

Peoria, Ill. - - - - April 1997

55 years ago - - - - and do you remember 1942 ?????

Jan. - In Brimfield, Ill. I remember - Rose Bowl - Ore St 20 - Duke 16 - Game played at Durham, N. C. - end of football season - Japanese-Americans sent to detention camps - I was working at Burroughs Adding Machine Co - Peoria, Ill - \$ 22.00 per week - 5½ days - 45 hours - Social Security - 22 cents (one per cent) - Yearly maximum - \$ 3,000.00 @ 1 % = \$ 30.00 - No income tax - and I WAS MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS

Feb. - At home I think of - Registration for the draft - cover all men - 20 thru 44 - ordered to register for the draft - Feb 16 - registered for the draft - baseball spring training - Uncle Sam on billboards - pointing at us - "I want you" - Army seemed to be interested in me - and THEY KNEW WHERE I WAS

March - At home I remember - same routine - spring is in the air - March Madness High School Basketball Tournaments - end of basketball season - farm sales - kites are flying - Mar 17 - Gen MacArthur reaches Australia - and "I SHALL RETURN"

April - At home I think of - April showers - grass turning green - stand-in' on the corner - watchin' all the girls go by - Apr 8 - Gen Wainwright surrenders at Bataan - Apr 16 - Col Doolittle - from Carrier "Hornet" - bombs Tokyo with B-25's - and THE BATAAN DEATH MARCH

May - At home I remember - same routine - vegetation coming to life - tree leaves coming out - baseball season underway - Battle of the Coral Sea - rationing of many items - Rosie the Riveter - Victory Gardens - V for Victory - ROTC graduation at Penn State - and WAR STAMPS & WAR BONDS

June - At home I think of - June (4 thru 7) - Battle of Midway - Ft. Belvoir - OCS - they think of - an officer & a gentleman - Instructor states - "I care not for that which makes the grass grow green - I hear not the rustle of your diplomas - nor do I see the glitter of your gold bars - while you are here - you are candidates - and you will act as such" - and THE 90 DAY WONDERS

July - At home I remember - same routine - July 23 - classified - class 1 - July 27 - ordered to get blood test - July 31 - blood test - July 23 - at Camp Gruber - Cadre of Officers & Noncoms arrive - from 20th Engrs - with some ROTC Officers - from OCS - 20 new Second Lts - 159 men in all - July 25 - 48th Engineer (C) Regiment activated - and PRIVATE PAY JUMPED FROM \$ 21.00 TO \$ 50.00

Aug. - At home I think of - Aug 7 - invasion of Guadalcanal - Aug 8 - classified - class 1-A - Working and playing ball - late to bed - sleepy on way to work - sleepy after lunch - wide awake - from dark till 2:00 AM - and LUCKY STRIKE GREEN WENT TO WAR

Sept. - At home I remember - letter from President - "Greetings" - "Your friends & neighbors have selected you" - life would never be the same - German army reaches Stalingrad - U S lend-lease to Russia - Sept 12 - physical exam - Peoria - several hundred men - naked - room to room - answer questions - rubber hammer - Doctors look at everything - top to - bottom - front & back - sitting - standing - bent over - keep in line - several hours - back to clothes - wait more hours - early evening - sworn into the Army - I take 14 day leave - Sept 26 - left Peoria by train - many on train became 48th Engrs - some were born in 1898 - arrived at Scott Field (Ill) - Sept 28 - my 21st birthday - induction process began - barracks bags - shoes - socks - underwear - trousers - shirts - hankies - tie - belt - gloves - blouse - overcoat - garrison cap - knit cap - (all olive drab) - field jacket - raincoat - fatigues - leggings - cartridge belt - first aid kit - compass - mess kit (with knife, fork, and spoon) - canteen (with cup) - helmet - helmet liner - we lived to use all these items - Sept 29 - send civilian clothes home - mechanical aptitude test - I Q test - shotts - typhoid - tetanus - typhus - vaccination - Army haircut - taste of Army chow - important lookin' GI's - with chevrons - others with symbols of authority - runnin' around - who outranks who ?? - when do we stand at attention ?? - we must respect rank !! - who & when do we salute ?? - we better say "Sir" !! - Sept 30 - orientation sessions - training films - articles of war - dog tags issued - serial number - next of kin - religious affiliation - blood type - and DESTINATION UNKNOWN

