



9-1967

164th Infantry News: September 1967

164th Infantry Association

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The 164th INFANTRY News



Volume 3 — No. 7

September, 1967

Major General Gee to Address Reunion

Housing Information Valley City, N. D.

- Housing Chairman:
Vernon Nestoss, Box 897, Valley City, N. Dak. 58072 — 845-0300.
- Flickertail Motel
Single Room\$ 7.00- 8.50
Twin Room 7.00-10.00
Double Room\$12.00-14.00
- Bel-Air Motel
Single Room (One Person)\$ 6.00- 7.00
Twin Room 9.00-10.00
Double Room 7.00- 9.00
Room for Four 10.00-12.50-14.00
- Valley City Motel
Single\$ 5.00- 8.00
Double Room 10.00
2-Bedroom Units 10.00-12.00
Twin 9.00
- Mid-Town Motel
Single Room\$ 7.00- 8.00
Double Room 10.00-12.00
Family Room 15.00

- Char-Mac Hotel and Motel
Single & Double with Bath (Hotel)\$ 4.50- 6.00
Single & Double with Bath (Motel) 5.50- 7.00
(Continued on Page 6)

Register Now

Help the Committee out and **save money** by registering early for the REUNION. Registration fee is \$10 per person or \$15 a couple if paid in advance. Otherwise cost is \$10 per person.

Send check to Bernard Wagner, Box 872, Valley City, North Dakota.

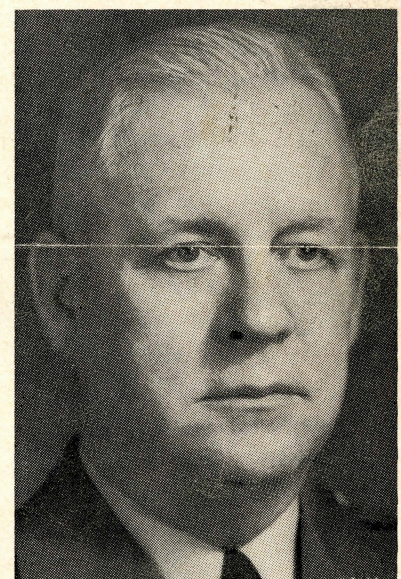
Registration includes: Banquet Tickets, Saturday Smorgasbord, Sunday Smorgasbord, Ladies' Luncheon, Friday Orchestra, Saturday Orchestra and Top Flight Entertainment.

SEND IN YOUR MONEY TODAY. If for some reason you are prevented from attending, your money will be returned to you.

Valley City Scene Of 25th Gathering

The 25th Annual Reunion of the Fighting 164th Infantry will be held at Valley City, N. Dak., Oct. 13-15.

General Gee, former commander of the 164th, now stationed at the Pentagon, Washington, D. C., will be the principal speaker at the reunion banquet.



Major General Gee

While serving with the 164th Infantry, General Gee was awarded a Bronze Star medal. His citation reads:

Lieutenant Colonel, Infantry, United States Army.

"For meritorious service in action on Bougainville, Solomon Islands. Lieutenant Colonel Gee, ordered to command a battalion on 24 January 1944, quickly transferred his enthusiasm and leadership in combat to his battalion personnel. During the operations for Hills 250 and 600, skillfully directed the employment of his troops, coordinated supporting fires on enemy targets, and his tireless efforts in the front

(Continued on page 5)

164th Infantry Assn. (1967) Reunion Schedule

- Friday, October 13th**
Registration Rudolf Hotel 2 to 5 p.m.
..... VFW Club Rooms 7 to 9 p.m.
Dance and Mixer VFW Club Rooms 9 p.m.
The American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps will perform
Prior to the Dance.
- Saturday, October 14th**
Registration City Auditorium 9 to 11 a.m.
..... VFW Club Rooms 2 to 7 p.m.
Memorial Service City Auditorium 9 a.m.
Reunion Meetings Auditorium Basement 10 a.m. to 12 Noon
National Guard Jet Flyover 12 Noon
Smorgasbord American Legion Club Rooms 12 Noon
- Special Meeting for Those Who Served During the Following Periods:**
Between 1935 and 1947 VFW Club 2:15 p.m.
Between 1948 and 1955 American Legion Club 2:15 p.m.
Vernon Messner — Co-ordinator
- Ladies' Style Show Eagle's Club 2:30 p.m.
Social Hour Elks Club 6 to 7 p.m.
Banquet City Auditorium 7:15 p.m.
Dance VFW Club Rooms 9 p.m.
- Sunday, October 15th**
Smorgasbord VFW Club Rooms 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Letters from Members of 164th Infantry Assn.

