PASS IN REVIEW

"Shedding Light On Idaho's Military History"

2nd Quarter **June 2004**

Wednesday Night At The Museum

Mark your calendars and join us at the Museum **on June 30, 2004, at 7:00 pm.** A pilot with the Idaho Air National Guards 190th Fighter Squadron, will discuss his experiences and adventures during his recent deployment to Iraq/Afghanistan.

Light refreshments will be served. Please join us for what will truly be an interesting, enlightening and educational evening! ✯

Idaho Veterans Cemetery Dedication

Idaho will formally dedicate its Veterans Cemetery on Saturday, July 31, 2004. At 9:00 am, the POW flag will be lowered at the State Capitol and escorted to the Cemetery where it will be presented to the Color Guard there.

The Dedication ceremony will begin at 10:00 am. There will be a number of distinguished guests and speakers, one of whom is Mr. Vernon Baker, WWII Medal of Honor Recipient.

The cemetery is located just north of Hill Road and east of Horseshoe Bend Road (Old St. 55) adjacent to the Dry Creek Cemetery. ✯

Moving Wall Visits Idaho

One of the traveling Vietnam Memorials (Moving Wall) will be at Carl Miller Park in Mountain Home from June 16-21. ✯

A Tribute Past Due

Saturday, May 29th, was a day to remember. In conjunction with the dedication of the WWII Memorial in Washington D.C., the IMHS and American Legion Post 136 joined efforts to pay special tribute to Idaho's WWII Veterans.

The American Legion served up a scrumptious pancake breakfast (WWII Veterans ate free!) and made sure that each attending WWII Veteran received a Certificate of Appreciation for their service and the sacrifices they made for their country.

Suns 'coming up & there's cakes on the griddle!

Then at 11:30 am, a ceremony honoring Idaho's WWII Veterans took place inside the Museum. It was standing room only!! Channel 6 even carried the program live.

Many veterans came in their WWII uniforms and many brought scrapbooks and newspaper clippings detailing events and memories from the war. Boy Scouts proudly stood next to veterans to pose for photos. Soloists performed "Star Spangled Banner," "America the Beautiful" and "God Bless America" but they weren't soloists for very long, everybody joined in.

The National Anthem never sounded so sweet!

Following the local ceremony, Museum visitors were treated to a live broadcast of the actual dedication in Washington DC via a specially arranged satellite connection.

Evelyn G. DeYoung Bass, WWII Veteran of the Coast Guard proudly displays her uniform and certificate.

It was indeed a *Tribute Past Due* and we extend a special thank you to everybody who helped make it possible. ✯

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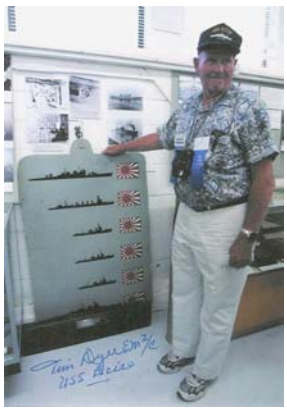
Curator's Corner

I can honestly say that May 2004 was one of the busiest and most successful months on record. There were three major events here at the Museum including the Joint USS Boise (CL47) and 90th Bomb Group Reunion, Armed Forces Day Open House and the Tribute Past Due- Dedication of the World War Two Memorial.

The USS Boise reunion group came to the Museum on 7 May along with the 90th Bomb Group mini reunion. In preparation for these groups, new exhibits were completed including photos, text, maps and some new artifacts. One volunteer who deserves special recognition is **Heath Robison**, who did a tremendous amount of work with graphics such as USS Boise's scoreboard and ribbon board plus a wonderful map of Boise's travels and engagements. He also did a lot of work with photos and graphics for the 90th BG. I cannot thank Heath enough for what he has done for the Museum.



Tim Dyer, Veteran of the USS Boise, poses with his handiwork at the USS Boise Reunion. He painted the images on the USS Boise's steel plate while the plate was still a part of the ship!

Another volunteer who deserves special recognition is **Jim Doering**. Being retired Navy; Jim took a special interest in the reunion. For the past several months he has helped with planning, patiently edited text written by a land lubber, worked on artifacts and exhibits, bought the materials and built our new stage and docented. The amount of time and effort they put into the May events cannot be measured. Both of these volunteers deserve a big thank you for what they have done.

