Feb. 2011 NEWS FROM THE CACTUS PATCH ISSUE No 27

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2011 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT & NEWS



2011 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT & PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2011 Reunion in New Orleans July 13 thru 16 in the Chateau LeMoyne (Holiday Inn -French Quarter) one block off Bourbon Street at 301 Rue Dauphine. Beautiful rooms in a small hotel with an outdoor pool and the 103d Association occupying over one-half the rooms. We will have a spacious hospitality room; however, the hotel does not have dining facilities although several restaurants are in the immediate vicinity. Room rates are \$99/night for one to 4 persons and includes one auto parking free per room. Call 1-800-747-3279 prior to June 13 for room reservations. We will be spending most of the day Friday the 15th of July at the World War II Museum including dinner and an evening "Stage Door Canteen" Show after dinner. We have planned a great program for the 4 days which begins with a Welcome Buffet Wednesday for dinner followed by an informal meeting to discuss future activities of the 103d Association. That to be followed by a power-point presentation of "What Katrina Did to New Orleans". Note the room rate applies from July 11 thru July 18, in case you want to spend more time in the "Big Easy". 103d Board of Directors are scheduled to meet at 4 pm Wednesday July 13. See page 4 for more details of our 2011 New Orleans Reunion. Make your hotel reservations as soon as you decide that you are attending, however, your event reservations cannot be made until our next issue of NFTCP (#28) comes out around the first of April which will contain the reunion event registration form. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

103d Web Site a GREAT Success!!! Based on the intensity of the activity experienced on our new web site, it proves the point as to the reason for establishing our own site. We have actually added several new members to our membership roster in addition to providing advice and information to several veteran's descendants as to their ancestor's WW II service. Interestingly, it also becomes the target of interest of those interested WW II buffs. In that regard, we have a significant group of third generation Germans who are deeply involved in perpetuating the legacy of the Seigfried Line and therefore, are very interested in details of our actions to breach it just north of Weissembourg on our first encounter with that infamous relic of 20th century defensive warfare. Larry Wayne is certainly earning "his keep" with all the activity he encounters in response to the internet inquiries he receives as the operator of the web-site. It turns out that Larry is a good "fit" for that position in that he is both a descendant and a retired military person, where both of those elements seem to be prerequisites to fielding responses to the inquiries received. It is comforting to know that there was a need for the web site and that we were able to provide it as well as provide a qualified operator/custodian. It is also very interesting to "field" some of the issues which arise.

103d ID WW II Assoc is sponsoring the publication of two WW II combat story books as announced in the last issue of this newsletter. At that time in late November, both books required a bit of work before they could be re-printed. I am pleased to report that both books are now within a few days of going to the printer and that the next NFTCP #28

(Continued next page

2011 REUNION ANNOUNCEMENT & PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE continued......

(due out April First) will advise on their availability. The 103d Association will print enough copies of each to provide copies to the various WW II libraries and to supply the desires of our members and friends. Both books tell a dynamic story of the infantry in WW II and will be printed both sides at 8 1/2 x 11 with soft cover and will contain pictures and maps for illustration. Now for a short description of each.

Roger Craddock's Book is the story of a rifle company commander that takes the reader from his entry into the military through his retirement 33 years later. The WW II combat period is in great detail and includes complete company roster, 14+ months of morning reports (as a glossary), company casualty reports, and Roger's personal autobiographical story throughout his career which the reader will find very compelling, especially so, during the combat period. We all knowthatthecompany commander's role was very crucial in combat, however, Roger's book reveals he played several more roles in crucial positions as his career matured. I must acknowledge that Captain Craddock was one of my personal heroes to the point that I emulated him after I was commissioned direct in the army reserve in 1948. It paid dividends as I commanded full strength USAR engineer units at battalion and group level during the Vietnam era before retiring, and I considered his influence very profound and rewarding.