Dear Editor:

Enclosed is check for \$3.00 for my dues. Hope to see you at the reunion at Valley City this year. It was so nice to see so many last year at Fargo, especially from L Company of Hillsboro.

Dan Mojogdalen
Portland, N. Dak.

Dear Editor:

I received your letter of Aug. 13 a few days ago but have been delayed in answering it as we have been busy unpacking and cleaning house.

We returned Aug. 8 from a three-week trip to several places in California. In Richmond I had the great pleasure of a visit with my friend Wm. E. Littlehales and his charming wife.

Our next visit was at Santa Cruz where I met and had a good visit with James M. Connors and Leon Stuck, both former 164th members. I have a suspicion that I am indebted to friend Littlehales for that visit.

Later on, in Valley City, N. D., we were guests of Col. and Mrs. Ronald McDonald and I met several old friends who are former members of Company G.

I renewed my membership in the 164th Infantry Association as soon as I became aware I was delinquent. Have received the April and July issues and enjoyed them. This is the second year I have been in Valley City too early to attend the 164th reunion. When we get back to the old home town it has to be in the heat of the summer when most veterans take to cooler places.

Henry F. Halvorson
4531 Franklin Blvd.
No. 93
Eugene, Oregon 97403

Dear Editor:

Here's my check for three bucks, spurred on by Volume 3, No. 6 of the 164th Infantry News, a really outstanding publication.

I hope one day to make my first trip to North Dakota and renew old acquaintances in Company M of the 164th Infantry. I was with the 164th from March 1942 to March 1945, most of the time as a corporal.

With this fine, never-to-be-forgotten background, I find myself as senior advisor to the Provost Marshal General of the Vietnamese Armed Forces.

My year here will be up the first of November, too late for the annual reunion. Since my next assignment is at Fort Leavenworth, I will be there the next two or three years.

Keep up the good work!

Most sincerely,
"Steve" Stevens
Lt. Col. Richard R.
Stevens

Dear Editor:

Just under the wire to maintain my membership and hoping you all have a helluva blast at the Valley City reunion. I will have to be there in spirit only this year, but I have already determined that 1968 will see me at wherever in North Dakota the reunion is held.

The Association Newsletter is real good. My congratulations to the staff for the interesting items found there.

I note with interest the name of Lester (Pete) Kerbaugh relative to heading the smorgasbord committee. Could this be the Kerbaugh from old "E" (Williston) Company who was known to his many friends as "Squinty?" Some dimly remembered names pop up in the various publications and it always is a thrill to see that they are "still around."

I recall with much satisfaction the 1965 event at Williston. It was my first reunion and my first visit to North Dakota; being a Californian who hooked up with those "Renegades" in 1st Ordinance just before embarking for the Island Paradise world.

Johnny "Orson" Wells
Arlington, California

Dear Editor:

I am a former A Company member and in going through some of my things I found some pictures which I would like the Association to have.

I am enclosing three dollars (\$3.00) which will pay the sub-

scription to the 164th Infantry News.

Joel B. Grotte
Watford City, N. Dak.

Mr. Bernard G. Lyons
164th Infantry Association
Valley City, N. Dak.

Dear Bernie:

I send my greetings to all of my friends who will attend the 164th Infantry reunion banquet. I have enjoyed these affairs in past years.

It is fitting and proper that those who were privileged to participate and live through some of the most significant campaigns in our nation's history should gather to reminisce and rededicate our lives in memory of our fellow servicemen who are not with us today.

I will have to pass up this banquet because my duties as chairman of the National Governor's Conference, which culminate in late October of this year, will take all of the extra time I have. Perhaps, if invited, my wife and I could be present another year.

Sincerely yours,
William L. Guy
Governor

Enclosed is my check for dues for 1967 and would like a little information on hotel rooms and rates as we hope to be able to get down to Valley City for the Reunion if it is possible.

