

MANCHU DRAGON TALES



NINTH INFANTRY REGIMENT (Manchu) Association U.S. Army

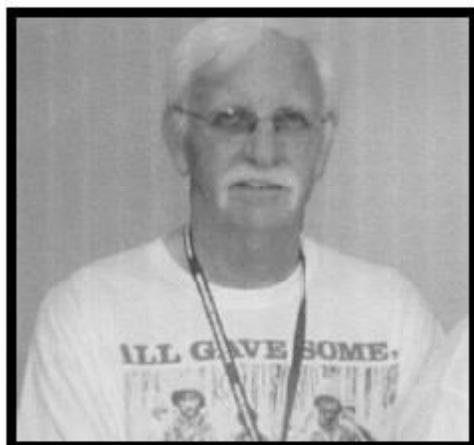


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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

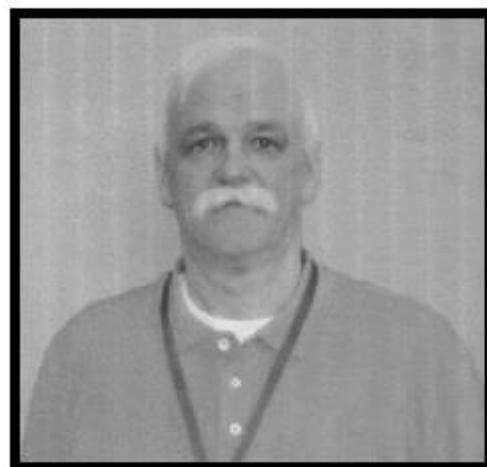


As I type this article I am watching the Alabama – Georgia championship game. It may take awhile to finish. Here it is a new year and so many things to look forward to. It was 49 years ago that I set foot on the soil of South Korea. It seems as if it was just yesterday. At that point in time I became a member of the 2nd Infantry Division. Shortly after that I became a MANCHU. I am so proud of serving in both units. I really did not know much about either. As time went on I saw many things in my tour. Just a country boy from Illinois and I grew up fast as most of you did. Went over as boys but came home as men.

During my tour we were on alert status a great deal. You never knew if Joe was going to Jump. Being north of the Imjin River for my entire 13-month tour one never knew what would happen. We were told if the North Koreans came south we stayed to defend. I guess we were a sacrifice.

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COMMENTS AND UPDATES FROM THE SECRETARY



Welcome to the New Year of 2018,

Well another year has come and gone; the association moves on also. We are in contact with our sister unit in Fort Carson, Colorado that just indoctrinated a new commander, Lt. Col David Uthlaut, who came to this command from the 75th Ranger Regiment. Welcome Aboard Colonel!

We also have been in communication with a senior Manchu, General Vincent Brooks, who now is in command of the United Nations Command, Rok-Us Combined Forces command, and U.S. Forces Korea. What a title!

I tried to go to our 100th reunion in Washington, D.C. but due to hurricane Irma no flights out !! Man did that suck.

The Association strives to move on to the future but again (this is an old song) we need the young bucks to step up to the plate and start taking the reins if we are to continue with this special organization. There is none like it and there will never be another one like it ever again.

Well that's all for now. **Keep up the Fire!**

ORGANIZATION REVISED & OFFICIAL

President	Roger Dyson
1st Vice President	Charles Groff
2nd Vice President	Ronald K. Price
Sec/Treas.....	Larry Ritter
Chaplain.....	Rev. James L. O'Brien
Sergeant At Arms.....	Mike Ardoin
Parliamentarian.....	Frank Kraft
Historians.....	Raymond A. Tarbusi Rolfe L. Hillman, III, Al Castilio and Larry Ritter
4/9 Manchu Liasison.....	Ronald K. Price
Public Information Office	Larry Ritter

MANCHU ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Association President; Members, Association 2nd Vice President, Past Presidents, Gil Blue, Ken Toeppe, 1SG (Ret), William Ditzhazy; Past Secretaries/Treasurers, Dante Degni, CSM Riley Miller, Oscar Fettig, Raymond Tarbusi, Wayne E. Stephens; and the following COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN: Constitution & Bylaws, Jack Woodall; Membership: Roger Dyson; Reunion, Charles Groff; Sunshine, Rev. James O'Brien; Budget, Larry Ritter/Roger Dyson.



Happy New Year everyone.

We start the new year on a very positive note. Our troops in the middle east are finally able to do their job, and doing a great job after all these years. With God's blessing I hope they will all come home safely. Florida has made a great change by putting the Congressman's office inside the Veterans Medical Center so when our Vets are having trouble getting the necessary treatments, they just have to go down the hall. The VA and our political leaders are working together in Florida. I hope all our Manchu's have a great year and I will be praying for everyone to have a safe and Happy Year. Keep up the faith and keep up the Fire!