Gustav Enyedy's Book, Combat Diary is an exceptional record of WW II combat as a result of the detail provided by the 200+ photographs contained in his story of the 2nd platoon of I Company 409th Infantry. Gus completes the picture with his written word; but readily acknowledges that he just could not take pictures while the "shooting war" (rifle and artillery firing) was taking place. After all, he was being paid as a rifleman, NOT combat photographer. Furthermore. it was simply amazing that he could sustain the photography and maintain the film, both new and exposed, throughout the combat period, outdoors without external support, and during the worst winter weather of a quarter century in that

It was also amazing, that the 2nd platoon of I Co had only 5 men WIA and none KIA, whereas the total casualties for I Company were 76, with 8 KIA and 67 WIA. The 2nd platoon truly earned their nickname, the "lucky platoon" as they were very likely the Only one of the 81 rifle platoons of the 103d ID without one man killed and with the fewest WIA. While that was an extremely favorable set of circumstances to experience, it just happened to be off-set by poor morale generated by the lack of leadership throughout I Company. This situation was exemplified by the 2nd platoon having a lieutenant platoon leader present only few weeks in December of the entire 6 months of combat. In any case, Gus'

unofficial "leadership" and picturetaking image was able to sustain the morale of the platoon and keep them moving in a positive direction throughout the combat phase. This book has to be one of the best contributions to the 103d Legacy yet produced by a 103d veteran.

The availability of each book will be announced in the next newsletter and will be available at our 2011 reunion at a price very likely under \$35. We are donating each to all the WW II Libraries.

Museum Space Available for 103d Artifacts - Larry Wayne has uncovered the possibility of space in a county owned building in Kissimmee, FL that could be used for display of 103d artifacts. (It is a building used to recognize all our veterans) He will keep us posted as to such space maturing to be possibly available for a limited period (multi-year). This would be a good start as we have accumulated quite a bit which now is in the custody of Past President Harold Branton. Carl Greene - K/409, also has quite a lot accumulated over the past 65 years - some of which might be available. Kissimmee is in the vicinity of Disneyworld and, in effect, in the middle of a lot of action and visibility, so it would be a good place to start. We have requested Zack Sigler to evaluate setting up some of his materials for display between reunions. A lot of possibilities here!!!

Chan Rogers

- It is 2011 and a NEW YEAR for DUES! Please Send your \$25 to Gloria (our Treasurer) in Houston. Make checks payable to: 103d ID WW II Assoc.
- Those that live close enough to Gainesville, Texas, think about a Memorial Day Service May 30, 2011. Details in next newsletter around April 1, 2011.

TWO IMPORTANT MESSAGES FROM OUR STAFF

Dear 103d Association Members,

I'd like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere 'Thank You' and appreciation to the members that were able to respond to my request for archival funds. The support you provided has enabled the Association to acquire all of the Morning Reports (125 Companies, Batterys & HQ sections) for the entire 103d Infantry Division with enough funds left over to acquire the 'Unit Journals'. Our next assignment is to obtain all 'After Action Reports' and the 103d Infantry Division 'General Orders'. We received slightly over \$10,000 which will allow us to accumulate the most complete set of WWII Division archival documentation on record.

Not only was your support enough to obtain all of the Morning Reports, the timing was also impeccable. As I made the final order for the Morning Report reels, the National Archives announced that they would no longer accept orders for the sale of the microfilm reel copies. Ergo, if we would have waited, we'd not have been able to acquire these important documents. While obtaining the reels was not cheap, it was many times less expensive than hiring someone to copy these reports at 50 cents per page.

Over the next few years, it will be the task of several volunteers to make this historical information available to you, and your descendants, via the 103d ID of WWII Association website.

Best Wishes to all for 2011,

ZACK SIGLER, 103d ID Archivist

PS – I hope to see you all in New Orleans.