This event also brought in some new donations, including a very special one from the Officers and Sailors of USS Boise (SSN764). The CO, Commander Mikatarian, and shipmate of the year, ST1 MacKenzie, attended the reunion and donated a section of the submarine USS Boise's hull mounted on a plaque. I would say that getting to see USS Boise's sailors and hear their sea stories was a truly memorable experience.

The "Tribute Past Due" on 29 May was undoubtedly the largest single event we have had. Cars were parked down Harvard all the way to Orchard, the parking lot was full and we had cars on the grass south of the Museum's fence line. Attendance was around 500 people, including WWII Veterans, their families and even Medal of Honor Recipient Ed Freeman.

WWII Veteran and Vietnam Medal of Honor Recipient Ed Freeman chats with Michelle Edmonds from Channel 6

This was an overwhelming occasion as the Museum was standing room only. CSM (Ret) Phil Hawkins did a wonderful job as emcee for the event and the Museum received a tremendous amount of publicity. If you missed being here, it was an outstanding event and a great tribute to the many World War Two Veterans in attendance.

I would like to take the time to thank the following volunteers and organizations for all their efforts at our recent Openhouses:

Karen Andersen
Fred Anderson
Gayle Alvarez
Steve Bonde
Terry Curtis
Larry Carroll
Garry Carroll
Jim Doering
Stan Herzinger
Rick Johnson
Bryan Johnson
Kurt Kahm
Kyle Kahm
Yancy Mailes
Lisa Mailes
Jeremy Mattern
Bill Miller
Terry Popravak (MHAFB)
Heath Robison
Ken Swanson
Mike Sibley
124 SFS Squadron
Boise Naval & Marine Corps Reserves
Fleet Reserve Association
Mountain Home AFB/366 FW Life Support personnel
Special Forces Association Chapter #69
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

In closing, I want to summarize the Museum's successes of the past month with one word- **volunteers**. It is the people like Jim Doering, Heath Robison and many others who made the difference. Yancy and Lisa Mailes and Mike Sibley. We had a lot of support from Mountain Home Air Force Base, the Boise Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center and the Idaho Air National Guard.

MSgt Gabe Usog and the 124th Security Forces Sqdn on Armed Forces Day

Additionally, our Volunteer of the Quarter who you will read about later was active and here, doing a lot to support the Museum. If you haven't been to the Museum lately, you need to stop in for a visit.

WWII Reenactor Gary Hurd demon-strated WWII Cavalry drills at our 15 May Armed Forces Day Open House

You'll see what these outstanding volunteers have done to make the Idaho Military History Museum what it is.

- Gary Keith

Museum Honors Volunteers

In what has become an annual event, the Board of Directors held a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for all the volunteers who have helped with all of the many, many, MANY needs and requirements here at the Museum during the past year.

Volunteers enjoyed a spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings and received Certificates of Appreciation and Service for all of their efforts.

Our top volunteer for the year was **Steve Bonde with 798 hours!** Congratulations Steve **and thank you to ALL of our volunteers** for all of their hard work. We sincerely appreciate each and every one of you. ✯

Idaho History Day Winner

Congratulations to **Claire Stevens of Riverstone Community School.** Her award winning entry ***"The Great Crusade": How Eisenhower Finalized The Plans For D-Day While Encountering Problems, Exploring Solutions, And Exchanging Ideas,*** was selected as the winning entry in the Military History Category on Idaho History Day.

Her entry (this is one of three sides) is now on display at the Idaho Military History Museum. ✯

The 116th Cavalry Brigade Gets The Call

On 8 May 2004, Governor Dirk Kempthorne was notified by the Department of Defense, that part of the Idaho Army National Guards 116th Cavalry Brigade, had been federally mobilized to take part in *Operation Iraqi Freedom.*

On 28 May 2004, a second order came down which brought the full brigade combat team to active duty. This mobilization is *the largest deployment in the history of the Idaho National Guard.*

In all, approximately 4,300 troops are involved and encompass soldiers from Oregon, Utah, Montana, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Idaho.

