

# *Records for Individual Soldiers In Normandy*

<i>ASN</i>	12060392
<i>Name</i>	Festa, Nicholas
<i>Neptune Rank</i>	Private First Class
<i>Division</i>	82nd Abn Div
<i>Regiment</i>	507th Prcht Inf
<i>Battalion</i>	
<i>Neptune Company</i>	Hq & Hq Co
<i>Company Attached</i>	
<i>Company Attached</i>	
<i>Neptune Platoon</i>	Comm
<i>Neptune Squad</i>	
<i>Neptune MOS</i>	Radio Operator
<i>Combat Infantry Badge</i>	Normandy
<i>Combat Medical Badge</i>	
<i>Neptune Tail #</i>	43-15126
<i>Neptune After Action Status</i>	LWA
<i>Neptune After Action Date</i>	6/7/1944
<i>Age</i>	22
<i>Month of Admission</i>	June
<i>Type of Case</i>	Casualty, battle
<i>1st Diagnosis</i>	Rupture
<i>1st Anatomical Location</i>	Eye: Choroid
<i>1st Operation</i>	Penicillin therapy (treatment with penicillin)
<i>2nd Diagnosis</i>	-
<i>2nd Anatomical Location</i>	-
<i>2nd Operation</i>	-
<i>Causative Agent</i>	Artillery Shell, Fragments, Afoot or unspecified
<i>Final Result</i>	305th Station Hospital
<i>Disposition</i>	Discharged, Sec. II, AR 615-360 (line of duty, Yes) (CDD)
<i>Month of Disposition</i>	29
<i>Current Days /Gen Hosp Overseas Days</i>	208
<i>Place of Final Cure</i>	9507

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME OF INDIVIDUAL	GRADE	DUTY	ARMY OR SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL	SUB UNIT		PARENT UNIT		REG'T	COMP	ENLISTMENT DATE			STATUS			
					NO.	TYPE	NUMBER	TYPE			DAY	MO	YR	CODE	DAY	MO	YR
X 20453680	BROWN JAMES L	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			4		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
X 32222056	BROPHY VINCENT	PVT		INF	HQ	21			7		0	55		20	12	9	26JA
— 32289986	BRUNDIGE OSCAR E	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	641	7		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 16059041	BYRNES ROBERT L	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21	30	103	1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
X 15114213	GARROW BILLY E	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 19071264	CHOQUETTE WALTER L	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	521	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 13054491	CLARK WILLIAM J	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	999	1		0	27		7	22	9	26JA
— 12071781	COOPER IRVING	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	736	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 39021618	COX JULIUS J	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	760	7		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
X 15101448	GRADY ROBERT L JR	PVT		INF	HQ	21			6					20	12	9	26JA
X 14080393	CURRIE ROBERT F	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 11048153	DAVIS ROBERT S	PVT		INF	HQ	21	30	513	6					7	28	9	26JA
— 16054314	DAVIDSON WILLIAM P	PVT		INF	HQ	21	30	186	6					20	12	9	26JA
— 19083240	DAVIS KENNETH A	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	735	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 20735769	DAVIS JOHN W JR	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21			4		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
X 38137453	DEWALL JOHN H	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			7		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 32232448	DONNELLY THOMAS G	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	072	7		0	27		7	25	9	26JA
X 14073438	DOBBINS CHARLIE L	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 32227395	DRAPALA STANLEY	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	461	7		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
X 15114251	DUNCAN MURSCHEL	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 20320943	DUNSWORTH KENNETH A	PVT	309	INF	HQ	21	30	834	4		3	09		20	29	8	26JA
— 18097176	EVANS KENNETH D	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	521	1		0	27		7	23	9	26JA
X 14104358	FANNING BOYCE J	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
X 34280832	FARMER FRANK D	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			7		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 12060392	FESTA NICHOLAS	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21	30	513	1		6	29		7	28	9	26JA
— 12061017	FELLIN ROWLAND L	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21	30	107	1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 19076888	FESSLER R P	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	685	1		0	27		20	31	8	26JA
X 16050667	FISCHER ROBERT W	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 32284801	FLEMING JOHN F	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	599	7		0	27		7	22	9	26JA
X 3224801	FLEMING JOHN F	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21			1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 20252769	FOX EDWARD F	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	340	4		0	27		7	24	9	26JA
— 18019742	FOX MERRITT B	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	268	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
X 3035276	FOX EDWARD F	PVT		INF	HQ	21			4					7	30	9	26JA
— 12058629	FRIEDLANDER RICHARD A	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21	30	105	1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
X 15076883	FRANCE VERNON A	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			1		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 17061315	FRASER KENNETH A	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	574	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
— 13061082	FULTON JOHN C	PVT	309	INF	HQ	21	30	553	1		3	09		20	29	8	26JA
— 33159721	FULLOM ROBERT F	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21	30	444	7		6	29		20	12	9	26JA
— 12056632	CANNON WILLIAM G	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30	118	1		0	27		20	29	8	26JA
X 35458331	GARRISON HOWARD E	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21			7		6	29		20	12	9	26JA