To All 103d ID WW II Association members:

The 103d Infantry Division (Cactus) website is up! You can visit the site at http://www.103didww2assn.org. As of this newsletter, the site features the 103d History, from the Division formation until its deactivation. In the World War II Association section of the website, you will find the Association history, list of officers, information of member activities, an Application to join the Association, information regarding the next reunion, and current and past issues of the News From The Cactus Patch (our newsletter). The website Units section has a page for all the units, many at this time deal with unit structure. Available individual biographies are on the web for the three regimental sections. Unit Journals and Histories for the 410th Infantry Regiment, 328th Medical Battalion, 803rd Ordnance (Light Maint), 103d Quartermaster Company, 103d Signal Company, and the Military Police Platoon are currently available. The Morning Reports that have been transcribed thus far are posted and as time passes and more Morning Reports become available, they will also be placed on the web. There are web pages for 103d Training and the trip over to Europe - Marseille.

If you have photos, stories, biographies, unit history, or other information you would like to have placed on the web, this site belongs to you, the veterans and members, so feel free to contact Larry Wayne at info@103didww2assn.org and we can discuss how best to submit your documents. Each News From The Cactus Patch will carry an update of new material that has been added to the site since the last newsletter.

Sincerely,

LARRY WAYNE, 103d Association Webmaster



Command Element - Cannon Co/409th - December 23,1944

At Bischwald, France in the Saar Valley, 6 miles south of St Avold, and 25 miles east of Metz. Moving to the front this morning after two-day rest in this village. (L to R) 2Lt Charles Hanson, 2Lt Ralph Scoppa, Cpt J.D. White, 1Lt Charles Schram, and FSgt J.D.Stanley. Lt Schram's grandfather Joseph Schram was born in Spryer, Germany 100 miles east of this location

103d INFANTRY DIVISION WW II ASSOCIATION 2011 NEW ORLEANS REUNION EVENT SCHEDULE

Wednesday July 13 - 6:30 pm

EVENT A - GROUP WELCOME RECEPTION & BUFFET DINNER

Cocktails and dinner at Dennies, followed by informal discussion of reunion activities, thence a discussion of future 103d Association Projects, reunion locations, and thence power-point presentation on "What Katrina Did To New Orleans".

Free Wine & Beer - Cash Bar - Buffet \$40/Adult Child under 10 Free - Over 10 \$15

Thursday July 14 - 10:30 am

EVENT B - BUS TOUR OF NEW ORLEANS W/LUNCH STOP

Four & one-half hour tour with stop for lunch on your own at the famous French market. Start with pass thru Ninth Ward and Brad Pitts' rebuilding then east to Chalmette for the Battle of New Orleans site and Katrina Surge effects. Then to Garden City and the grand mansions of the rich and famous, next on to Tulane University, Jackson Square and the French Market for lunch. After lunch to Pump Station #1 and follow the canal to Lake Pontchatrain then thru Lakeview, by the zoo, and on to downtown and back to the hotel.

Bus Tour: Adult-\$35; Under 16-\$20

Bus tour ends at hotel at 4:30 pm - Evening is Open for Unit Dinners or dinner on your own.

Friday July 15 - 11:00 noon

EVENT C - NEW ORLEANS WW II MUSEUM - ALL DAY + EVENING

A small bus will be available all day, starting at 11:00 am, to ferry you between the Museum and the hotel. Dinner will be served at 7:00pm with a Stage Door Canteen Show following. The buses will the take you back to the hotel after the show. The canteen at the Museum serves a variety of lunch styles or you have the option of lunch near the hotel before you go to the museum. There is an admission charge to the Museum for all except WW II veterans.

Adults: \$16 Seniors \$12 Kids \$10

Total cost for the evening, including admission, dinner & show is as follows:

Veteran: \$55 Non-Veteran Adult: \$70 Under 18: \$50

Saturday July 16 - 9:00 am

MEMORIAL SERVICE & BUSINESS MEETING

The Memorial Service and Business Meeting will be held in the 103d Association's Hospitality at the hotel. It is estimated that meeting will end before 10:30 am and adjourn for a group picture. There then will be 6 hours of unscheduled time for you do as you desire, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. At 6:00 we leave the hotel for the dock for a river cruise on a boat with dinner and dancing.