Answering the call, the 116th Cavalry Brigade at the Idaho Center

On 9 June, a special sendoff was held in Nampa's Idaho Center for the first wave of 750 soldiers. Mayors from many of the cities with a National Guard Armory manned by these 750 soldiers attended, as did Governor and Mrs. Kempthorne. Medal of Honor Recipients Bernie Fisher and Ed Freeman were also on hand to recognize the soldiers.

On 10 June, Idaho's advance group of 750 soldiers left Gowen Field for Ft. Bliss Texas. The remaining 1,250 Idaho soldiers will depart the later part of June. The brigade will train there during the summer and fall and are scheduled arrive in Iraq in the late fall of 2004. Their service, to include the mission to Iraq is expected to last approximately 18 months.

Our thoughts, prayers and best wishes go out to the soldiers and their families as they embark on their new mission. ✯

Volunteer Of The Quarter

Please meet Bill Miller

This is getting to be a tougher duty each time I write the Volunteer of the Quarter. It is tougher for a good reason as we are getting more and more high quality volunteers each month. Choosing just one is not easy! So, this month the Museum is going to recognize someone who has been involved since before the existence of the Idaho Military Historical Society.

Please join me in thanking Bill Miller for all of the hard work he has done over the years. For those of you who don't know Bill, let me fill you in about this hard working man.

He enlisted in the Idaho Air National Guard in 1958. He applied for an Officer Commission and was accepted. He completed pilot training in 1967 and flew F-102s with the IDANG's 190th Fighter Interceptor Squadron. During this time, Bill stood 24-hour alerts as part of the 190ths mission to defend the Pacific Northwest against Soviet bombers.

He was simultaneously working on a degree at Boise State University, which he successfully obtained. Bill's 'day job' was with the Idaho Division of Aeronautics, but in the evenings and on weekends he flew F-102s until the 190th transitioned to the two seat RF-4C Phantom in 1975. Bill easily moved into flying the Phantom and became quite a skilled flight lead.

This experience greatly paid off in April 1982 when Bill was flying a typical

night radar reconnaissance mission over Idaho. He received a May Day call from another RF-4C that had been hit by a bird. The pilot was badly hurt and unable to fly the aircraft so it was up to the backseater to land the plane. Bill joined up with the damaged Phantom and helped talk the backseater through the landing (backseaters were not normally expected or trained to land, nor did they have the right instruments or visibility to land easily). Bill's cool professional demeanor and flying skills made a difference that night, but he always downplays his role. After flying the RF-4C and the C-26, Bill retired from the Idaho Air National Guard in 1996 as a Colonel with 38 years of service.

Bill recounts some of his experiences with the F4 and explains some of its features at the Armed Forces Day Open House.

What Bill has done for the Idaho Military History Museum is tremendous. From helping get the IMHS started to docenting, Bill is a consistent and reliable volunteer in many ways. Always eager and willing, Bill signs up for docent shifts each month to make sure the Museum is staffed and open for the public. He re-joined the Board of Directors last fall and has been very active since then, recruiting new volunteers, researching the IDANG history and organizing photo collections, working on fund raising projects, grant writing and docenting to name but a few of his activities.

It is difficult to list in a short forum all that Bill Miller has done for the IMHS and what he continues to do. It is a privilege being able to work with someone of Bill's energy, attitude and enthusiasm. I consider myself very fortunate to know Bill Miller and the Museum is definitely a better place because of him.

Thank you Bill, we would definitely not be where we are today without you and your expertise. You are our Volunteer of the Quarter! ✯✯✯✯✯

New Members

Special Welcome to:

✯ Rand Bain
✯ Patricia Bain
✯ Dale Sisson
✯ William March, Jr.
✯ Ray W. Mullins, III
✯ Ray L. Servatius
✯ Claire Stevens
✯ William E. Sweeney

New Volunteers

Please give a warm welcome to:

Karen Andersen
Don Beck
Barbara Elston
Bob Green
Dean Jackson
Jerre Kauffman

✯ ✯ ✯ ✯ ✯

Recent Donations

Our 1st Quarter 2004 newsletter was printed **At No Charge** by *Modern Printers* in Meridian. A very special thank you to **Greg Walker**; we truly appreciate your interest and support.

