

CALL ME SPEARHEAD

The Official Publication of the
Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans

Oct 15, 2005

Volume 23



THE TEXAS TANKER

BEYOND THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN GERMANY

Here in the mud and wind of approaching autumn, in a town which is clamorous with the crump of enemy mortars and the sigh of our own shells passing overhead, elements of an elite American unit, the 3rd Armored "Spearhead" Division, were poised, waiting for the word which would send them slashing into greater Germany. In the new attack, tankers of this big striking force would have one regret: that S/Sgt. Lafayette G. Pool, lanky, one-time golden glove champion from Sinton, Texas, could not be there to lead the assault. In an armored division which earned the name "Spearhead" the hard way, battling through France and Belgium, Pool distinguished himself for all time. When he was wounded recently, his commanding officer, Lt. Colonel Walter B. Richardson, of Beaumont, Texas, said: "Pool is the tanker of tankers; he can never be replaced in this regiment." The Colonel had good reason to make such a statement. During the great armored drives of the American First Army across Europe in the summer offensive of 1944, S/Sgt. Pool led his task force in 21 full scale attacks. He is definitely credited with 258 vehicles destroyed, 250 German prisoners of war taken, and over 1,000 dead before the guns of his Sherman tank, IN THE MOOD.

On a windy hill in the Siegfried Line recently, Pool cheated death again but, in the action he was wounded and so sent back to convalesce. His record, however, stands. He is America's first ace of tankers. He is a soldier's soldier. I heard Pool's story from a man of the old crew, a man who had been there when the final shell struck his tank. In an anvil clash of sound, a pungent, dark explosion laced with sparks, Jerry finally broke up the team of American kids who had harried him across a continent. "It was a lucky shot for Jerry. We were sitting around in the wet darkness, battling the breeze as all GI's do in moments of relaxation, and listening to Jerry's mortar fire punch the ground. A thin spatter of rain beat on the tarp over our heads. It was doughboy weather, mean and muddy". The big medium tank crouched in the muck, its

long 76mm gun peering around the corner, daring Jerry to come on. This was a road-block of the 3rd Armored Division. There was a screen of armored infantry out in front - brave men in wet foxholes. The doughs were old hands at this game - you couldn't see them and, excepting by accident, you couldn't hit them: they were too well dug in for that. But let Jerry attack and they'd be there all right, savoring the terrible exultation of the soldier who has suffered much and who hates the guts of his enemy. There was one man on guard in the road-blocking tank: the rest of the crew sat around under the tarpaulin drinking hot nescafé, and cursing each other amiably. It was dark, but you could see the guard in the turret, raincoat buttoned tight. He looked statue-like until he moved, slowly, like a mechanical man, to gaze carefully into the murky distance. Cpl. Wilbert "Red" Richards, a pint-sized GI from Cumberland, Maryland rubbed his eyes and wondered irritably "when the hell we're goin' to start moving?" Pfc. Bert Close, a thin, studious young man from Portland, Oregon, grinned and said: "Eisenhower's waiting for old Pool to get back. Can't spearhead without Pool." We'd heard a lot about Pool. In the armored forces there aren't many aces because everything works as a team. It's infantry-tank-artillery-airplane, and everyone slugging shoulder to shoulder with the next guy. "How about this guy, Pool?" we asked. "Was he finally killed?" "Killed!" shouted three voices in unison. "There ain't a Jerry shell in the world that could kill Pool or any of his crew. The best those squareheads could do was to wound him in the leg. He'll be back, and then God help the panzers!" "What was he like" we inquired. The redhead, Richards, sat up and squinted his eyes. He passed a hand through his flaming red hair and scratched his skull reflectively. "I was Pool's driver," he said, "and I guess I knew him as well as anybody in the regiment. He was a tall, skinny guy with a bent schnozzle. He got that in the golden gloves. Know what he used to call me? Baby! Imagine that! But he knew I could drive that old tank. He used to sit up there in the turret - you could tell Pool anywhere by the way he sat up there, more out than in!" "He rode that tank like a Texas bronc. Well, he used to sit up there and give us orders through the intercom phone just as cool and calm as though the big show were a maneuver. All Pool wanted was to get out ahead of the other tanks so he could kill some more Jerries". "You know, we had three tanks. Lost the first at La Forge, when a bazooka round hit us. The second got straddled with bombs at Fromental. Pool just got to hating the Germans a little more, if that could be possible. Of course the crew's all broken up now. Pool went back with that leg wound, and so did Oller. Bogg's eyes were irritated by dust, and he's in a rest camp. That leaves Close and me. We don't get no rest at all, do we Bert?" Faint skylight flickered on Close's glasses. He said dryly: "Ten minutes after Red left Pool's tank he was driving another one up front. The Colonel said: 'Richards, you want to go back?' That dope said: 'No Sir, Give me and Close another tank to drive.' The Colonel did just that. I was assistant driver - what could I do?" "You could see that Close hadn't wanted to do anything. I think Pool would've gone back himself if the medics hadn't held him down," Richards chuckled. "He hated Germans, and he thought that he could lick 'em all. The guys used to draw straws to see who'd lead the spearhead. Pool would have none of that. He'd just say, 'Ah'm leadin' this time,' in his old Texas drawl - and stand there, grinning, while we cussed him out." "But we'd go along just the same. By God, I think we were more scared of Pool than of Jerry!" "Remember?," he turned to Close, forgetting us entirely in the way of men who have waded through hell together, "Remember the day...."