Oct. - In Texas we think of - Oct 2 - arrive at Camp Wolters - near Mineral Wells, Tex - 30,000 GI's - Co A 65th Infantry Training Bn - Company of 240 men - 4 barracks - Drill Sgt Hansen - 5 years service - tall - ex boxer - fought Two Ton Tony Galento - 15 rounds - draw - strict military discipline - "I may not be able to make you do it" - "but I can sure make you wish you had" !! - 6 week course - day began 5 to 6 AM - bugler sounds "Reveille" - Sarge snaps light on - "Rise & Shine" - he expected (and got) action - up & grabbing clothes - fall out for head count - "all present & accounted for" - scrub floor - make bunks - "Army way" - calisthenics - breakfast - uniform of the day - Class A uniform - (early Oct - 140 new recruits arrive at Camp Gruber) - back at Camp Wolters - position of attention - hand salute - dress right dress- ready front - left & right face - about face - count off - parade rest - as you were - at ease - close order drill - preparatory command - command of execution - always same foot - forward march - always step out on the left foot - cadence count - to the rear march - always on the right foot - column & flank movements - eyes right - halt - dismissed - hand signals - assemble - double time - route step - guard house - guard duty - guard post - Sgt & Cpt of the guard - 11 general orders - "Halt"!! - "Who goes there"?? - "Advance & be recognized"!! - 30 Cal Springfield (03) rifle - bolt action - rifle rack - stack arms - memorize serial number of rifle - manual of arms - Port, present, and inspection arms - left & right shoulder arms - order arms - parade rest - barracks lights out at 9:00 PM - and THE BUGLER (with trumpet) FINISHED "REVEILLE" WITH "DEEP IN THE HEAR OF TEXAS"

Nov. - In Texas we remember - the "Yard Bird" - ship unloading trainer - with full field equipment - over the side - down cargo net - into boat - across water - defensive position on beach - pitch pup tent - grenade drill - gas mask drill - bayonet drill - on guard - parry - thrust - withdraw - self defense drills - obstacle courses - police call - Nov 8 - Allied invasion of N. Africa - hikes - 5 to 10 miles - cover & concealment - rifle range - rifle barrel - bore - sling - trigger - trigger guard - front & rear sight - elevation - windage - clip - cartridges - 200 yards - pits - targets - spotters - discs - slow (single) or rapid fire - positions - prone (with or w/o sand bag) - sitting - kneeling - standing - recoil kick - hold butt firmly to shoulder - bulls-eye - 5 points - 4-3-0 - expert 178 to 200 - sharpshooter 168 to 178 - marksman 134 to 168 - rapid fire - larger bulls-eye - 10 rounds in 60 seconds - fire for score - 10 shots (slow fire) standing - 5 sitting - 5 kneeling - 10 shots (rapid fire) sitting - 10 kneeling - 40 rounds total - Nov 14 - graduation day - 3:40 AM to 10:00 AM - 19 miles - full field pack - light pack (with shoulder straps) - mess kit (with utensils) - canteen (with cup) - shelter half - 1 blanket - 1 tent pole - 5 tent pegs - trenching shovel - bayonet - rifle - gas mask - Nov 18 - over 800 men left Camp Wolters - troop train - destination unknown - arrived Braggs, Okla - 3:30 AM - Thurs Nov 19 - herded to parade ground - Camp Gruber - new camp - 48th Engr (C) Regiment - 6 companies & headquarters - new men spread throughout the Regt - 3 Plt barracks to each Co - orderly room - supply & day room - mess hall - Commanding Officer - Capt - 3 Lt Plt commanders - first Sgt - 3 Plt Sgts - supply & mess Sgts - Nov 26 - Thanksgiving - menu - 20 items - Turkey to cigarettes - Nov 28 - Coconut Grove fire - 491 killed - and MAGGIE'S DRAWERS (RED FLAG) ON THE RIFLE RANGE

Dec. - In Oklahoma we think of - Dec 2 - First nuclear chain reaction - University of Chicago - happy to leave the infantry - new Officers & NonComs - engineer training - Greenleaf Lake - boats - foot bridges - ponton bridges - trestle bridges - wet clothes - cold - bonfires - mines - demolition - explosives - fire in the hole - ropes & knots - pioneer tools - barbed wire - fox holes - trenches - gun emplacements - help move our troops - hinder movement of enemy - sound off - take cover - hit the dirt - disperse the men - take ten - "smoke if you got 'em" - saturday inspections - barracks tricks - allotments - letter writing - civilian postage - letter 3¢ - post card 1¢ - GI postage - free - mail call - retreat - to the colors - taps - movies in camp - P X - football on the parade ground - basketball with "B" Co Team - passes - Muskogee - Claremore (Will Rogers Museum) - Tulsa - Bliss Hotel - 4 men overnight - \$ 5.00 total - My name on list of servicemen in window of Buttroughs Add Mach Co - Cadre picked to move out - 3 day passes - at Christmas Time - some unable to make it home - good to see the home folks - first Christmas in Army - war going on around the world - U S in state of emergency - hostilities in Africa - Asia - Europe - and Pacific Theater - prayers for all - friend & foe - and WE WERE STUCK FOR THE DURATION AND SIX MONTHS