Bill Johnson - WWII issue USMC Dress Blue coat

Jim Doering - piece of hull from USS Woodrow Wilson SSBN 624

Pablo Rodriguez - Desert Shield/Desert Storm USMC helmet cover, gun lanyard, MOPP coat, Iraqi surrender leaflets

Joe Frost/SFA Chapter 69 - Green Berets

Vahan Sipantzi – US Army and Special Forces bibles

Boyd Pedersen - FM 21-100 (War Dept) Basic Field Manual Soldiers Handbook, July 23, 1941; 1938 Historical Annual Year Book; PAM 21-13 The Soldiers BCT Handbook

Ray Servatius - Photo of 6147 TAC Air Cmd Korea and unit 'Mosquito' patch; C Btry 148th Honor Battery photo taken at Camp Carson 1951.

Richard Powell - Helmet liner from 148th Basic Training at Camp Carson.✯

Endowment Update

Our Endowment balance currently stands at **$29,690.19.** Recent Endowment Donors include:

Caroline L. Kreiger
BG Gordon Shore

Don't forget, you can also make a credit card donation on ***on-line.*** Look for this link on the Museum's webpage:

DONATE NOW THROUGH Network for Good.

Thank you for supporting The Idaho Military History Museum. ✯

Upcoming Events

Here are **some** of the events we currently have scheduled; more details will be posted on the webpage as invitations are confirmed and more information becomes available.

30 June – Wednesday night at the Museum. See story on page 1.

16 July -Larry Gebert from Channel 7 will be doing his morning show **LIVE** at the Museum! Be sure and tune in!

17 July –Vietnam/1960s Open House.

9 September - Larry Gebert from Channel 7 will be doing his morning show **LIVE** at the Museum.

11 September - Idaho National Guard Appreciation Day. Open House for National Guard personnel 8:00-11:00 and open to public from 12:00 to 4:00.✯

Idaho File Into History

Leonard C. Brostrom
Medal Of Honor Recipient, WWII

Rank and Organization: Private First Class, U. S. Army, Company F, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division
Entered Service at: Preston, Franklin County, Idaho
Served as: Rifleman
Battle or Place of Action: near Dagami, Leyte, Philippine Islands
Date of Action: 28 October 1944

Citation: He was a rifleman with an assault platoon which ran into powerful resistance near Dagami, Leyte, Philippine Islands, on 28 October 1944. From pillboxes, trenches, and spider holes so well-camouflaged that they could be detected at no more than 20 yards, the enemy poured machine-gun and rifle fire, causing severe casualties in the platoon. Realizing that a key pillbox in the center of the strongpoint would have to be knocked out if the company were to advance, Pfc. Brostrom, without orders and completely ignoring his own safety, ran forward to attack the pillbox with grenades. He immediately became the prime target for all the riflemen in the area, as he rushed to the rear of the pillbox and tossed grenades through the entrance. Six enemy soldiers left a trench in a bayonet charge against the heroic American, but he killed one and drove the others off with rifle fire. As he threw more grenades from his completely exposed position he was wounded several times in the abdomen and knocked to the ground. Although suffering intense pain and rapidly weakening from loss of blood, he slowly rose to his feet and once more hurled his deadly missiles at the pillbox. As he collapsed, the enemy began fleeing from the fortification and were killed by riflemen of his platoon. Pfc. Brostrom died while being carried from the battlefield, but his intrepidity and unhesitating willingness to sacrifice himself in a one-man attack against overwhelming odds enabled his company to reorganize against attack and annihilate the entire enemy position.[1]

Leonard Carl Brostrom was born on 23 November 1919, in Preston Idaho, the oldest son of Carl and Louise Brostrom. He became a Boy Scout and went on to be the acting assistant scoutmaster. He attended Preston High School and graduated in 1938. Leonard had just begun serving a mission for his church in California when WWII broke out. He was allowed to complete his mission and served in Oakland California before being transferred to the Reno Nevada area.

Where Leyte is Located[2]

After returning from his church assignment, he tried to enlist in the Navy but was turned down due to his poor eyesight. The Air Force turned him down as well. He then turned to the Army and was accepted, enlisting in March 1942.

