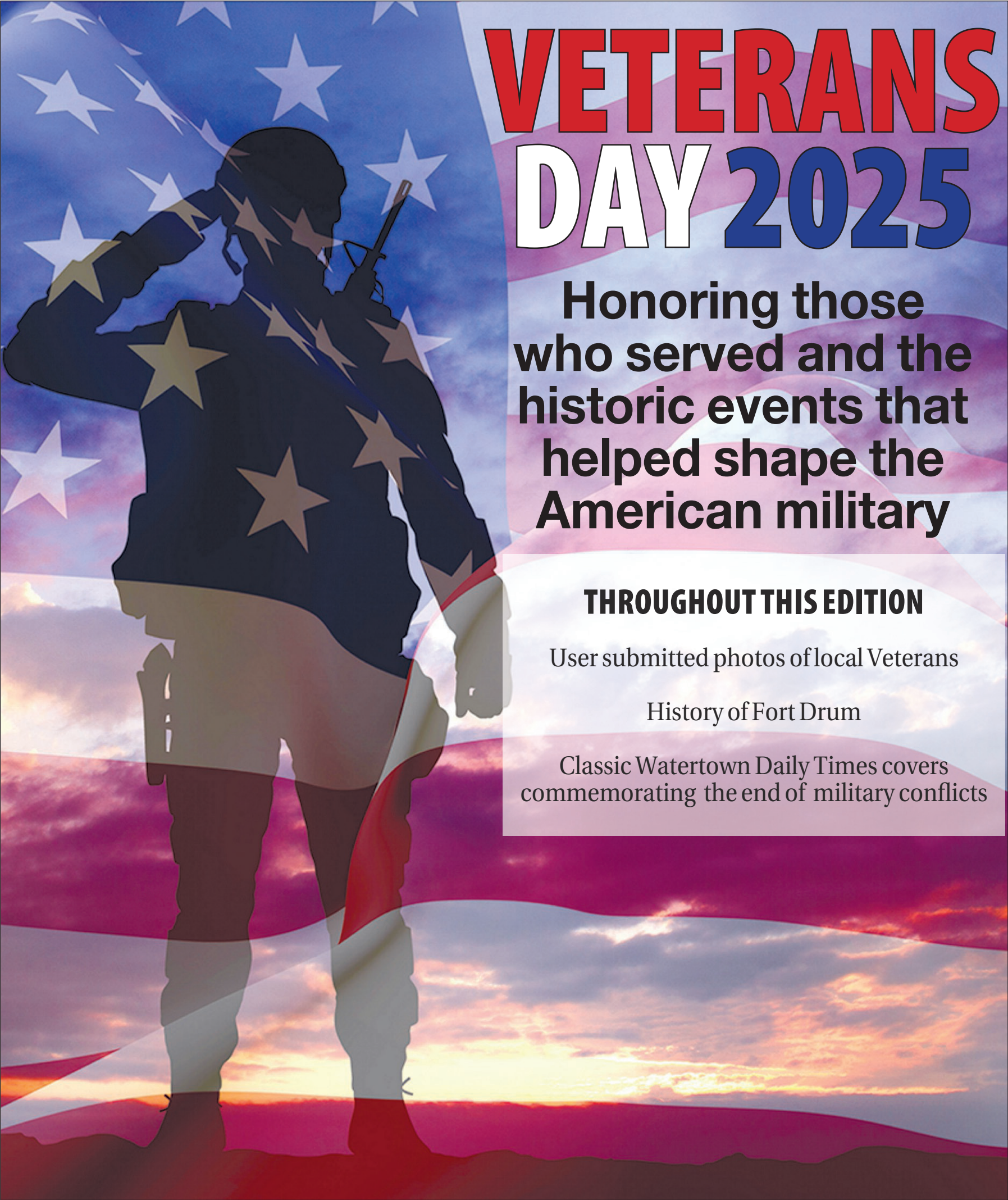




VETERANS DAY 2025

**Honoring those
who served and the
historic events that
helped shape the
American military**

THROUGHOUT THIS EDITION

User submitted photos of local Veterans

History of Fort Drum

Classic Watertown Daily Times covers
commemorating the end of military conflicts

Military history of Fort Drum

Army.mil

Nearly a century before Fort Drum came into existence, there had been an active military presence in the local area, which would later play a role in an Army installation being established in northern New York. To fully understand Fort Drum's history, one must first look to the nearby village of Sackets Harbor on the shore of Lake Ontario.

SACKETS HARBOR AND MADISON BARRACKS

Sackets Harbor was founded in 1801 by Augustus Sackett, who saw the commercial advantages of the vast lumber resources and the deep natural harbor of the Black River Bay. The village became a major shipping and shipbuilding center due to its location to Canada across Lake Ontario. This meant profitable trade with Canada and England.

WAR OF 1812

With the declaration of war against England in 1812, Sackets Harbor became the headquarters of the U.S. military for the northern frontier. The village was now a major military outpost and shipbuilding center with the sudden swarm of troops and ship carpenters. Hastily prepared earthen works named Fort Volunteer were established at the start of the War of 1812 to defend the northeast end of Sackets Harbor. A new set of breastworks and a blockhouse named Fort Pike was constructed adjacent to Fort Volunteer; these two forts would later form the core of Madison Barracks. Another string of defensive land forts followed. These were Forts Kentucky, Virginia, Chauncey, and Stark. On Lake Ontario at the land's end of Navy Point was Fort Tompkins.

British forces led by Lt. Gen. Sir George Provost, who was also the British governor general of Canada, began moving towards Sackets

Harbor on May 27, 1813. As the British forces neared the harbor, they spotted ships at a distance, and Provost feared these were American ships. Thinking they were American ships, he withdrew, which allowed the Americans time to strengthen their defenses. The Americans received 500 more militiamen as reinforcements who were added to the force of 500 regulars and 250 militiamen commanded by Lt. Col. Electus Backus. On May 29, the British finally attacked and attempted to land south of the town, but with American defenses being too strong, they were forced instead to land on the north side of town. The Americans were initially pushed back, but they rallied and succeeded in stopping the British advance. Provost called off the attack and withdrew when his forces failed to dislodge the Americans.

POST-WAR OF 1812

After the War of 1812, the U.S. saw the importance of

trained troops, which led to the building of Madison Barracks at a cost of \$85,000. It became a substantial link in Sackets Harbor's chain of defense. Named for President James Madison, the barracks was operated by the U.S. Army until after World War II. It was continuously enlarged and improved throughout its existence to accommodate the military's needs at the given time.

During its use, Madison Barracks was considered one of the nation's best military posts. A few well-known leaders who spent time at Sackets Harbor were Ulysses S. Grant, Gen. Mark Clark, Gen. Jacob Brown, New York City Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, and President Martin Van Buren.

Of all of the Soldiers and units stationed at Sackets Harbor, the 9th Infantry Regiment was probably the most well-known. In 1892, the 9th Infantry Regiment was stationed at Madison Barracks at the end of the Indian Campaigns. Here their military training continued with

long marches, inspections, and marksmanship training.

During its stay at Madison Barracks, the 9th Infantry Regiment was involved with the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion in China. During the battle to capture Tientsin in China, the 9th Infantry Regiment was engaged in deadly combat. The regiment commander, Col. Emerson H. Liscom, was fatally wounded while recovering the colors from the wounded color bearer of the regiment. Before Liscom died, he handed off the colors to the adjutant with his final command to the Soldiers: "Keep up the Fire!" The fighting continued, and the regiment was successful in its attack.

When service in the Pacific was over, the 9th Infantry Regiment returned to Madison Barracks. Affixed to the water tower, one of the most prominent landmarks on the military post, is a large plaque on which are listed the names of Soldiers of the 9th Infantry Regiment who

lost their lives in service in Cuba, the Philippines and China between 1898 and 1907.

During action in these locales, five Soldiers of the 9th Infantry Regiment earned the Medal of Honor:

Second Lt. Ira C. Welborn, Santiago, Cuba, July 2, 1898;

Second Lt. George W. Wallace, Tinuba, Luzan, Philippine Islands, March 4, 1900;

Pvt. Robert H. Von Schlick, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900, (posthumous);

First Lt. Louis B. Lawton, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900, and

Capt. Andre W. Brewster, Tientsin, China, July 13, 1900.

FORT DRUM AND ITS PREDECESSORS CAMP HUGHES

Col. Philip Reade, as regimental commander of the 23rd U.S. Infantry at Madison Barracks, was a driving force behind Camp Hughes' selection and success. Col. Reade realized that devel-

See HISTORY T12



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A photograph of a veteran in a camouflage uniform carrying a young child on his shoulders. They are outdoors, and a large American flag is waving in the background.

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Stanley E. Zaremba, Sr.

Sergeant/Army
WWI

Stanley E. Zaremba, Jr.

CW4/Army
WWII, 35 years

Joseph L. Zaremba

Egn/Navy
WWII

Jack W. Zaremba (John)

SSgt/Airforce
25 years

Arthur H. Zaremba, Sr.

