

34th Infantry Division

Association

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Fall 2023 Issue
The 34th ID Newsletter is
published three times a year.

34th Infantry Division 76th Annual Reunion



WWII Soldier Honored at September Reunion



34th Infantry Division Assn. President, CSM Lucas Queck, 1-133rd Infantry Bn is show presenting the 34th ID Association Coin to COL Simon Shaffer, Cmdr of the 2nd IBCT, as a token of appreciation for his presentation at the 76th Annual Reunion Banquet, on Sep 16th at Camp Dodge.

The 34th Infantry Division Association 76th Reunion was hosted by the Des Moines Chapter, on 15-16 Sep at the Iowa Gold Star Museum at Camp Dodge. During the business meeting of the Reunion, we elected MG Jerry Lang, from Minnesota, as the new Association President, for FY 2023-24. The other elected leadership positions were filled by CSM (Ret) Dan Cain as 1st VP, and LTC (Ret) Jeremy De Gier as 2nd VP. Congratulations.

Approximately forty-eight association members attended the reunion. They were treated to a tour of the Training Site as well at the Medical and Maintenance Sustainment training at the Camp Dodge. The Iowa Gold Star Military Museum was open for special tours, featuring exhibits from WWI through "The War on Terror," that depicted all units of the 34th Infantry Division.

Col Simon Shaffer, outgoing commander of the 2nd IBCT, who will soon return to the 34th Infantry Division Staff, provided an information briefing on the new structure of the 34th Infantry Division. During the next few years the 34th ID, will grow to a fully manned MTOE Division of 25,000 soldiers, with units from nearly 20 states providing the structure.



WWII veteran, CPL Fred Adams, (right) is shown at the 34th Infantry Division Assn. Reunion on Sept 16. He remembers wearing an Army Campaign hat with Regimental Crest, like he is holding, when they arrived at Camp Claiborne, LA. Fred, at 5 ft 3 in, is standing with military reenactor, Russ Flattery, the son of 168th Inf veteran LTC Mark Flattery. Fred is now 100 years old, and was able to vividly recount all the early events of the war.

He was 18 years old and was assigned as a .30 Cal, Heavy, Water Cooled Machine Gun, Crew Chief, in Co D, 168th Infantry for N Africa. Fred talked of using landing nets to go over the side of the British ship, "Winchester Castle", and on to the beach in a boats, 10 miles West of Algiers. Yes, it was the wrong beach. They were supposed to be put ashore on "Beer Green Beach." His battalion commander was, LTC Doyle, and he landed with Company D. LTC Doyle was killed the next day by a Sniper in Algiers while the 168th Infantry secured the city. He will always remember the day they landed in Africa, Nov 7th, 1942, and the world was never again the same.

Fred was married and left his wife and two sons back in Des Moines. They later were blessed with two more sons, after the war. Fred Adams served the entire war with the 168th Infantry and returned home in 1945. Fred's father and uncle had served in WW I. Today, Fred Adams still lives in his own home in Des Moines. He's proud to tell us he drove his own car to his 100th Birthday Party. He told us "Life is good and he is blessed."