So we just sat back in the wet darkness, with the rain on the tarp and the mortar fire for background, and listened. When the division - it was the "Bayou Blitz" then - was activated at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, back in 1941, Pool, a skinny kid from Texas, was right there in ranks. He came from the old 40th Armored Regiment, medium tanks, which was famed for its cadres, and he was a rugged Joe. He was over six feet tall, wiry, with the sloping shoulders of a boxer and a twisted nose to remind him of the golden gloves. There was the beginnings of a legend around Pool even then. He'd won the sectional 165 pound crown at New Orleans,

Louisiana, that year, but turned down an offer to go on to Chicago and the national final golden gloves tournament. The reason? Pool was a tanker first and a boxer second: his outfit had just been allotted a few of the latest medium tanks. In action, as in the ring, Pool punched hard and accurately. He hated German theory and believed that he could beat the Wehrmacht gun to gun, and man for man. He wanted tough assignments. He asked for the dubious honor of leading those powerful armored attacks which knifed through the Nazi legions during our summer offensive. Pool's crew was ideal for the task. Besides Richards and Close, there was Cpl. Willis Oller, of Morrisonville, Illinois, gunner and T/5 Del Boggs, of Lancaster, Ohio, the loader. Boggs fought with a special fury: he'd had a brother killed in the war. Oller, gunner of "IN THE MOOD" is alleged to have seen all of Normandy, France, Belgium, and the Siegfried Line through the sights of his gun! He was very quick and alert. Richards recalled a night when the spearhead had driven deep into German lines from Origny, in France. It had become quite dark when the order finally came to halt and coil. Pool opened his mouth to say - "Driver, halt", but found himself looking at a big Jerry dual-purpose AA gun in the gloom ahead. He said: "Gunner, fire!" And Oller, with his eye perpetually pressed into the sight, squarely holed the enemy weapon before the German crew could recognize the American tank. Night actions were commonplace to the crew of "IN THE MOOD". At Colombrier, France, Pool's leading tank almost collided with a Jerry Mark-V Panther, pride of the Wehrmacht. The Panther fired twice, and missed. Pool's single projectile tore the turret off the big German vehicle. Again, at Couptrain, the armored column reached its objective deep in the night. Besieged on all sides, unable to send help forward, Colonel Richardson listened to the radio report of the battle from Pool's vehicle. He heard the Sergeant say joyously: "I ain't got the heart to kill'em...." And then, over the airwaves came the mad rattle of the .30 caliber bow gun. And again the fighting Sergeant's voice "Watch them bastards run. Give it to'em Close!" Surrounded by dismounted enemy troops, Pool and his crew fought steadily until morning brought reinforcements.