Sergeant/Army
Korea

Stanley E. Zaremba, III

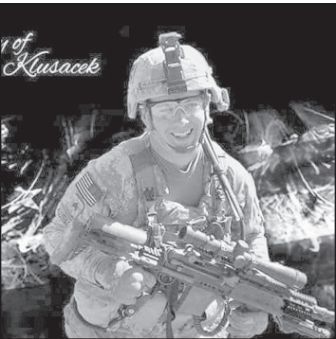
SSg/Army
Persian Gulf

LOCAL HEROES

Klusacek Family

Erick J. Klusacek

U.S. Army/Sgt
2007-2010
(Deceased)



Ronald E. Klusacek

U.S. Army/CW4 (retired)
1976-2001

Kristopher R. Klusacek

U.S. Army/CW5
1998-Present

Kyle T. Klusacek

Air Force/Cpt
2011-Present

Nicholas T. Klusacek

U.S. Army/SFC
2012-Present

LOCAL HEROES



Paul Marlow

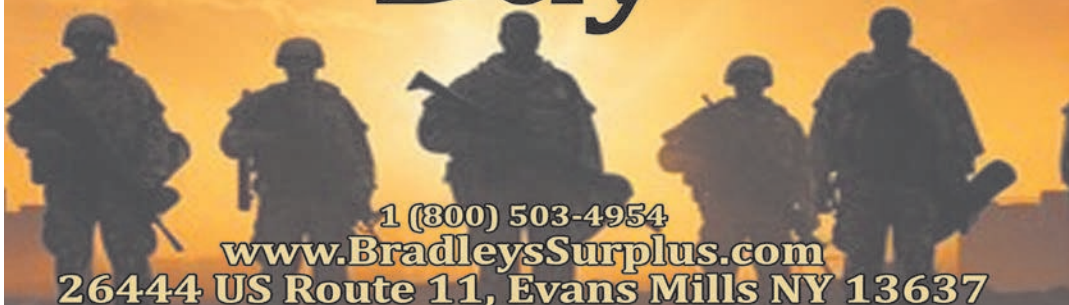
US Army
SFC.
Served: 1984-2006



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North country community members rally for Fort Drum in March 2015 at Jefferson Community College. The Army was looking to cut up to 16,000 personnel from the Army base under an assessment done that year. Only 28 jobs were cut. Watertown Daily Times

At 40 years, Advocate Drum firing on all cylinders

This story was originally published in the Watertown Daily Times on May 7, 2025.

By CHRIS BROCK

cbrock@wdt.net

WATERTOWN — In March 1990, five years after the 10th Mountain Division was reactivated at Fort Drum as one of the Army's new light infantry divisions, Michael S. McFadden arrived as an enlisted soldier.

"I grew up in southern Louisiana, so when I was walking from reception to my first unit, which you do when you are in light infantry, it was snowing," he recalled. "I was quite shocked."

It was a cool reception for the flight medic, but in those 35 years since he arrived here from Mandeville, Louisiana, McFadden, a 32-year Army veteran, has forged a relationship between Fort Drum and the local military community that grows stronger by the day. In July, he was named executive director of Advocate Drum, the organization that leads local efforts to protect and enhance the

base's value to the military and community.

As Advocate Drum marks its 40th anniversary, McFadden is especially energized as he fills a gap in Advocate Drum leadership at the non-profit. In 2018, New York cut Military Base Retention funds for six communities, including funding that went to help sustain Advocate Drum. The cut meant that Advocate Drum had no executive leader from 2019 until last July, when McFadden was hired, thanks to a \$1 million grant from Empire State Development. In the spring of 2023, Thomas H. Carman, immediate past Advocate Drum board chairman, said, "If we don't have funding for Advocate Drum, we remain as we are, which is extremely flat-footed."

"Without an executive director for almost five years, the organization, in some ways, was kind of stagnant," McFadden said. "Obviously, the volunteers did a phenomenal job in terms of trying to keep Advocate Drum

Advocate

From T6

in the fight in advocating for Fort Drum in the local community.”

In addition to an executive director, the advocacy is going a step further.

“One of the areas that fell to the wayside was the advertising, the branding of the organization,” McFadden said. “When I came on board, we immediately worked to hire a marketing firm to help revamp our website, and to help us get back into the community, so people could truly understand Advocate Drum and what it is we do each day.”

A CRUCIAL LINK

In 1985, the Fort Drum Steering Council was created following the decision by the Department of Defense in September 1984 that the 10th Mountain Division would be reactivated as a light infantry unit. The Steering Council, funded by the federal Office of Economic Adjustment (now called the Office for Local Defense Community Cooperation) and sponsoring local agencies, helped to build the north country’s knowledge base regarding the Army’s decision to station the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum. As local leaders and elected officials began to understand the impact, community development plans were addressed.

Funding provisions for the Steering Council expired in 1990. In its wake came the creation of the Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization, designed to carry on the council’s mission as a volunteer membership organization. FDRLO was rebranded as Advocate Drum in 2018 to better reflect its mission. Advocate Drum is also funded by Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties and by individual and corporate membership fees.

“Fort Drum, being the unique installation that it is, needed, and still needs an organization like this,” McFadden said. “Fort Drum

doesn’t have a large medical facility on post, so a lot of significant health care issues come off post. There are no educational facilities on Fort Drum, all education happens for our children of the military off post. Those are two unique factors for Fort Drum that don’t exist at most military installations. So, having an organization like Advocate Drum helps the link between the local community and the military installation.”

McFadden was involved in one of those earlier base-community links. In the early 1990s, there wasn’t a civilian life flight in the north country. Fort Drum, with McFadden literally on board, was involved as the base began providing the service to the community. He was non-commissioned officer in charge of MAST — the Military Assistance to

Safety and Traffic program, which involves using military resources like helicopters and medical personnel to assist in civilian medical emergencies, particularly highway crashes.

“Three or four times a week, I would fly medical evacuation missions in support of car and snowmobile accidents,” McFadden said, and he became “ingrained” into the north country community.

“I would fly to local fire departments and demonstrate, ‘How do you call us?’ and how to interact with the Army, how to set up a landing zone to bring a helicopter in — all those types of things. That’s when I started to get involved.”

In 1991, McFadden met Sheryl Lynne Mallette, a Lowville native. They were married in 1993, live in Croghan and have three chil-

dren. McFadden’s military service took him away from Fort Drum but was again stationed with the 10th Mountain Division in 2010 as chief executive officer/task force commander for aviation and deployed to Eastern Afghanistan in support of medical evacuations for service members. He then advanced to deputy chief executive officer, overseeing the operating budget and leading planning and preparation of the organization for combat operations in Afghanistan.

Following his deployment to Afghanistan, McFadden served as the chief executive officer/task force commander in Ansbach, Germany, where he supervised the planning and execution of multiple training programs across Europe and NATO countries. His continued advance included deputy chief of staff for the U.S. Army Avi-

ation Center of Excellence, Enterprise, Alabama; director of aviation operations/chief of plan for the U.S. Army XVII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and chief executive officer for the 3rd Combat Aviation Bridge, Savannah, Georgia/Europe.

RALLYING THE COMMUNITY

One of the successes of Advocate Drum over the years has been opposing about a half dozen versions of BRAC — Base Realignment and Closure processes, which look at reducing or eliminating military installations around the country. “Advocate Drum is at the forefront when it comes to rallying the community and speaking up on behalf of Fort Drum, whether it’s our local or federally elected officials, to ensure that Fort Drum remains a viable military communi-

See **ADVOCATE T9**



A 102mm howitzer gun crew fires live rounds during training exercises at Fort Drum 10 years ago. Watertown Daily Times

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A sign on Route 11 northbound welcomes people to the main gate of Fort Drum. Watertown Daily Times

Advocate

From T7

ty,” McFadden said.

Without Advocate Drum, the base would not have a point of contact to deal with such issues, he added.

“We meet regularly with the garrison leadership to sit down at least once a quarter to talk about issues happening on the installation or what issues we can potentially help them with. And we share potential issues here in the community with the installation.”

Last week, annual figures were released reflecting the base’s impact on the local economy when Advocate Drum and the Development Authority of the North Coun-



McFadden

try released their annual economic impact study. It shows that for the federal fiscal year ending on Sept. 30, 2024, Fort Drum’s total economic impact on the region was \$2.55 billion, a slight increase from \$2.5 billion from

the year prior. That number includes \$1.9 billion in direct spending in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties, plus an extra \$655 million in additional economic activity.

The economic impact of Fort Drum is evident across the community, and Advocate Drum is there to also help advocate for others. For example, “Advocate Drum was essential in spearheading the initiative for the Watertown YMCA new Aquatics Center project,” said Shawna Cutuli, CEO of the Watertown Family YMCA. “With the help of Advocate Drum, we were able to secure a 9-million-dollar Department of Defense grant that helped build our new downtown YMCA. Funding opportunities like this would not be available without the unique

relationship we have serving Fort Drum. The Watertown YMCA plays such an important role in supporting military families and the community.”

Also last week, Empire State Development announced a \$4 million award to support a \$13 million project at Jefferson Community College aimed at keeping Fort Drum soldiers and their spouses in the area upon completion of their military service. The Dulles Building on JCC’s Coffeen Street campus will be renovated and outfitted as the Next Move NY Vocational Training and Job Readiness Facility, which will enhance offerings at the college and further develop the workforce pipeline for transitioning soldiers and their spouses to help them attain local employment, ac-

cording to ESD.

“It’s basically to build our workforce talent with approximately 3,600 soldiers that leave Fort Drum each year, as well as veterans from other installations who are coming back here,” McFadden said. “How do we get them into the workforce and help us build our overall workforce?”

Such advocacy is in the forefront today in Albany during the annual Fort Drum Day at the capitol.

“There’s about 12 community members who are all heading down to set up tables and help educate our elected officials on the north country and its community, as well as being there to support Fort Drum as it’s recognized on the floor,” McFadden said.