Keep up the good work on the News and hope to see you all this fall.

Harris Bingeman
Wheelock, N. Dak.

Dear Editor:

Greetings again. A long-time member of Company D stopped in to see me recently. He was with us at Camp Claiborne, La., and Pendleton, Ore. I told him of our 164th Association and he wishes to be put on the roster and would like to hear from the men of Company D and others.

Enclosed is my check to cover his dues. He is Alfred Lund, 305 South Davidson, Albany, Oregon 97321.

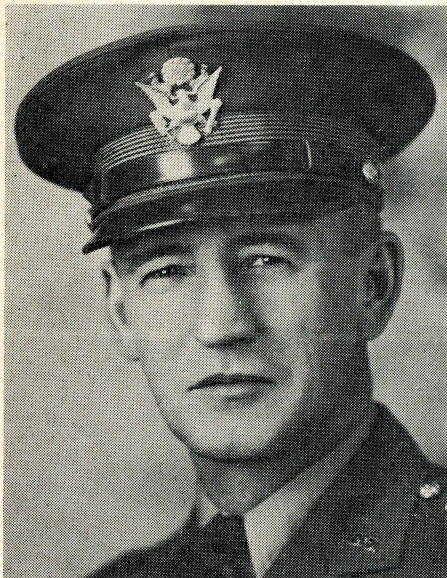
See you at the reunion.

Charles E. Schlieve
Leeds, North Dakota

Heroes of the 164th Infantry

Lt. Col. Robert K. Hall

Robert Kerr Hall was born at Fargo, N. D. 21 Nov. 1895. He enlisted in Company H, 1st North Dakota Infantry, National Guard, at Jamestown, N. D., 1 Oct. 1915 and was called into federal service 19 June 1916, for service on the Mexican border, where he served until the regiment was released from active service at Fort Snelling, Minn., 14 Feb. 1917. He reverted to his National Guard status but was called into federal service for World War I 26 March 1917, being discharged as corporal 14 Aug. 1917. He was commissioned a 2nd



Lt. Col. Robert K. Hall

lieutenant and assigned to 301st Infantry, serving in France. He was discharged 27 Oct. 1919 at Camp Dix, N. J.

Appointed 2nd lieutenant, North Dakota National Guard, 24 May

1924, he was assigned to Company H, 164th Infantry. Promotions came in this order: first lieutenant 10 June 1929, captain 28 Dec. 1934, being ordered into federal service 10 Feb. 1941, promoted to major, and lieutenant colonel. He commanded 3rd battalion, 164th Infantry, on Guadalcanal.

Col. Hall has the distinction of being the first and only officer of the North Dakota National Guard to receive the Navy Cross. The Navy Cross compares with the Distinguished Service Medal awarded by the army, and is second only to the Medal of Honor awarded by the United States. His citation reads as follows:

"For extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands, during the night of Oct. 24, 1942. Lt. Col. Hall, having been ordered to move his battalion to the relief of a marine battalion which was under attack by numerically superior Japanese forces, had his troops advance by forced march, at night, through rain and over difficult and unfamiliar terrain, to the assigned sector. He preceded the battalion, made a personal reconnaissance under heavy enemy fire and when the battalion arrived his leadership made possible the repulse of continued enemy attacks and the virtual annihilation of a Japanese regiment. His action was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service." Authority: Headquarters of the Commander, South Pacific Forces of the United States Pacific Fleet.

Col. Hall was a loyal, honest and trusted friend; a modest and unassuming officer; respected by every member of his command. His early training was that of a machine gun officer and he was an excellent horseman as well. His memory will long be revered by members of the 164th Infantry Association. Col. Hall passed away at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 1, 1962. His widow resides at 218 East 20th St., Costa Mesa, Calif.

Frank Richards

Frank Richards enlisted in Company K 1st N. Dak. Infantry, North Dakota National Guard Jan. 10,



Frank Richards

1916. He was called into active military service June 19, 1916 and served on the Mexican border. Discharged at Mercedes, Tex. Jan. 24, 1917, he enlisted in the Fifth Battalion CAC TM July, 1918, and served in the AEF during WWI, being discharged Feb. 1, 1919.