The amazing score compiled by the Texas tanker and his gang is fully authenticated. At Namur, Belgium, they knocked out a record twenty-four hour bag of one self-propelled sturmgeschutz and fifteen other enemy vehicles. It was great stuff for Pool. He was proving to himself, and to the world, that the American soldier is more than a match for Hitler's "supermen." Again, at Dison, in Belgium, as the spearhead neared the great city of Liege, Pool distinguished himself. Acting as platoon leader, he characteristically decided to use one tank, his own, to clean out an annoying pocket of resistance on the left flank of the route they were travelling. After finding and destroying six armored infantry vehicles, Pool discovered that the head of his column had been fired upon by a German Panther tank. Hurriedly he gave orders to his driver to regain the column. Upon arriving at the scene of action he immediately observed the enemy tank, gave a single estimate of range to Oller. The gunner fired one armor-piercing projectile at 1,500 yards to destroy the Panther. The column went forward again. Pool at his accustomed place in lead. Although Lafayette Pool lost two tanks to enemy action, he remained as nerveless as a mechanical man. The crew drew added confidence from his bearing under fire and as a result they worked beautifully together. From the day of the great breakthrough in Normandy, they had smashed the Wehrmacht before them, burned its vehicles, decimated its troops. These men seemed impervious to German shells. Twenty-one times they had led the irresistible drive of the American armor and remained unscathed in this most hazardous task of total war. Now, after crossing France and Belgium, smashing the famous outer fortifications of the Siegfried line and taking part in the action which resulted in the capture of the first German town to fall to U.S. forces. Pool and his crew turned their faces toward greater Germany and the last round. The town was Munsterbusch, south of Aachen. Desperately, as the Westwall crumbled into ruin, Panther tanks of the Reich came out to duel with Sherman's of the 3rd Armored "Spearhead" division. Pool's tank, strangely enough, was

working as flank guard of the task force that day. Watchers, including his Colonel, who also rode in a tank saw the bright lance-shaft of German tracer hit the turret of "IN THE MOOD". The big Sherman faltered. Inside, Pool said calmly, "Back up, Baby." And, as Richards backed the tank slowly, the second shell hit them well forward. To Close, Oller, Boggs, and Richards, there was only the space-filling, bell-sound of the hit, the acid stench of powder and the shower of sparks. They didn't know that Pool had been thrown clear, his leg bleeding profusely from a splinter wound. Richards continued to back the tank, carrying out his last order from the Sergeant. Colonel Richardson saw the "IN THE MOOD" slowly reach a cut bank, tilt, and with the agonizing slowness of a nightmare, topple almost upside down. At that moment Oller felt the hot blood on his legs and knew that he had been wounded. Richards, Boggs, and Close were unhurt. All four men crawled out of their tank. Medical aid men had already reached Pool, now two of them came forward to attend to Oller. Pool cursed the Germans bitterly as the aid men bandaged his wound. As they placed him on a litter he twisted suddenly and said: "Somebody take care of my tank." Exit, for the time being.

Lafayette Pool, ace of American tankers. He thought he could beat Jerry. He did. He proved it so often that the record is an almost unbelievable document of total victory. In the arena of armored warfare, S/Sgt. Lafayette Pool, golden glover from Sinton, Texas, bowed out at a climactic moment. From the beaches of Normandy to the dragons teeth of the Siegfried Line he had been the point of the "Spearhead."