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History

From T2

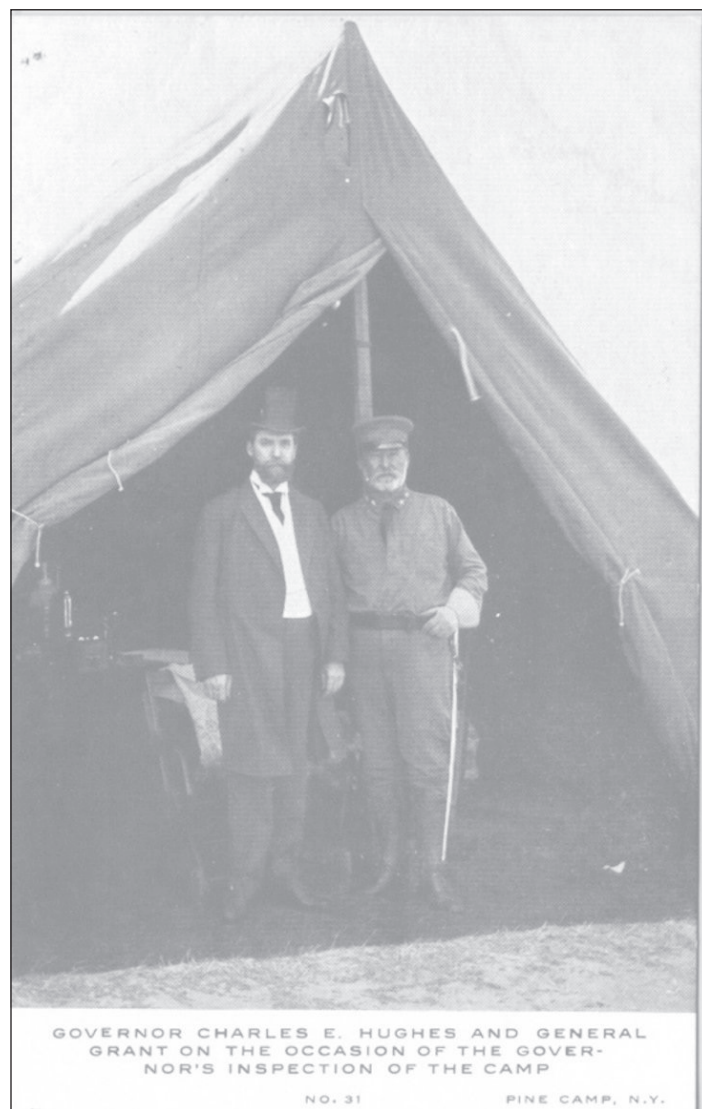
opments in modern military weapons such as bolt action rifles, machine guns, and rapid firing artillery pieces had exceeded the capability of the U.S. Army to train at Sackets Harbor. He then coordinated with local North Country leaders and the Watertown Chamber of Commerce to look for a new training area. The area in Felts Mills, immediately north of the Black River, was chosen.

Between Aug. 31 and Sept. 7, 1907, the New York National Guard established a temporary tent encampment, which they called Camp Hughes. It was named for Charles E. Hughes, who was then the governor of New York. Since that summer, U.S. Army Soldiers have trained annually at that site.

PINE CAMP

Governor Hughes and General Grant.jpgThe following year in 1908, Brig. Gen. Frederick Dent Grant, the oldest son of President Ulysses S. Grant, led thousands of Soldiers back to the area north of Black River, known locally as Pine Plains. Brig. Gen. Grant commanded 2,000 Regular Army Soldiers and 8,000 militia men from throughout the Northeast. He found Pine Plains to be an ideal place to train troops. Money was allocated to purchase the land, and summer training continued there through the years. The camp at Pine Plains formally opened on June 11, 1908, and training continued throughout the summer.

The camp's first introduction to the national spotlight came in 1935 when the largest peacetime maneuvers were held on Pine Plains and surrounding farmlands. Thirty-six thousand five hundred Soldiers came from throughout the Northeast to take part in the exercise. Some Soldiers travelled by trains, which arrived in town every 15 minutes, coming



from as far away as Buffalo and New York City.

For 36 hours, young men from offices, factories, and farms marched, attacked and defended in tactical exercises on the 100-mile stretch of land the Army had leased for its war games. The maneuvers were judged to be most successful, and the War Department purchased another 9,000 acres of land.

PINE CAMP CANTONMENT - WORLD WAR II

With the outbreak of World War II, the area then known as Pine Camp was selected for a major expansion when an additional 75,000 acres of land were purchased. With that purchase, 525 local families were displaced. Five entire villages were eliminated, while others were reduced from one-third to one-half their size. By Labor Day 1941, 100 tracts of land were taken over. Three thousand buildings, including 24 schools, six churches and a post of-

fice, were abandoned.

Contractors then went to work, and in a period of 10 months at a cost of \$20 million, an entire city was built to house the divisions scheduled to train here. Eight hundred buildings were constructed: 240 barracks, 84 mess halls, 86 storehouses, 58 warehouses, 27 officers' quarters, 22 headquarters buildings, and 99 recreational buildings as well as guardhouses and a hospital. Construction workers paid the price, as the winter of 1941-42 was one of the coldest in North Country history.

The three divisions to train at Pine Camp were Gen. George S. Patton's 4th Armored Division (Gen. Creighton Abrams was a battalion commander here at the time), the 45th Infantry Division and the 5th Armored Division, along with the 754th Tank Battalion, which went on to fight in the jungles of the Pacific.

The post also served as

a prisoner of war camp. Of those prisoners who died here, one Italian and six Germans are buried in the cemetery along Route 26 between the 45th Infantry Division Gate and the Oneida Gate.

FORT DRUM: 1945 TO 1984

In 1951, Pine Camp became Camp Drum -- named after Lt. Gen. Hugh A. Drum, who commanded the First Army during World War II. During and after the Korean Conflict, a number of units were stationed and trained here to take advantage of the terrain and climate. Since its earliest existence, the post has been a major annual training site for Northeastern National Guard and Reserve forces. Throughout Camp Drum's existence, it was still considered a temporary training facility for the U.S. Army, and Soldiers continued to be quartered in World War II temporary barracks during summer drills.

The post was designated Fort Drum in 1974, and a permanent garrison was assigned. In April 1980, B Company, 76th Engineer Battalion (Combat Heavy) was reassigned here from Fort Meade, Md. It was followed by the rest of the battalion, less D Company, three years later.

Fort Drum has served as a major training center for reserve component forces, and units of the New York Army National Guard rank among the post's most frequent customers. The nearly 12,000-member New York Army National Guard is composed of state headquarters and three major commands: Headquarters, 42nd Infantry Division (Mechanized); Headquarters, 53rd Troop Command, and the 27th Separate Infantry Brigade (Enhanced). Battalions, companies and detachments of these commands are distributed among more than 60 armories across the state from Niagara Falls to the tip of Long Island. These units regularly come to Fort Drum for weekend inactive duty training and annual training during the year. Fort Drum's ranges, training areas and

facilities are essential to the New York Army National Guard to meet readiness objectives and federal training requirements.

In January 1984, the Department of the Army announced it was studying selected Army posts to house a new light infantry division. On Sept. 11, 1984, the announcement was made that Fort Drum would be the new home of the 10th Light Infantry Division. The first division troops arrived at Fort Drum on Dec. 3, 1984. Between 1986 and 1992, 130 new buildings, 35 miles of roads, and 4,272 sets of family housing units were built at a cost of \$1.3 billion.

10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION REACTIVATED

On Feb. 13, 1985, the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) was officially reactivated at Fort Drum. It was the first division of any kind formed by the Army since 1975 and the first based in the Northeast since World War II. Since then, it has been one of the most deployed units in the U.S. Army. The division commander after reactivation was Brig. Gen. William S. Carpenter.

The 10th Mountain Division (LI) was designed to meet a wide range of worldwide infantry-intensive contingency missions. Equipment design was oriented toward reduced size and weight for reasons of both strategic and tactical mobility.

FORT DRUM: 1985 TO PRESENT

Today, Fort Drum consists of 107,265 acres. Its mission includes commanding active component units assigned to the installation, providing administrative and logistical support to tenant units, providing support to active and reserve units from all services in training at Fort Drum, and planning and providing support for mobilization and training of almost 80,000 troops annually.

Last updated 2018

The 'Ghosts' on post

Family's donation sheds light on sonic deception program at Pine Camp

By Chris Brock

Watertown Daily Times

Editor's Note: This story was published in the Watertown Daily Times on Sunday Nov. 22, 2020. Bruce Rippeteau, interviewed here, died in the summer of 2024. The story has not been altered.

Throughout life, Darrel Downing Rippeteau depended on a steadfast dedication to training and discipline for his success.

"Visualizing ahead about what is going to be happening, whether for a war maneuver or a job interview or a social event or whatever, was a major key to his success all through his life," daughter Jane Rippeteau Heffron said.

In Army jargon, Mr. Rippeteau's approach to success was adhering to what's known as the Five Paragraph Field Order, something he first came across as an ROTC cadet in his home state of Nebraska. The U.S. military first formalized the "Five Paragraph" approach in the 1890s. It involves specific areas of information that a commander should impart when communicating instructions to subordinates in the field.

In boxes of his belongings that his family came across after his death in February 2016, Lt. Col. Rippeteau is, in a way, imparting instructions again, this time by some things he carefully plotted out, to be found and utilized for whatever mission that its finders, his sons and daughter, would see fit.

At Fort Drum, that latest mission will see results when a permanent museum exhibit opens next year focusing on the Army Experimental Station at Pine Camp (now Fort



A speaker assortment is put in 'travel position' in an M-10 tank destroyer at Army Experimental Station Pine Camp in 1944. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

Drum). For decades, only those with top-level clearance knew the story of what they accomplished here.

"I believe I knew they had material, but I didn't know the extent of the archival holdings," Joseph E. "Sepp" Scanlin, 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum director, said on Monday of the family's donation. "I was super excited when I saw not only some of the pictures, but some of the items I haven't been able to fully go through yet, like the technical background information on what they were doing here."

Mr. Rippeteau knew, but for years, he had to keep the classified program secret from his family.

"To my word, he never said a word about this," said son Bruce Rippeteau.