Saturday July 16 - 7:00 pm

EVENT D - EVENING DINNER CRUISE

Board Riverboat for dinner cruise and dancing -- return at 11:00 pm.

Adults: \$60

Note: This schedule is preliminary and subject to changes - Final due in April!



Live At The Stage Door Canteen!

An original musical production with all the songs and sass, jazz and swing of the 1940s!

The National World War II Museum brings you eight terrific singers and dancers to put you *In the Mood* with *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy, Jukebox Saturday Night, I'll be seeing you, Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree* and dozens more! It's the all-singing, all-dancing, all-American salute to the men and women who won the war!

Enjoy Pre-Show Dinner or Brunch by Chef John Besh and the American Sector!

Friday & Saturday Evenings Dinner & Show Dinner seating 6:00-6:30pm Sunday Brunch Matinee
Brunch & Show
Balcony Brunch & Show

I NEED YOUR HELP!

The Stage Door Canteen Program is new and also, they have not had reunions scheduled 3 - 5 months in advance and I must estimate our attendance for the night of July 15; but NOT give them a guarantee! We will not be requesting your reservations until April/May; however, I must ask now for ALL going to the New Orleans reunion and planning to go to the dinner/show Friday night July 15 to please advise ASAP. The price will be \$55/WW II Veterans and \$70± for all non-veteran adults (the price of admission for non-veteran adults is \$16). If you are going, please advise us of the number attending via any of the following methods: a) email, b) letter/postcard-US Mail, or c) telephone; just provide member name & number attending. Note this is a survey NOT a formal registration. Your response will be a big help in our relationship with the museum staff and will insure all a seat for the affair in July.

Chan Rogers

SUPERB SUPPORT BY AFRICAN-AMERICAN ARMOR UNITS

Drafted into the World War II armed forces like other American men, African Americans served in segregated, mainly service and support units. While African American combat units were few and far between, two figured importantly in the 103d Infantry Division's combat chronicle. Attached to the Cactus Division in early December 1944, the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion had five white officers; the remainder of the unit, including all company officers, was African American. As remembered in the divisional history, "As the 614th arrived and began to assemble in the Division area, eyeballs of Cactus men rolled and a few remarks dropped; a few chuckles were exchanged."

On 14 December 1944, a 411th Infantry task force, including a platoon of the 614th's towed tank destroyer guns, was organized to attack Climbach, a French town just outside the German border. From an exposed hillside, the tank destroyer platoon dueled German artillery, tanks, and infantry on the overlooking ridges. Their action, in which more than half of the platoon was killed or wounded and three of its four guns were knocked out, allowed the rest of the task force to outflank the German defenses and take the town. Robert Lurie remembered the platoon's persistent firing saved him and 30 men under his command by diverting a German tank approaching them over open ground. This "outstanding performance of mass heroism" on the part of the tank destroyer platoon, the 103d Division reported, "precluded a near catastrophic reverse of the task force." For its contribution at Climbach, the 3d Platoon, Company C, 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion, received the Distinguished Unit Citation, the first African American unit to receive this award.

Though wounded early on, First

Lieutenant Charles Thomas directed the dispersal and emplacement of his platoon's antitank guns, briefed his junior officer, and made sure the situation was under control before he allowed himself to be evacuated. For his actions, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest combat medal. In this action, the platoon also earned four Silver Stars-two of them awarded posthumously-and nine Bronze Stars. After a U.S. Armycommissioned study concluded that discrimination had guaranteed no African American won the country's top military honor during World War II, Lieutenant Thomas' decoration was posthumously upgraded to Medal of Honor and presented to his family in 1997

The African American tank destroyer battalion remained attached to the 103d Division through the winter. Lieutenant Christopher Sturkey of the 614th recalled, "The white infantry unit we were joined to after leaving the 3rd Army seriously doubted our competency until the battle at Climbach. After that we became 'jug' buddies. Our units were so close it was not unusual to see a couple of our guys going along on one of their patrols." With the 103d Division, the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion participated in a succession of holding actions that winter. Describing a successful raid of an old mill between Bischoltz and Mulhausen carried out on 5 February 1945, the Cactus division's enlisted historians identified the raiding party as from the "the crack negro 614th."

