlands, 1944 - 1948. The cemetery closed in May 1948. Graves were moved to the American National Cemetery at Margraten. Some were returned for burial in the United States. The choice was given to next of kin of those buried at Wolfswinkel.

Each grave was "adopted" by a resident of Son... Dora Vogels (now deceased) and her sister Mien (living in Son) adopted the grave of Lester A. Taylor, Plot A, Row 6, Number 110 and the soldier next to his.

Lester A. Taylor, I-502... 1942 photos, - A good view inside barracks. Lower Right: Lester Taylor, brother of Poopsheet editor, Betty Hill, entered the Army in Monterey, CA. He fought in Normandy and was KIA Near Best, Holland September 19, 1944, two days after his battle field promotion to Sgt.. He was buried at Wolfswinkel Sept 20, 1944 and in Loretto, TN in 1948.





## OPERATION TORCH, SEPTEMBER 2009

For the fourth year in a row, the Dutch Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation organised a trip to Normandy, Bastogne and The Netherlands from 8-21st September 2009. In a great group of 17 participants, we welcomed WWII veterans Robert Lundy (506 D Co.) and Paul Jackson (501 B Co.). It became a special tour with quite a few special moments.

In Normandy, for example, Robert and Paul were part of the flag ceremony at the US cemetery in Colleville, where they stood to attention with their respective regimental flags at their sides.



Robert Lundy (left) and Paul Jackson (right) standing to attention

In Bastogne, they were both honored by the city, being the first WWII veterans who received the coin commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge.

In The Netherlands they were special guests in Eerde, Eindhoven and Son.

Other highlights during Operation Torch were the unveiling of the artwork near Son, in memory of the airborne assault in September 1944 by the 101st Airborne Division and glider troops in the presence of a delegation of active duty soldiers; the Airborne Memorial Walk in support of the wounded warriors at Walter Reed hospital and meeting Gen. Petraeus for lunch on the last day of the trip.



Postcard printed for the Airborne Memorial Walk with room for supportive words for the wounded warriors at Walter Reed hospital

Overwhelming honors were bestowed on our chairperson, Petra Wenstedt-Pulles with the induction as honorary member of the 327th Inf. Rgt, the 502nd Inf. Rgt, the 101st Airborne Division and as an honorary life member of the 101st Airborne Division Association.

The success of the Operation Torch-tour opens up future possibilities and challenges for the Screaming Eagles of WWII Foundation to safe guard and enhance the bridge from past to present.



Left: OT2009 participants at Mardasson memorial, Bastogne, Belgium

Right: Gen. Petraeus and Petra Wenstedt-Pulles

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**Some of our favorite websites: We Thank you.**

<http://bandofbrothers.ontheweb.nl/> Peter van de Wal  
[www.pararesearchteam.com](http://www.pararesearchteam.com) Donald van den Bogert  
[www.battledetective.com](http://www.battledetective.com) Tom Timmermans  
<http://www.101airborneww2.com/> Mark Bando  
[www.screamingeagle.org](http://www.screamingeagle.org) 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Association  
[www.screamingeagles.nl](http://www.screamingeagles.nl) Scream Eagles Foundation  
[www.screamingducks.com](http://www.screamingducks.com) Holland, Living History Group  
<http://www.ww2airborne.net/> Filip Willems, 463<sup>rd</sup> PFA