SERIAL NUMBER	NAME OF INDIVIDUAL	GRADE	DUTY	ARM OR SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL	SUB UNIT		MAIN CIVILIAN OCCUPATION	COMP.	MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY	STATUS				
					NO.	TYPE				CODE	DAY	MO.	YR.	
MONTHLY PERSONNEL ROSTER SEP 30 1942														
HQ-HQ CO 507TH PARA INF FORT BENNING GA														
MRU CODES 160 HQ21 050706 4341 270 000														
16002260	FITZPATRICK THOMAS R	M SG	502	INF	HQ	21	295	1	502	20	20	72		
6971212	HONEA WOODROW	M SG	542	INF	HQ	21	732	1	542	20	20	72		
6710092	PIPOLO SANDY E	M SG	585	INF	HQ	21	114	1	585	3	1	92		
36304903	BENNETT HARLEY G	S SG	539	INF	HQ	21		7	539	3	24	92	67A	
36167434	BLAIS LAWRENCE A	S SG	539	INF	HQ	21	30 999	7	539	20	20	72	67A	
19046091	LANIGAN WILLIAM R	S SG	027	INF	HQ	21	30 703	1	027	3	12	82		
34017223	MC KLEROY PAUL	S SG	539	INF	HQ	21	30 736	7	539	20	20	72		
X 13069661	MURRAY THOMAS R	S SG	629	INF	HQ	21	30 105	1	629	3	12	92	67A	
16051469	PATTON CLYOIS J	S SG	539	INF	HQ	21	30 7553	1	539	20	20	72	67A	
32255209	ELLSWORTH KENNETH J 177	TEC 4	629	INF	HQ	21		7	629 177	3	15	92	67A	
33171713	SHEPHERD GEORGE A	TEC 4	405	INF	HQ	21	30 999	7	405	3	26	92	67A	
6718692	YURICEK FERDINAND 177	TEC 4	629	INF	HQ	21	30 583	1	629 177	3	15	92	67A	
6885478	BOYANOWSKI EMANUEL	CPL	027	INF	HQ	21	30 999	1	027	3	11	92	67A	
34024835	CAYER MORRIS	TEC 4	174	INF	HQ	21	30 781	7	174	20	26	92	67A	
6861669	STUTZMAN GEORGE H 652	CPL	027	INF	HQ	21	30 268	1	027 652	3	11	92	67A	
32220335	WILLIAMS PETER J	CPL	652	INF	HQ	21		7	652	3	29	92	67A	
6244751	DAVIS FOSTER A	TEC 5	309	INF	HQ	21	30 346	1	309	3	5	92	67A	
39018877	LISENBY WALTER W 035	TEC 5	027	INF	HQ	21	30 525	7	027 035	3	5	92	67A	
33036003	WAGNER RALPH S 177	TEC 5	309	INF	HQ	21		7	309 177	3	11	92	67A	
39171165	ADAMS JOHN L	PVT	027	INF	HQ	21	30 521	7	027	7	3	20	92	67A
11049485	ARMSTRONG JOSEPH F	PVT		INF	HQ	21	30 475	1		20	12	92	67A	
13067198	AUKERMAN ROBERT F	PVT		INF	HQ	21	30 760	1		20	12	92	67A	
12060432	BACKELIN WALTER F	PVT		INF	HQ	21	30 703	6		7	29	92	67A	
X 20365371	BARTON JOHN H	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21		4	629	20	12	92	67A	
X 34258279	BENTON ROBERT O	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21		7	629	20	12	92	67A	
X 35156571	BERNARD THOMAS W	PVT		INF	HQ	21		7		20	12	92	67A	
X 34802076	BOZEMAN DANIEL T	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21		7	629	20	12	92	67A	
X 14104253	BROWN LAWRENCE H JR	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21		1	629	20	12	92	67A	
X 14104261	BROWN CARL R	PVT	629	INF	HQ	21		1	629	20	12	92	67A	



STATION

ORGANIZATION

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
12060372	Festa Nicholas	fc	9
Dy to Hosp abs (Hosp Unknown) 7 June 44			
ID Slightly wounded in action			

32349258	Nicoll Leslie R	Tec 5	9
Dy to Hosp abs (Hosp Unknown) 7 June 44			
Slightly wounded in action			

32968935	Strauss Harry R	Pvt	9
Dy to Hosp abs (Hosp Unknown) 7 June 44			
Slightly wounded in action			

OFFICER STRENGTH	FLD O & CAPT		1ST LT		2D LT		WO		FLT O	
	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T	PRES	ABS'T
ASST	10		8		2		1			
ATCHD UNASSD										
ATCHD PR OTHER ORGN	1	1	3		3					
TOTAL	11	1	11		5		1			

AVN CADET & ENL STRENGTH	AVIATION CADETS		ENLISTED MEN			
	PRESENT	ABSENT	PRESENT FOR DUTY	PRESENT NOT FOR DUTY	ABSENT	PRESENT AND ABSENT
ASST			75	40	4	119
ATCHD UNASSD						
ATCHD PR OTHER ORGN			50		3	53
TOTAL			125	40	7	172