Elder Leonard C. Brostrom[3]

After spending several months assigned state-side, he was sent to the Philippines. He became a rifleman with Company F, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division and took part in the invasion of Leyte.

"Following four hours of heavy naval gunfire on A-day, 20 October {1944}, Sixth Army forces landed on assigned beaches at 1000 hours. Troops from X Corps pushed across a four-mile stretch of beach between Tacloban airfield and the Palo River. Fifteen miles to the south, XXIV Corps units came ashore across a three-mile strand between San José and the Daguitan River. Troops in both corps sectors found as much or more resistance from swampy terrain as from Japanese fire.

By the end of A-day, the Sixth Army had moved inland as deep as two miles and controlled Panaon Strait at the southern end of Leyte. In the X Corps sector, the 1st Cavalry Division held Tacloban airfield and the 24th Infantry Division had taken the high ground commanding its beachheads Hill 522.

In the XXIV Corps sector, the 96th Infantry Division held the approaches to Catmon Hill, the highest point in both corps beachheads; the 7th Infantry Division had taken the town of Dulag, forcing General Makino to move his 16th Division command post ten miles inland to the town of Dagami.

On the XXIV Corps left, or southern flank, the 7th Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Archibald V. Arnold, moved inland against an unusually dense concentration of enemy facilities and defenses. The Japanese had built or improved four airfields in a narrow, ten-mile strip along the east-west road between the small towns of Dulag and Burauen.

On 21 October, the 184th Infantry took Dulag airfield south of the road while the 32d Infantry cleared both sides of the Calbasag River.

Where Leonard Went Ashore[4]

Three more days of fighting swamps, extreme heat, and Japanese supported by artillery and armor brought 7th Division regiments to within three miles of Burauen, where three airfields were clustered. The fight for the airfields and village was bloody but flying wedges of American tanks cleared the way for the infantrymen.

Infantrymen {on Leyte} cautiously move toward an enemy machine gun position[5]

In Burauen itself, troops of the 17th Infantry overcame fanatical but futile resistance, with some enemy popping up from spider holes and others making suicidal attempts to stop the American tanks by holding explosives against their armored hulls. One mile north, troops of the 32d Infantry killed more than 400 Japanese at Buri airfield. With two battalions of the 184th Infantry patrolling the corps left flank, the 17th Infantry, with the 2d Battalion, 184th Infantry, attached, turned north toward Dagami, six miles above Burauen." [6]

28 October 1944, Dagami, Leyte, PFC Brostrom's eighth day of combat. [7] "From pillboxes, trenches, and spider holes so well-camouflaged that they could be detected at no more than 20 yards, the enemy poured machine-gun and rifle fire, causing severe casualties in the platoon. Realizing that a key pillbox in the center of the strongpoint would have to be knocked out if the company were to advance, Pfc. Brostrom, without orders and completely ignoring his own safety, ran forward to attack the pillbox with grenades.

He immediately became the prime target for all the riflemen in the area, as he rushed to the rear of the pillbox and tossed grenades through the entrance. Six enemy soldiers left a trench in a bayonet charge against the heroic American, but he killed one and drove the others off with rifle fire.

As he threw more grenades from his completely exposed position he was wounded several times in the abdomen and knocked to the ground. Although suffering intense pain and rapidly weakening from loss of blood, he slowly rose to his feet and once more hurled his deadly missiles at the pillbox. As he collapsed, the enemy began fleeing from the fortification and were killed by riflemen of his platoon. Pfc. Brostrom died while being carried from the battlefield…"[8]

On 29 November 1945, Leonard's heroic action was recognized and commended when Brig. Gen. Robert M. Hardaway presented the Medal of Honor to Leonard's parents in Preston Idaho.

Leonard Brostom is buried in the Preston Cemetery District (NW Sect, Block 1, Lot 18), Preston, Idaho.

Memorial in Preston Cemetery

There is also a memorial to him and fellow Medal of Honor Recipient Nathan Van Noy Jr., *(See 1st Quarter 2000)* both of whom entered the service from Preston. Leonard Brostrom's grave is to the right and rear of this memorial.

Sometime later, one source reports January 19, 1948, another honor came to the Brostrom family as the result of Leonard's heroic action. The U.S. Army Transport Ship, "Marine Eagle," was renamed in Leonard's honor.