The 761st Tank Battalion was the first African American armored unit to see combat. With its assignment to the 103d Division on 12 March 1945, each of the Cactus Division's three infantry regiments had attached African American tank and tank destroyer companies for the final

breakthrough of the Siegfried Line into Germany. Sergeant Bob Leslie's rifle company—Company G, 409th Infantry—was on lead tanks of the 761st Tank Battalion. "We fought a day and a night and a day to get to our objective," he remembered. "My idea of hell would be the night that we fought all kinds of tank fire, and rifle fire, while dealing with burning buildings."

The 761st tankers used reconnaissance by fire, or searching fire, to keep moving forward and minimize American casualties. "They proved to be excellent soldiers and saved a lot of our lives," said Leslie.

Because I trained in a tank outfit [before being transferred to ASTP and then to the 103d ID], I knew a little about tactics. Iknew these guys were doing a good job. Other guys in the 103d may not have thought so; they said, "You should only fire when fired upon." I said, "No, no. You use searching fire and see if you can find out where everybody is." They did a very credible job. They said they learned their tactics from Patton.

Bob Leslie recalled how the African American tankers fishtailed their tanks with devastating effect through a retreating German column. "So, many people who belittled the Black soldier had their eyes opened," Leslie said. "Some of the men became very good friends of these Black tankers. In fact, we invited members of the Black battalion to come to the reunion we had in Chicago in 1994. We appreciated them and gave them our thanks."

Captioned "3d Bn, 409th, and 761st Tank warriors fry pancakes," a photo in the 103d Division afteraction report shows a tight circle of white and African American soldiers (Continued next page)

(Continued from previous page)

cooking over a fire. "The closer you are to the front the less prejudice," maintained Sergeant Edward Donald, a 761st tanker. "Those infantrymen wanted to live just as badly as anyone else, so color is no object when you take the heat off of them and keep that dream of getting back home alive!" Not all Cactus soldiers had contact with the attached African American combat units. Yet, virtually all must have heard how well they performed in combined-arms operations with

103d Division units.

In the final days of the European war, a platoon of the 614th Tank Destroyer Battalion was with the 411th Regimental Combat Team on the dash through Brenner Pass into Italy to enact the symbolic linkup with forward elements of the Fifth Army. Marking the end of the war in Europe, the 614th Tank Destroyer and 761st Tank battalions participated with elements of the 103d Infantry Division

in an impressive victory parade in Innsbruck.

The 103d Division's combined-arms operations with 614th Tank Destroyer and 761st Tank battalions, albeit conducted in segregated units, would signal the postwar integration of the military, which in turn contributed to wide-ranging desegregation of American society in the 1950s and 1960s

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Available

Cactus Soldiers Remember: Interviews—Narratives (July 2009—Nashville)
The Three Sisters: Selestat, Sessenheim, Schillersdorf (July 2010—San Antonio)

These two booklets of interviews and narratives by 103d Infantry Division veterans are from the 103d Infantry Division of WWII Album of Remembrance, compiled by Luke Martin, 103d Association Historian. They are available free of charge. To request copies, contact Bob French at (508) 207-7681 or rfrench@northstarlc.org

HONOR ROLL



103d INF DIV ASSN of WW II (Deceased reported after NFTCP issue No 25)