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF RATIONS REQUIRED FOR

DAY OF WEEK DATE

NUMBER

MESS ATTENDANCE FOR DAY OF THIS REPORT

BREAKFAST

DINNER

SUPPER

TOTAL

AVERAGE

MEN AUTHORIZED TO MESS SEPARATELY

MEN ATCHD FOR RATIONS O & OTHERS MESSED

MEN ATCHD TO OTHER ORGN FOR RATIONS

NET

MEN PRESENT

LESS

PLUS

TOTAL

## FORM B PARACHUTE

DATE 5-6 June 44A/C NO. (TAIL NO.) 43-15126CHALK NO. 2PERSONNEL

DROP ORDER	ASN	RANK	NAME AND INITIALS	UNIT
1	0371048	Capt	Dickerson, James A.	Hq & Hq Co. 507th P.I.
2	39018397	Cpl.	Sklarz, Wolfgang G.	" " "
3	16050800	Pvt	Mank, Paul J.	" " "
4	33037169	Cpl.	Wolosyn, Walter	" " "
5	33278257	Cpl.	Lang, Joseph D.	" " "
6	37274527	Cpl.	Skarie, Herbert M.	" " "
7	12061017	T-5	Fellin, Rowland L.	" " "
8	32275397	T 5	Smith, Robert G.	" " "
9	W 2120700	WOJG	Hones, Woodrow (NMN)	" " "
10	18017200	Pfc	Ormsby, William A.	" " "
11	12060392	Pfc	Festa, Nicholas (NMN)	" " "
12	0-1825545	1st Lt	Landgraff, Alfred (NMN)	Atchd " "
13	37353406	T4	Bates, James T.	" " "
14	32160337	M/Sgt	Ferencowitz, Joseph (NMN)	Hq & Hq " "
15	39839415	Pfc	Darling, Vernon L.	" " "
16	35283232	Pfc	Smith, Alvin W.	" " "
17	38053892	T Sgt	Hatcliff, Fred L.	Serv Co. " "
18	0377469	Capt	Keller, John J.	Hq & "q " "
19				
20				

CONTAINERS

RACK NO.	TYPE CONTENTS	GROSS WEIGHT	PARACHUTE COLOR
1.	A 4 SCR 284	200	Green Green
2.	A 4 SCR 284	200	" "
3.	Mine Detector	124	" "
4.	A 5 S 2	214	" "
5/	A 5 S-2	150	" "

Inspection completed 5 June 44 Signed /s/ JAMES A. DICKERSON, Capt.  
JAMES A. DICKERSON, Capt.

I certify this to be a true and correct copy."

JOE A GUAYANTE,  
 1st Lt. 507th Frecht Inf.,  
 Ass't Adjutant.



FORM B PARACHUTE

BIGOT NEPTUNE

5-6 June 44.

EXERCISE-OPERATION

DATE

305

DETAILS OF AIRCRAFT

43 15126

SQUADRON

A/C TYPE

TAIL NO.

CHALK NO.

AIRCREW

Pilot 2nd Lt. Kenneth E. Bain

069534

~~Cc Pilot 2nd Lt. Gale H. McKemie~~

~~0307754~~

~~Navigator 2nd Lt. Eugene C. Timmerman~~

~~0707138~~

~~Engineer S/Sgt Robert J. King, Jr.~~

~~33599709~~

~~Radio Oper Sgt Max O. Barker~~

~~35096385~~

FORM B LOADING MANIFEST (PARACHUTE)

Exercise/Operation

Date 5-6 June 44

A/C No. (Tail No.) 43-15126

Chalk No. 2

PERSONNEL

507th Prcht Inf

Drop Order	Serial Number	Rank	Full Name	Remarks
1	0-371048	Capt	Dickerson, James A	P
2	39018397	Cpl	Sklarz, Wolfgang G	P
3	16050800	Pvt	Mank, Paul J	P
4	33037169	Cpl	Wolosyn, Walter	MIA
5	33278237	Cpl	Lang, Joseph D	LWA
6	37274527	Cpl	Skarie, Herbert M	SWA
7	12061017	T 5	Fellin, Rowland L	P
8	32275397	T 5	Smith, Robert G	P
9	W-2120700	WO(jg)	Hones, Woodrow (NMN)	P
10	18017200	Pfc	Ormaby, William A	P
11	12060392	Pfc	Festa, Nicholas (NMN)	LIA
12	0-1825545	1st Lt	Landgraff, Alfred (NMN)	P
13	37353406	T 4	Bates, James T	P
14	32160337	M Sgt	Ferencowitz, Joseph (NMN)	P
15	39839415	Pfc	Darling, Vernon L	P
16	35283232	Pfc	Smith, Alvin W	P
17	38063892	T Sgt	Ratliff, Fred L	P
18	0-377469	Capt	Keller, John J	KIA

## CONTINUED

[illegible]

Inspection Completed

Signed

FORM 3 LOADING MANIFEST (PARACHUTE)



make a new order  
file

Return to Col  
Morgan, Personnel

HEADQUARTERS 50TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY  
Office of the Regimental Commander.  
A.P.O. #230, U. S. Army.

(3)

GENERAL ORDERS)

7 August 1944.

NUMBER 9)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of WD Circular No. 186, 11 May 1944, the following named Officers, Warrant Officers, and enlisted men are awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge for exemplary conduct in action against the enemy in the Normandy, France, campaign, 6 June 1944 to 9 July 1944:

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

LT COL ARTHUR A. MALONEY	C21297	Pfc Edgar C. Apple	39234976
LT COL WILLIAM A. KUHN	0357704	Pfc Vernon L. Darling	39839415
MAJOR JOHN T. DAVIS	022136	Pfc Stanley Drapala	32227394
CAPT MORGAN A. BRAKONECKE	0359483	Pfc William G. Gannon	12056632
CAPT WILLIAM Z. COTHAM	0414599	Pfc Clarence R. Nixon	13058116
CAPT ROBERT D. RAE	01288948	Pfc Charles A. Martin	19072229
CAPT WILLIAM J. MILLER, JR.	0399376	Pfc Albert F. Novak	32255152
CAPT JAMES A. DICKERSON	0371084	Pfc Enzo J. Pizzi	12065978
CAPT STANLEY L. PITCHER	01290124	Pfc Thomas F. Redick, Jr.	15076809
1ST LT STANLEY L. ARDZIEJEWSKI	0439594	Pfc Gail Sauer	20722253
1ST LT FRANCIS E. NAUGHTON	01288940	Pfc Ira D. Shetter	13069215
1ST LT GEORGE R. O'BRIAN	01285100	Pfc Alvin W. Smith	35283232
1ST LT MARK D. PERKINS	01295756	Pvt Charles N. Ackerman, Jr.	32276003
1ST LT MORLAN F. PRICKETT	01294191	Pvt John L. Adams	39171165
1ST LT JOHN H. WISNER	01303058	Pvt Loren E. Aller	15101798
2ND LT EARL C. HAYNES	01012477	Pvt Herman V. Collins	20467516
WO (Jg) WOODROW HONEA	W-2120700	Pvt Kenneth J. Ellsworth	32255209
1st Sgt William W. Barns	33190376	Pvt Ernest M. Gunther	20221226
1st Sgt Sandy E. Pipolo	6710092	Pvt Robert C. Hughley	19071718
M/Sgt Joseph Ferencowitz	32160337	Pvt Thomas P. Kelly	12060340
M/Sgt Clydis J. Patton	16051469	Pvt Paul J. Mahk	16050800
T/Sgt Stephen J. Kramar	16091590	Pvt Fred A. Osborne	35590136
S/Sgt Harley G. Bennett	36344903	Pvt George R. Pollock	16175886
S/Sgt John H. Cordial	15114301	Pvt William H. Pritchard	16063911
S/Sgt John C. Fulton	13041082	Pvt Juarez Roberts	18086004
S/Sgt John C. Smith	20454314	Pvt Ambrosio Sanchez	18016722
Sgt John W. Davis, Jr.	20735769	Pvt Robert Sosnowski	33499485
Sgt Richard W. Sherman	19094146	Pvt Gerald T. Stoyke, Jr.	32252332
Sgt William L. Tippet	20454320	Pvt Mathew O. Turk	20228447
Tec 4 Theodore R. Harnessa	39175762	Pvt William H. Witt	17067675
Tec 4 George A. Shepherd	33171713	Pvt Albert J. Abbott	33344702
Cpl Lawrence F. Becker	19096554	Pvt Russell Boyd	33403918
Cpl Oscar E. Brundige	32289986	Pvt Edward F. Fox	20252769
Cpl George E. Jusseaume	31033532	Pvt Charles Frank	33473753
Cpl Joseph D. Lang	33278237	Pvt Paul Stanley	36105601
Cpl Gordon F. Matheson	11049163		32108768
Cpl Rudolph R. Sinek	36322550	Cpl Charles W. Cleveland	39306520
Cpl John H. Summer	14119675	Cpl. Herbert W. Skarie	37271527
Cpl Walter Wolosyn	33037169	Tec 5 Leslie H. Nicoll	32319258
Tec 5 Thomas E. Brienza	37121065	Pfc Charles A. Peringian	32573618
Tec 5 Walter B. Emery	34086494	Pfc Leon B. Yee	39011205
Tec 5 Carl E. Hamlin	39690559	Pfc Nicholas Festa	12060393
Tec 5 Earl R. Kirker	35207022	S/Sgt John P. Rea	12072252
Tec 5 William A. Ormsby	12017700		
Tec 5 Kenneth F. Robinson	14080500		
Tec 5 Avery L. Rogers	39840978		

SERVICE COMPANY

CAPT GORDON S. SHOTWELL	0343939	1ST LT KARL W. LILLGE	01289760
1ST LT RUFUS K. BROADAWAY	0130124	2ND LT BERNARD R. WALLACE	01296454
1ST LT WILLIAM M. HARVILL	01287347	WO (Jg) TRAVIS E. LYON	W-2116114
WO (Jg) HARRY GOLDMAN	W-2120698		



attacks from the north and south. The 2d Battalion patrols contacted elements of the 8th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division at STE. MARTINE (384973) at 1000 hours and attacked north to clear the outskirts of STE. MERE EGLISE. The 1st Battalion withstood several counterattacks and pushed the enemy back to the eastern bank of the MERDERET River in the vicinity of the LA FIERE Bridge. They were supported late in the day by one platoon of tanks from Company C, 745th Tank Battalion. At the close of the period, the 2d and 3d Battalions prepared to attack north toward NEUVILLE AU FLAIN in conjunction with the 4th Infantry Division's drive on the right. The 2d Battalion, 325th Glider Infantry, was attached at 2100 to assist in this attack.

#### 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment

The regiment moved into an area west of STE. MERE EGLISE in the vicinity of 335960, rested and reorganized. At 1600 hours the regiment moved into positions south of the LA FIERE - STE. MERE EGLISE Road west of the railroad to assist the 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry, against a threatened counterattack at the LA FIERE Bridge. At 1900 hours the 507th, at approximately 25 per cent strength, successfully pushed the enemy back to the west bank of the MERDERET River in its sector.

#### 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment

One group near the railroad overpass (323960) moved into positions in the vicinity of the road junction 354972 to protect the Division's north flank against enemy penetration. This group was in position by 0630 hours, but it later moved to join another group of the regiment in position defending the CHEF DU PONT Bridge. It mopped up numerous enemy strong points surrounding CHEF DU PONT and established patrol contact with elements of the regiment west of the MERDERET River on the high ground in the vicinity of 310940. The group on the high ground, now recognized as the 2d Battalion, had completed organization of its position by 1300 hours, wiping out a number of enemy mortar and artillery positions. A road block was set up on the western approaches to the CHEF DU PONT Bridge and contact was established with forces in CHEF DU PONT. Regimental strength at the close of the day was approximately 25 per cent.