Mrs. Rippeteau Heffron and Mr. Rippeteau, summer residents of the Thousand Islands area, met a Times reporter at Mr. Rippeteau's summer home in Cape Vincent earlier this month to talk about their dad, his legacy and the upcoming permanent exhibit at Fort Drum. They are both seasonal residents. Mr. Rippeteau also has a home in Nebraska;



Soldiers at Army Experimental Station Pine Camp in 1944 pause at an encampment after removing their snowshoes. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

Mrs. Heffron in London.

A third child, Darrel D. Rippeteau Jr., lives in Washington, D.C., where, following in his father's trade, he works as an architect.

"My father absolutely didn't discuss it for the obvious reasons that it was secret," Darrel said in a phone interview. "After the term of secrecy ended, he was able to discuss it. I can recall, during my younger years, that my father had a way with words relating to his work in the past. Things kind of clicked after we found out he had been in this secret group."

a leader and A builder Darrel Downing Rippeteau was born in Clay Center, Neb., in 1917 and became a prominent architect in the north country and Northeast. He was a longtime resident of Watertown and became an extremely engaged civic leader. When he died in 2016 at the age of 99 in Florida, the Watertown Daily Times headlined the story of his death as the "Man who helped build Watertown."

Mr. Rippeteau graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1941, with a bachelor's degree in architecture. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army and went on active duty in May 1942. He served as second lieutenant in the field artillery at Fort Sill, Okla., and was later appointed to the armored force school at Fort Knox, Ky., as an instructor in field artillery and tank destroyer tactics.

According to Times files, after a tour of duty with the 20th Armored Division, he was assigned to the Experimental Station at Pine Camp as operations and planning officer, directing research and development projects for the Signal Corps and Corps of Engineers.

"We have all kinds of memories of being out at Pine Camp," Bruce Rippeteau said. "It wasn't until the late 1990s that they were allowed to talk about it and guys started writing books about it."

See GHOSTS T15

VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2025

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Ghosts

From T13

On Jan. 20, 1944, the U.S. Army's 23rd Headquarters Special Troops activated with the sole mission of deceiving German forces in the European theater during World War II. Known as "The Ghost Army," these soldiers used inflatable tanks and artillery, sent false radio transmissions, and blasted audio recordings of troop movement and construction to create phantom forces that misled the enemy on American troop strength and locations.

The 23rd Headquarters Special Troops included a "sonic deception" combat unit - the 3132nd Signal Service Company - which activated and trained at the Army Experimental Station in March 1944 at Pine Camp, with the 3133rd Signal Service Company.

'Secret soldiers' revealed One of the books on the special troops unit, "Secret Soldiers: The Story of World War II's Heroic Army of Deception," by Philip Gerard was published in 2002. It draws on reminiscences and papers of men who learned at Pine Camp the art of using props and sound effects to dupe the enemy. Mr. Gerard had extensive conversations with Darrel D. Rippeteau for the book.

"If Mr. Gerard's book is a success and if it does what I understand it to be doing, for the first time a cohesive story of the entire 23rd Headquarters will be told," Mr. Rippeteau told the Times shortly after the book's release.

The task at Pine Camp was to focus on the sonic element of the secret program. It was the understanding of many of the unit's veterans that talking about what happened on Pine Camp's back ranges - the "ghosts" called it Sherwood Forest - was forbidden by the Pentagon until 1995.

When the curious in the community wondered about strange noises of what many took for an entire division in training, they were encouraged to believe it. Decades later, it emerged that the Pentagon had hoped such false



Soldiers test the distance of sound projection at Army Experimental Station Pine Camp in 1944. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

information would be passed to Hitler.

The AES was at Pine Camp for 15 months, from 1944 into 1945 and was secured behind fences around the "4800 area" off Route 26 toward Evans Mills. The post was generally believed to be inactive around 1944-45 because of the troops fighting overseas, although it was used as a training ground for armor units and internment camps for Italian and German prisoners of war.

Tape recorders were still in development, so instead of recording tape, "wire" recordings were used at the Pine Camp program. Magnetic recordings were made on thin steel or stainless steel wires and reels of them were used for the sound, amplified through "exponential horns" which, when placed in batteries of four, measured 6 feet square. Sounds ranged from the rumble of tanks to the barking of dogs and personnel movement.

At the end of the program in 1945, the unit's formerly super-secret sound equipment was superseded by high fidelity sound equipment. The wire recorders were sold on the open market.

The technology was developed at Bell Labs in New Jersey, and civilian advisers were sent to Pine Camp to assist with the training.

A spokesman at Bell Labs was asked earlier this month if the company was able to develop any civilian applications

from its work at Pine Camp. Spokesman Ed Eckert told the Times that the Bell Labs archives has no records on the sonic or acoustic deception projects of World War II.

When the operation closed up at Pine Camp, Mr. Rippeteau was transferred in 1945 to the office of the chief signal officer at the Pentagon.

Following World War II, Mr. Rippeteau settled in Watertown to run the regional office of the architecture-engineer firm Sargent Webster Crenshaw & Folley of Syracuse. He rose to managing partner of this award-winning firm, which was active mainly across the Northeast. Projects notably included the Justice Building on the New York State Capitol campus (Empire State Plaza) in Albany. He was involved in more than 3,000 projects, including schools across the north country as well as the Dulles State Office Building, the Watertown Municipal Building and the Watertown Daily Times building. He was made managing partner of the firm in 1974.

Innovative training The 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum staff is making progress in developing an even-clearer narrative about the once super-secret organization at Pine Camp. Mr. Scanlin, the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum Museum director, said that the recent donation of documents and photos from the Rippeteau family, received



A paratrooper decoy, an 'Oscar,' is dropped from a Curtiss C-46 Commando during a demonstration over Pine Camp in 1944. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

a few weeks ago, is shedding new light on the training. Their research will be part of a permanent exhibit, focusing on the AES and sonic deception training, when the museum opens at its new location next year.

The site of the new location, expected to open next summer, is outside of the installation fence, near the Gasoline Alley Gate, on Route 26.

"Basically, we just want to shine a light onto this amazing history of Pine Camp, and the innovative training that happened here," Mr. Scanlin said in an Army news release. "To me, it's seeing this continuity that Pine Camp and Fort Drum has continued to serve as a location for some pretty high-end, unique Army innovation."

The new collection includes articles and newspaper clippings of the **GhostArmy**, a copy of the official history of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, various correspondences and photographs.

"The photos are interesting because they can be used for educational and display purposes," Mr. Scanlin told the Times. "They're ready to be used in a way the archival documents aren't."

Mr. Scanlin said that some of the most complex, technical training for the **GhostArmy** was conducted at Pine Camp.

"The unit mission for the AES was sonic deception, and this is where they turned the concept into reality in a tac-

tical environment," he said. "Soldiers would have had to learn how to use this highly technical equipment, and make it work in different environments and situations. We have pictures of soldiers angling speakers on an M-10 Tank Destroyer, so they practiced how they would project the sound over long distances."

Bruce Rippeteau said the technology was put to use in the German theater near the end of the war by the Allies.

"It worked really well," he said. "It worked so well, that the Germans returned fire."

This meant that the sonic teams had to make a quick exit.

"They came back in the morning and everything was ripped to shreds from an artillery bombardment targeting what the Germans thought was real," Mr. Rippeteau said. "The big picture of all of this is that it just introduced a lot of confusion on the battlefield. Nothing lasted very long. It worked best at night when nobody could test whether there was somebody out there or not."

A synchronization of effort was required to produce sounds; vehicle movement on one track, personnel movement and chatter on another, and maybe a third audio track with other ambient sound - each on its own speaker system.



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Prairie**

US Air Force
1985-2010



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Ghosts

From T15

Mr. Scanlin said that all that noise wouldn't be played on one track because people don't hear that way, and authentic duplication of sound was paramount to mission success.

"I'm really interested in learning more about this technology, and the tactics and techniques they were trying to figure out here," he said. "We've got access to some of that now. I think this is a really profound piece of the story that could have easily been hidden because of the classification. But now we're beginning to know more about it."

Virtually every unit in the "ghost" program disappeared from existence after the war. Those who served in the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops were not allowed to talk about what they did, and it wasn't until the 1990s when details of their story became declassified.

Darrel Rippeteau, the Washington, D.C., architect, is also a Vietnam War veteran. He hopes the family's donation brings a greater sense of appreciation for what goes into a military campaign.

"I suppose it's true of many other major movements that not only is there a direct and overt action, but the things that are done behind the scenes and covertly to advance a cause are extraordinary," he said.

It's also notable, he said, that the "ghost" program was non-violent.

"They just expended their energies and did not achieve the goals they might have achieved by shooting up real tanks, real soldiers and bombing convoys and things of that nature," he said. "To me, it's so fascinating to try to skirt around the war and win that way."

'adds to the story' In 2002, Darrel D. Rippeteau, who retired from the local Army Reserves unit in 1977, met with James Neville, former Fort Drum curator, to donate a collection of material in the hopes that sharing informa-



Units are lined up in November of 1944 at Army Experimental Station Pine Camp. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

tion would draw further attention to those who served in these secretive units. At the time, Mr. Neville compared the amount of known history as having 50 pieces of a 3,000-piece puzzle.

With the recent donation, more is known about the program.

"Even today, there is so much we still don't know," Mr. Scanlin said. "But to me, what we have gotten from the family really adds to the story. Everyone sees the story from the operational perspective of what the Ghost Army did in northern Europe. We've really expanded the understanding of what the AES did here and what they contributed to the war."

For example, Mr. Scanlin said that several photos from November 1944 included in the recent donation confirm that the Army's "Oscar" paratrooper decoys were test-launched at Pine Camp during a demonstration for top military brass.

"They were clearly brought here to be used as part of a demonstration," Mr. Scanlin said. "But I haven't found in the documents where they helped to develop them. But I can't imagine otherwise how they would come to be used here. As a demonstration, AES had some sort of a finger into the program."