Anderson	Clyde	409 Co B
Boydstun Sr.	Charles B.	382 FA Bty C
Cason Jr.	George A.	409 Co F
Cava	Anthony L.	410 Co I
Clayton	Arthur J.	409 Co B
Fitzgerald	Gerald L.	410 Co H
Gervais	James B.	409 Co C
Gill	Robert L.	103 Sig Co
Hoffman	Carlyle K.	411 Co H
Holsopple	Herman	411 Co H
Klimkowicz	Myron A.	410 Co I
Marso	Raymond J.	410 Co B
Marzullo	Arnold T.	410 Co I
Mealor	Walter S.	383 FA Hq Bty
Musick	Junior L.	103 Hq Co
Olson	Oscar C.	410 Co K
Rose	Frank A.	411 Co A
Rudolph	R. Gordon	103 FA Hq Bty
Ruszkiewiez	George	409 Co B
Toepfers	Arnold	409 Co B
Wagner	John R.	410 Co I

CASUALTY STATS

10 HEAVIEST CASUALTY DAYS

(As reported in the All Units Casualty Publication Page 380)

<u>A</u>	Line Companies					
<u>A</u> <u>B</u> <u>C</u>	Hq Companies					
<u>C</u>	Support Units					
TOTAL	A + B + C					
BD	Battle Deaths (Included in Casualties					
<u>Date</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	TOTAL	BD	
15/Mar/45	250	13	20	283	66	
16/Nov/ 44	254	7	2	263	42	
21 Mar/45	195	13	8	216	22	
1/Dec/44	199	7	7	213	27	
16/Mar/45	158	10	6	174	28	
25/Jan/45	120	9	8	137	33	
15/Dec/44	107	17	6	130	25	
19/Jan/45	116	10	5	131	9	
19Dec/44	121	7	1	129	31	

110

20/Mar/45



14

3

127

14

OUR FLAG IS AT HALF STAFF IN THEIR HONOR

(Flag photo courtesy of our deceased comrade Pierce Evans) His website PAPAS WEB remains as a legacy

Report known deaths to your Secretary Treasurer
Gloria McLeod
7618 Twin Hills Dr Houston, TX 77071 gmacld@swbell.net for recording into our Historical Records

ANOTHER CACTUSMAN RESCUED FROM POW STATUS

Two of the 120+ men of B Company 409th Inf Regt captured at Selestat December 2, 1944 were rescued from prisoner-of-war status by elements of the 3d Army on April 15, 1945. Pvt Harry W. Nixon Jr. of San Antonio, TX (He still lives there & attended our last reunion) and Pfc Roland E. Glanz of Detroit, MI were both captured early

morning (3 am) when the Krauts came storming back with Tiger tanks putting their gun barrels right into the houses the Bravo men were in to effect surrender. After a couple of days to cross the Rhine, they reached Limburg, near Frankfurt, where they were processed. At this time, Harry's entire OD uniform was taken and presumably used during the "Bulge" episode to dress Germans as Americans. For his replacement uniform Harry was given a French WW I uniform with a matching outer winter jacket which he was wearing when to American control. After

a week or so at Limburg, Harry and Roland were sent to a camp in Muhlburg, in the vicinity of Berlin, to await assignment to a work camp. They were subsequently assigned to a 20 man work detail in Glauchau, about 40 miles south of Leipzig, working in the construction of prefabricated houses, to replace those bombed-out. Actually,

they were very fortunate to be assigned to this work detail as the manager treated the Americans very fairly, since his father had been a prisoner of Americans during WW I and had been treated fairly in that experience. Furthermore, we know from the experience of those of B Company that spent their time in the Stalags, that they came home in a



he was liberated and returned to American control. After definition of 20 prisoners and also liberated. The vehicle (Red Cross on the front) to their rear is a German civilian truck pressed into service by their liberators from the 3rd Army 79th ID.



