



# 50TH WORLD WAR II ANNIVERSARY

## Coming home fondest memory for veteran

By SHARON HAYNES  
T-R Staff Correspondent

"Welcome home, boys! Welcome home." Those words, spelled out in huge white rocks off the coast of Coney Island, N.Y., were a most memorable sight on Oct. 8, 1945, for **Jerald Haney** of Mineral City.

**Haney** was returning home from overseas, after serving his country at war for a year and a half. "I knew how Columbus must have felt when he discovered America. He got off his ship,

knelt down and kissed the ground. That's exactly what I felt like doing," **Haney** said.

Drafted on April 28, 1942, **Haney** first went to Fort Hayes in Columbus. After he scored high on a test for mechanics, he was sent to Aberdeen, Md., for training as an auto-wheel mechanic. From Maryland, **Haney** went to Fort Knox, Ky. for more mechanical training on heavy equipment. On June 6, 1944, **Haney** left New York for Glasgow, Scotland. "We went over in luxury on the Queen Mary. I had to sleep in the

swimming pool, but there wasn't any water in it," he said with a grin. "There were so many men on board that cots were placed in the swimming pool for us to sleep on. It took us six days to get to Scotland."

On a map that all soldiers in his division received after the war, **Haney** traced the journey of his outfit, the 7th Armored Division. After landing in Scotland, the troops moved on to England. "When we got to England, everything was completely black. Windows were darkened so that no light could shine through. The Germans would fly over and anywhere they saw light, they would drop a bomb," **Haney** said.

From England, the 7th Armored Division boarded Landing Ship-Tank boats and sailed to France. The LST boats were designed so that the front part of the boat dropped down. The boat could then be maneuvered close to the shoreline, making it possible for the troops to unload quickly, **Haney** explained.

France was in shambles when the 7th Armored Division arrived. Photographs that **Haney** had taken showed crumbled

buildings. "The Germans had all the technology. They were dropping bombs on people who were trying to fight them with pitchforks and clubs. In France, you would see artillery being moved by cow and wagon," **Haney** said.

One of the worst things that **Haney** recalls was crossing the Baltic Sea. "The Baltic Sea was frozen solid. We rode a train across the ice. You talk about somebody who was scared to death!"

**Haney** was wounded during the war, but did not want to go into detail about it. While recovering at the hospital, it was deemed that either he or his friend could go home. **Haney**, knowing that his friend had a wife and children waiting for him, volunteered to stay. He was sent to the front lines.

"You know, after seeing all those guys wounded and dying at the hospital, I decided to really dig in my heels. I wasn't only fighting for my country anymore. I was fighting for those guys, too."

Finally, **Haney's** duty was done. It was his time to come home. "It took us six days to get

over there and 18 days to come home. I went overseas in luxury and came back on a cattle boat," he said. "I was sick all the way back. But then I saw those words, 'Welcome home, boys' ... you couldn't imagine what that felt like. When we were getting off the boat, the confetti was so thick, you'd have thought it was a blizzard."

For his service to his country, **Haney** received a Purple Heart, Good Conduct and European African Middle Eastern Service medals and four Bronze Service Stars.