The USNS Leonard C. Brostrom

Yet another honor was bestowed on Leonard when members of the Seventh Infantry Division named a Red Cross service camp in Korea for Leonard and another member of their Division who also lost his life at Leyte. A housing complex at Fort Ord was also named in Leonard's Honor.

Military service runs in the Brostom family, Leonards brothers were also in the service. Dean and Dale both served in the Navy and Stanley served in the Air Force for 20 years.

Once when Dale was asked why his brother would single-handedly attack the Japanese stronghold, he said that Leonard was a highly motivated young man. Dale said he cared a lot for his fellow men, and he wasn't surprised that Leonard would do such a thing.

Carl Brostrom on board the ship named for his son

Editors Note: A very special thank you to Mr. Ed Carlson and Cindy Bird, Leonard's Niece, for their assistance in making this story possible. ✯

Members In The News

On 7 June 2004, the Auditorium in the Adjutant's General Building on Gowen Field was dedicated to Major General James S. Brooks.

General Brooks and the display in his honor

General Brooks began his military career in 1943. He went on to become a B-24 pilot and in 1974 was appointed Adjutant General for the state of Idaho. MG Brooks retired in 1985 with 42 years of service.

General Brooks is an ardent supporter of the Society and was one of our first Charter Life Members. Congratulations to General Brooks and thank you for all of your service and support. ✯

148th FA (WWII) Reunion Announced

Survivors of the 1-148th Field Artillery (WWII) will hold their annual reunion this year at the Reno Hilton Hotel in Reno, NV, Aug. 12-15.

Idaho National Guard members, past and present, friends, relatives, and interested parties, are cordially invited and would be most welcome.

For more information, contact Bill Heath at wahboi@rmci.net or phone (208) 336-5359. ✯

Most Wanted

- **116th Engineer related items from Vietnam**
- **133rd Combat Engineer Battalion items from WWII**
- **183rd/951st Field Artillery items from WWII**
- **Desert Storm field gear**
- **4th Quarter 1997 Newsletter.** Fred and Gayle recently inventoried their newsletter collection and discovered they were missing the 4th Quarter of 1997 edition. The plan is to have copies of all editions of *Pass In Review* available in the Museum's library.

Call to Arms - 1940,

Abridged History of the 148th FA, WWII, Chapter 1

By Bill Heath, 148th FA, WWII, 1st Lt. IDARNG (Ret)

With the number of surviving veterans dwindling daily, it seems an appropriate time for me to tell you about a bunch of Idaho lads I had the pleasure of serving with, in that mother of all wars – World War II. It is the story of the 148th Field Artillery, as told to me by the men themselves. The 148th, whose roots go back to the 1870s, is located today in Pocatello. As with other western-state Army National Guard organizations, the Idaho Guard traces its origin to the frontier days, when hostilities existed between the Indians and the early settlers of the west.

In 1926, the First Battalion, 148th Field Artillery Regiment, was organized and federally recognized as a part of the Idaho National Guard. Originally, Battery A was from Coeur d'Alene, Battery B from Boise, and Battery C from Payette. There was a Medical Attachment, also from Coeur d'Alene. Later Battery B became HQ Battery, and a group from Bonners Ferry became Battery B. In 1940, the 148th was enlarged by adding a new Battery D (St. Maries). Two existing troops of the 116th Cavalry (Lewiston and Moscow) became Batteries E and F. These units formed the basis for the Second Battalion.

War had broken out in Europe when Robert W. Posey and his brother Fred joined Battery B at Bonners Ferry on Sept 11, 1940. "The new recruits were my neighbors, friends and schoolmates," Bob recalled. When I told him in 1989 that I was planning on writing the history of the unit's activities in the war, he even remembered what was playing on the juke box at the Fountain Café that day: *Can't Get Indiana Off My Mind, Orchids for Remembrance*, and *Blueberry Hill*.

Jean Bachaud sent me a tape of his recollections. "I was not yet 21 years old in 1940. I was downstairs relieving the bartender, when in came some older boys, all from St. Maries. They were talking about joining an Idaho National Guard unit. There was to be a meeting, with the fellows being sworn in. That interested me, so the next night I went to the Legion hall and signed up. There was some question, since I was born in France, but I was accepted."