#### 82d Airborne Division Artillery

Various groups of the artillery were involved in individual skirmishes with the enemy as they found their way back to their parent units. The 319th Glider Field Artillery Battalion assembled east of STE. MERE EGLISE in the vicinity of 371974 with six 75mm pack howitzers. The 320th Glider Field Artillery Battalion was placed in direct support of the 505th Parachute Infantry. After salvaging two 105mm M3 howitzers and taking over the 75mm pack howitzer of the 456th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion detachment with the 505th, the 320th went into position 400 yards west of STE. MERE EGLISE. The first round was fired at 0911 hours. The seaborne echelon of the 456th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion arrived off Utah Beach but did not land.

#### 80th Airborne Antiaircraft Battalion

Batteries A, B, and C continued to reorganize and by 1800 hours six 57mm antitank guns of Battery C and three guns each from Batteries A and B were in position covering the two bridges over the MERDERET River. The remainder of the Battalion remained on board ships preparing to disembark on Utah Beach.

#### 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion

The remainder of Company A landed by glider at 0700 hours and moved to join the 325th Infantry in the vicinity of CHEF DU PONT at 0930 hours. Bridges and culverts south of LE FORT (328518) and near LIEUVILLE (331905) were blown.

Germans had available. Under this fire we crawled into position on the heights overlooking the Merderet and dug in. With insufficient weapons to reply effectively we immediately replied with what machine guns we had, hoping for the best. Between 2100 and 2200 three pieces of our division artillery opened up on the enemy, silencing them somewhat. The effectiveness of our artillery seemed to encourage us more than it discouraged the Germans. The Germans managed to keep up their intense fire until well after dark. At perhaps midnight their mortar and small arms fire ceased, but their artillery continued to pound all night. The enemy troops proved to be elements of the 91st Infantry Division.

Next morning, D plus one, the regiment received an order to fall back on the Ste. Mere Eglise Road and take up a position in support of the 505th which was being attacked from the north from the direction of Gourbesville. After being relieved by another battalion of the 505 we moved out at 0830 under sniper and artillery fire. At 1000 we reached our new position, rested, reorganized. Col. Maloney organized the fragments of the regiment with him into three companies commanded by Captains Creek, Rae, and Brakenhecke. These officers in turn appointed platoon leaders within their companies.

At 1600 we received another order from Division to return to the bridge at La Fiere in order to relieve the Battalion of the 505 that had been there all day. As we assembled to move up, the German artillery descended upon us, following our route of march up the road to the bridge.

Again in the same position we had occupied the night of D, and D plus 1, the Germans plastered us with mortar and machine gun fire. At first we thought we would be in for a hard time, but little by little the enemy fire died away and after dark it stopped altogether. Without doubt this was one of the most prolonged fires the Germans delivered against us during the course of the entire campaign. It had lasted uninterruptedly for thirty hours and reflected the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



**WAR DEPARTMENT**  
**THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE**  
**WASHINGTON**



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History of the 507th Pch Inf's Participation in the  
NORMANDY Campaign  
5 Jun-15 Jul 44

13

58-450

Information from the Hospital Admission Cards created 6/5/2025  
by the office of the Surgeon General, Department  
of the Army (1944-1945).  
Information for the year 1944

Service Number	12060392
Rank	Enlisted Man
Arm of Service	Infantry, Parachute Troops
Age	22
Race	White
Length of Service	2 Year(s), 5 Month(s)
Month of Admission	June
Year of Admission	1944
Last Treatment Facility	General hospital
Circumstances Surrounding Injury	Other or unspecified non-battle injuries.
Type of Case	Casualty, battle
Type of Admission	New
Type of Diagnosis	Sole diagnosis, no history of prior disease, injury; or battle casualty
Line of Duty	In line of duty
1st Diagnosis	Rupture
1st Anatomical Location	Eye: Choroid
1st Operation	Penicillin therapy (treatment with penicillin)
2nd Diagnosis	
2nd Anatomical Location	
2nd Operation	
3rd Diagnosis	
Causative Agent	Artillery Shell, Fragments, Afoot or unspecified
Final Result:	305th Station Hospital
Disposition	Discharged, Sec. II, AR 615-360 (line of duty, Yes) (CDD)
Cause of Disposition	Final result field
Month of Disposition	
Year of Disposition	1944
Total Days (non-effective)	480
Hospital Days	480
Current Days /Gen Hosp Overseas Day	208
Place of Final Cure	
Sample Size	Remaining 1944 case

Source: This information was obtained from the Hospital Admission Card data file (1944-1945) created by the Office of the Surgeon General Department of the Army. In 1970 the National Research Council first compiled this for statistical purposes using the EMTs (Emergency Medical Tags) and other Office of the Surgeon General Office Records during WWII.



Information from the Hospital Admission Cards created 6/5/2025  
by the office of the Surgeon General,  
Department of the Army (1944-1945).  
Information for the year 1945

Service Number	12060392
Sample Size	
Rank	Enlisted Man (includes Aviation C
Age	22 22
Race	White (includes Mexican)
Length of Service	2-3 yr.
Arm of Service	Infantry, Parachute Units
AAF Status	Neither assigned nor attached to AAF (includes all unassigned, ;
Admission Statio	
Month of Admission	June
Year of Admission	1944
Last Treatment Facilit	General Hospital
Special Class of Cas	Invalided Home (except repatriated) in other year
Type of Case	Casualty, battle
Type of Admission	New, not EPTS
1st Diagnosis	Rupture
1st Anatomical Locatio	Eye, Choroid
1st Operation	Penicillin therapy (treatment with penicillin)
2nd Diagnosis	
2nd Anatomical Locatio	
2nd Operation	
3rd Diagnosis	
Causative Agent	Artillery Shell, Fragments, Afoot or unspecified
Circumstances Surroundir	All battle casualties, and all battle injuries not intentionally inflicted by self or another person
Final Result	Blindness, partial, one eye
Total Days (non-effective)	255
Hospital Days	480
Overseas Days	084
Type of Discharge	Discharged or Retired for Disability, Line of Duty, Yes
Field of Cause of Disposit	Final Result field
Unit Number	507
Month of Dispositio	September
Year of Dispositio	1945

Source: This information was obtained from the Hospital Admission Card data file (1944-1945) created by the Office of the Surgeon General Department of the Army. In 1970 the National Research Council first compiled this for statistical purposes using the EMTs (Emergency Medical Tags) and other Office of the Surgeon General Office Records during WWII.