(For those of you who have thoroughly read through the site at www.3ad.org, this is not a new story to you. But many of you may have never read up on this man, and his story needs to be told. The following story is a reprint of what was in Yank Magazine, and can also be found in the WWII section of our website at www.3ad.org. If you have a historical story to tell of any period of the history of the 3d Armored Division, please consider sharing it with us so it can be preserved and remembered by all. Please send any stories to A3ADV, PO Box 158, Reinholds, PA 17569)

Commanders of the 3AD



Brigadier General Truman Everett Boudinot was the 6th Commander of the 3d Armored Division. General Boudinot Began his military career in WWI. He applied for a regular Army commission and became a 2LT of Cavalry on August 9, 1917. His first assignment was at Ft. Leavenworth, KS. He received a promotion to 1LT and CPT while serving with the 8th Cavalry in Texas. After the war, He became an instructor at the Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kansas. In 1923, he tried a short stint with the Air Corps, but then returned to cavalry troop duty. During his air service, he became a hot-air balloon enthusiast. In 1924, he finished second in the National Balloon Race by covering 1,039 miles in 39 hours, 11 minutes. He then requested to be detailed to the Signal Corps so he could learn about communications. He served a tour in the Philippines. His next assignment was as a student in the Infantry Advanced Course at Ft Benning, GA. He then returned to cavalry troop duty.

In 1932, while operations officer of the 1st Cavalry Brigade at Fort Clark Texas, Boudinot told some ranking officers during a briefing that the horse was "through" as an important element of warfare. His

comments did not go down well with his contemporaries. The events in Europe had made Boudinot increasingly concerned about the attitudes his superiors displayed toward modern mobile warfare. In 1934, Boudinot was able to begin acting on his belief that the cavalry should mechanize. He managed an assignment to the 463rd Armored Car Squadron at Fort McPherson, GA. Upon graduation from the Command and General Staff College in 1937, Boudinot was promoted to major and took command of the 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry, 7th Mechanized Brigade at Fort Knox. He did not feel the traditional belief in employing horse formations. He felt mechanized troops needed to be supported by infantry and artillery. Not everyone at the time appreciated General Boudinot, his was trying to evolve the military, but some felt he was more of a revolutionary, than an evolutionary.

After a two year stint with the Civilian Conservation Corps, General Boudinot returned to command the 2-13 Cav again. In August of 1940, he was promoted to Lieutenant colonel and ordered to the Armored Force Replacement Center. As plans training officer, he helped to organize and develop the training plan for the US Army Armored Force. In November of 1941, he was promoted to colonel and named XO of the US Army Armor Training Center at Fort Knox. He then assumed command of the 32d Armored Regiment, 3d Armored Division. He quickly bestowed the motto "Victory or Death" on his unit. It lived up to that motto over the rest of the war.

In 1944 at a pre-breakthrough phase of the Normandy invasion, he assumed command of Combat Command B. As head of CCB, Boudinot who was now a Brigadier General helped plan and carry out the great breakthrough, the pursuit across France, and the storming of the Siegfried Line. His cavalry units captured Roetgen, Germany, the first German city to fall since the days of Napoleon. General Boudinot commanded Combat Command B until through the end of the War against Germany.

General Boudinot assumed command of the division in June of 1945. He served as the division commander until June of 1945. General Boudinot remained in Germany, he was deeply concerned to the plight of the thousands of displaced Europeans and he gave his attention to that until he was ordered home in December 1945, to take command of Camp Hood Texas. He was seriously ill with a respiratory infection upon his return to the United States and stopped at Fort Myer, Virginia for a physical examination at Walter Reed Army Hospital. He died on December 21, 1945. General Boudinot was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. His wife lived until November 4th, 1975 and was buried with him at Arlington.

It is our intention to continue this series and do an article on each commander of the 3AD in the newsletters in the order that they commanded the division. Any information you would have available to help give proper homage to the commanders would be appreciated.

Spearhead in the News

WWII Legend Tells Hood Tankers 'Stay Alive'

"The most important thing for a commander to do is keep his crew alive," World War II veteran Lafayette G. Pool told the 1st Cavalry Division troopers gathered around him Thursday morning at Fort Hood. "You have to teach (the soldiers) how to kill... that's an ugly word, but there's no other way to stay alive," Pool said. The crusty old soldier and war hero came to his World War II unit again this week. He came to watch the troopers of the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, fire their M-1 Abrams tanks on Crittenger Range.