The German Army, Mr. Scanlin said, was the first to use dummy paratroopers in 1940 during the invasion of

Holland and Belgium to incite panic. The British developed their own decoy called "Rupert" before the U.S. code named their own.

"Residents in this area were probably aware that this demonstration was happening, but they probably weren't talking about it," Mr. Scanlin said. "There was a war going on, and people had a better sense of national security - if someone said not to talk about something, it was highly likely you would not talk."

'meticulous' records The items recently donated to the Fort Drum museum were found at Darrel D. Rippeteau's homes in Florida and Wellesley Island. Many of the photos have a personal touch.

"This is in his architectural hand-writing and on the back are other things written," Mrs. Rippeteau Heffron said while holding one of the photos, many which are plaque-like, attached to a durable base layer. "He was very good at labeling things. We just kept finding pictures and we gave them to Sepp."

The family also donated various files.

"My father was a meticulous record keeper," Mrs. Rippeteau Heffron said. "There were caches."

Bruce and Jane are seasonal residents of the Cape Vincent area. Bruce also has a home in Nebraska and Jane also resides in London, England. All three Rippeteau children are graduates of Watertown



Executive officer Darrel Rippeteau, at microphone on right, looks on with commanding officer Col. Hilton Howell Railey, foreground, as they conduct a briefing on Ghost Army training at Pine Camp in 1944. Courtesy Rippeteau Collection

High School. Bruce is an acclaimed archaeologist who received his doctorate from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, and studied a wide range of topics from Paleo-Indian pueblos to efforts to recover the iron-clad USS Monitor and the H.L. Hunley submarine. He was state archaeologist for Colorado from 1976 to 1984 and for South Carolina from 1984 to 2004. He once served as vice president of the oil and gas exploration company Powers Elevation.

Jane Rippeteau Heffron graduated from the University of Rochester and received a master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. She has worked at the Washington Post and at McGraw-Hill with its weekly magazine, Engineering News Record, the bible of the construction industry. She later worked for The Financial Times in London before running a publishing department for investment research at Citigroup.

Mr. Rippeteau is buried at the family's Wellesley Island cemetery plot. He married Donna Doris Hiatt of Odell, Neb. in 1939; she died in 1988 and in 1991 he married C. Joyce Spencer of Washington, D.C. Joyce Rippeteau now resides at an assisted living facility in Fairport, Monroe County.

Their father, Bruce said, "set a good example of working hard as a business per-

son."

In 1971, St. Lawrence University, Canton, presented Darrell D. Rippeteau an Outstanding Citizen Award for his service to the north country. His community service included president of the Greater Watertown Chamber of Commerce, director of the National Bank of Northern New York (now Key Bank), president of the Northern New York-Fort Drum Chapter of the Association of the United States Army and trustee of the Jefferson County Historical Society.

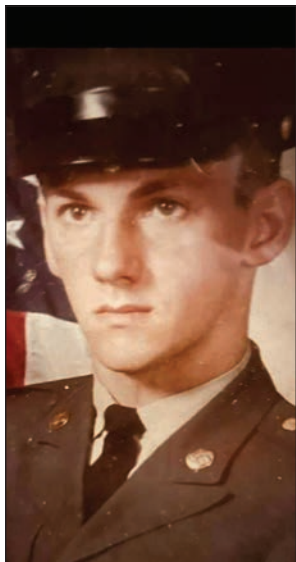
He often stressed the beneficial connection between his military training and how it related to his professional success and his community involvement.

"He tried to send those values right down the chain," his daughter said. "He was also involved in the community. He started this and he started that, helping here and helping there. But he still managed to enliven our lives."

She recalled "magical" times - from her dad piloting his Piper Cherokee (dubbed the Pterodactyl) with his awed children aloft with him to the down-to-Earth strolls and chats at his tree farms.

"It was all pretty magical stuff for us kids," Jane said. "We had wonderful upbringings. We're grateful for that. We could have the same conversations about my mom."

LOCAL
HEROES



**Frank
Clark**

US Army
1975-1979

LOCAL
HEROES



**Ernest M.
Johnston**

US Army
Pvt
WWI
4 Years

LOCAL
HEROES



**Carl
Johnston**

US Army
Sgt
Vietnam/Desert
Storm
23 years

LOCAL HEROES



**Richard A.
Johnston**

US Army
MSgt.
Vietnam
23 years

LOCAL HEROES

**Calvin W.
Johnston**



US Army
Pvt
Korea
4 years



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LOCAL HEROES

Robert Schexnayder

US Army
Lt. Colonel (retired)
1991-2015



LOCAL HEROES

Doc
Hernandez

US Army
6 years
16 months in Iraq



LOCAL HEROES

James H. DuFort

US Army
World War II
Lived in Malone



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U.S. ski team to honor legacy of 10th Mountain Division

By **CHRIS BROCK**

cbrock@wdt.net

The legacy of the 10th Mountain Division will be on display at the 2026 Winter Olympics in Italy, a country where the division's heritage took root.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard has announced that the U.S. Army is the official armed forces partner of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. The partnership honors the 10th Mountain Division's distinguished legacy which led to the creation of America's modern ski and snowboard industry.

As part of the partnership, U.S. Ski and Snowboard athletes will don Army/10th Mountain Division patches on team outerwear.

The Army's investment will be used to support the U.S. Ski & Snowboard athletes as they enter the 2025-26 season, including the Milano Cortina Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games in Italy, which begin Feb. 6.

The U.S. Army's legacy in mountain warfare was forged during World War II with the highly trained soldiers of its 10th Mountain Division. The 10th Light Division (Alpine) was constituted on July 10,



Members of what was then called the 10th Light Infantry Division (Alpine), prepare for ski training at Camp Hale, Colorado in the 1940s. Men were recruited by the National Ski Patrol. U.S. Army

1943, and activated that July 15 at Camp Hale, Colorado. The Army reactivated the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum in 1985.

In February of 1945, division soldiers scaled Italy's Riva Ridge to secure a critical victory that shifted the momentum of the war. The Allies needed a way to take

Riva Ridge, which held the German's observation post, a position used to watch for enemies, direct fire and warn of approaching soldiers. Defeating this observation post was a critical piece in breaking the Gothic Line and would enable the Allies to advance further toward Germany and end the Axis' presence

in Italy.

Upon returning home, many of the 10th Mountain Division soldiers founded ski resorts and ski schools nationwide that became the foundation of the American ski industry and fueled the sport's widespread popularity.

"Many Americans may



Athletes will don an Army/10th Mountain Division patch on team outerwear. Image courtesy of U.S. Ski & Snowboard



not realize that two of their favorite winter pastimes, skiing and snowboarding, have deep roots in the U.S. Army," Brig. Gen. Matthew W. Braman, Army Chief Mar-

See SKI T32

Fort Drum Museum information

Army.mil

MISSION

The mission of the 10th Mountain Division & Fort Drum Museum is to collect and preserve the material history of the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum, using the collected material to present the history of each from its formation to the present, with the goal of being honest and accurate as well as establishing esprit de corps in Soldiers, their Families, civilian personnel, and the local community.

SERVICES

The museum displays the history of the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum. Upon request, the museum is able to

provide group tours tailored to the educational needs of the group. In addition, small special functions (such as promotion ceremonies) can be hosted in the museum. The museum offers reproduction period uniforms for use in official functions. Soldiers and researchers can solicit advice and assistance in historical research from the museum staff. Units can request the museum to provide leader professional development briefings on a variety of topics or coordinate staff rides. Of course, volunteer opportunities are always available.

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The museum covers the his-

tory of 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum. It starts with the native peoples and covers the arrival of the U.S. Army into the North Country of New York. Next, it covers the development of the installation through present era. The other major theme area is the history of the famed 10th Mountain Division from its inception in the mountains of Colorado and wartime baptism in the mountains of Italy. The exhibit ends with the modern history of the 10th Mountain Division, where it becomes the most deployed division in the Army, including numerous wartime tours in Iraq and Afghanistan.

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Desert Storm,
Operation
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Somalia.

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LOCAL HEROES

Laura J. Chichester

US Army
Colonel (retired)
1982-2009



LOCAL HEROES

Alexander McDonald

US Army
1st year served



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Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

END OF WORLD WAR I, November 11,12,13, 1918

DAILY AVERAGE CIRCULATION FOR OCTOBER 18,263

THE WEATHER
Tonight: Fair, warmer.
Tuesday: Fair, warmer.

Watertown Daily Times.

Circulation Greater Than That of Any Other Northern New York Newspaper.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., MONDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 11, 1918.

Vol. 58, No. 173

GERMANY SIGNS ARMISTICE; MUST EVACUATE LEFT BANK OF THE RHINE RIVER AND GIVE UP ALSACE-LORRAINE TO ABANDON BREST-LITOVSK TREATY AND LEAVE RUSSIA

ALLIES TO HOLD BRIDGE CROSSINGS OF RHINE AT COBLENTZ, COLOGNE AND MAYENCE

MUST PAY FOR ALL DAMAGES

ARMY STILL HAS BIG WORK TO DO

MUST PLAY IMPORTANT PART IN DISARMING AND GUARDING ENEMY.

TROOP MOVEMENTS WILL

ALL DRAFT CALLS STOPPED BY ORDER OF PRESIDENT

Movement of 300,000 Men to Camps In November Cancelled As Result of Armistice

HISTORY'S GREATEST WAR IS ENDED BY ARMISTICE

Former Kaiser Fugitive In Holland--Charles Stripped of Power and Empire Shattered

REVOLT IN GERMANY SPREADS

Red Flag Flies Over Chief Cities As Armies Lay Down Arms--England May Demand Extradition of Kaiser

Washington, Nov. 11.—By order of President Wilson, Provost Marshal General Crowder today directed the cancellation of all outstanding draft calls, stopping the movement during the next five days of 252,000 men and setting aside all November calls for over 300,000 men.