Chaplain James "Obie" O'Brien

MANCHU MISSION STATEMENT

We members of the 9th Inf. Regt. (Manchu) Assoc. United States Army, pledge to preserve the history and name of the 9th Infantry Regiment, and to support the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; to support our Active Ninth Infantry Regiment (Manchu) soldiers and the United States Army Regimental system. We shall promote comradeship and esprit de corps among our members; set examples of unselfish patriotism, and memorialize the patriotic deeds of the members of the 9th Inf. Regt. (Manchu).

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I was told by members that attended meeting in D.C. that they had a great time. I was at home celebrating my 50th High School Reunion. I really enjoyed that. It was the first time some of us had seen each other since graduation. Out of our class of 85, 44 were guys and 24 of us served in the military. As Master of Ceremonies I acknowledge the veterans and had those in attendance come forward and gave them a lapel pin in recognition of their service. So many of the women did not know that we had served. They were so thankful for our service. One classmate retired as a Vice Admiral from the Navy. In high school we were both All-Conference Basketball players. What memories.

I think our reunion this year will be in Florida. Hope to see you there. We will have more info when it come available. Take care.

Keep Up The Fire!

Roger Dyson, President

In Memory Of Our Fallen Soldiers



A March to Remember

CELEBRATING KOREAN
COLD WAR VETERANS

March 23-25,
2018 at the
Hilton Garden Inn
in Statesville, NC

Join us
in celebration
of Korean Cold
War veterans
and their
service



See you there!

* Please wear casual attire *

Story Byline

by Ray Tarabusi

To have served in combat with the famous Ninth Infantry Regiment (Manchu) has been an honor. As an 18 year-old infantry soldier and part of the greatest generation was awesome.

After being called for service in August 1944 in Detroit, Michigan and sent to Texas for my basic training at Camp Wolters in Mineral Wells, Texas for 16 weeks of intensive training to be a Combat Infantry soldier.

After completion of the training, I was now ready for any Army Division that needed replacements. We were sent for a short visit home, then I had to report for shipment overseas in New York Harbor. I arrived in Northern Ireland at Belfast and found my new home with the great Second Indianhead Division and the even more famous Ninth Infantry Regiment. I trained with the Ninth for four months and on June 6th 1944 D-Day the allies landed in Normandy France on Omaha Beach. The second division landed on June 7th 1944.

I went in on June 12th 1944 with a group of forty men called the 7th Platoon, all of which were sent to different companies. I was sent in with I company 3rd Platoon. The month of June was very active and we were in constant contact with the Germans. We had a lot of activity. In July things began to heat up; every day we moved up to the action. In mid-July near Hill 192, the highest elevation in Normandy, the Ninth, the Thirty Eight and the Twenty Third Regiments attacked the position on the hill and after the second assault we took control of the hill gaining the advantage in that area.

Also at this time the fight for St. Lo was growing stronger and eventually the city was leveled. On July 26th the big push to break out from our position began with the British on the left flank and the First in the center. Also the Third Army on the right with General Patton we proceeded to move forward. On August 3rd, having been wounded for the second time, I was evacuated by a C-47 to Penny Ingham, England to recover with my wounds.

I was stationed there for four months. I was reassigned to a new outfit, the 66th Medical Depot, and stayed there until December of 1944, and sent back to the United States for discharge.



Raymond Tarabusi
Ninth Infantry Regiment

Remembering Moose

by Ray Tarabusi

That was his name “Moose” when I knew him back in 1944, as we faced the Germans in France. We called him that because he was the biggest man in our infantry company. I didn’t know his full name at the time, nor where he was from. He was just Moose to those who knew him then. This was not unusual, given the circumstances of combat. Moose had the distinction of being the most liked man in our infantry unit. He had a very friendly smile and was always ready to help his buddies. At the time, I was a rifleman replacement with the Third Platoon, I Company, 9th Infantry Regiment, of the famed 2nd Infantry Division, United States Army.

I have never forgotten my buddy moose, nor that day of July 15, 1944. I had reached my 19th birthday the day before. Our platoon had outpost duty in front of the American lines, keeping an eye on the Germans. They were about 100 yards or so in front of our foxholes. We could even hear them talking. Moose had the lookout post at the time, keeping a close eye on the enemy. He had been at that for over two hours and I was getting ready to relieve him. Suddenly a shot rang out and Moose fell back dead; a bullet to his head from a German sniper. A couple of minutes more and I would have been in his position, and it could have been me.

In later action, I was wounded in the foot and was never able to rejoin the 3rd Platoon. Though one day in January 1945, I did read in the military’s newspaper, ‘Stars and Stripes’ that the Third Platoon I had served with had been wiped out in a bayonet charge. Had I not been wounded previously and had still been with them, I would not have come back as well. I also felt that my chances of ever really finding out about the men I had served with would now be gone forever.

Over the years since, memories of my friend Moose and the day he died just would not fade away. Yet in 1981, I saw a notice in the disabled American Veterans magazine about a reunion of the 2nd Infantry Division being held in La Crosse, Wisconsin. I attended, but I didn’t know anyone at first; however, I did meet one of the men who also had served in my former I Company. But never did I come across anyone who had served in my 3rd Platoon until 1990. Five of us from the Third had actually survived because of being sent back for treatment of wounds before the platoon was wiped out. One of these veterans, Fred Walls, had known Moose’s real name. He told me it was Turner T. Terrell and he was a Texan. I then set about to find where in Texas Moose was from.