On Sept. 16, 1940, the 148th was inducted into federal service as an all-Idaho National Guard organization. Both battalions assembled at Fort Lewis, WA, and became a part of the 41st Infantry Division. That winter was cold, wet and foggy. The young men from Idaho lived in tents with wooden floors, and a single Sibley stove to keep them warm. Six men were in each tent, with army cots and foot lockers.

Rain or no rain, mud or no mud, they drilled with their 75mm guns (vintage WWI), marched, and practiced with pistols, rifles and machine guns. When, in the summer, it was really nice in the northwest and really hot in CA, the 41st Infantry Division went on maneuvers in CA. The guardsmen slept in pup tents among the scorpions, and ate from truck-mounted field kitchens. They drilled, fired their weapons, and participated in war games. Returning to Fort Lewis, vacancies were filled by Selective Service inductees, known as selectees, or draftees, or worse,

by the guardsmen. In time, the inductees would be accepted as artillerymen. Now up to full strength, the 148th Field Artillery was fast becoming a lean, mean, fighting machine, firing their 75s with deadly accuracy.

On Nov. 15, 1941, word came down from division HQ that the First Battalion was being ordered to the Philippine Islands, along with other Army units, to strengthen garrisons there, under the command of Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The Second Battalion would remain with the division. Two days later, 40 officers and 609 enlisted men, with their trucks, guns and equipment, departed Fort Lewis for the Port of Embarkation at San Francisco. Arriving there the men of the 148th (along with those of other units -- 2,500 in all) boarded the U.S. Army Transport *Willard A. Holbrook*. Willard A. Holbrook, the man, I learned later, was the general in charge of all Cavalry during WWI, and a member of one of the pioneer families of Boise. On Nov. 21, the *Holbrook* sailed out through the Golden Gate.

Editors Note: The Unabridged History of the 148th in WWII is available in the Museum library.

Footnotes:
[1,8] *Lang, Collins, White, Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1994, Vol II, pgs 455-456*
[2,4,5,6] *http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/leyte/leyte.htm (Center of Military History & National Archives)*
[3,7] *Courage In A Season of War, Paul H. Kelly and Lin H. Johnson, 2002, pg. 468*

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Editor & Production: Gayle Alvarez
Comments or article suggestions are welcome, contact us at 422-4841 or visit our web site at: http://inghro.state.id.us/museum/

JUST IN CASE Have you sent in your renewal for 2004? Don't forget, ***donations are tax deductible***.

IDAHO MILITARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
4040 W. Guard Street,
Boise, Idaho 83705-5004
Donation/Membership Application/Renewal Form

YES! Please enter my **tax deductible** membership application/renewal in the category checked below. I have enclosed a check or money order in the amount indicated.

INDIVIDUAL:

$ 25	[ ] General	$ 375	[ ] Lifetime	$ 10	[ ] Student
$ 10	[ ] Associate (Members Spouse)	$ 15	[ ] Senior (60+)		

ORGANIZATIONAL:

$ 500	[ ] Platinum	$ 100	[ ] Silver
$ 250	[ ] Gold	$ 50	[ ] Bronze

OTHER: (*Endowment, Contributions, etc.)*

$ _____ FOR: _____ **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $** _____

Name: **Phone:**

Address: ***(City, State, Zip)***

Interests: ***(Volunteering, Research, Displays, etc.)***

Idaho Military Historical Society
4040 W. Guard
Boise, ID 83705-5004

Heroic Past…Proud Future

[1] *Lang, Collins, White, Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1994, Vol II, pgs 455-456*
[2] *http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/leyte/leyte.htm (Center of Military History)*
[3] *Courage In A Season of War, Paul H. Kelly and Lin H. Johnson, 2002, pg. 468*
[4] *http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/leyte/leyte.htm (Center of Military History)*
[5] *http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/leyte/leyte.htm (Center of Military History & National Archives)*
[6] *http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/brochures/leyte/leyte.htm (Center of Military History)*
[7] *Courage In A Season of War, Paul H. Kelly and Lin H. Johnson, 2002, pg. 467*
[8] *Lang, Collins, White, Medal of Honor Recipients 1863-1994, Vol II, pgs 455-456*