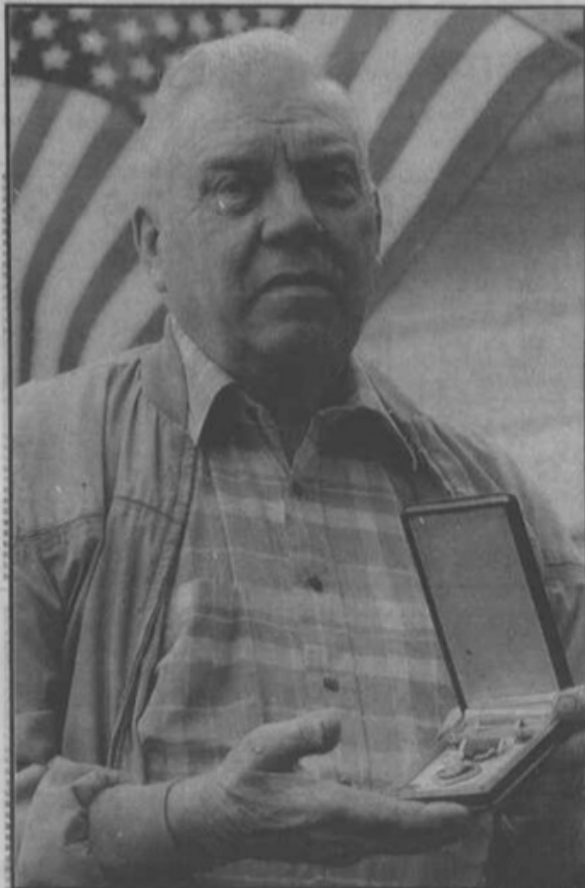
Waiting for him at home was his sweetheart, Helen, the same sweetheart that he has now been married to for 49 years. Among the cards and letters that Helen received during the war was a "ration card." "You know during the war everything was rationed - eggs, butter, milk, gas. You received a card and you could exchange that card for whatever it said, like a dozen eggs or a pound of butter. Well, this is the ration card that **Jerald** sent me," Helen said, giggling. On the outside of the card was a 'Betty Boop'-looking character. On the inside were the words, "This ration card

entitles you to four hugs and kisses."

**Haney** continues to serve his country and his community through various activities as a member of the American Legion Carr Bailey Post of Mineral City. **Haney** had been a member for 47 years and served as the post's commander for three consecutive years. **Haney** also served as a member of the village council for six years. Helen and **Jerald** have five children, Martha Beatty, **Jerald Jr.**, and Kenneth of Mineral City, Helen Marie Libbey of Texas and Marla Kay Taylor of North Carolina. The Haney's also have nine grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

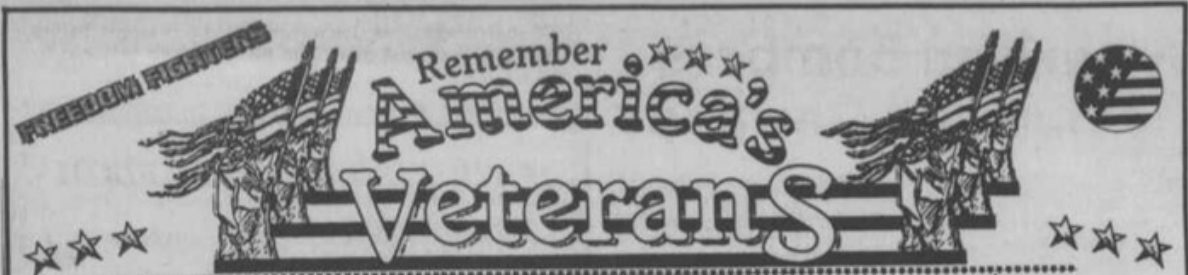
At Thanksgiving, Pfc. Jonathan **Haney** will be coming home to visit with his grandparents. Jonathan is stationed at Fort Carson, Colo. Like his grandfather, Jonathan is a soldier in the United States Army. "He calls every Wednesday and Sunday," his proud grandfather exclaimed. "Helen and I are really looking forward to seeing him at Thanksgiving."

Then it will be "Welcome home, Jonathan. Welcome home."