Peoria, Ill. - - - - Dec. 1993

50 Years - - - And Do You Remember 1943 ????

- Jan. - In Camp Gruber we remember - All men over 38 discharged if they wished - Braggs - Gore - Barbed Wire to Lay - Fox Holes to Dig - Mess Kits - Light Packs - M-1 Rifles - Right Face - Left Face - Okla's Cold - Privates - and Kitchen Police
- Feb. - In Okla. we think of - Greenleaf Lake - Foot Bridges - Ponton Bridges - Attention - Forward March - Blankets - Bayonets - Leggings - Hikes - Ft. Smith, Ark. - Saluting - Mail Call - Serial Numbers - Corporals - and Obstacle Courses
- March - In Okla. we remember - Muskogee - Tulsa - Right Flank - Left Flank - 2½ Ton Dump Trucks - Gun Belts - Louisiana - Shreveport - Maneuvers - Troop Trains - Buck Sergeants - and close Order Drill
- April - In Louisiana we think of - Camp Polk - Leesville - Order Arms - Present Arms - Command Cars - Snakes - Mosquitoes - Dust - Medical Inspections - Statement of Charges - Retreat - and the 25 Mile Hike
- May - In Louisiana we remember - Sabine River - Texas - Dress Right Dress - To The Rear March - Dog Tags - Trailers - Ice Boxes - Truck Convoy to Gruber - Arkansas - Flood of the Arkansas River - First Sergeants - and Reveille
- June - In Okla. we think of - Carbines - Compasses - Saws - Grating - Stenciling - Jeeps - 37 MM Guns - Kitchen Trucks - Parade Rest - As You Were - Full Field Packs - Sledges - Hammers - Second Lieutenants - and Manual of Arms
- July - In Okla. we remember - Bulldozers - Air Compressors - Packing - At Ease - Halt - Picks - Shovels - Canteens - Furloughs - Passes - Shelter Halves - Tent Pegs - Ropes - Company Duty - First Lieutenants - and Raincoats & Boots
- Aug. - In Okla. we think of - Kansas - Kan, City - Missouri - Ill. - Chicago - Ind. - Mich. - Ontario, Can. - New York - Mass. - Troop Trains - Soot - Cinders - Steam Engines - Khaki Uniforms - Camp Miles Standish - Rhode Island - Conn- New York City - Pier 13 Staten Island - Boarding U S S Alexander by the Roster (Aug. 19, 1943) - Atlantic Ocean - Convoys - Zig Zag Course - Black Outs - Salt Water - Straits of Gibraltar - Captains - and the Mae Wests
- Sept. - Arrive Oran, Africa (Sept. 2, 1943) we remember - Chocolate - Cigarettes - Grapes - Guard Duty - Column of Threes - Court Martials - Ducks - Arabs - Dismissed - Police Call - New Language - Majors - and Calisthenics
- Oct. - In Africa we think off- Leaving Africa - English Ship - Poor Food - Diarrhea - Arrive Napoli (10-10-42) - New Language - (Names Ending With Vowels) - signs of War's Destruction - Air Raids - Helmets - Helmet Liners - Half Tracks - Lieutenant Colonels - and Senioritas

Nov. - In Italy we remember - Moving North - Destruction - Poverty - Hunger -
Volturno River - Avellino - Caserta - New Words - New Road Signs - Mine
Detectors - Winches - Graders - Bailey Bridges - Rain - Mud - Mules -
Mountains - Mines - Ammo - T N T - V-Mail - Colonels - and Axis Sally

Dec. - In Italy we think of - Artillery (Inbound & Outbound) - Howitzers (105)
(155)(240) - 155 Long Toms - Tanks - British Spitfires - German ME-109s -
German 88s - German (6 Barrel Mortars)(Andrew Sisters) - Shells - Shrapnel -
Venafro - Colli - San Pietro - Mignano - Railroad (Hwy 48) (12-15-43)-
18 to 20 Sites to Repair - Mt Lungo - Purple Hearts - Deaths of Friend &
Foe - Generals - and Midnight Church Services on Christmas Eve at Mignano.