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## B O O T S   &   W I N G S

### ABROAD WITH THE BOYS

Quite recently a couple of the boys were rehearsing new record "low" jumps, for the one big jump we are all awaiting. However, it seems that some pretty English farmer's wife spotted the boys giving their "downward pulls" and screamed to her husband, "Good God, Gasten, we're being invaded!" The farmer went into immediate action, getting out his old rifle and pressing it into some luckless paratrooper's back. "Don't move or I'll shoot", yelled the farmer. Luckily Captain John Berry of Arkansas is alive to tell about it today.

They call us "Hell's Angels" over there. We're noted for being the most pampered outfit in the A.E.F. Besides getting our extra "\$50.00 per", they have taken us off the monotonous English rations and put us on good old American food like fried chicken. We are also noted for having the latest and best equipment to be found in any branch of the service.

Our Commander over there is 34-year-old, jumping Lt. Colonel Edson Raff. However, as a physical culturist, he neither smokes nor drinks. The men call him "Little Caesar" and he is all man. Colonel Raff says, "In a plane, I'm just another guy named Joe".

They, like the rest of us are "ready". When not included in the raid on Dieppe, many of them moped around, while others drank themselves into the town Jail.



## "JIVE KINGS"

The music was furnished by Pfc. **Nicholas Festa**, clarinet; Staff Sgt. H. G. Bennett, trombone; and Pvt. (former Parachute School Sgt.) **Wolfgang G. Sklarz**. Lieutenants J. Austin and Cotnam and by Staff Sgt. "bottoms up" Lizonbee of Regimental Headquarters Company.



The art of boxing is a means of self-defense.  
Knowledge of wrestling is an offensive weapon.



# GERONIMO, PRESENT!

Last week members of the 507 parachute Infantry visited the Methodist Church in Alliance and staged a show for the younger members of the congregation.

Geronimo was the feature attraction. He held his head high and proud as the audience listened to his long list of accomplishments related to them by Pvt. Kenneth C. Williams, his trainer.

Buell Wilson, youngest tobacco auctioneer in the world, gave a series of chants. The jitterbugs were swinging and swaying to PFC Nicholas Festa's clarinet solos. Corporal Rogers started his career of parachuting at the age of 15, and related his experiences with the original batman, whom years ago thrilled thousands of people all over the country with their impersonations of giant bats. They attached glider-like wings to their backs and soared thousands of feet through the air before releasing their parachutes. Lt. Alfred B. Britton, Special Service Officer, was MC.

# OFFICERS INITIATED AT "PROP BLAST" PARTY

## 507th Orchestra Plays at Function

## MUSIC, SNAKES, EVERYTHING

War was momentarily forgotten as officers and their guests let down their hair at a gay frolic held Saturday evening, May 2, in the recreation hall during "prop blast" ceremonies initiating 15 officers into the inner sactum of the exclusive 507th's officer group.

Highlight of the evening's activities was the initiation of fatigued fatigue-clad officers as they "stood up" and "hooked up" during the ceremonies, to the martial music of an all-regiment orchestra. Inducted during the festivities were Maj. Edwin J. Ostberg, Chaplain Robert M. Hennon, Lt. J. B. Egerly, Lt. Leonard W. Bloethe, Lt. Henry B. Clyde, Jr., Lt. Gerard M. Dillon, Lt. James K. Felty, Lt. Elmer F. Hoffman, Lt. Edward S. Keehan, Lt. John J. Hayes, Jr., Lt. James A. Wade, Lt. Cecil E. Rife, W/O Harry Goodman, W/O Woodrow Honea and W/O Edward Labender.

Among guests were Col. Leo Donovan, Col. Edson Raff, Col. William O. Poindexter, Col. and Mrs. James H. Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Abbott, Maj. E. F. Culbertson, Mr. Max Agor, Mr. Gary Breckner, Capt. Paul A. Knepfer, Lt. Harold J. Walder, Mr. R. H. Owen, Mr. Tor Torland, Mr. Aubrey Blake and Lt. James T. Crawford.

Those giving vent to musical expression from the stage were S/Sgt. Harley G. Bennett, Cpl. Wolfgang G. Slarz, Cpl. Johnny Le Clair, Pvt. Fredericks, Pvt. Carl Scarborough, Pvt. J. W. Marrs and Pfc. Nicholas Festa.

Col. and Mrs. George V. Millett, Jr., were there, of course, in most informal clothes. Maj. and Mrs. Charles J. Timmes were in attendance, and in the course of the party the major disguised himself as a fireman. Mrs. Ostberg had to attend her husband's initiation, and Mrs. Weaver was on hand to view something new in entertainment. At the end of the initiation for the officers, many of the ladies present were informally initiated with a free ride on the suspended harness.

The prize for the best costumes of the evening went to Lt. A. L. Stephens and to Mrs. Robert D. Rae. Lt. Rae's wife wore a black bathing suit of the gay '90's vintage, while Lt. Stephens looked very demure in a pseudo-scottish highland kilt. Lt. and Mrs. George W. Hesserberger ran a close second in the race for costume honors.