T-R/Jon Conklin

**Jerald Haney** of Mineral City was wounded and received a Purple Heart during World War II.



<p>A Salute To <b>WILLIAM MARK LAUGHLIN</b> We Salute You. Pete and Gracie Kinsey Larry and Linda McCleary Bub and Ronna McKibben Pat and Tom Wells Jon and Beth Kinsey</p>	<p>In Loving Memory Of <b>PAUL SMITH</b> Who Passed Away January 8, 1982 God took him home, it was His will. But in our hearts we love him still. His memory is as dear today. As in the hour he passed away. We often sit and think of him. When we are all alone. For memory is the only friend. That grief can call its own. Sadly Missed By, Loving Wife, Brothers And Sisters</p>	<p>In Loving Memory Of <b>CECIL NICHOLSON</b> Who Passed Away 02-15-93 God took him home, it was His will. But in our hearts we love him still. His memory is as dear today. As in the hour he passed away. We often sit and think of him. When we are all alone. For memory is the only friend. That grief can call its own. Sadly Missed By, Your Loving Daughter And Family</p>	<p>A Salute To <b>KENNETH POLEN</b> Who Passed Away Nov. 14, 1992</p>  <p>We think of him in silence. No eyes can see us weep. But still within our aching hearts. His memories we keep. Love &amp; Miss You More Everyday, Wife, Jean &amp; Family</p>	<p>A Salute To <b>PAUL GHEZZI TOM GHEZZI JIM KINSEY</b> From Your Family</p> <p>In Loving Memory Of <b>CARL S. SOWERS</b> Who Passed Away September 14, 1977 Who served in the South Pacific During World War II. Loved and Missed By, Wife, Children, and Grandchildren.</p>	<p>A Salute To <b>BERNARD (BUD) COURTWRIGHT</b></p>  <p>You fought valiantly so many years ago to protect the freedom so dear to us. We want you to know that it means more to us now than ever before. With All Our Love, The Courtwright Family, Brothers, Sisters.</p>
<p>A Salute To <b>JACK N. FORD</b></p> 	<p>In Loving Memory Of <b>DONALD E. COVENTRY</b> Who Passed Away Sept. 11, 1989</p>	<p>A Salute To <b>MICHAEL W. STROPKY</b></p>	<p>A Salute To <b>HARRY E. BROWN</b> Who Passed Away May 25, 1994 Husband-Father-Grandad</p>		

**Army Exchange Service**  
**SNACK BAR**

**1 Mark**

Molt Den  
Camp Groh



THE ARMORED SCHOOL  
Fort Knox, Kentucky

GOOD CONDUCT  
CLASS "A" PASS

6 Aug 1943

1st Lt. Gandy, Gerald W. 35378689

(Grade) (Name) (A.S.N.)

is authorized to be absent from his organization and from the reservation of any time when not on duty, but for a period not to exceed 36 hours. Holder must remain within 50 miles of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Gerald W. Gandy  
(Signature of company commander)

Commanding, 1st Co. 1st Bn. 1st Div. A.S.

AFS Form No. HQ-8-217

Army Exchange Service  
SNACK BAR  
1 Mark

UNLISTED MAN'S IDENTIFICATION CARD  
European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army

Is to identify Gerald W. Gandy

whose description and signature appear herein, as a member of the United States armed forces, serving in the European Theater of Operations

Grade 1st Lt. No. 35378689 Race White

Home address Box 35, N. Cumberland, Ohio

Birthdate 27 Aug 1919 5 114

Weight 166 lbs. Height 5 ft. 114 in.

Color hair Br. Color eyes Blue Complexion Br.

Scars or distinguishing marks \_\_\_\_\_

Gerald W. Gandy  
(Signature)



MESS PASS  
ORDNANCE TRAINING BATTALION  
ORDNANCE REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER

This pass entitles the man whose name appears below, to eat in this mess.

166 Co. C, 5th Bn.

NAME ORGANIZATION

WILLIAM J. GOS 2

1ST LIEUT., ORD. DEPT. WJG

COMMANDING

This pass must be turned in to the organization commander upon any change of organization assignment or when bearer is placed on separate ration status.

ADOC 200



Army Exchange Service  
SNACK BAR  
1 Mark

WOLF Den  
Camp Groh

FORT MEADE

PITTSBURGH

NEW YORK

DETROIT

CHICAGO



# 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REUNION

August 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 1952

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOTEL

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion of the SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISION ASSOCIATION

HOTEL STATLER

August 27, 28 and 29, 1954

Detroit, Michigan

SEVENTH ARMORED  
DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
Eighth Annual Reunion

STATLER HOTEL  
AUG. 27-29, 1954

10th Anniversary of  
7th Armored Division

ARMY

U.S.

