

KILROY WAS HERE!

Who the heck was KILROY?

In 1946 the American Transit Association, through its radio program, "Speak to America," sponsored a nationwide contest to find the REAL Kilroy. He was finally identified as a 46-year old shipyard worker during WWII. He worked as a checker at the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy, MA. His job was to go around and check on the number of rivets completed in the building of ships. Riveters were on piecework and got paid by the rivet. Kilroy would count a block of rivets and put a check mark in semi-waxed lumber chalk, so the rivets wouldn't be counted twice. When Kilroy went off duty, the riveters would erase the mark. Later on, an off-shift inspector would come through and count the rivets a second time, resulting in double pay for the riveters.

One day Kilroy's boss called him into his office. The foreman was upset about all the wages being paid to riveters, and asked him to investigate. It was then that he realized what had been going on. To fix the problem, Kilroy decided to stick with the waxy chalk, but put his checkmark on each job he inspected, and added KILROY WAS HERE in king-sized letters next to the check, and eventually added the sketch of the chap with the long nose peering over the fence and that became part of the Kilroy message. Once he did that, the riveters stopped trying to wipe away his marks.

His message apparently rang a bell with the servicemen, because they picked it up and spread it all over Europe and the South Pacific. Before the war's end, "Kilroy" had been here, there, and everywhere on the long haul to Berlin and Tokyo .

To the troops outbound in those ships, however, he was a complete mystery; all they knew for sure was that some jerk named Kilroy had "been there first." As a joke, U.S. servicemen began placing the graffiti wherever they landed, claiming it was already there when they arrived.

Kilroy became the U.S. super-GI who had always "already been" wherever GIs went. It became a challenge to place the logo in the most unlikely places imaginable (it is said to be atop Mt. Everest, The Statue of Liberty, and the underside of the Arch De Triumph. And as the war went on, the legend grew. Underwater demolition teams routinely sneaked ashore on Japanese-held islands in the Pacific to map the terrain for the coming invasions by U.S. troops (and thus, presumably, were the first GI's there). On one occasion, however, they reported seeing enemy troops painting over the Kilroy logo!

To help prove his authenticity in 1946, James Kilroy brought forward officials from the shipyard and some of the riveters as proof he was Killroy. So now You Know!



The Grave stone of Joe Boitnott, D Company, 168th Infantry is shown in this Dec 2014 photo.

Wreaths Across America

Shown is the photo taken at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery. Members of the Des Moines Chapter of the 34th Infantry Division Assn. helped support the placing wreaths on each of the over 2,000 tomb stones at the cemetery on Dec 7th, 2014. This is an annual event that that the Des Moines Chapter hopes to continue to support each year with labor and dollars.

The mission of the Wreaths Across America is:

To Remember, Honor, & Teach about the service and sacrifices of our veterans, active military, and their families. We will Never Forget.

*Remember the fallen who gave up their tomorrows with family and loved ones, so that we can enjoy our todays...

*Honor those who serve, the men and women of the armed forces who put themselves in harm's way to...

*Teach our children about the freedoms we enjoy each day, and they great cost at which they were...

The bottom photo was taken in the snow of Dec 2013.

The coordinator for the State of Iowa was Vietnam War Veteran, Patrick Palmersheim, who had served as Director of Iowa Veterans Affairs. Each state has a Wreaths Across America director. The WEB site for the non-profit is---

www.wreathscrossamerica.org



**CELEBRATING 68 YEARS
34TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

2015 REUNION REGISTRATION FORM - Eagan, MN

Friday & Saturday, October 2nd & 3rd, 2015

NAME _____

SPOUSE/GUEST(S) _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE () _____

E-MAIL _____

UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT _____

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS UPON ARRIVAL _____

REGISTRATION FEES (FRI – SAT) FOR Hospitality Room, Coffee & Soda, Fri Hors d oeuvres dinner, Entertainment, Association Meeting & Saturday Banquet Dinner & Bar

NUMBER OF PERSONS _____ X \$100.00 = TOTAL _____

SPECIAL SATURDAY ATTENDANCE ONLY Hospitality Room, Association Meeting, Entertainment, Bar & Sat Banquet Dinner

NUMBER OF PERSONS _____ X \$50.00 = TOTAL _____

PLEASE RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK BY U.S. MAIL TO:

MAJ Kristen Augé
34th ID Assn, Commanders Own Chapter
13865 South Robert Trail
Rosemount, MN 55068

W: 651-268-8093 C: 952-913-5979 Email: kristen.l.auge.mil@mail.mil

REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPT 10TH 2015

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE INTO MOTEL NOT LATER THEN SEPT 10TH 2015.
EACH ATTENDEE WILL MAKE THEIR OWN RESERVATIONS.