Washington, Nov. 11.—Preparations were made immediately after news of the armistice came for cancelling the November draft calls, under which nearly 300,000 men are ordered to camp between today and Friday. Some of the men were more.

polluting of springs, wells, etc.) under penalty of reprints.

Nine—The right of requisition shall be exercised by the allies and the United States armies in all occupied territory. The upkeep of the troops of occupation in the Rhine land (excluding Alsace-Lorraine), shall be charged to the German government.

Repatriation Without Reciprocity.

Ten—An immediate repatriation without reciprocity, regarding to detailed conditions, which shall be fixed, of all allied and United States prisoners of war. The allied powers and the United States shall be

Terms of Armistice Compel Germany to Vacate All

DAILY AVERAGE CIRCULATION FOR OCTOBER 18,263

THE WEATHER
Tonight: Fair, warmer.
Wednesday: Fair, warmer.

Watertown Daily Times.

Circulation Greater Than That of Any Other Northern New York Newspaper.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 12, 1918.

Vol. 58, No. 174

EMPEROR CHARLES ABDICATES THE AUSTRIAN THRONE; WITH WAR ENDED, AMERICA TURNS TO TASKS OF PEACE

AMERICA TURNS TO RECONSTRUCTION

GERMANY APPEALS TO U. S. FOR HELP

“Assassin,” Hurlled By Dutch Crowd At Erstwhile Kaiser

REDS TO HOLD ALL CABINET OFFICES

MUST HELP FEED FAMISHED WORLD

CHARLES’ EMPIRE BROKEN DURING TWO YEARS REIGN

Prepared to Take Up Tasks of Peace With War Over.

Millions Face Starvation Without Allied Aid, Says Dr. Solf.

PEACE CONFERENCE IS FIRST PROBLEM

FRICITION BETWEEN FACTIONS IN POWER

Amsterdam, Monday, Nov. 11.—A great mystery still is being made of the destination in Holland of William Hohenzollern, the former German emperor. Three different country seats of the Bentinck family now are mentioned as his temporary abode.

The former German emperor made an inglorious entry into Holland according to reports from Eysden. At 7:30 Sunday morning ten travel stained automobiles driven by Prussian officers were seen coming slowly

German Socialists and Independent Socialists to Form Joint Ministry.

REFUSE TO ADMIT BOLSHEVISM PARTIS

Nation's Opportunity to Aid Stricken Humanity, Says Hoover.

AMERICA MUST BE READY FOR FURTHER SACRIFICES

Outbreak Among Discontented Peoples Compelled Him to Desert Germany and Seek Peace

DAILY AVERAGE CIRCULATION FOR OCTOBER 18,263

THE WEATHER
Tonight: Probably snow.
Thursday: Colder.

Watertown Daily Times.

Circulation Greater Than That of Any Other Northern New York Newspaper.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 13, 1918.

Vol. 58, No. 175

CROWN PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM REPORTED SHOT AND KILLED BY GERMAN SOLDIERS ON DUTCH FRONTIER

WILSON PROMISES AID TO GERMANY

GOVERNMENT HAS REINSURANCE PLAN

MAKING GERMANY POWERLESS

BOLSHEVIK SPIRIT SPREADS IN EUROPE

ANOTHER DISPATCH SAYS HE IS NOW IN HOLLAND

Save Allies Will Supply Food WILL BE OPEN TO ALL SOL.

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- GORDON COURT 1 Gordon Court, Alexandria Bay Vacancy
- HILL TOP MANOR 40 Symond Sq. Colton..... Vacancy
- MILLTOWN MEADOWS 8130 Schell Ave., Evans Mills..... Vacancy
- MILL SITE MANOR 102 112 Mill St., Hammond
- MEADOWVIEW APARTMENTS 8 Lisbon St., Heuvelton
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- COLUMBIA HIGH MANOR 158 High St., Morristown
- CASTLE RIDGE MANOR 72 Church St., Lisbon
- LOUISVILLE HOUSING 16 Arena Dr., Louisville
- RUSSELL ATTWATER 3606 CR 24, Russell
- CAMBRAY CT. APTS 68 W. Main St., Gouverneur..... Vacancy
- CAMBRAY TERRACE 24 Mill St., Gouverneur (55 and older or disabled)..... Vacancy
- MILL YARD ESTATES 20 Barton St., Parishville
- HAMILTON GARDENS 80 LaGrasse St., Waddington..... Vacancy
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Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

END OF WORLD WAR II, May 8, August 14-15, 1945

Daily
Average Circulation
for March
41,937

Watertown Daily Times

THE WEATHER
Tonight: Fair
and cooler.
Wednesday: Fair
and cooler.

Vol. 85, No. 14 Entered in the postoffice at Watertown, N. Y., as second class matter. WATERTOWN, N. Y., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 8, 1945 FIVE CENTS LAST EDITION

**ALLIED CHIEFS PROCLAIM COMPLETE VICTORY
IN EUROPE; WARN THAT JAPS MUST BE BEATEN**

Reich Pleads for Mercy After Signing Surrender

Iron-Faced Prussian
Leader Makes Plea as
European War Is Ended
Witness Describes Historic Scene



Truman Designates Sunday
As Day of National Prayer
Churchill Cites Need of De-
feating Japan—Must De-
No Formal V-E Day President, on 61st Birthday,
Says Blows Will Continue

Daily
Average Circulation
for July
41,946

Watertown Daily Times

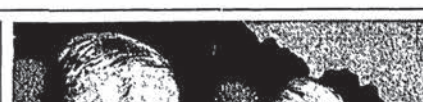
THE WEATHER
Tonight: Thunder-
showers.
Wednesday: Cooler.

Vol. 85, No. 96 Entered in the postoffice at Watertown, N. Y., as second class matter. WATERTOWN, N. Y., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 14, 1945 FIVE CENTS LAST EDITION

**JAPS STILL STALL AS WORLD
HEARS SURRENDER ON WAY**

Peace Hopes Touch
Off Demonstration

SUPERFORTS HIT
HONSHU TARGETS



Allies Await Note After

Daily
Average Circulation
for July
41,946

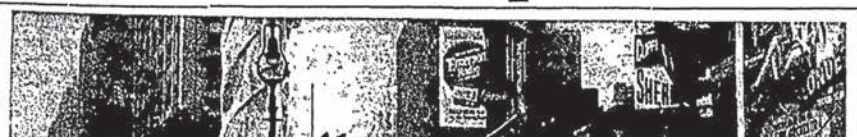
Watertown Daily Times

THE WEATHER
Tonight: Fair
and cooler.
Thursday: Fair.

Vol. 85, No. 97 Entered in the postoffice at Watertown, N. Y., as second class matter. WATERTOWN, N. Y., WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 15, 1945 FIVE CENTS LAST EDITION

**World Enters New Era of Peace As Japan
Surrenders to Victorious Allies; MacArthur
Is Appointed Supreme Allied Commander**

RATIONING OF
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Truman Cites Peace Tasks
As World Enters New Era

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Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

END OF THE VIETNAM WAR, April 30, 1975

IN THE TIMES
Los Angeles Times
Washington Post
Chicago Daily News
UP-International
New York Times
Associated Press

Watertown Daily Times

THE WEATHER
Tonight-Cloudy
Thursday-Rain

Vol. 115, No. 8

Phone 782-1000

WATERTOWN, N.Y. 13601, WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 30, 1975

LAST EDITION

FIFTEEN CENTS

Communist Army Rolls Into Saigon

1,400 Refugees Arrive in U.S.

Holdouts Overwhelmed After Surrender

Thousands of South Vietnamese have joined a widening stream of refugees bound for the United States and what could be months of grappling with red tape and uncertainty.

About 1,400 of the refugees, some who saw their homeland torn by war, the government they supported in collapse, arrived at West Coast military bases Tuesday. Many, many others filled a temporary tent city on Guam.

Military officials on the Pacific island listed the refugee population early today at 28,000. They said it would reach 40,000 as evacuees streamed in from initial processing centers on Wake Island and at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines.

Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott told reporters that by noon Tuesday, 45,000 refugees had been evacuated from the country. Later in the day, President Ford said in a statement the evacuation of Americans was complete. Hours later, the government surrendered and North Vietnamese and Viet Cong troops entered the city.

Military and Immigration and Naturalization Service workers on Guam said they cleared 2,000 refugees Tuesday for departure to the States and that they expected the rate to increase to 5,000 a day in 10 days.

Most of the first to pass through Camp Pendleton, Calif., the sprawling Marine base near San Diego, were Americans with Vietnamese wives, their children and their families. By late afternoon, many had been processed and were headed home.

But others arrived with neither homes nor friends in this country, and for them military and civilian authorities hurriedly prepared necessary shelter, food and medical services.

The Pentagon said temporary homes would be provided for refugees at Pendleton, at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida and at Ft. Chaffee, Ark. Spokesmen at Eglin and Chaffee said the first arrivals by the end of the week.

Preparations were being made to provide housing for 20,000 refugees at each of the installations, officials said.

There was no clear word on how long the refugees would remain at the bases. One soldier at Chaffee said he had been issued 90-day orders.

Even the Kitchen Sinks Carried Off

South Vietnamese Loot U.S. Embassy

SAIGON (AP) — The six-story U.S. Embassy in Saigon withstood a determined Viet Cong commando attack in 1968, and five Americans died in its defense.

Today, without its armed guards, the embassy was no match for thousands of Saigonese getting their last American handout.

They took everything, including the kitchen sinks and a man's suit to shred secret documents.

The bronze plaque with names of the five American servicemen who died in the embassy in 1968 was torn from the lobby wall. It lay amid piles of documents



Refugees from the last days of the war in Vietnam stretch out on bunks in a quonset hut at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Tuesday after their arrival from Guam.

They were the first of approximately 20,000 that will eventually go through the marine base.