Other ladies seen on the scene were the Mesdames William Z. Cotham, William A. Kuhn, John H. Wisner, Clarence A. Tolle, John F. Corbett, Mark Perkins, J. B. Egerly, W. E. Marcum, Elmo F. Koehler, J. T. Crawford, L. B. Jackson, J. A. Hughes, E. R. Reed, Allen Taylor, DeWitt, and the Misses Betty I. Holzworth, Nelita Pittman and Louise Joris.

Worthy of mention is Chaplain John J. Verret's act of scampering through the assembly attired



CUIDADO!



# 507th Band Highly Received In First Public Appearance

At last, that long talked about regimental band has formulated under the auspices of the special service office.

Making their first public appearance the 507th "Jivers" played their way into the hearts of dance fans and music lovers Friday May 24 at the De Molay hop held in the Alliance City Auditorium. The sizzling rhythm of Nick Festa and his boys had the "jitterbugs" all but standing on their heads—the waltz lovers were seen seeming to drift into a new romantic era with the sweet tunes issuing from the instruments of the 'chutlists.

Cpl. Bob Lewis of Service Company is the band's vocalist.

At 10 p. m. the queen of the De Molay Sorority led the grand march around the floor in a jeep provided by Col. George V. Millett, Jr.

It is with regret, members of the band lose the talented services of Pvt. Donald Wright, musical arranger. Don has been shipped out to Riggers School at Chanute Field, Ill.

## Reg'tl. Supply Officer



The Acting Supply officer of the regiment is 1st Robert D. Rae, born in New York City. Mrs. Rae, Jacksonville, Fla. where

# COMPANY I'S PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS

Company "I" of the Third Battalion turned out en masse last Saturday night, June 28th for a company party and dance held at the Roundhouse, on the outskirts of Alliance.

Approximately sixty girls from Scottsbluff attended the party, being transported in government vehicles and escorted by specially chosen non-commissioned officers.

The 507th orchestra puts on its usually good show, with Major Davis always present with his saxaphone. The talents of Nick Festa and Bob Lewis were missed, of course, these two men being away on a well-earned furlough.

The interior of the Roundhouse was attractively decorated with vari-colored balloons while the orchestra dais was trimmed in colored equipment 'chutes with the 507th Black Widow Spider suspended directly over the stage.

Thanks should go to Capt. G. S. Allyn, Jr., and the officers of Co. "I" for the splendid attendance and the smooth manner in which the party came off.

The party was graced by the attendance of Col. G. V. Millett, Jr., and Lt. Taylor.



## 'ORCHESTRA PIT' NOTES

The 507th Parachute Infantry Orchestra has been formed about two months now, and already they have been complimented by all who have danced and listened to their wonderful style of music.

Pfc. Roger F. Holcombe who plays first trumpet is the hottest trumpet player I have heard, while in the Army.

Pfc. Nicholas Festa who formerly played with Johnny McGee and Frankie Masters, (both well-known throughout the country) is first in the saxophone and clarinet department.

The only missing link in this band is that they do not have a name. For example, "Black and Orange", "Tru" (per) Jive", or,

# IN THE LIMELIGHT

## Sgt. Anthony N. Prezzano

The party was over and we had to go home . . . and a good time was had by all. It was certainly a successful affair arranged by Service Company for the entertainment of its members and we deeply appreciate the efforts exerted by those responsible for its success.

The night was highlighted by the presence of our Brigade Commander, General Donovan and various members of our own regimental staff. The dinner was expertly arranged and prepared by Sgt. Mele and his capable crew. Needless to say that it was delicately prepared with choice foods of a very savory character. Our C. O., Capt. Rosenbloom, together with our executive officer, Lt. Higgins and 1st Sgt. Wallace, are chiefly credited with the planning of the entire evening which greatly added to the comfort of our guests, both civilian and military.

A general atmosphere of cordiality, good behavior, and unexpected enjoyment prevailed. The appropriate music was furnished by Nick Festa and a group of talented musicians who demonstrated their art with much dexterity.

The stiffness of the affair melted as soon as everyone had their fill of the delicious chicken (which was aplenty) and the beer which began to hit home. Festa's melodies soon encouraged the meek to court their female partners to the dance floor and give out with entertaining exhibitions of dancing ability.

Some of the more able "jitter-bugs" were at a loss because our lady guests were not up on the modern versions of dancing; but a well appreciated exhibition was put on by the massive Wally Mandile and my game wife, Mrs. Prezzano. He tried to show us what goes on in the Roseland Dance Palace in New York. It was a sudden impulse that encouraged him on and as quickly as he appeared, he disappeared after the number.

Featured in the orchestra was Lt. Higgins slapping a mean base fiddle. Many others of our company gave impromptu donations to the orchestra and by the looks of things, it looks as if Service Company has a potential symphony orchestra. That is if everyone could duplicate what they did????

Sgt. Anthony as Master of

Ceremonies surely was aggressive in commandeering various members to entertain us with their various talents; among which was the appreciable vocal put on by our own "Rus" Cavaluzzi. The volume of his rich voice shook the loudspeaker which was fixed securely on the wall. King Mountain Atkins and Motor Pool Beers did enjoyably well with their interpretation of "Hill Billy" songs. By the way, Atkins does not remember doing the numbers. Why????

Another comment I wish to make is the remarkable appetite featured by our Personnel Section. Did any one besides myself notice the pile of bones left after the chicken was disposed of? It was certainly the cleanest sort of residue I have ever seen. They must have had "pull" with the table waiter. For a group that pushes a pen and pounds a typewriter all day, they did all right by themselves. A commercial was also announced to the effect that khaki caps are for sale by "High Pressure" Peschl. That was some of Sgt. Anthony's doings.