Maybe we can Review 1944 Next Year - - - - in 1994

Will Tully

Peoria, Ill. - - - - December 1994

50 Years Ago - - - And Do You Remember 1944 ?????

- Jan. - In Italy we remember - It was Cloudy, Raw, Damp, and Dreary - 1944 started on a Saturday - It was Leap Year - Happy New Year - Jan (6-7-8) - Assault on Mt. Porchia - 6th Armored Infantry - Fwd CP - San Vittori - Hwy 6 - Knox Ave. - Culverts - Revetments - U S Artillery - Fwd Spotters - Bracket Shelling - Echoes & Re-echoes - 30 Cal Machine Guns - Air Raids - Inbound Shelling - Whistle of Shells - Explosion on Impact - Shrapnel - Wounds - Medics - 88 Blues - In the Shadow of the Abbey - Jerries - Tedaschi - Stars & Stripes - Maulden - Loss of Command Cars - Jan 20 - 36th Div crosses Rapido at St Angelo - Shells flying in both directions - Disaster for 36th - Jan 22 - Landing at Anzio - Jan 27 - Truce to recover Dead & Wounded across the Rapido - and the MEDAL OF HONOR
- Feb. - In Italy we think of - 5th Army - Feb 2 - Wounding & Departure of Lt. Cbl Goodpaster - Mt Trocchio - Monte Cassino - Mt Cairo - Cervaro - U S Artillery - Aerial Bursts - Coordinates - Camouflage - German 170 MM - Shell Craters - Pot Holes - Oxen - Mules - BBC London - Ernie Pyle - Feb 15 - Bombing of Monestary - Fortresses - Liberators - 34th Div relieved by New Zealand Corp - Handlebar Mustaches - 50 Cal Machine Guns - Purple Heart Corner - Trench Foot - Free Cigarettes - Corduroy Rolls - Graves Registration - Distinguishing Service Cross - and SAWBONES THE DOCTOR
- March - In Italy we remember - German Artillery Barrages - Smoke & Incinerating Shells - Liri Valley - Hangman's Hill - Castle Hill - Snake Head - Sikhs & Ghurkas from India - Olive Groves - Laundry at Town Well - Loads on Womens Head - Red Cross Gals & Donuts - Beachhead News - Willie & Joe - Tea Time with New Zealanders - By-passes - San Michele Gravel Pit - Dickens is on Tonight - Mar 15 - Bombing & Shelling of Cassino - P-38's - P-47s - Attack by New Zealand Corp - Cassino is Rubble - Ack Ack - W I A - Shell Shock - Vino-Mar 3 - Departure of Lt Cbl Polish from 235th - Mar 11 - Arrival of Lt Cbl Swift to 48th - Lt Col Clark to 235th - Mar 24 - 48th leaves Cassino Area at 330 AM - 104 Days in Cassino Area - and more PURPLE HEARTS
- April - In Italy we think of - R&R at Airola - Mome Training - Bailey on Wheels - Counter Balance Bailey - April 10 - Move to Selice - M-2 Snake - Aerial Tramway - Loss of Half Tracks - Mosquitos - Atabrine - Quinine - Malaria - Field Hospital - Passes to Caserta & Benevento - Baseball - Volleyball - Rotation announced - Restructuring of T O - Cleaning & Reviewing condition of T E - Mail Censorship - Truck Showers (Now & Then) - Paisan - Multi-bono - Bivouac - Poker - Crap - GI Soap - Eyes Right - About Face - Fatigues - Fatigue Hats - Silver Stars - and OFF LIMITS
- May - In Italy we remember - May 11 - Push up the Coast - 85th & 88th Divs - Minturno - Gaeta - Spigno Trail - Moe's Mules - Itri - Terracino - Fondi - 91st Recon - Pontine Marshes - Anzio Express - French - Ghoums of Morocco - Pebble Pushers - Pass Word - May 18 - Cassino falls to Poles - Poles followed (Yanks - British-New Zealanders-Indian Sikhs & Ghurkas-French-Canadians-South Africans) at Cassino - Via Appia - Sweeping Mines - Canals - Bailey Bridge School at Capua - Irving Berlin - This is the Army - May 25 - Lt Buckley meets Anzio Beachhead - Borga Grappa - Velletri - Bronze Stars - and FIRE IN THE HOLE

June - In Italy we think of - Some Officers depart for States - June 4 -
Fall of Rome - June 6 - Invasion of Normandy - Short visits to Rome -
Coliseum - Forum - St Peters Cathedral - Vatican - Catacombs - Moving
north on Rte 2 - Couple more Baileys - June 12 - 48th relieved from
II Corp - 235th stays in Italy with II Corp - Back to Rome - Canvas
Canoe Ride down the Tiber River - June 20 - 48th leaves Rome for
Naples Area - Crossed I P at 700 AM - More Training - June 30 - Move
to Battapaglia (South of Salerno) - 11 General Orders - Presidential
Unit Citation - ALL PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR

July - In Italy we remember - Invasion Training - Reveille with Dip in
Irrigation Canal - Sorrento - Pompeii - 74th Signal Co. - 504th M. P.
Co. - 40th Engrs - 549th Engrs - 8th Naval Beach Bn - Summerfelt
Matting - Dukws - Waterproofing Vehicles - LCIs - LSTs LCVPs - Olive
Oil - Orange Marmalade - S-2 - Officer of the Day - Ropes - Classes
in Knots - Granny - Square - Slip - Half Hitch - Running Bowline -
Bowline on the Bite - and SHAVE TAILS WITH DOG ROBBERS