The Abrams is a bit different from the Sherman tank Pool commanded during the war, he said. The range of the M-1 is about double that of the Sherman, Pool noted, and the M-1's technology is highly superior. "Tank crews today have the technology to do what we had to do with our eyes and ears," Pool said. "We did very little fighting at night," he added. "I only fought once at night during the war, and I never wanted to do it again. Today, you have the thermal sighting capability that we didn't have." Despite not having such technology, Pool made a name for himself in the 1940s with his Sherman tank, nicknamed "In The Mood."

A native of Sinton, Texas, Pool fought with the 32nd Armor, 3d Armored Division, and remarkably led his task force in 21 full-scale attacks during the First Army's drive across Europe in the summer of 1944. Pool participated in the action that resulted in the capture of the first German town to fall to U.S. forces. At Namur, Belgium, his tank crew destroyed 15 enemy vehicles; at Dison, Belgium, they knocked out six armored infantry vehicles. The young Troopers with the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor, 1st Cavalry Division, learned about Pool in May when they were researching their unit's history. They learned that they had a bonafide hero in their background - a hero who, with his tank crew, destroyed 258 enemy vehicles and took more than 250 Germans as prisoners.

The 1st Cav soldiers found Pool at his home in Taft, Texas. In May, they brought him, now 67 years old, to Fort Hood, where he was thrilled to saddle up in an M-1 and take it for a spin. Thursday morning, on his third visit to the post, he climbed aboard a Hummer, which has replaced the Army's jeep, and followed a tank crew down the range. "That was beautiful! That was beautiful there!" Pool exclaimed as the gunner blasted a target. "Colonel, if we had the equipment back then that you have now, boy, we could have cleaned up." Pool told Lt. Col. Len Hawley, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 32nd Armor. "We trained a lot with the (war game) table and then we'd come out on the range," he said, "Your people have to hunt for their targets out on the range. That gives them a more realistic picture of battle." Hawley said that having Pool visit Fort Hood is valuable to the young soldiers, who can learn from the veteran's experiences.

"We're lucky that he's still alive and well and still has the spirit to be an inspiration to us all." Hawley said of Pool. "I want him to talk to the soldiers. He tells them the same kinds of things that I try to teach them. But coming from him, it's special - because he's lived it." Pool, a legend in his time, lost two tanks to enemy fire during World War II. He also lost a leg. After being medically retired from the Army in 1946, he was called back in 1948 to serve as an instructor. In 1952, he was promoted to warrant officer and was again medically retired in 1960. Although he received numerous awards for his military service, Pool has not yet received the Medal Of Honor, for which he was twice nominated. He did, however, recently receive the St. George Award, which he wore proudly around his neck Thursday. St. George is the patron of the soldier in general and of the cavalry and armored forces in particular.

Pool's wife of 45 years Evelyn, wears his Distinguished Service Cross around her neck. She also wears a Prisoner Of War bracelet which bears the name of one of her eight children, Jerry, who has been missing-in-action since 1970. Visiting the range Thursday was especially interesting to Mrs. Pool who said that she had never been near a tank before. "This gives me a better idea about what he went through during the war," she said. "I could only look at pictures before and try to imagine it." As he watched the tanks firing, Pool sighed. "I sure wish you had a spot for me Colonel, he told Hawley, "Because if you did, I'd be right back here."

Reprint from Tribune-Herald - Fort Hood Area - 1987, by Debra Fowler, Herald Staff Writer) It can be found on our website in the WWII section honoring Lafayette Pool. If you have a newspaper article to share with the Association in a future newsletter, please send it to A3ADV, PO Box 158, Reinholds, PA 17569

President's Letter

Fellow Spearheaders,

Great things are happening here at the Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans. You can be proud of your Board of Directors and their dedicated service to this association. We have just wrapped up the 2005 Annual Board Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, another good productive meeting in which we worked hard for the association. Recently we had our election of new officers and these are your officers for the 2005-2006 Board of Directors: Paul A. Smith, President; Dan O'leary, Vice President; Kevin Colson, Secretary and Dave Feller, Treasurer. Thanks to all of you who serve on the Board Of Directors. A lot of new things are in the works for the A3ADV so keep your eyes open and be a part of the excitement.