Harry Nixon and Roland Glanz Apr. 15, 1945; near Glauchau, Germany at liberation among many ex-POWs and numerous German POWs.

yery emaciated condition, whereas, you can see that Harry and Roland look well fed in these photographs at the time of liberation. They were promptly returned home and discharged.

Sequel: Recently, Harry's French WW I jacket was on display at the WW II Museum in New Orleans. Do not be surprised if you see it there this summer during our reunion

A HIGH ACHIEVING ASTP-CACTUSMAN

CPL CHARLES P. SONETT

Company K 410[™] Infantry Regiment



Charles P. Sonett was born January 15, 1924 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended Hollywood High School in Los Angeles, California where he was active in the High School ROTC program rising to the rank of cadet Corporal.

After graduation from High School, Charles entered UCLA majoring in Physics. He enlisted in the Army on October 26, 1942 and finished his second year at UCLA entering active duty May 12, 1943 into the U.S. Army Signal Corps. At Camp Kohler, Charles fell from a telephone pole and injured his back resulting in a three week stay in the camp hospital. Following recovery, he was assigned to the ASTP and later to the 103d Infantry Division, 410th Infantry Regiment, 3d Battalion, Company K.

While on patrol, March 13, 1945, near Uhrwiller, France Charles stepped on a German mine. He required a battlefield amputation of his left leg above the knee. CPL Sonett was transferred to the Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah before going to Letterman General Hospital where he remained until his discharge October 30, 1946.

After leaving service, Charles returned

to college where he completed his undergraduate work in Physics at The University of California Berkley. In June of that year he married Virginia Louise Hooten, also a graduate of UC Berkley.

In 1951, Charles received his Master of Arts from UCLA and Doctorate in 1954. Subsequent to his graduation, Dr. Sonett's interest shifted from nuclear physics to rocketry and its application to exploration of the solar system. This interest coincided with the beginning of the space race. Dr. Sonett was subsequently employed by Ramo Woolridge/STL and NASA.

In 1973, at the University of Arizona, Tucson, Dr. Gerard P. Kuiper, who was considered the father of modern planetary astronomy, invited Dr. Charles P. Sonett to become the director of the new Inter-Disciplinary Department; the Department of Planetary Sciences, Lunar and Planetary Laboratory. Dr. Kuiper, who had moved to the University in 1958, hired the first outstanding Lunar Planetary Laboratory scientist and in 1964 won NASA funding for a new building. Dr. Sonett continued hiring and soon built a nationally recognized department. Dr. Sonett directed the new Planetary Sciences Department from 1973 until 1977 authorized by the Arizona Board of

On April 30, 2004, the University of Arizona, Tucson dedicated the Dr. Charles P. Sonett Space Sciences Building which houses around 45 scientists and support staff. At the

Regents in 1972.



building's dedication, Dr. Michael J. Drake, Director, Lunar & Planetary Lab stated, "Bringing Sonett to UA was one of Gerard Kuiper's best moves." Drake went on to add, "this was the nucleation event. Chuck (Sonett) understood the breadth of what planetary sciences would become, and why it was important to hire first rate people. He laid the roots of the modern lab -- and what has become the best planetary sciences department in the world."

CPL Sonett's awards and decorations include the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle East Campaign Medal with three battle stars, and the World War II Victory Medal, (Continued next page)



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Below is an extract from the Unit History and Journal from the 3d Battalion, 410th Infantry Regiment, reporting the event where CPL Sonett stepped on the German mine.