Sonesta ES Suites (Formerly the Residence Inn by Marriott)
3040 Eagandale Place
Eagan, MN 55121 651-688-0363 Toll-Free Reservation Center: 1-800-331-3131

\$89+tax/night (Double Queen Studio) and \$89 +tax/night (Single King).
All suites feature a kitchen with full-size appliances. Complimentary hot breakfast buffet.

34th Infantry Division National Membership Application Form

NOTE: If your address Label shows (L), (W), (T) or (5) you do not owe dues for the Current Year

- () Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Annual Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. Annual membership period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year. (Open to past and present members of units / organizations assigned to the 34th Inf Div or soldiers who have been members of the National Guard for six years or longer.)
- () Enclosed is \$10.00 for my Associate Membership in the 34th Infantry Division Association. (Annual Fee) (Period is – 1 Sep thru 31 Aug of each year). (Individuals who do not meet membership requirements, ie: Spouses , Friends, Other Services)
- () Enclosed is \$_____ for my LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the 34th Infantry Division Association.
(See Fee Schedule Below) {No Further Annual Fee}.
To Age 60 \$100.00 At age 60 & older \$50.00
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for a donation to the operation of the 34th Inf Div Assn.
- () Enclosed is \$ _____ for my donation to the 34th Infantry Division Memorial Fund.
(Maintain all monuments and annual flowers for the Cemeteries in North Africa, Italy & U.S.)

Name _____ Street _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Phone Number _____
 AGE _____ Military Unit/ Organization _____ Signature: _____

Note: The purpose of the 34th Infantry Division Association is to preserve the history of the 34th Divisional units & attached organizations of soldiers that have served their nation since 1917. The National Association schedules an annual meeting each September.

The National Secretary is COL (Ret) Russ Bierl. His E Mail address is bierlhome@msn.com The National Association WEB Site is <http://www.34ida.org> Phone No 515-252-4531 or email goldstarmuseum@iowa.gov
 A newsletter is sent to current members three times a year by U.S. mail. All newsletter are shown on the Association WEB site.
 The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum maintains an office for the association. WEB site www.iowanationalguard.com

Museum Store - 34th Inf Div Assn Price List – Dec 2015

34 th Red Bull Polo Shirts Size _____	\$ 25.00	34 th Red Bull Div Insignia Pins (Lapel Pin)	\$5.00
34 th Red Bull T-Shirt Size _____	\$15.00	Red Bull Patch (Black & Red)	\$5.00
34 th Div Red Bull Ball Cap	\$12.00	34 th Div Red Bull Neck Tie	\$15.00
34 th Red Bull Window Decal	\$2.00	34 th Div Red Bull Flag (3X5')	\$65.00
34 th Red Bull Jacket Size _____	\$30.00	Red Bull Memo Pads, 50 Sheet	\$ 2.00
34 th Red Bull Coffee Mug	\$ 6.00		

Books Available: Dogfaces Who Smiled Through Tears (The 34th Red Bull Infantry Division in WWII) \$30.00
 Citizen Soldier in WWII (Story of the 168th Inf by LT /CPT/ MAJ / LTC Ed Bird) \$10.00

*Add \$5.00 for shipping the first ITEM and \$2.00 per each added ITEM in the same shipment.

Sub Total \$ _____
 Shipping \$ _____
 Total \$ _____

34th Infantry Division Association
7105 NW 70th Ave, Camp Dodge, Bldg 3692
Johnston, IA 50131

Name: _____
 Street Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Email: lowagoldstarmuseum@iowa.gov or Call 515-252-4531 if you have a question.