

## MILITARY TRIVIA

## This week's trivia: The Green Mountain Boys

by Maj. James Crabtree

XVIII Abn. Corps PAO

One of the most famous patriot units of the Revolution wasn't originally organized to fight the British but to fight fellow colonists ... specifically, New Yorkers.

Ethan Allan was born in Connecticut in 1738 but settled in the territory called the New Hampshire grants. Unfortunately for Allen and the other settlers of the grants, the control of the land was in dispute between the colonies of New York and New Hampshire.

pute in favor of New York.

That colony attempted to assert its authority over the New Hampshire grants, forcing the settlers there to accept taxation and legislation dictated from Albany. In 1770 Ethan Allan, a veteran of the French and Indian Wars, illegally established a militia called the Green Mountain Boys "to fight against New York." Although only a few hundred strong, the militia was able to prevent New York from taking effective control of the territory. The Green Mountain Boys flew a green flag with white stars on a blue square, one that looked

an awful lot like the 1776 flag (except for the green part).

The royal governor of New York declared Allan an outlaw.

The territory was still in dispute when the Revolution broke out. Ethan Allan offered the services of his Green Mountain Boys to the Continental Congress and was soon on the march with Col. Benedict Arnold up Lake Champlain. The Green Mountain Boys were party to the capture of Fort Ticonderoga in May 1775, one of the first patriot victories.

Later in the year Col. Allan joined Gen. Philip John

Schuyler to invade Canada. It was hoped that the expedition would make Canada the 14th colony to join the Revolution but the invasion failed and Allan was captured by the British.

Meanwhile, the Green Mountain Boys became the basis of the New Hampshire Grants' militia, now grandly known as the Army of the Republic of Vermont. Although at first Vermont supported the Colonial cause, sending troops to fight in several battles, a lack of recognition as an independent state by the Continental Congress led them to a "neutral

stance," providing a refuge for deserters from both armies. General Washington was ordered by Congress to subdue the rebels but had his hands full with the British and their Loyalist sympathizers without going after Vermont.

In the aftermath of the Revolution, the Vermont Republic, flying the Green Mountain Boys flag as their national banner, continued to lobby for recognition as an independent state (a cause helped by New York's decision to drop territorial claims over the lands), which it effectively gained when it joined

the United States of America in 1791.

Today the National Guard and the Air National Guard of Vermont are still collectively known as the Green Mountain Boys, which must make life interesting for its female Soldiers and airmen.

**Next Week:**  
Who has the longest running mercenary contract in history?

## BUSTER'S BATTERY



## LOOKING BACK

## May the best lieutenant win

by Al Alvarez

Special correspondent

After spring rolled around in 1945 the weather wasn't the only thing that changed ... yeah ... some were good days and some were bad days. Yet I'm not complaining since I'm still alive.

After leaving the battlefield and returning to the States, I graduated from my officer candidate school. Yep, class of 1949 and as a freshly-minted 2nd lieutenant I was assigned to the 456th Parachute Artillery Battalion of the vaunted 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg.

I'm not complaining at all. Yep, it was more than 21,000 days since that dark, dank and dismal June morning. Who can forget that summer day in Normandy? I can't hardly forget it.

Our first foreboding inkling was around midnight with the swishing, slopping sounds of the waves against the bulkhead along with the foul odors of sweat, chlorine, vomit and diesel mixed with the smell of fear.

## A newly-minted lieutenant

Imagine my surprise to be singled out by the battalion adjutant who informed me that I was just selected as an aide for the day to the division commander with guidance.

"Your duties?" he said. "Report to the headquarters commander in your best uniform and let me warn you, pay attention and follow the commander's instructions to the letter."

My best uniform at the time was khakis, boots and the usual "go-to-hell" cap.

On that particular spring day, the 82nd was honoring one of its favorite sons, a Medal of Honor recipient of World War II, 1st Sgt. Leonard Funk, who would review the entire division as highlight of the memorable event.

So, after whizzing across post from what is still known as the "Old Division area," I reported with my snappiest salute to Maj. Lord who would explain very carefully in precise terms my important-to-be duties on this momentous day.

"Take this clipboard, stand at rigid attention at the right side of the reviewing stand and follow along this typed speech," he ordered, then handed me a

two-page typewritten extolment of the division's honors and combat actions.

One word was heavily underlined in red, "when the division commander speaks that red underlined word, lieutenant, you will raise your right hand to (salute) at which time the parade command vehicle will rumble alongside. Everyone will (get into the vehicle) and then review the troops — period."

Acknowledging his explicit instructions with a confident "yes sir, understood sir," I assumed my most rigid position of attention. I was ready. Then out of the corner of my eye I noticed another second lieutenant standing alongside at attention with his clipboard. We looked like the "lifers" portrayed in prison movies.

Once the major was gone, we both whispered from the corner of our mouths, "what are you doing here?" and both of us replied "I'm aide for the day."