Richards was appointed 2nd Lt., 164th Inf., North Dakota National Guard Feb. 14, 1925 and had continuous service until again called to active service Feb. 10, 1941. He served on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands in WWII and as Battalion and Regimental commander in training camps at Camp Roberts, Calif., and Camp Blanding, Fla. He was relieved from active service March, 1946, and returned to National Guard status.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP and/or ANNUAL RENEWAL 164th INFANTRY ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code No. _____

DUES FOR 1967 — \$3.00, includes subscription to 164th News

Send to: Col. Anton C. Beer, 211 7th Ave. S.W., Mandan, N. Dak.

Heroes of the 164th Infantry

Again called to active duty during the Korean emergency Jan. 16, 1951, Richards served on the Army General Staff at Washington, D. C., and with the National Guard Bureau from May, 1953, to May, 1957. Returned to duty with the North Dakota National Guard, he was promoted to Brigadier General and retired Oct. 15, 1959.

Richards civilian occupation was a teacher of mathematics and administrator in public schools of Dickinson and the Dickinson State College. He resides at 146 West Fourth Street, Dickinson.

Awarded the Bronze Star medal, Richards citation reads: "For performance of meritorious services on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, on 5 Nov. 1942, when he displayed efficient leadership, and by his personal courage and exemplary conduct inspired a high degree of morale among officers and men in his battalion, thus contributing to its successful operation against the enemy."



Lt. Hugh O. McMillen
Lt. Col. Frank Richards
1942

David L. Wise

First Sergeant, Infantry,
United States Army

Awarded the Bronze Star Medal

David Wise entered active military service with Company F, 164th Infantry, North Dakota National Guard, Carrington, N. Dak., on 10 February 1941, and was later transferred to Company B with which he served as staff sergeant. He

now resides at Dawson, N. Dak. His citation reads as follows:

"For meritorious service in action at Bougainville, Solomon Islands, 1 April 1944. Under the hazard of darkness and exposed to enemy action, Sergeant Wise, member of a combat patrol, led a forced march of 24 hours over steep, tortuous jungle terrain to evacuate successfully four wounded members of the patrol. By his gallant leadership and personal example he imparted confidence to his group, exhausted by continuous marching and fire fight, and by his efficient guidance, he contributed materially in saving the lives of the seriously wounded."

Anton C. Beer

First Lieutenant, Infantry,
United States Army

Awarded the Silver Star Medal

His citation reads as follows:

"For gallantry in action on October 25, 1942, at Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. Lieutenant Beer, ac-

companied by two enlisted men, proceeded beyond the front lines to render aid and to bring back several wounded marines who were pinned down by strong enemy fire and cut off from their organizations. The deed was performed under heavy enemy fire and without adequate fire protection from their own lines. The three succeeded in loading several of the marines into a vehicle and evacuating them to safety beyond the lines."

Change of Address

We still find that a lot of our paid-up members are moving around the country and forget to inform the 164th Infantry News of that fact and consequently are not getting the News. The publication is mailed under a third class permit. This type of mail is not forwardable and if incorrectly addressed winds up in the wastebasket. Please notify your editor of any change of address.

Max W. Foerster

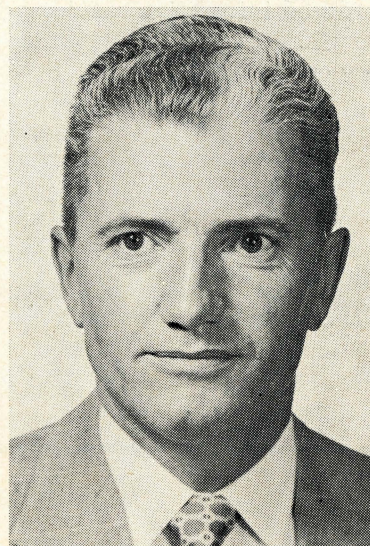
Private First Class, Infantry, United States Army

Awarded the Bronze Star Medal



THEN . . . NOW . . .

Max W. Foerster served with Company D, 164th Infantry, from 25 April 1941 to 3 January 1945, grade of corporal. He was wounded in action on Leyte, P. I., 21 February 1945, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart medal. He now is employed as an investigator with the U. S. Civil Service Commission and has been in that position the



past ten years. He resides at 105 22nd Avenue North, Fargo, N. Dak.