Time
C130 Co I reports that Co L just left on the patrol.
C530 Love Co patrol checked in. Mill be down later. Lt FORD.
C707 Slue 6 to Minte 2: Minte patrol got through.
C708 Slue 6 to Fatal 2: Our patrol got back in at C530.
C930 Fatal 3; to CF: Mooting at Regt for Slue 3 and Slue 6 at 1030.
C937 Fatal 2 to Slue 2: Do you think it would be advisable to repeat patrol tonight (Don't know - May be too deep - will think about it and let you know).
C945 G-2 Poriodic report.
C946 Obstacles overlay.
C946 Obstacles overlay.
C947 Fatal C7 to Slue C7 - Fame orders you have ceries panals ready and available one per vehicle.
C948 Cotatal 6 in CF (departe 1501).
C949 Fatal C7 to Slue C7 - Fame orders you have ceries panals ready and available one per vehicle.
C949 Fatal 6 in CF (departe 1505).
C949 Fatal 5 to Slue 5: Mant by C900 tomorrow morning number of panels needed for vehicles in forward area and no of yellow panels needed to mark position troops on ground.
C940 Slue C7 to Slue 35: How many panels needed? (Two full panels - 4 halves)
C940 Minte 2 to C7: Tell Slue 2 that my patrol will go out thru Red and cover general area already discussed with him.
C940 White 2 to Blue 2: Last night's patrol in now.
C940 Slue C7 Man hurt - patrol - man evidently stepped on mine. (Will have leader call you).
C940 Cotation mine? (Will check - looks different on daylight)
C940 Better call off patrol.



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Lunar Surface Magnetometer



Lunar Surface Magnetometer

MSSDC ID: 1959-099C-04 Mission Name: Apollo 12 Lunar Module / ALSEP Principal Investigator: Dr. Charles P. Sonett

Description

The lunar surface magnetometer was part of the ALSEP package and consisted of three fluxgate sensors located on orthogonal 5-ft booms. The sensors were mounted on gimbals allowing their measurement axes to be interchanged for purposes of calibration and site survey. The instrument was designed to measure the moon's magnetic field, and operated in the ranges minus to plus 100, 200, or 400 gammas. It was also expected to yield information about the lunar gross electrical diffusivity, the existence of a molten core, the earth's magnetic fail, and local magnetic anomalies. The instrument measured the magnetic field constantly for about three weeks after deployment, then on the dayside continuously for several months, then on the dayside very intermittently into 1972. For further details, see Dyal and Parkin, JGR, vol 76, p.5947, 1971.

Facts in Brief

Mass: 8.6 kg

Disciplines

- Planetary Science: Fields and Particles
- Space Physics: Heliospheric Studies
- Space Physics: Magnetospheric Studies

Additional Information

- Apollo 12 Lunar Module / ALSEP
- Data collections from this experiment

Questions or comments about this experiment can be directed to: Dr. David R. Williams.

WW II AMPUTEES AT MARY PICKFORD'S HOLLYWOOD HOME - 1947



From Look magazine, November 11,1947 — Amputee veterans of World War II line up for LOOK photographer Sprague Talbott at a party given for them by Mary Pickford at her Hollywood home. Standing by the swimming pool at Pickfair, the veterans, left to right are: George Michaely, 24, Los Angeles, 8th Air Force B-17 gunner wounded over Germany; Jack Maule, 25, Van Nuys, Cal, 77th Division, Lieutenant, wounded at Okinawa; Leonard Moody, 33, San Gabriel, Cal, 4th Marine Division, wounded at Iwo Jima landing; Brit MacLachlan, 30, Los Angeles, attached to RAF crashed on British field; Bill Schmalenbergh, 34, Tacoma, Wash, Americal Division, lost his leg in action at Kwajalein; Richard Dewey, 23, Hollwsood, Cal, 97th Division, stepped on German mine in Czechoslavakia; Vernon C. Gardiner, 24, Alhambra, Cal, 94th Division, hit by German mortar during Rhine offiensive; Carl Quist, 34, Los Angeles, 11th Airborne Division in Germany; Callistro Guerra, 32, Los Angeles, Americal Division, hit byJap shrapnel at Bougainville; Charles Sonett, 23, Los Angeles, 103d Division, stepped on Nazi mine near Strasbourg; L. V. Demmer, 23, Fontana, Cal, 28th Division, wounded by German mortar shell during the battle of Huertgen Forest in Germany.

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