During all the pre-parade activities, the arrivals, the commencement of the pageantry, I unobtrusively edged closer to the reviewing stand and no matter how well this other lieutenant would accomplish his "aide" task, I was determined to do it better and faster.

As the troops maneuvered into position, the band blared, honors rendered, the speeches began and I stood watching my typewritten speech like a hawk. Then eureka! Before the red-lined word was spoken I swiftly raised my right hand to the horizontal as the white cloth-covered, blitzed-brass command parade vehicle obediently roared in along side me, and we all got in.

The division commander and his honored guests in the back and me firmly ensconced in the front alongside the seated driver, who glanced up at me inquiringly, but I returned my most haughty second lieutenant look for him as the general grunted his order, "move out!"

So we sped off across the gigantic parade field, all of us standing proudly like Gen. Patton leading his 3rd Army across a devastated Europe.

*(Editor's note: This is a series of memoirs by Lt. Col. Al Alvarez, who retired from XVIII Airborne Corps and now volunteers at the Airborne Special Operations Museum.)*

## JUMP SCHEDULE

Week of Wednesday through Nov. 26.

Unit	Aircraft	Drop Zone	Time on Target
<b>Wednesday</b>			
82nd Abn. Div.	C-17	Sicily	7:10 p.m. to 8:10 p.m.
82nd Abn. Div.	C-17	Sicily	10:20 p.m. to 11:20 p.m.

**Nov. 23 through Nov. 26**  
No Aircraft Scheduled

Schedule is subject to change. For updated information, call 396-6366.

## RANGE SCHEDULE

From Nov. 27 through Dec. 3 units will be conducting small arms and high explosives firing in the Fort Bragg range area. All personnel are warned against entering any danger or impact area without specific approval from the installation range officer. The Fort Bragg range area is not considered an open range. Entry into or use of fixed ranges, observation posts, training facilities, or areas other than designated recreational areas on Manchester, Plank or King roads, must be approved by the installation range officer. The schedule below is subject to change without notice to the public. Additions and/or deletions occur frequently. Commanders with a few individuals who need to fire may coordinate with the using unit to add firers to that unit's range. The following is the weekly range schedule that indicates the units that will be using the ranges.

<b>PISTOL</b> 38/45/9MM Monday Range 66C/1: 3/73 Cav Range 66C/2: 4/73 Cav Tuesday Range 29: 2BCT Range 66C/1: 3/73CAV Range 66C/2: 4/73CAV Wednesday Range 29: 2BCT Range 66C/1: 319 MI Range 66C/2: 4/73 Cav Range 66C/3: 30 Eng Thursday Range 29: 2BCT Range 66C/1: 2BCT Range 66C/2: 4/73 Cav Range 66C/3: 82 Avn Friday Range 66C/1: 2 BCT Range 66C/2: 4/73 Cav Range 66C/3: 2/504	<b>Saturday</b> Range 66C/3: 261 ASMB  <b>M16 ZERO/QUAL</b> Monday Range 28: 2/321 FA Range 31: 4/73 Cav Range 35: 8 POB Range 41: 3/319 FA Range 50: 2/321 FA Tuesday Range 28: 2/321 FA Range 31: 2BCT Range 35: 30 Eng Range 41: 3/319 FA Range 50: 2/321 FA Wednesday Range 28: 2/321 FA Range 35: 2 BCT Range 41: 3/319 FA Range 50: 319 MI Thursday	Range 28: 2/321 FA Range 41: 3/319 FA Range 50: 2/321 FA Range 52: 1/508 Range 58: 319 MI Range 59: 2 BSTB Friday Range 31: 2/504 Range 35: 96 CA Range 41: 3/319 FA Range 50: 2/321 FA Range 52: MUIC Range 58: 9 POB Range 59: 2/7 SFG Saturday Range 52: 1MUIC  <b>M16 QUAL</b> Monday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 34: 3/319 FA Range 57: 2/321 FA Tuesday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 34: 3/319 FA	Range 56: 30 Eng Range 57: 2/321 FA Wednesday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 34: 3/319 FA Range 57: 4/73 Cav Thursday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 34: 3/319 FA Range 57: 2/321 FA Friday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 34: 3/319 FA Range 43: 2/504 Range 57: 2/321 FA Saturday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 56: 3/73 Cav Sunday Range 33: 3/73 Cav Range 56: 3/73 Cav	<b>Wednesday</b> Range 53: 2/325 Range 66B: 2BCT Thursday Range 53: 2/325 Range 66B: 2BCT Friday Range 66B: 1 BSTB Saturday Range 53: 1 BSTB  <b>M60 SAW/TRANSITION</b> Tuesday Range 54: 2/325 Wednesday Range 54: 2/325 Range 66A: 2 BCT Thursday Range 54: 2/325 Range 66A: 2 BCT Saturday Range 54: 1 BSTB
<b>M60 SAW/ZERO</b> Tuesday Range 53: 2/325				