At this time I would like to thank one of our association members. Bill Ruth has been one of our greatest supporters and I must thank him for his behind the scenes work at this year's reunion. I will not go into all that Bill did, but know this; we really appreciate you working with the hotel staff to resolve some of these issues. Bill, once again, Thank You.

Spearheaders, I need your help in building this association. Every one of you knows someone who is not a member of the A3ADV who served in the 3d Armored Division. With your help we could double our membership over night if you will sign up one new member. Help me build the A3ADV and keep the legacy of the greatest armored division alive and well.

How many of you are using the Spearhead Forum Board on www.3ad.org? If you are using it, that's great, but we need more of you to join us on the forum board. Take a moment and check it out, there are a lot of subjects and conversations going on there that you might want to be a part of. So go to the website and get started today.

I would like your input on the association, so if you have questions or comments please feel free to contact me at president@3ad.org or send me a letter to:

Paul A. Smith
President, A3ADV
211 Amy Drive
Portland, TN 37148

Spearhead.

Sincerely,
Paul A. Smith, President
A3ADV

Spearhead Letters and Notes

Letter from Iraq

I am sorry it has taken me this long to write you. Your packages have definitely been a bright spot in an otherwise dismal time for me. It means a lot to know that people back in the states care as much as they do.

I believe that this war is like no other we have ever fought. As brutal as Vietnam was (and still is to those who fought it), their enemy was more organized and strategic than what we are fighting here. In Iraq, we are fighting a gang war. These insurgents are driven by centuries of hate and distrust. I see no end in sight for this conflict. I only pray that should I be blessed with children someday, they will never have to see war.

Thank you for your support and caring. It means more than you will ever know.

Semper Fi L Cpl. John M. Super

Memory Lane

I came over by ship. I believe it was the Buckner. It was a hell of a crossing. It took 3 weeks from Brooklyn to Bremerhaven. During the trip, we hit one storm after another. Almost everyone was sick and really had a bad time with sea sickness. I had never been on anything bigger than a row boat. After clearing the channel, we hit the "worst storm" the merchant marine had seen in 5 years, so he said. It turned out to be a hurricane. I had the wonderful duty of a dishwasher in the galley. By the time the storm hit, the ship was a mess. Everyone's vomit was everywhere. Most of the guys stayed in their bunks or near a fire bucket. The storm was so violent that we were ordered to stay inside and not go on deck. Ropes were strung on deck for those who did have to go outside. Since I was off duty, I crept out through a hatch one night and the wind was blowing like a banshee. Rain was coming down so hard, it felt like nails hitting your face. I held on to the ropes and looked out to sea. I watched in awe as a wave went from my feet to over at least a 4 story building, as the ship dropped in the waves, up and then down again. Stupid huh, but I was 17 years old, and you think your going to live forever. I pulled myself up the rope until I could see the bow of the ship. I watched in amazement as it went down, down, down, looked like it was going to sink straight down, and then with a stomach wrenching jolt started to come up fast. The waves breaking over the bow and coming back along the ships deck, ATME!! Well needless to say, this woke me from my wonder and turned to utter terror!! I turned around and still hanging on to the rope moved as fast as I could to the hatch. I don't remember how I did it, but I made it and shut the hatch just as the wave crashed into the door. I remember sitting there soaking wet, shivering, and thinking to myself "Wow, that was really something", then thinking, "That must be the stupidest thing I have ever done". Just then, one of the merchant marine crew came by and said "I must be lucky, or the biggest idiot he ever saw..."

Dennis Knight 3/33 Armor B Co. 1962 - 64



3d Armored Division
World War 2
April 1941 - November 1945

In 2004, the Association contracted military Artist Jody Harmon to design and produce a print honoring General Rose, and the 3d Armored Division Veterans who served in WWII. Only 200 of these prints have been made, and are all numbered. We have no current plans to produce more of them, so they are collectors items and will appreciate in value over time. If you would like to order one while they are available, we have included an order form on the next page. Or you may go to the website at www.3ad.org and click on store, and then misc items to order one via Pay Pal.