Name and Rank of Owner *John H. ...*  
 of Service *...*  
 Date *3/22/44* *...*

**CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVING OFFICER**

I certify that I have inspected the contents of the property of the individual and above and to determine whether the contents are the property of other persons and that no articles of property are being distributed, except those which are being distributed in accordance with the provisions of the War Relocation Authority Act.

No. Registered *...*  
*...*  
 (Date) *...*



**Merry Christmas**



*From the Officers and Men*  
 of  
**COMPANY A**



COMPANY

MORNING REPORT

RESTRICTED

1 Mile SW Asten, Holland, 2 Oct

STATION US 6115 Nord De Duerre

ORGANIZATION Co A 129th Ord Maint Bn

SERIAL NUMBERS

NAME

GRADE

31 196 077 Benedict

32 228 320 1st Force

33 378 689 Haney

Remark of 1 Oct 44 on above 3 BH 1a

replaced in its entirety.

32 228 320 01 Force (ASN 966)

Duty to LIA and lost to 54th Bred Hoop 28 Sep 44

31 196 077 Benedict

33 378 689 Haney

Above 2 Men duty to LIA and lost to Hoop Unknown 28 Sep 44

36 187 210 Putkowski

Duty to LIA 28 Sep 44

RECORD OF EVENTS

Qualities of 28 Sep 44 occurred in Locust, France.



ARMY

CUSTOMS DECLARATION

I declare that all items in this container consist of personal or household effects either taken aboard by me or acquired abroad for my personal use, except the following:

(Here list items  
or write  
"No exceptions"  
as appropriate)

*No Exceptions*

U. S.

*Jerald W. Haney*  
(Signature)

(Over)

*T/6 35378689*  
(Rank & ASN)

*Sept. 11, 1945.*  
(Date)



ARMY

Name and Rank  
of Owner

*Terald W. Money T/3*

ASN *35378684*

Organ-  
ization

*11p "A" 87th Cav. Regt. Sgd*

CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTING OFFICER

I certify that I have inspected the contents of this container, property of the individual named above; that it does not contain unauthorized Government property or other prohibited items and that existing regulations with reference to disinfection, weight, keys, tagging and certificates have been complied with.

*No. Restricted Items.*

Date *Sept. 11, 1945.*

(Over)

*[Signature]*

*1st Lt. [Signature]*

Inspection Officer

WD., A. G. O.  
FORM NO. 53-2  
1. Dec. 1944.

U. S.



5 MAR '45

Issued.....by.....  
(Co.) (No.) (Tr.) (Signature of Issuing Officer)

.....  
(Name)

.....  
(Rank)

.....  
(Branch)

Loss of this card will be reported immediately to the C.O. of the individual named herein.

The finder of a lost card will please return it to Headquarters, SOG, STCUSA, APO SF, U.S. Army.

This card is void if altered in any manner, unless such alterations are initiated by the responsible officer.

Identification Card No

**S**

**659083**

(GPO) H.Q. STCUSA, (FORM 2107)

# ENLISTED MAN'S IDENTIFICATION CARD

European Theater of Operations, U.S. Army

This is to identify

Gerald T. Haney

whose description and signature appear hereon, as a member of the United States armed forces, serving in the European Theater of Operations

Grade Tec 4 ~~4~~ 35378689 Race White

Home address Box 36, N. Cumberland, Ohio

Birthplace

Birthdate 27 AUG 1919 5 11

Weight 165 (No.) (Cr.) Height 5 ft. 11 in.

Color hair Br Color eyes Blue Complexion Br

Scars or distinguishing marks

Gerald T. Haney  
Signature of soldier

In accepting this pass, I understand that—

1. I am a soldier at all times and subject to both civil and military control.
2. I must be temperate and not do anything in public to disgrace myself or the Army.
3. I must be polite to all people I meet, whether they are in uniform or civilian clothes.
4. In the event of exposure to venereal disease I will take proper prophylactic precautions.
5. A pass is a privilege, and I may not get another one if I do not conduct myself properly.