Aug. - In Italy we think of - Practice Landings - Checking Equipment -
Task Force 48 - American Flag Arm Bands - 36th Div - Aug 15 - D-Day -
Southern France - Still Dark - Battleships (16 in) Guns Firing - Bomb-
ers & Fighters Overhead - Heading toward Shore & beyond - Dawn Approach-
ing - Can see Shore Line - LCIs with Rocket Launchers move toward Shore -
Smoke Screen along Shore - (Red, Green, and Yellow) Beaches - Underwater
Obstacles - Frogmen having trouble on Red Beach - Landing Craft circling
along side of Transport Ships - Climbing down Cargo Nets into LCVPs -
H-Hour - Head for Green Beach - Through Smoke Screen - First try up
against 50 Ft Cliff - 2nd try to the Right - Stepped Ashore - Sole of
Boots only Damp - Much Traffic & Confusion - Large Wine Vats in Cellar -
Moved to Yellow Beach - Signs of (Restaurant, Cafe, and Coca Cola) -
St Raphael - Frejus - Pill Boxes - Dead French Commandos in Mine Field -
45 Cal Pistols - Tracing Tape - Clearing Mines - Collaborating Women
with Shaven Heads - (5 in 1) Rations - Aug 22 - 48th relieved from 540th
Engrs - To VI Corp - Aug 25 - Paris Liberated - Aug 29-31 - Railroad
Bridge at St. Julian - Saw Mill powered by Water Wheel - and
C'est La Guerre

Sept. - In France we remember - Sept 3-4 - Rhone River Ponton Bridge at
Cremieu - 7th Army - Moving North again - Grenoble - Fixed Bridge at
Bourg - Bourg's Liberation Party - Beaucoup - Schnapps - Anisette -
Besancon - Eaume-les-Dames - Villersezal - Bridges at Lure - Harassing
Artillery Barrages by La Boche - Water Point - Lister Bags - Cubed Beets -
Cubed Carrots - Prime Mover - E T O - Guard Roster - Morning Report -
Column Left - Column Right - s-3 - Gold Bricks - Field Jackets - Remire-
mont - World Series - Cards in 6 Games - and MADEMOISELLES

Oct. -- In France we think of Θ Fall is in the Air - Many Kilometers of Roads to Sweep for Mines - Road Signs - Cleared 20 Ft - Fixed Bridges - Abutments - Trestles - Footings - Sills - Posts - Caps - Drift Pins - Stringers - Flooring - Tread - Railings - Spans - Class 70 1-Way - Class 40 2-Way - Sick Call - Sick Book - Tetanus Shots - Sulfa Drugs - Vagny Bridge - Road Patrols - Riegel & Holz Mines - Weapons Squad - Mortors - Mortor Squads - S-4 - Vosges Mts - 100th Infantry Bn - 442 RCT - Japanese-American Unit - Go For Broke - and ACHTUNG MINEN

Now. - In France we remember - Road building in the Vosges Mts - Bridges at La Chapelle - Docelles - Granges - St Die - 48th Captures St Die - F F I - More Bridges at St Marguerite - Laveline - Haux - Prey - Rainy - Cold - The Logging & Saw Mill - Roosevelt elected to 4th Term - Bailey Bridges - Bridge Trains - Dry Bridges - Floating Bridges - Panels - Pins - Ramps - Rollers - Launching Nose - Transoms - Ribands - Chess - Stringers - Tread - Blasting Caps - Prima Cord - Wiring in Series - Wiring in Parallel - 3rd Div - 36th Div - 45th Div - 103rd Div - Capture of Strasbourg - and the BROTHERHOOD OF PANEL CARRIERS

Dec. - In France we think of - Rain - Snow - Cold - Long Johns - Gloves - Hip Boots - Hagenau - Saverne - Saverne Gap - Woerth - Brockway Trucks - Treadway Bridges - More Bridges at Gumbrechtshoffen - Neiderbronn - Goetsdorf - Krauts Parachuting behind our Lines - Yankee Uniforms - English Speaking - Road Patrols - Dec 16 - First stepping on German Soil - Near Lembach - Alsace Lorraine - Dec 16 - Von Runstedt Offensive - The Bulge - Dec 20 - Lt Cbl Swift departs - Dec 22 - 48th relieved - 130 Days after Aug 15 Landing - Dec 25 - Christmas # 2 in Europe - Deaths & Wounding of many Friend & Foe - Prayers - and DUTY-HONOR-COUNTRY

Maybe we can Review 1945 Next Year - - - - in 1995

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Peoria, Ill. - - - - December 1995

50 Years Ago - - - And Do You Remember 1945 ?????

Jan. - In France we remember - Monday 1/1/45 - Clear Crisp & Cold - Defence around Saverne - 7th Army Hdqts moving back - Jan 2 - Bombers overhead - Vapor Trails - "B" Co at Fenetrance - 340 Ft Fixed Bridge - Mackinaws - MIA's - Jan 15 - Move to Epinal - Old Forts - Cold & Damp - Jan 19 - Engr School begins - Jan 24 - Leave School - Defense of St Avold Area - 1185th Eng (C) Grp - XXI Corps - Prepare Bridges for Demolition - Jan 26 - 81 MM Mortar School begins - Jan 27 - to XV Corps - Move to L'Hopital - Defense Duty - Snow & Icy Roads - Slag Pile - "Clatterbuck" buried & Died - US M-6 Anti-tank Mines - Ice in Igniter Well - AND WAS THE LATRINES REALLY THAT COLD & WINDY IN THE MORNING WHEN NATURE CALLED ???