Association of 3AD Veterans Website Store

Miscellaneous Merchandise Order Form

Shipping Information

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 (STREET)

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Quantity	Item	Size	Shipping	Price	
	Ceramic Coffee Mug	NA	Free Shipping	11.00	
	Insulated Plastic Beer Mug	NA	Free Shipping	12.00	
	Association Pin	NA	Free Shipping	4.00	
	Association Challenge Coin	NA	Free Shipping	9.00	
	Cold War Challenge Coin	NA	Free Shipping	9.00	
	World War II Challenge Coin	NA	Free Shipping	10.00	
	License Plate	NA	Free Shipping	12.00	
	Association Flag	NA	Free Shipping	66.00	
	Bumper Sticker	NA	Free Shipping	6.50	
	Spearhead 4-Color Shoulder Patch	NA	Free Shipping	4.00	
	Association Embroidered 5" Patch	NA	Free Shipping	6.00	
	WWII Commemorative Print	NA	Free Shipping	50.00	
				Total Due	

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If paying by Check or Money Order, please enclose with form.

Mail this completed order form with payment to:
A3ADV Store
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PO Box 556
Waukesha, WI 53187-0556

Should you have questions regarding this order, please contact;
Dave Feller treasurer@3ad.org

Fundraising Drive

The Association of 3rd Armored Division Veterans pushes forward with it's Annual Fund Raising Campaign

To all my Brother and Sister Spearheaders:

Again, the time is upon us when each and every one of you is asked to consider a financial donation to further the efforts of your Association. These donations are tax-deductible, and are critical to the continued improvement of what the Association can provide for you, the Member. Without your help, we cannot function and grow, so I am asking for your continued support. Your generous donations in the past have been greatly appreciated.

Let me answer what I know is a common question: where is my donation going? The following should answer that:

1. **SERVER** – We are seriously in need of this; the technology is getting ahead of us to the point that a new server is no longer just an option.....it is now necessary to provide you with a quality website. Incidentally, plans are in the works to revamp our Internet Website and make it much more user-friendly. To this end we have an in-house Webmaster, Board member Daryl Gordon, who will guide this project. The server costs come in at approximately \$5,000.00.
2. **RESERVE FUND** – No organization can operate on a “shoestring”; there must be a “cushion” to provide for emergencies. Our mission here is to keep your Association financially solvent, and give it some “wiggle” room in the event of unanticipated expenses.
3. **DESERT STORM COIN** – There is a design in process for this long-needed commemorative coin. There are initial set-up costs as well as the cost of casting these coins. This memento honors you, the Veterans of this conflict that you so nobly participated in.
4. **NEW STORE ITEMS** – The effort and experience of the last 5 years have told us what you like and what you are not too impressed with. The Storekeeper is listening! It is his intention to take these lessons to heart and provide you with items that are obvious winners in your eyes. Additionally, we want to provide you with items of good quality, and of a design that makes you want for more.
5. **I.R.S. ANNUAL COSTS** – This pretty much speaks for itself; nobody gets out of this one. We are obligated to meet this responsibility in a timely manner. With your help, we shall do so!

The aforementioned items are our “Mission”. All of them are for one single purpose: the betterment of your Association as a whole. We are working to accomplish these tasks, and, with your thoughtful contributions, we will do just that. Please take a moment and consider what you can afford to contribute, and send it along to: **A3ADV, P.O. Box 526, Isle of Palms, SC 29451**

Optionally: You may wish to submit your donation on-line. To do so, go on-line at www.3ad.org and make your donation via PayPal

Your thoughtful donation will be the “bricks” with which we build the tribute to the legacy of the 3rd Armored Division!

On behalf of your Board of Directors, THANK YOU for your continued support of this fine Association!

SPEARHEAD!