Foerster was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. His citation reads as follows:

"For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy at Bougainville, Solomon Islands, 7 August 1944."

Col. Paul G. Hedstrom

Lt. Col. Paul G. Hedstrom, 60, passed away at John Moses hospital, Minot, N. Dak., 29 August 1967, after a long illness.

Col. Hedstrom began his military career as a private in Company A,



COL. HEDSTROM (Ret.)

164th Infantry, North Dakota National Guard, at Bismarck, 1 October 1925. He was appointed second lieutenant 28 December 1934; promoted to first lieutenant 9 October 1940; ordered into active service 10 February 1941 and continued in active service until he retired in 1961.

During active service, he served in the South Pacific, Korea, and in Europe. He was awarded the Bronze Star medal and an Oak Leaf Cluster, the Presidential Unit Citation while serving with the 164th Infantry on Guadalcanal, the Korean Presidential Citation and the United Nations Service medal.

He leaves his wife Mabel and a host of friends and relatives.

Reunion Committees

Banquet: (Saturday, Oct. 14) Edmund Kramer, Chm., LeRoy Bauer, Harold Elias, Louis Hanson, Norton Tangen, Vernon Melhouse and Leo Schuler.

Publicity: Bernard C. Lyons, Chm., Victor Anundson, Vernon Messner and Ken Matson.

Distinguished Guests: Dr. Max Moore, Chm., Neal Tracy, Elmo R. Olson, David Winkler, Clair J. Cowen, Walter Winkler and Fred A. Abrahamson.

Meeting Rooms: Norbert (Duke) Thilmony, Chm., and John Loh.

Memorial Service: DeForest Peterson, Dr. John Goven and Dr. Neil Macdonald.

Saturday Luncheon: Lawrence Hull, Chm., and Ernie Schilling.

Entertainment: Ralph Metcalf, Chm., and Lee Holm.

Color Guard: Dick Kupitz, Chm., and Wes Maly.

Registration: Milton Kane, Chm., George Mackove, R. W. Carter, Jack Stephenson, Omund Jacobson, William A. Bettin Neal Emery, Ernest R. Feuerherm, Grant Holden, Arnie Kjelland, W. A. Leach, Jr., and LeRoy G. Mackove.

Sergeant - at - Arms: Dan Smith, Chm., and Ken Gulmon.

Ladies Entertainment: Gloria Nielson, Chm., Mrs. Vic (Charlotte) Anundson, Mrs. Erv Schmidt, Mrs. Rucile Koch, Mrs. Louis Hanson and Mrs. Bernard Wagner.

Smorgasbord: Lester (Pete) Kerbaugh, Chm., and Lester Ertelt.

Col. Hedstrom served as president of the 164th Infantry Association of the United States in 1963.

Housing: Vernon Nestoss, Chm., Box 897, Valley City, N. Dak. 58072.

Social Hour: (Elks Club 6-7 p.m., Oct. 14) Ralph Metcalf, Lee Holm and Harold Eberly.

National Guard Fly-Over: Col. Bernard A. Wagner.

National Guard Band: Col. Bernard A. Wagner.

Finance Officer: Col. Bernard A. Wagner.

Programs: Erv Schmidt, Dale Thorson and Hans Solheim.

Transportation: Carl Tait, Chm., Roland McCrea, Ray Braun and Bernard Swanson.

164th Colors: Sgt. Dick Kupitz.

Scrapbook: Mrs. Milton Kane and Mrs. Norton Tangen.

Fund Raising: Rheinhold Weber and Leo J. Beauclair, Co-Chm., Dale Thorson, Kenneth Bjornson, Vernon T. Gale, Mike Conlon, Erv Schmidt, Howard Brier, Martin Craft, Fred Jacobson, Jack Heimes, Olaf Norgaard, Vince Olson, Robert M. Englert and Eldon Korf.

GENERAL GEE . . .

(Continued from page 1)

lines provided continuous inspiration to his command. Entered the United States Military Academy from Virginia."

General Gee has been awarded many other medals and decorations during his military career.

