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Spring 2023



THE SIGHTSEER



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NEW GUINEA • LUZON

KOREA • ALASKA

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE 6TH INFANTRY DIVISION, INC.

Featured in this Newsletter:

In this Issue:

The 63rd Infantry Regiment's Luzon Operation Report 1945

<https://www.6thinfantry.com/63rd-infantry-regiment-luzon-operations-report/>

"THE SIGHTSEER"

National Association
of the 6th Infantry
Division

Vol. #46-1, Spring 2023

Editor: Thomas Price

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MESSAGES

From the President:

Roger Copinger, President (Co F Co, 63rd Inf Reg.)

My thanks to the Second-generation Sixers will hold office, do the work and time necessary to make the Association a viable organization. I speak for the surviving members and their families and expressing my gratitude for the work they are doing.

Their work and preserving memorabilia, written records and reports provide unique resource for surviving members, historians, history buffs, descendants, and relatives of those of us who served in the 6th Infantry Division. I encourage officers and hopefully others to continue these efforts to preserve and connect to an unparalleled period in American history.

From Thomas Price-Editor/ Website Historian:

In this Spring Sightseer I have included the 1945 Luzon Operational Report of the 63rd Infantry Regiment. This was obtained via assistance from Golden Arrow at www.goldenarrowresearch.com. A link to the report, included with this Sightseer, details that part of the Luzon operation in which the 63rd Infantry Regiment participated.

Our primary tool for historic preservation and education is our website which I hope that all of you have the opportunity to visit frequently.

It is important that you tell us your stories so that we can preserve and share them.

Many of you have stories to tell us. I encourage you to get in touch with us and get involved helping to preserve and expand our resources for doing so.

Your support continues to be vital and your contributions including your time, and your irreplaceable stories of service or those of your family members continues inspire us all. The 6th Infantry Division's Sightseers will not fade away.

You can contact me at: admin@6thinfantry.com, or me or Danny Thomas at: info@6thinfantry.com.

Thomas Price, Editor Website Historian,(son of Robert E. Price, 63rd Inf Co D, L & Hq)

NATIONAL OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Sept. 2020 to Sept. 2021

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Groff, Robin (Son of Robert Groff, Co L. 63rd Inf),

SGT.-AT-ARMS

Groff, Kelly (Son of Robert Groff, Co L 63rd Inf.),

The Report of the 63rd Infantry Regiment concerning the Luzon Campaign (in five parts) can be found here:

<https://www.6thinfantry.com/63rd-infantry-regiment-luzon-operations-report/>

The report was located and scanned through the services of Golden Arrow Research. I worked with Geoff Gentilini, Director | Lead Researcher. The website and details regarding their services can be found here:

<https://www.goldenarrowresearch.com>

TAPS, REST IN PEACE,
DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE WHO SERVED IN WAR AND PEACE.



- To all our fallen comrades and supporters over the last 83 plus years of the Sightseer and the last

100 year of the 6th Infantry Division of the United States Army



L-R Will Gerrish (Co. D 63rd Inf.), Bob Beutlich (Co L 63rd Inf), Virgil Halberg (HQ/HQ Btry 80th FA) and Milt Galke (Serv. Co 1st Inf), present Bob Beutlich with a plaque recognizing his years of service as Sec/Treasurer/Editor of the Sightseer.

Sadly, none of these vets of the 6th Infantry Division are with us today.

DONATIONS



Thanks to all those who have donated to our organization over the many decades of our existence.

JEEP TRACKS



Many of you have contributed your stories and offered question or insights to our website concerning the history of the 6th Infantry Division. Some of those questions we have been able to answer. Here is one of them:

My great Uncle was Enos Wagner. The info I have is: WAGNER, Enos L, Private First Class, 63rd Infantry Regiment, 6th Infantry Division, U.S. Army, Service# 33483146, Enl: Pennsylvania, d. 18-Jan-1945, Plot: D, Row: 7, Grave: 46, World War II, Purple Heart.

From what my Father and Grandfather have told me that he was killed by a mortar shell and died instantly. His friend came to visit my Great Grandparents and told them this information. My Grandfather said they never received his Purple Heart medal. On this memorial day I think of him even never knowing or having seen him. Any information anyone could come up with would be appreciated.

Thank You,
Matt Wagner

Mr. Wagner:

Thank you for your contact. According to the book entitled, "The 6th Infantry Division in World War II," your great uncle was killed toward the end of the battle on Luzon known as "The Purple Heart Valley Campaign." You can find the account here: <https://www.6thinfantry.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/0374.pdf>.

In that battle, fought soon after the landing at the Lingayen Gulf, the 63rd Infantry Regiment took very heavy casualties, but ultimately achieved its objective. Someone in your family either had a copy of his discharge papers, or is entitled to them via "Standard Form 180." <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/standard-form-180.html>.

Discharge papers would tell you the specific company in which he served as well as medals to which he is entitled. Next of kin would be entitled to those medals. A request for replacement medals can be made via his discharge papers. The name of the company would help you narrow the scope of your search for records including after action reports. After action reports may be obtained via a professional service searching the national archives.

I hope that this is of assistance.

Sincerely,

Thomas Price

MAIL CALL!

admin@6thinfantry.com

If you have photographs,
those need to be screened
by the administrator and
must be relevant to the
history of the 6th Infantry
Division.



Infantry Soldiers and tank on a road in Northern Luzon--1945

To All Members of the National Association:

We need your input. Please consider contributing to the National Association of the 6th Infantry Division including financial contributions and assistance with service on our Board of Directors. We value your service to keeping this story alive for future generations.



NOTICE TO ALL CURRENT MEMBERS AND ALL PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS:

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS A DONATION TO OUR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND ENTITLES YOU TO A VOTE ON MATTERS SPECIFIC TO THE RIGHTS OF MEMBERSHIP INCLUDING ELECTING THE BOARD.

Membership is entitlement to a vote.



**6th Infantry Division Soldiers on the beach
at Sansapor, Irian Jaya (then West Dutch New Guinea) in 1944**