Sincerely,
Phil Mitchell, Campaign Chairman
Member, Board of Directors
Association of 3rd Armored Division Veterans

2006 Reunion

Our 2006 Reunion will be held in Nashville TN, from July 19th – 22nd next year. Details and a registration for will follow in our next newsletter. You will also find information available at www.3ad.org in the reunion section. Please check out the reunion section of the website to keep up on details of this event as they are posted.

Membership Report

Total Memberships	955
Lifetime Memberships	316
Annual Memberships	594
Associate Memberships	20
Memberships inactive	<278>
Members who have passed away	<25>
Active Members	645

Recruiting

We need to ask all of our members to help recruit new members. While most of us have not been able to find friends we have served with, many of us have run across other 3AD veterans over the years. If we work together, we can find each other's friends. We have included a membership application on the last page of your newsletter, we are asking each Spearhead veteran to find one other 3AD veteran this year, and get them to join this Association. This is the fastest way we will be able to grow as a group, by working together. We are also working on some new ideas on posters, and information papers we would like to make available to our members. If you would like to receive material like that to distribute, please contact the Association Secretary at secretary@3ad.org, or write to us at Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans, Post Office Box 526, Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0526.



ASSOCIATION OF 3D ARMORED DIVISION VETERANS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____
(RANK - OPTIONAL) (LAST) (FIRST) (MI)

ADDRESS _____
(STREET)

(CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

TELEPHONE () -- () -- E-MAIL _____
(HOME) (OFFICE)

3D ARMORED DIVISION DATA

I AM A: 3AD VETERAN¹ FAMILY MEMBER OF A 3AD VETERAN NEITHER

3AD UNIT(S) OF ASSIGNMENT

	UNIT (ex. HHC/2-33 AR)	YEARS (ex. 1976-79)	ERA (check all that apply – check multiple if applicable for a single tour)		
1 ST TOUR IN 3AD			<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	<input type="checkbox"/> COLD WAR	<input type="checkbox"/> DESERT SHIELD/STORM
2 ^D TOUR IN 3AD			<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	<input type="checkbox"/> COLD WAR	<input type="checkbox"/> DESERT SHIELD/STORM
3 ^D TOUR IN 3AD			<input type="checkbox"/> WWII	<input type="checkbox"/> COLD WAR	<input type="checkbox"/> DESERT SHIELD/STORM

MEMBERSHIP DATA

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL: FULL (LIMITED TO 3D AD VETERANS)¹ ASSOCIATE

MEMBERSHIP STATUS: ANNUAL (\$25.00) LIFETIME (see schedule below)

Life Membership Schedule (rated by age):
 Through age 49: \$400 Age 61 – 65: \$175
 Age 50 – 55: \$325 Age 66 - 70: \$100
 Age 56 – 60: \$250 Age 71 and Up \$50

SURVIVING SPOUSE OF 3AD VET
 KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY (DUES WAIVED)

YEAR OF BIRTH: _____

NEWSLETTER PREFERENCES

In an effort to keep operating costs as low as possible and provide funds for better archival and web services, the Association would like to distribute as many newsletters as possible in electronic format. This will initially be in the Acrobat *.pdf format (the reader application is a free download and is already installed on many PC's). Text and images will display just as if you received a mailed copy: you can print an excellent quality copy of this newsletter on your laser or inkjet printer. Will you accept your newsletter in this manner instead of a hardcopy mailing?

Yes

No

PAYMENT INFORMATION

PAYMENT METHOD CHECK MONEY ORDER

Please enclose check or money order with this application. Credit card payments are not yet available.

Mail this completed application to the following address:

Should you have questions regarding this application, please contact of the following:

Association of 3d Armored Division Veterans
 Post Office Box 526
 Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0526

Kevin Colson – secretary@3ad.org
Paul Smith – president@3ad.org

¹
 FULL MEMBERS HAVE VOTING RIGHTS IN THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS SET FORTH IN THE BY-LAWS.



A3ADV Newsletter
PO Box 526
Isle of Palms, SC 29451-0526.