Malpractice Bills Approved By Senate, Sent to Assembly

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — The Republican-controlled Senate has approved bills to provide medical malpractice mess squarely in the lap of the Democratic-controlled Assembly.

Tuesday night, the Senate approved bills to continue to provide medical malpractice insurance to the state's doctors and hospitals and to try to hold down

the cost of coverage by limiting a patient's right to sue and by speeding up proceedings in adjudicating malpractice claims.

At the same time, Democratic leaders of the Assembly tried without success to get agreement in a party conference on their own proposal—which differed from the Senate bill—and went home without convening a late-night session which they had ear-

lier ballyhooed to counter the Senate action.

Each house appeared eager to be the first to act as time continued to run out for a solution to the problem and differences grew on how to solve it.

In the Senate, one bill was approved with the support of all but 15 Democrats, while the second breezed through with just 12 "no" votes from Democrats.

Bill Proposed To Protect Nursing Home Residents

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A nursing home resident could bring a class action suit against the owner of a home which has provided inadequate care, under legislation proposed by a special state commission.

Currently a resident only can go to court for individual damages, but not for all the residents, thus reducing the chances that elderly persons will bring a suit against mistreatment

in a nursing home.

Morris Abram, chairman of the Moreland Act Commission on Nursing Homes appointed by Gov. Hugh Carey in January, announced the class action proposal Tuesday as part of a series of nursing home bills offered to the state legislature.

Abram compared the class action legislation to stockholders' suits, in

which one stockholder can sue for damages on behalf of all shareholders. "It's the way corporations are kept as honest as they are in America—by virtue of a stockholders' suit," Abram said.

"I think it's a great idea," commented Assemblyman Alan Mevesi, D-Queens, chairman of an Assembly subcommittee which proposed nursing home legislation.

Under the second bill, unanimous findings of medical panels which screen malpractice cases would for the first time be admissible as evidence in malpractice trials.

A third Senate bill, to transfer disciplinary power over doctors to the Health Department from the state Board of Regents, was stalled in the Senate. Backers said they did not have the votes to pass that bill.

One of the bills passed by the Senate would enable some 200 private insurance companies to pool their resources to provide medical malpractice insurance to doctors and hospitals. It would also provide for the state to have a monopoly in the medical malpractice business should the pool insurance dry up.

The same measure would reduce the amount of time in which a patient could file a malpractice claim against a doctor, speed up court action in malpractice cases and remove from doctors the burden of proving they are not negligent in some cases involving claims of malpractice.

Under the second bill, unanimous findings of medical panels which screen malpractice cases would for the first time be admissible as evidence in malpractice trials.

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SAIGON (UPI)—A triumphant Communist army, riding tanks, trucks and captured American jeeps, took over Saigon today and raised the Viet Cong flag over the presidential palace in what the Communist world hailed as a great victory of historic importance.

The Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops — jubilant over the unconditional surrender that ended 35 years of war against American, French, Japanese and South Vietnamese forces—seized Saigon Radio and announced they were renaming the South Vietnamese capital "Ho Chi Minh City."

The Viet Cong news agency GVA said later the Communists "have completely liberated Saigon."

The occupation of the city three hours and a half after the last Americans were flown out in U.S. Marine helicopters was mostly peaceful, but there were some sporadic firefights in the capital as last ditch defenders fought suicide battles.

One by one, the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops overwhelmed the holdouts and gained complete control of all of Saigon. They crashed tanks through the wall at the presidential palace and hoisted a huge Viet Cong flag—red on the top, blue on the bottom with a gold star in the center. President Duong Van Minh was reported in custody.

UPI photographer Hoang Van Cuong rode one of the Russian-made tanks into the presidential compound surrounded by approving, smiling soldiers who shouted "Good guys, good." The Viet Cong made no attempts to interfere with picture taking or news coverage.

One noisy fight broke out in front of the presidential palace—now the Viet Cong headquarters—as UPI correspondent Alan Dawson was attempting to make contact with senior Communist officials to discuss news and photograph operations.

Dawson spent 10 minutes in the wake of a general attack behind a tree. The Communists put out a tremendous volume of tank, machine gun and rifle fire and Dawson was able to pull out after about 10 minutes.

Other fighting was reported underway with holdout paratroopers near the Saigon Zoo at the north edge of Saigon and with Special Forces troops at the southwest edge.

The North Vietnamese News Agency, in a Hanoi broadcast, said it had moved in Tokyo, reported fierce fighting in Saigon despite the surrender, but said South Vietnamese officers, soldiers, policemen and administrative personnel were "disintegrating" in the wake of a general attack. It said people in the Saigon area were rising up to join the liberation forces.

When a board of persons tried to set off down the Saigon River to the South China Sea, a Viet Cong officer ordered the boat to fire a round across the ship's bow. The boat turned around and returned to the Saigon dock.

There was no comment from Washington from President Ford other than the statement that the American evacuation "is a chapter in the American experience." Secretary of State See Communists -Pg. 12



Secretary of State Kissinger calls for a question at Washington news conference Tuesday.

Hanoi's Tactics Surprised U.S.

By Peter Lisagor
Chicago Daily News

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials thought a negotiated solution to the Vietnam war was highly probable up until last Sunday night, according to Sec. of State Henry A. Kissinger.

Then, suddenly and inexplicably, North Vietnam "changed signals" and shifted to the military option which forced President Ford to order the emergency evacuation of all Americans late yesterday.

Kissinger even indicated that a small contingent of Americans might have remained in Saigon if Hanoi had not switched its tactics. The explanation appeared to be an effort to blunt the harsh, painful edges of a forced departure of Americans from a country it had tried for 15 years to save from a Communist takeover.

Both Ford and his chief foreign policy adviser called for a closing of ranks and avoidance of recriminations as the somber process of weighing the consequences of "a chapter in the American experience" began in official quarters here.

Kissinger appeared in a televised postscript of that experience after hours of waiting for U.S. Ambassador Graham Martin to sign.

U.S. To Reduce Bases in Greece

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — The United States has agreed to cut back its military presence in Greece, but the Greek government is allowing some American bases to remain.

The two governments announced Tuesday night that the American air base adjoining the Athens airport will be closed, six destroyers of the U.S. 6th Fleet will no longer use Eleusis, near Athens, as a home port, and American bases remaining in Greece will be placed under Greek command.

But the joint announcement said the negotiations would continue and "agreement is also expected on the elimination, reduction and conservation of other United States facilities in Greece."

nal his departure from the embassy in Saigon with the last Americans who wished to leave.

The President commended the armed forces who successfully accomplished the dangerous airlift and Martin and his staff for acquitting themselves "so well under difficult conditions."

While admitting the defeat of U.S. objectives in the long war, Kissinger sought to concentrate on the final stages of the American withdrawal of its remaining personnel and to leave the impression that diplomatic maneuvers almost brought off a "humane political solution."

It was seen by some skeptical observers as an attempt to counter any interpretation that Americans were finally kicked out of Vietnam.

Kissinger suggested in his hour-long briefing of newsmen that, with the American presence removed, there could yet be a negotiated settlement of Saigon's fate instead of the surrender that was announced a few hours later.

Without elaborating, he also stated that the Russians provided "some help" in the evacuation during recent days. He seemed to confirm reports circulating here last week that the Communists had agreed to hold off attacking Saigon for several days to permit evacuations "without substantial opposition."

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Ski

From T20

keting Officer, said in a news release.

Braman, who served as the Deputy Commanding General for the 10th Mountain Division from 2022-24, added, "We are proud to partner with U.S. Ski & Snowboard to bring awareness to the 10th Mountain Division's achievements including the development of several Olympic athletes and a significant impact on the recreational ski industry's culture."

"Partnering with the U.S.

Army has been in the works for a while, and goes back to a training camp in Portillo, Chile, where the soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division were training on the same mountain as our women's alpine team," said Sophie Goldschmidt, President and CEO of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. "Since then, we have been looking to work together to showcase the history of the 10th Mountain Division and its contributions to our sport. It is an authentic fit, knowing they were instrumental in founding the infrastructure of skiing and snowboarding in America, and built many of the resorts we ski and ride on today."

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Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

FORT DRUM EXPANSION, September 11, 1984

Drum Wins Division

Expansion May Spark New Economic Boom



By Alan Emory
Times Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — A final decision to station a major part of a new light infantry division at Fort Drum was expected to be announced today by the Army and Rep. David O'B. Martin, R-Canton.

The division will be known as the 10th Infantry Division. It will be activated in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1, and phased in over the next three years.

The result could be a 9 percent increase in Watertown area population and 1,420 more jobs for Northern New Yorkers at the Army post.

According to advance word received by The Watertown Times, the division headquarters and one brigade will be stationed at Fort Drum, as the "preferred alternative," along with the aviation combat brigade.

A second brigade will be stationed "temporarily" at Fort Benning, Ga., while the division's third brigade will be made up of existing National Guard and reserve forces.

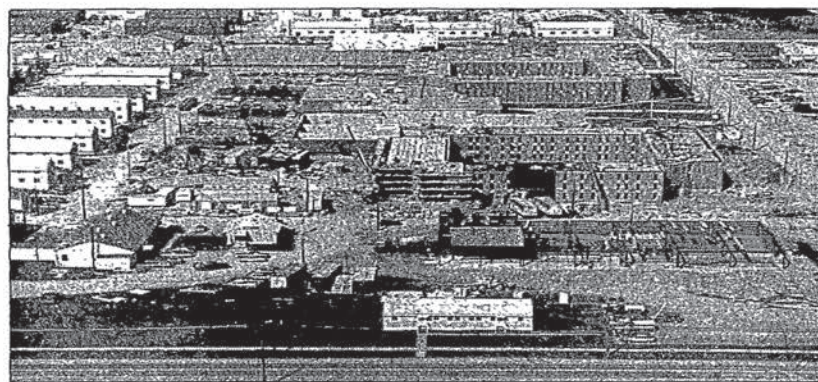
The Guard-reserve brigade will train and participate in operations with the parent division.