Other distinguished guests to be present at the reunion are United States Senators Milton R. Young and Quentin N. Burdick, United States Congressmen Mark Andrews and Tom Kleppe, Adjutant General LeClair Melhouse, N. Dak. Department Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Lynn Amsden, Department Commander of Disabled American Veterans Harris E. Peterson and Department Commander of the American Legion Harry A. Kautzmann.

The reunion banquet will be held Saturday, Oct. 14, at the City Auditorium and will feature music by the old 164th Infantry Band, now the 188th Army Band, stationed at Fargo, N. D., and will be preceded by a jet fly-over by the 119th Fighter Group of the North Dakota Air National Guard stationed at Fargo.

The Last Roll Call

It has been reported that the following named former members of the 164th Infantry have answered the LAST ROLL CALL since our last issue was published.

COL. PAUL G. HEDSTROM, Ret. — WWII _____ Bismarck, N. Dak.

FRED HANNA — WWI _____ Lisbon, N. Dak.

KINSEY HUTCHENS — WWI _____ Hot Springs, Ark.

LT. COL. WILLIAM JONES, MB — WWI & II _____ Lisbon, N. Dak.

HAROLD OLSON — Korean Conflict _____ Bismarck, N. Dak.

Returned Mail

Lester Vale, Modesto, Calif. Insufficient address.

Arvid Honsvald, Bloomington, Minnesota. Moved.

Malcolm Walsh, Excelsior, Minnesota. Unknown.

Worth Emmanuel, White Bear Lake, Minnesota. Unknown.

Donald E. Lund, Wauheon Lake, Minnesota. No such P. O.

Ralph Gronvold, Butte, Mont. Insufficient address.

Paul F. Kercher, Seattle, Wash. Insufficient address.

Charles Foster, Fargo, N. Dak. Insufficient address.

Charles Foster, Fargo, N. Dak. Moved.

Mansil Watne, Fargo, N. Dak. Insufficient address.

Reinald Hieb, Goodrich, N. Dak. Unclaimed.

Delbert F. Bursaw, Grand Forks, N. Dak. Unknown.

LeRoy Koenig, Grand Forks, N. Dak. Moved.

Henry R. Newgard, Grand Forks, N. Dak. Unknown.

W. J. Tucker, Michigan, N. Dak. Moved.

Alfred O. Oss, Grand Forks, N. Dak. Unknown.

James R. Olson, Tioga, N. Dak. Unclaimed.

George E. Davis, Fargo, N. Dak. Unknown.

James E. Roseland, Opelika, Ala. Unknown.

RESERVATIONS . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Rudolf Hotel

Single (with shower) \$ 4.75

Double (with shower) 6.75

Single (with bath) 5.00

Double (with bath) 6.50

Twin Bed 5.00- 7.25

Single (without bath) 3.25

Double (without bath) 5.00

Five dollar deposit must accompany request for reservations.

“Early Birds” Have Paid Their 1968 Dues

Herman Brocopp, Anton C. Beer, Willard Anderson, Marion D. Avery, Phil Christopherson, John W. Fern, Ted Fortin, F. W. Greenagel, Warren Gilbertson, Morris H. Horwitz, Cliff Jansonius, Lester W. Kerbaugh, Joe Kennedy, Edmund J. Kramer, Hershel Larson, W. T. (Bill) Lawlor, Helmer Mohagen, Lyle F. Mallet, H. C. McCready, Rex Nelson, Franklin W. Patten, William A. Parker, Robert Baird, Alvin Feickert, Frank Reardon, W. W. Renke, Dr. Morris W. Stroud, Dr. George Schatz, Lt. Col. Richard R. Stevens, Walter Stopfer, Col. W. J. Smith, Erwin J. Schmidt, Chas. E. Schlieve, Clarence E. Swanson, Zane D. Taylor, Neil M. Tangen, Fred Wanner and E. F. Welch. Those attending the reunion must have a paid-up 1967 card.

Guadalcanal 25 December 1942



Enjoying a hot Christmas dinner are, left to right: Lt. Col. Cecil O. Ferguson, 2nd Lt. Gerald J. O'Keefe, 2nd Lt. Walter R. Abbott, Lt. Col. Frank Richards and 2nd Lt. Henry T. Brown. Notice the small coffee grinder.

For Reunion Information

BERNARD WAGNER

Box 872

Valley City, North Dakota

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COL. H. A. BROCOPP (Retired),
Editor

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