The only unenjoyable factor of the evening was the huge amount of work left for the K.P.s. We know that they had worked hard all day preparing and were on hand to clean up and wish to comment upon the fine work they did. We hear that we will have another social event soon and are anxiously looking forward to another such fine affair.

## S-SGT. BUFORD C. MASTER OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF 507TH MOTOR POOL

Buford C. Masters, S/Sgt. Motor Pool was born and raised in the historical city of St. Augustine, Florida, the oldest city in the United States. Staff Sergeant Masters is today a prominent member of the newest and hardest hitting branch of Service—the United States Paratroops.

Sgt. Masters was schooled at St. Joseph Academy in St. Augustine and later became affiliated with the Superior Dairy in St. Augustine. In the capacity of superintendent, Sgt. Masters gained much managerial experience which later was to prove so valuable to the 507th Motor Pool.

Joining the National Guard in August, 1934 he attained the grade of Staff Sergeant with the 124th Infantry. When his outfit was Federalized in September, 1940 Sgt. Masters found himself at Ft.

At last a name has been selected for the 507th Parachute Infantry orchestra. Henceforth they will be known as the 507th "Sky Devils," a name applied by many people to Paratroopers everywhere. This name was suggested by Mr. S. M. Sanderson, an ardent reader of "Boots and Wings," and accepted whole-heartedly by all the members of the orchestra.

The orchestra, led by Nick Festa, sax and clarinet player supreme, has just about everything needed now with the exception of a piano player. If you play the piano, or know someone who does, contact Lt. A. B. Britton, Jr., Regimental Special Service Officer, immediately.



# 507th Orchestra Plays In Scottsbluff Over KGKY

Thursday night, Sept. 2, 1943 "The Sky Devils" popular 507th orchestra played at the Egyptian Theater in Scottsbluff. The performance was broadcast over Station KGKY at 8:30.

Bill Boston, theater manager turned over the proceeds of the performance to the Soldiers' Relief Fund. The audience was well pleased with the music of the "Sky Devils" and their constant plaudits for encores kept the boys playing after the broadcast was over.

A few of the more popular numbers were the "One O'clock Jump" with Pvt. Roger Holcombe giving out with a solo, "Brazil," a smooth style arrangement with Pfc. Nick Festa, the leader, giving out and "It's Always You" with Cpl. Bob Lewis entrancing the audience with his vocal renditions.

Tuesday night the orchestra will play for the USO dance in Alliance, Nebr.

## USO SPEEDS TOWARD COMPLETION

That attractive structure rising rapidly near the chief intersection of Box Butte in Alliance is the USO which will soon be ready for use and full occupancy. Modern and streamlined, the building will do much to make the leisure hours of the men of the base more pleasant. Watch this paper for the date of the formal opening of the new USO.

—ORTH AFRICA (CNS) — The curvaceous Nazi propagandist known as Gertie from Berlin who has been beaming radio programs from Germany to North Africa is really Gertrude Hahn, a former resident of Pittsburgh, who moved to Germany in 1938 to do propaganda work.

# ORCHESTRA BITS

Pfc. Adolph E. Schneider

Well, since our orchestra has been given the name of "Sky Devils," we will commence to tell you a few things about them.

After hard work by Nick Festa and Pfc. Roger Holcombe, they have brought together a fine aggregation of talented musicians.

With Festa in charge of the "Reeds," which is also known as the Saxophone department, Privates Davis, Henry and Reuhl find it easy playing "styled to play" music.

Roger F. Holcombe, an ace, when it comes to trumpet players, conducts the orchestration from his end as if he were a master. He finds that Privates Towarth, Wood and DeSanto are his three remaining aces.

Guitarist Fredericks plays his guitar as if he were playing for his last meal.

Bass Fiddler Vermillion has a super style of his own.

And last, but not least, we salute Frank Mascola, ace drummer, in the newly formed orchestra. You "hepcats," who have heard Krupa, have heard nothing until you hear Private Mascola, who hails from Quakertown, Penn.

They "beat" it out to the enjoyment of "swingsters" all over Nebraska. Recently they played at the Egyptian Theater in Scottsbluff, before a capacity house. The orchestra wants to go all out in complementing Bill Boston, manager of the theater, for his fine cooperation and his magnificent decoration on the stage. Pvt. Lewis vocalized several numbers magnificently and won applause from the house.

# ORCHESTRA BITS

Pfc. Adolph E. Schneider

Pfc. Roger F. Holcombe was presented by Lt. Britton with a nifty new trumpet. Roger started off with great pride by stripping it down and washing it.

The "Sky Devils" are trying now to dig up a little Paratrooper ditty.

Recently they played for the United Service Organization at the Alliance Auditorium. Pfc. Festa and T/5 Lewis did the vocalizing, with "Nick" singing "Murder He Says."

Also the "Sky Devils" have added a piano player to their growing experienced orchestra, in Private Grant Malme. This brings the band number to 13.

Taking in consideration the time spent organizing this up and coming orchestra it has certainly proven to us all what you can do with individuals that do have talent.

The men in the orchestra play an average of about ten dances per month, in and around Alliance, Nebraska.

As a sidelight to this band they may feature in the very near future a talented vocalist from the WAC side of the Air Base.

A negro soldier, Pvt. Griffin, recuperating at the Base Hospital is sweating out his release. Why? Well, the band played there recently, for their benefit, and he did so much jitterbugging that he now has the doctors guessing.

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CAMP VAN DORN, Miss. (CNS) — Pfc. Frank Vito is no gigolo but he married Miss Audrey C. Money of Washington here anyway.