Feb: - In France we think of - Feb 3 - Yalta Conference - Big Three - "Your Job in Germany" Film - Non Eraternization Policy - Feb 8 - Cross border into Germany - 48th relieves Cavalry - Ludweiler - Infantry Duty - Civilians gone - Empty houses & Bldgs - Ghost Town - Machine & Rifle positions - Tracing Tape & shallow trenches from positions to dugouts - Field phones - Positions to dugouts to Co CP - Positions 32 - 33 - 34 etc - Assault Guns & Mortar support - Maps - Coordinates - Friendly minefields with gaps in front of Gun Positions - Enemy patrols - Snipers - Friendly patrols thru minefield gaps - Four of one patrol captured - Fire fight - Wounded GI's - POW's - Artillery withheld (1) night - In enemy territory - Geislautern - Wehrden - Saar River - Volkingen - Wooden Bridges - Horses - Wagon - Flares at night - Flares & War Bonds each cost \$18.75 - Position (33) phones to CP - "Send up a War Bond" - Bursting Flare overhead - Bright Light - Slowly drifts down - Very Quiet - Moving shadows of trees & limbs - Eerie - Ghostlike - They say it's darkest just before dawn - Infantry duty creates many ways to trigger the emotion of fear - You weren't scared were you? - AND HALT !!! WHO GOES THERE ???

March - In Germany we remember - More Infantry duty - All night patrols - In empty houses - No man's land - Black out - Check German patrols - Machine Gun sand-bagged on table - at window - Someone backed into piano - Shattered quietude - Panel signs - Air strikes - Loud speaker propaganda messages - German leaflet shells - Mar 7 - Field Order to Attack - 7 AM in morning - Down main road - Platoon strength - Tank Destroyer support - 9 PM - Field Order - Rescind Attack Order - Mar 7 - 9th Armored captures Remagen Bridge on Rhine - Mar 10 - Leave Ludweiler - 31 days of Infantry Duty - Back to France - Engr Work - Cross border several times - 1150th Engr Grp - Bailey at Saarbrucken - Treatway at Gersweiler - Schu Mines - Bridge sites at night with mines possible - Arouses emotions of fear - Fear can not be explained - It must be experienced - Front moving fast - Pirmasens - Annweiler - Landau - Task Forces - Brockway Trucks - Treadway dry bridging - XXI Corps - Task Force for dash to Bridge at Speyer - Orders to deliver Equipment to XV Corps - Neustadt - Observed list of Units to bridge Rhine - 48th not on list - Clearing Roads - Repairing Railroad - 1175th Engr Grp - Mar 29 - Crossed Rhine at Worms - Cathedral Spire stood out in the morning Fog - AND BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

April - In Germany we think of Sunday Apr 1 - Heidelberg declared open City - Neckar River - Ponton Bridge - No civilians visible - As day progresses - Bridge & sight-seers grew - "Steifer" thrown off truck - Low hanging wire - Run over by trailer - Fatal - Neckar Valley caves with alcoholic libations found - Spoils of War loaded on trucks - Benedictine - Champaign - Cognac - Cointreau - Rum - Controlled distribution - Move to Beerfeldon - Waldurn - Apr 4 - Front moving fast - Gerichstentten - 1150th Engr Grp - Search for SS Troops - Move to Rottingen - Dillengen - Danube River - Apr 12 - Roosevelt Dies - Truman President - Airfield near Gersthofen - Rudolph Hess left from here - Flight to Scotland - Lech River - Autobahn Bridge blown - Recon of site about 2 AM - Build raft south & upstream - Build Pneumatic Tread Ponton Bridge - North & downstream - Current strong & swift both sides near shoreline - Small arms fire with (tracers) enroute back to site - Shells landing in town - Signs of daybreak in east - Anti-aircraft 88 MM Guns - Outer defenses of Munich - Dozers - Brocway Trucks - Air Compressors - Pneumatic Pontons - Many compartments - Tread Sections - Power Boat - Chemical Warfare GI with smoke pot - Shelling barrage on far shore - Foats being inflated - Treads on floats line the shore - (2) bays in place - Next shell barrage lands in river - Unexploded shells skip at us on the water - Power Boat with (1) bay moving into place - Boat capsizes in strong current - Submerged boat with attached bay drifts downstream - Next barrage hits our shore - Sounds of exploding shells - Sounds of shells hitting vehicles - Fragments hitting vehicle & floats - Smoke drifting in & out - Most compartments punctured & Sagging - Gas tanks leaking - Vehicle motors damaged - Seven "C" Co men wounded - GI with smoke pot killed - Caught in a shelling barrage - Thoughts are confused - Your helpless - Your stare is grim - Animal instinct stimulates the emotion of fear - Report bridge captured in Augsburg - Combat teams move toward Munich - Many white flags - Apr 28 - Mussolini executed - Apr 29 - 42nd & 45th Divisions liberate Dachau Concentration Camp - Apr 30 - To airfield at Furstenfeldbruck - to Dachau Camp - Hundreds of prisoners - Died & Alive - In rail cars & in Camp - Starved or nearly starved - Apr 30 - Hitler commits suicide - AND THE GERMAN ATROCITIES