The Pentagon estimates that there will be 8,960 more military personnel at Fort Drum, along with 11,200 dependents — a population increase of 20,160.

The division will be commanded by Brig. Gen. William S. Carpenter Jr., the famed "lonely end" of West Point football teams.

General Carpenter has been at Fort McPherson, Ga., for the past several weeks working with a planning group on setting up the new division. Fort McPherson is headquarters for the Army Forces Command.

Army projections have indicated substantial residential and commercial development, with an in-



Construction for the light infantry division will dwarf the largest series of construction projects at Fort Drum since World War II, the more than \$28 million in new construction completed in the past four years for the stationing of the 76th Engineer Battalion. This aerial view shows the battalion headquarters and classroom, two 300-man barracks, five-company administration and supply building, and the 600-man dining facility. Other projects included 232-units of family housing.

'Pooper Scooper' Needed?

Amish Horses Pose Problem

Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

END OF GULF WAR, February 28, 1991

Watertown Daily Times

THE WEATHER
Tonight — Snow likely
Friday — Partly sunny
Complete report — Page 24

© 1991 Watertown Daily Times
January Daily Average Circulation: 40,235

Thursday, February 28, 1991

Last Edition *

35 Cents

Cease-Fire Holding on Battlefields

Optimism On Rise

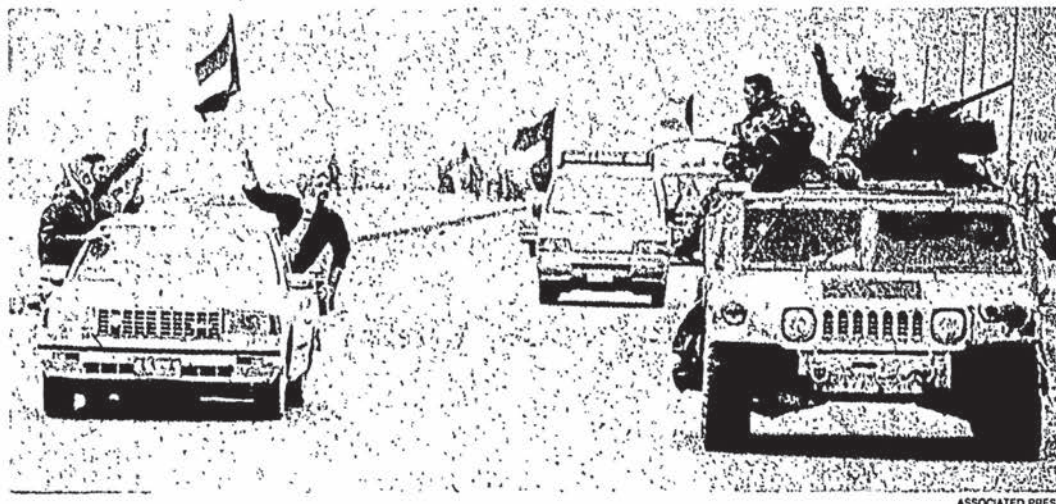
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The military success in the Persian Gulf War has triggered an unprecedented surge in national optimism, a new Washington Post poll shows.

Between October and last weekend, the percentage of Americans who responded that the nation is going in the right direction has shot up from 19 percent to 58 percent, while the proportion saying things are going "pretty seriously off on the wrong track" has dropped from 78 percent to 39 percent.

That is the most rapid climb in any comparable period since The Post and ABC News began asking the question in 1982 and brings the confidence level to a high last reached at the beginning of President Ronald Reagan's second term.

Several private pollsters and opinion analysts cautioned that the



Kuwaiti citizens waving their nation's flag salute U.S. Marines from Task Force Ripper on the First Marine Division as they drive a Humvee

toward Kuwait's International airport Wednesday. The Marines took control of the airport after some of the heaviest combat of the war.

First Troops Could

Few Reports Of Violations

Associated Press

The battlefields of the Persian Gulf were quiet today. Saddam Hussein's Iraq, broken by a six-week beating in the air and on the ground, bowed to all allied demands and heeded to the cease-fire announced by President Bush.

World leaders and ordinary Americans alike hailed the cease-fire that appeared to herald the end of the Persian Gulf War — and turned to the sober task of reckoning its costs in blood, money and hatred.

"The cease-fire is holding fine," said the commander of British forces, Lt. Gen. Peter de la Billiere. "I don't think there's much left of the Iraqis to have an incident with."

Brig. Gen. Richard Neal, speaking for the U.S. Central Command, said there had been several violations of the cease-fire by Iraqis, but said those responsible probably had not heard that hostilities had ceased.

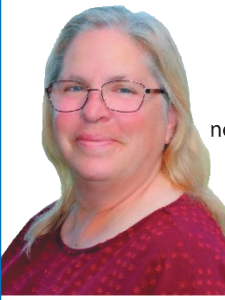
In one case, soldiers with the 18th Airborne Corps came under fire 4½ hours after

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LOCAL HEROES





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Newspapers from the Past: Watertown Daily Times

END OF THE IRAQ WAR, December 16, 2011

Watertown Daily Times

ST. LAWRENCE EDITION

www.watertowndailytimes.com 75¢

Ground is broken for apartments



AMANDA MORRISON ■ WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

From left, town of Watertown Supervisor Joel R. Bartlett; Assemblyman Kenneth D. Blankenbush, R-Black River; DANC CEO James W. Wright; state Sen. Patricia A. Ritchie, R-Heuvelton; Watertown Daily Times Editor and Co-Publisher John B. Johnson Jr.; Maj. Gen. Mark A. Milley; Lt.

Gov. Robert J. Duffy, COR Development Co. President Steven F. Alello and Empire Housing and Development Corp. Co-Executive Director Robert M. Sekowski ceremonially break ground Thursday morning for the Beaver Meadow project at Towne Center.

BEAVER MEADOW: Lt. Gov. Duffy among attendees; project lauded as filling need

By NANCY MADSEN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

The groundbreaking ceremony for an apartment project gave state and local government officials the opportunity to show their commitment to Fort Drum and to filling the need for housing.

"This will create great safe, affordable housing for soldiers, their families and the residents of the community," Lt. Gov. Robert J. Duffy said at the ceremony for Beaver Meadow Apartments, a 296-unit project that soon will begin construction. "This will also create jobs, so it's a win-win for everybody."

Beaver Meadow will be built by COR Development Co., Fayetteville, on property south of Target in the Towne Center plaza. The project includes 60 units that will be supported by \$2.4 million in tax credits for low- and moderate-income units through the state Division of Housing and Community Renewal. That award and

\$4 million to the Community Rental Housing Program were announced Dec. 8 as part of the regional economic development council awards.

The committee gave almost \$7 million in awards to COR and the 394-unit Morgan Townhouses proposed by developer Morgan Management, Pittsford. The first \$7 million came from the Development Authority of the North Country, Jefferson County and the Jefferson County Industrial Development Agency.

Maj. Gen. Mark A. Milley, commanding general of the 10th Mountain Division, told Mr. Duffy that the financial commitment from the state was emblematic of the support of the region and state for his soldiers.

"Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division are of strategic importance to the entire nation," Gen. Milley said. "From the very beginning, the

See GROUND BREAKING A7

Regents urge boost for poorer schools

NNY MAY BENEFIT: Revised aid formula would help reverse cuts in state funding for essentials

By REENA SINGH
TIMES STAFF REPORTER

The state Board of Regents voted Monday to recommend changes to the school aid formula to help poorer districts.

Northern New York schools are the third poorest by region in the state, right behind districts in Central New York and the Southern Tier. If state legislators approve the change, local schools will get 73 percent of the increased state aid to fund necessities such as teaching aides and new classrooms. "The Regents recommend

the state appropriate all funds available to education within legal limits as a method for strengthening New York's economy through education," according to the Regents Proposal executive summary by Kenneth Slentz, associate commissioner for district services of the state education department. "This includes \$775 million in increased funds for General Support for Public Schools and \$50 million for the first year of implementation of per-

See SCHOOL A7

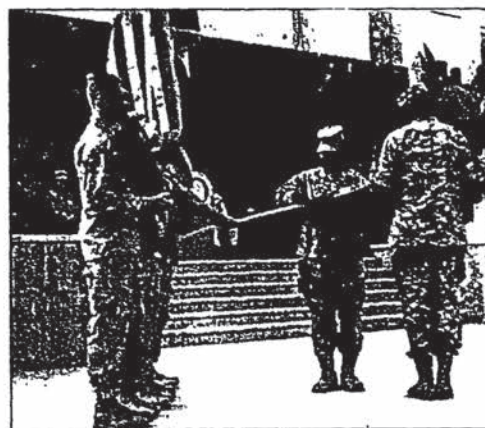
IRAQ WAR'S END OBSERVED

QUESTIONS REMAIN: Cost of 9-year U.S. role controversial

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Nearly nine years after American troops stormed across the Iraq border, U.S. officials quietly ended the bloody and bitterly divisive conflict here Thursday, but the debate over whether it was worth the cost in money and lives is yet unanswered.

While many of the speeches painted a picture of victory — for both the troops and the Iraqi people now set on a path for democracy — the gnawing questions remain: will Iraqis be able to forge their new government amid the still stub-



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Command Sgt. Major Joseph R. Allen, left, and Army Gen. Lloyd

Majority of housing allotments fall slightly

TIGHT MARKET: But sergeants with dependents get more

By MARC HELLER

TIMES WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

WASHINGTON — Many soldiers who arrive at Fort Drum next year will see their government-paid housing allowances fall — with one notable exception

Staff sergeants with dependents will receive bigger allowances, while more junior enlistees will have to make do

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