Sure enough Turner Terrell was listed in the 2nd Division’s memorial book of World War II as having been killed in action on July 15, 1944. From there I pursued a letter writing trail until I received the information about Moose that I wanted. His father’s name was John, his mother’s name was Mary, and he was from Graham, Texas. He was also buried down there in the Oak Grove cemetery. I was then able to get the Terrell’s phone number from the Department of Commerce in Graham, Texas. When I called the number, a brother came to the phone. Finally my search was over. I told him I was with Moose when he died.

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During the conversation I had stirred up memories of his late brother and he choked up and was unable to continue the conversation. His wife came on and I asked her more questions about Moose. She said that he hadn't previously heard from anyone who had served with her late brother-in law. Moose's father and mother had passed away years before.

All five of us survivors from the Third Platoon attended the next 2nd Division Reunion and we decided then and there to go to Graham, Texas to visit the Terrell family and the grave of our friend Moose. The special feeling all of us had that day when visiting the gravesite was overwhelming! We were finally reunited with our fallen comrade and brother. We paid our respects with one who was a dear friend, buddy, gentleman and great soldier in our Ninth Infantry Regiment; Moose so typified the spirit of this unit.

The day Moose was killed, he died within seconds and thankfully never suffered. He had left a troubled world to enter, deservingly a more peaceful and hallowed realm. The five of us who were his buddies at his gravesite; Fred Walls, John McCall, Henry Doer, Stanley Rogers and myself, will always honor Moose Terrell's memory. That day with and remembering Moose, we all had a sense that he knew we were there, was watching from above, and was happy that we didn't forget him.

Turner T. Terrell
Nickname "Moose"

Third Platoon, I Company, 9th Infantry
Regiment of the 2nd Infantry Division,
United State Army



William Drake

by Larry Ritter

Bill (as he wants to be called) was born in Brooklyn, New York January 26th 1923; began his career as a Manchu in 1940 in Fort Sam Houston, Texas at the rank of Sergeant. Then Bill was given the opportunity to become a pilot and went to flight school, graduated and was commissioned. He became a Bombardier-Navigator and was attached with the 68th Tactical Reconnaissance Group. The 68th group was a small part of the overall effort of the Office of Strategic Services to effectively promote behind the lines resistance to the German war machine by local populations and Guerrillas of any persuasion. The OSS eventually became the CIA. Bill was transferred to the 310th Bombardment Group upon arrival on overseas deployment.

Bill flew 41 combat missions and on that fatal flight got shot down by anti-aircraft fire on April 6, 1944. Then Bill spent the next six months evading capture, where he was shot down in Greece. Out of the seven crew members, Bill was the only survivor, so he was pretty much on his own to get back alive. This is all I will elaborate on this story because I would like the readers to go to our 'contributions' section at the manchuassociation.org site and read Bill's account of how it was for him. **The book he wrote is entitled "Down in Greece" a great story of one our Manchu warriors from World War II.**

On a personal note, Bill and I have been friends for a number of years and at our first meeting I made the comment and mistake of calling him Colonel. He wrote me a two page letter of why I didn't need to call him Sir and was adamant about it, so I resolved to call him Bill. He now lives in San Antonio, Texas and has two living sons: Tom and Jim.



Colonel William Drake
Ninth Infantry Regiment (Manchu)

AGENT ORANGE NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION FOR VIETNAM-ERA VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

SUMMER 2017

On March 10, 2016, a committee of the Health and Medicine Division (HMD) (formerly known as the Institute of Medicine) of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine released the report "Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2014." VA is currently considering recommendations from the report.



VA contracts with HMD, an independent non-governmental organization, to scientifically review evidence on the long-term health effects of Agent Orange and other herbicides on Vietnam Veterans. HMD determines whether the evidence suggests a relationship between the diseases studied and herbicide exposure.

In the report, the committee changed its category of association with herbicide exposure for bladder cancer and hypothyroidism from "inadequate or insufficient" evidence to "limited or suggestive" evidence of an association. The committee also recommended that Vietnam Veterans with Parkinson-like symptoms be considered eligible for benefits under the presumption of Parkinson's disease. For the birth defect spina bifida, this condition was changed from "limited or suggestive" evidence of an association with herbicide exposure to "inadequate or insufficient" evidence. The "Veterans and Agent Orange 2014" report is available at:
<http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/Reports/2016/Veterans-and-Agent-Orange-Update-2014.aspx>

HMD has also begun its eleventh review "Veterans and Agent Orange: Update 2017." As a part of its updated review of all potentially associated health effects based on the most recent additions to the medical and scientific literature, this biennial update will specifically highlight possible birth defects and other inter-generational health effects.

Agent Orange Information

Found at this public internet site:

www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/publications/agent-orange/agent-orange-summer-2017/reports.asp