May - In Germany we remember - May Day at Dachau - Reporters & Cameramen at Camp - Taking notes & pictures - 30 to 40 rail cars with bodies - Watch Towers - Gas Chamber - Demonstration of the burning of bodies in the Crematorium - 30 to 40 thousand POW's - Assembled at Furstenfeldbruck Airfield - Spitting snow in evening - SS Troops separated - Standing at attention 50 minutes each hour throughout the night - The logistics of caring for this large group was huge - May 3 - Moving toward Munich & Berchtesgaden - Road maintenance - Baileys - "Built by 48th Engrs" - German Jet Plane - Displaced Persons - Refugees - French Army cuts across in front of 7th Army - Hitler's Retreat - May 7 - Hotel Party in Berchtesgaden - Midnight (May 7/8) Celebration - American & French firing small arms from windows - Up & down Sts - Tracers flying every direction - May 8 - V E Day - SS Troops keep us from next assignment - May 9 - Move to Zell-Am-See, Austria - Resort town on lake - Snow still on Peaks nearby - Kesselring's Armored Train surrenders - Goring drives in & surrenders - They stay overnight in Grand Hotel on the lake - Germans turn in Arms & Equipment nearby - Souvenirs for GI's - Lugars - P-38's - May 15 - Move north to Heidelberg Area - Neckar Valley - German POW's assigned to provide manual labor - Checking & furnishing supplies & transportation for a number of factories - Plywood - Cement etc - Burgomasters - R & R to Dijon, France - AND UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

June - In Germany we think of - Old fashion names - Walter - Wilford - William - Wilson - Virgil - Thomas - Repairing Mannheim Stadium - Civilian Workers - Brick Layers - Carpenters - Electricians - Painters - Plumbers - Dressing Rooms - Showers - Stands - Running Track - Hurdles - Jump Pits - Flags - Flag Poles - Baseball Games between Division Teams - 7th Army Track Meet - Surveys - Softball Game - Heppenheim - "B" Co vs MP Unit - Pitcher & Catcher from "C" Co played with "B" Co Team - 7 innings - \$845.00 wagered - "B" Co won - Score 2-0 - MP Unit had 20 strikeouts - (1) Pop Up - Passes - Pay Day - Allotments - Monthly Pay - (Pvt \$50) - (PFC \$54) - (Cpl \$66) - (Sgt \$78) - (S/Sgt \$96) - Invasion Money - Lira - Franc - Mark - Official Documents - Occupation Duty - Court Martial Members - Trial Judge Advocate - Defense Council - Chevrons - Gold Bars - ARS Points - To stay with 48th - Enlisted Men 75 Points - Officers 85 Points - Officers performance ratings - Legion of Merit - AND LETTER FROM HOME

July - In Germany we remember - Old fashion names - Stanley - Richard - Robert - Russell - Peter - Paul - Volleyball - Horseshoes - "C" Co softball team undefeated - Company sponsored Bar Rooms - Lt Oleo Hosenpeffer did receive his whiskey allotment - Thanks to the Adjutant - More passes - Ein - Zwei - Drei - Vier - Fünf - July 17 - Potsdam Conference - July 17 - Last visit with Second Platoon "B" Co at Heppenheim - Toasted each & all with wine - Some of us knew each other since Nov, 1942 - 32 months - One GI (Curtis) requested to have his first alcoholic drink with me - That evening is one of my finest memories - Replacement Officers - Some had never heard a shot fired in anger - Extract Copies - Stripes - Silver Bars - Beginning of the break-up of the 48th - A few to the USA by air - Some transferred to other Units - July 24 - Transferred to 290th Engr - American Campaign Medal - AND FRAULEINS