I have read the above rules of conduct and will obey them.

RIGHT THUMB PRINT



*Charles B. Thomas*

(Signature of soldier)

THE ARMORED ~~EDGE~~ SCHOOL  
Fort Knox, Kentucky

GOOD CONDUCT  
CLASS "A" PASS

6 Aug 1973

(Date)

Plt Haney, Gerald W.

(Name)

35378689

(A.S.N.)

is authorized to be absent from his organization and from the reservation at any time when not on duty, but for a period not to exceed 36 hours. Holder must remain within 50 miles of Fort Knox, Kentucky.

[Signature]  
(Signature of company commander)

1st Lt. [Signature]  
Commanding, 77th Co., 179th Gr., A.F.S.

# MESS PASS

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### ORDNANCE REPLACEMENT TRAINING CENTER

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Co. C. 5th Bn.

NAME

ORGANIZATION

WILLIAM J. EARN, JR.

1ST LIEUT., ORD. DEPT.

COMMANDING

*J. W. J.*

This pass must be turned in to the organization commander upon any change of organization assignment or when bearer is placed on separate ration status.

# Banquet

AUGUST 28

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## MASTER OF CEREMONIES

*Eugene I. Van Antwerp*

## INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

*Mr. Jim Hopkins*

## SPEAKER

*Brigadier General S.L.A. Marshall*

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# Menu

Fresh fruit cocktail from the  
Sunshine State

Vegetable soup

Celery hearts and mixed olives

Braised beef

Hashed Brown Potatoes

Mixed fresh vegetables

Chefs' salad

Bombe Statler

Coffee



**No.**

**264**

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion

*of the*

**SEVENTH**

**ARMORED**

**DIVISION**

**ASSOCIATION**



**HOTEL STATLER**

**August 27, 28 and 29, 1954**

**Detroit, Michigan**

10th Anniversary of the

7th Armored Division drive across France

**SEVENTH ARMORED  
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**STATLER HOTEL  
AUG. 27-29, 1954**

## Medal of Verdun

This medal was first awarded 20 November 1916 to the defenders of Verdun. In 1944, the medal was awarded to the Seventh Armored Division for its role in the liberation of this historic town.



### NATIONAL OFFICERS

PRESIDENT—*James Hopkins*  
VICE-PRESIDENT—*Charles Helbig*  
SECRETARY-TREASURER—*Johannie Walker*  
CHAPLAIN—*James Fahl*

### REUNION COMMITTEES

REUNION CHAIRMAN—*Glenn R. Fackler*  
ADVANCE REGISTRATION—*Allan V. Hughes*  
PROGRAM AND PRO—*Jack Keenan*  
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS—*John Treanore*  
DECORATIONS—*Ed Charney* and  
*Carl Waara*

*Roll*

## Program

**FRIDAY  
AUGUST 27**

Registration: Ballroom Foyer all day.  
Headquarters: CP Parlor B all day and night.  
Studio bar open on Foyer floor all evening.  
Cinerama show at Music Hall (Madison Avenue  
at Brush) 10:00 PM.

**SATURDAY  
AUGUST 28**

Registration: Ballroom Foyer all day.  
Luncheon meeting—Wayne Room 12:30.  
Welcome to Detroit—Reunion Chairman  
Glenn Fackler.  
Welcome to Detroit—Representative of the  
City of Detroit.  
Acceptance by National President James C. Hopkins.  
Business Meeting 2:00 PM.  
Memorial Service by Chaplain at close of meeting.  
Nursery room listed on bulletin board—  
10:00 AM. to 6:00 PM.  
Cocktail hour 5:30 PM.  
Banquet 7:00 PM.

**SUNDAY  
AUGUST 29**

General Assembly Wayne Room 10:00 AM. to 1:00 PM.  
Final Report of committees, special events,  
installation of new officers and adjournment.

*out the barrel!*

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