Aug. - In Germany we think of - Old fashion names - Rosendo - Olen - Mark - Orville - Maxwell - Louis - Leroy - 290th Engr - New faces - New Names - New Assignments - New Orders - Special Orders - Visits with "C" Co 48th - Ja - Nein - Auf Wiedersehen - Verboten - Dummkopf - Kaputt - Aug 6 - First Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima - Aug 9 - Second Bomb on Nagasaki - Aug 11 - Transferred from 290th to 257th Engr - Scheduled to go to Pacific direct within (10) days - Aug 15 - Japan gives up - Aug 26 - Last visit with "C" Co at Wiesloch - "C" Co to leave next day - Their first leg of trip to USA - Aug 30 - Left Germany with 257th Engr - Olive Drab - Rockers - Two Silver Bars - EAME Campaign Medal - AND BEGINNING OF ATOMIC AGE

Sept. - In France we remember - Sept 2 - V J Day - Japan surrenders on the Battleship "Missouri" - End of hostilities - Old fashion names - Kenneth - Kinsley - Jack - John - James - Joseph - Sept 2 - Arrived in Marseille, France - Sept 9 - MacArthur became Supervisor of Japan - 257th Engr was halted in the pipe line - Low points - They returned to Germany for Occupation - Those with enough points were transferred - Sept 20 - Transferred to 344th Engr (GS) Regiment - Commanded by a Bird Col - Patton was "Blood & Guts" - Cpl Cameron was "Mud & Ruts" - New assignments - Mess Officer - O D - Spec Serv Officer - Standards of the Regt - Playing soldier again - Winterizing tents in staging area - Oui - Non - Merci - Une - Deux - Trois - Quatre - Cinq - Ping Pong - Cribbage - Restricted Documents - Gold Oak Leaf - WW II Victory Medal - AND UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER

Oct. - In France we think of - Fall is in the air - Old fashion names - Harry - Howard - Hubert - George - Frank - Frederick - Bivouac duties - Discipline - Saluting - Proper uniform - World Series - Radio 8 PM Detroit Tigers over Chicago Cubs - 7 Games - Cubs last appearance in a World Series - Oct 10 - Transferred from 344th to 246th Engr - In Calias staging area - Near Marseille - Several Movie Theaters - Coffee & Donuts at Red Cross - Seeing other Units pass thru - Book reading - Chinese Checkers - Bridge - Poker - Rum & Coca Cola - Adios Marquita Linda - Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Co "B" - White Cliffs of Dover - Sentimental Journey - It's been a long long time - Oct 24 - U N Charter became effective - Mickey Mouse Watches selling high - GI's could only send home their unallotted pay plus 10 % per month - Silver Oak Leaf - Good Conduct Metal - AND "KILROY" WAS HERE

Nov. - In France we remember - Old fashion names - Ernest - Eugene - Everett - Dixie - Hom Sim - Fong Q. Jick - Staging area - Same routine - Card Games - Chess - Movies - Coffee & Donuts - Book Reading - Nov 16 - Sailed from Marseille - Mediterranean Sea - Sts of Gibraltar - Atlantic Ocean - Choppy water - No black out - Did not share a bunk - Ship traveling alone - Met several ships - One ship passed us - In sight about 48 hours - Nov 22 - Thanksgiving on ship - Nov 27 - Docked at Ft of 44th St - Manhattan-NYC - Queen Mary followed us into port - After 798 days - One of the last to get back to USA - Celebrations long past - Ferry to New Jersey - Train to Camp Kilmer - Food in Mess Hall - Many bottles of fresh milk - Hamburger fried on a grill - Processing - Bronze arrowhead - Overseas stripes - Eagle - Nov 29 - Train to Separation Center - Camp Grant, Ill - Nov 30 - 48 hour pass - Bus to Peoria, Ill - AND THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

Dec. - In Illinois I think of - Dec 1 - Greeting "Mom & Dad" - Brimfield, Ill (God's Country) - Have they aged since I left? - Bus back to Camp Grant - Old fashion names - Carl - Charles - Alfred - Andrew - Anthony - Arno - Arthur - Dec 2 - Processing - Physical Exam - Questions to answer - Decisions to make - Forms to sign - 201 File - Extracts - Certificate of Service - Dec 2 - Back to Brimfield - Dec 7 - Pearl Harbor Day - Trip to County Recorder - Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster - Honorable Serv Lapel Button (Ruptured Duck) - Stars (1 thru 5) - Dec 21 - Patton Dies in Heidelberg, Germany - Dec 25 - Christmas at Home - Dec 26 - Released from active duty - No more uniforms - No saluting - No "Sirs" - True R&R - With Prayers - Remembering all those Dead & Wounded - Friend & Foe - AND (DUTY HONOR COUNTRY) - (SALUTE) - (TAPS)

Recap -- Each of us had different experiences, dates, places, and events to remember. These reviews describe some of the events, as I recall them. Our vocabulary was enhanced by our term of duty. Considering our exposure to danger, we were very lucky. Now, after 50 years, these memories will continue to "Just fade away".

May your Holiday Season be Merry, and may your New Year be Happy !!!

Adjust --

Will Tully