



# 509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION (AIRBORNE)



AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION EMBROIDED IN  
LIEGE, BELGIUM DURING THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE

H. Sutherland/509<sup>th</sup> WWII  
December 2000

Pictures: Courtesy of  
CSM Bobby Lane/509<sup>th</sup>



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SYMBOLIZES THE 1/509TH MOVING FROM FT.  
CHAFFEE TO FT. POLK AND JRTC

H. Sutherland/509th WWII  
December 2000

Pictures: Courtesy of  
CSM Bobby Lane/509th

EXPERT MEDICAL COMPANY

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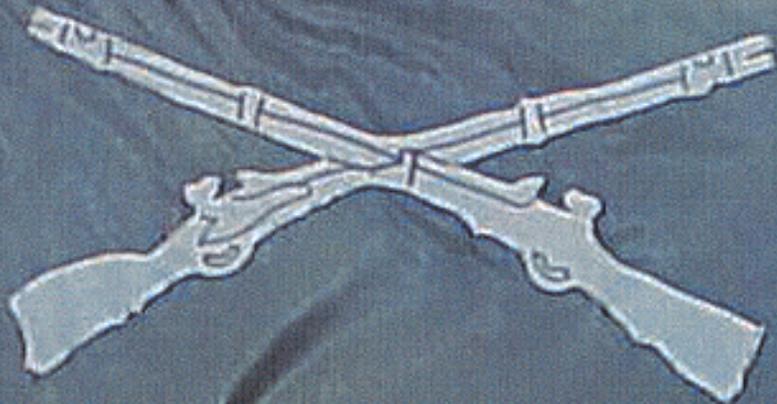


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509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION  
(AIRBORNE)

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**509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION  
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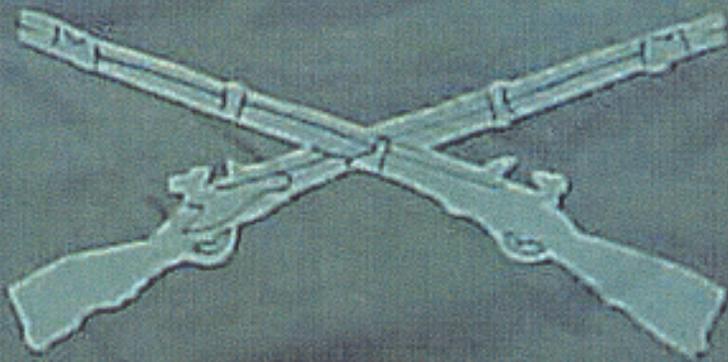
H. Sutherland/509th WWII  
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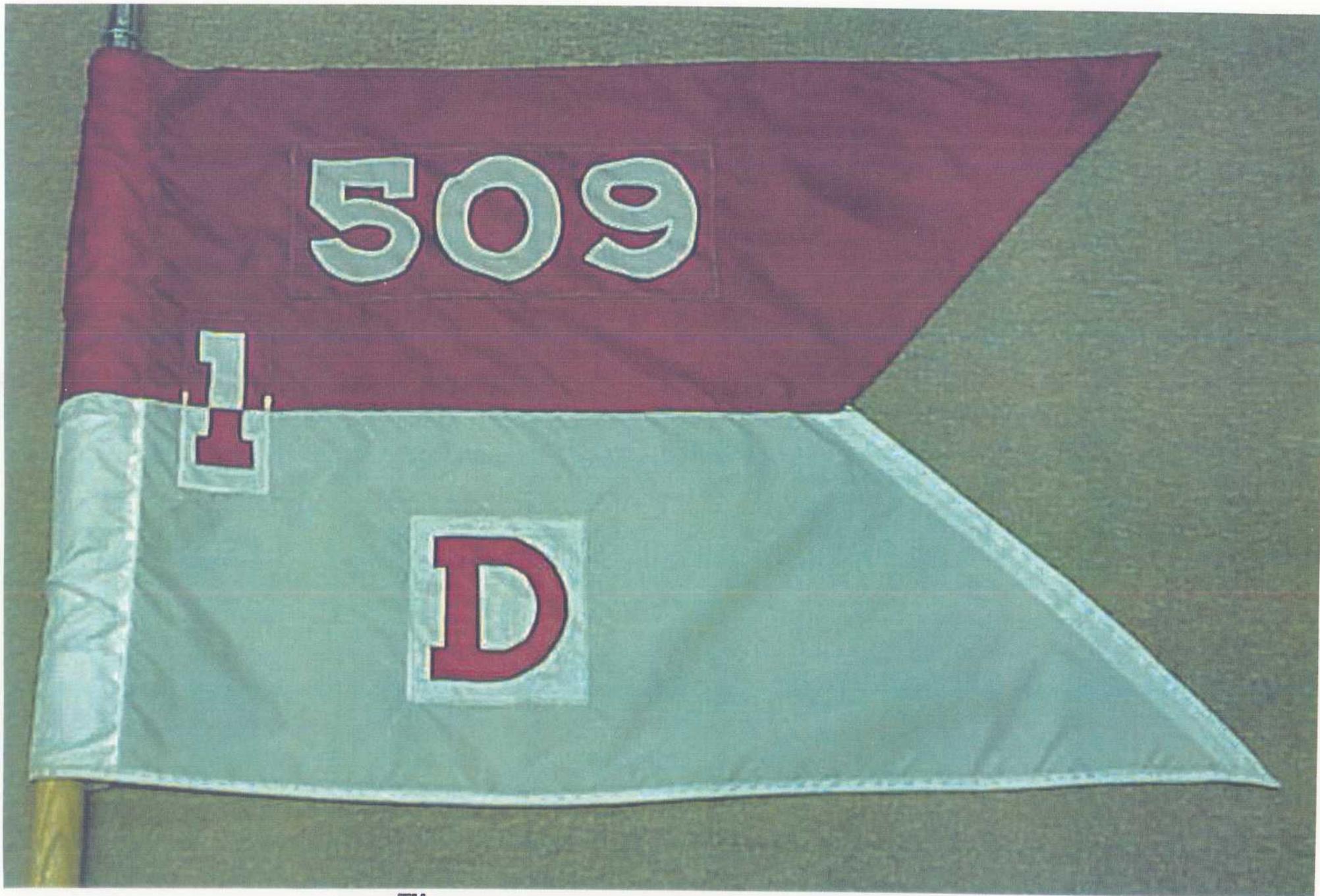
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## 509TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

This honor is from all paratroopers of the 509th BN, forever the first United States Airborne unit to see Combat. Let us never forget that who dares nothing, need hope nothing. As paratroopers of this small but vital element of the 509th BN we will always dare. GERONIMO!  
The current I/509th Parachute Infantry battalion (Airborne) are the opposing forces for the joint readiness training center at Fort Polk, Louisiana.



Charles H. Doyle

I/509<sup>TH</sup> Parachute Infantry  
Battalion (Airborne)  
World War II  
**Charles H. Doyle**

President, Historian and  
Author: "Stand In The Door"



Charles H. Doyle

**Congratulations to you Charlie, "Fine and Dandy"**

Comments:

*Congratulations &  
Thank you for  
your service to  
our country  
Best Wishes  
Frank Guff  
U.S.S.*

## **"OUR GINGERBREAD MAN"**

I am delighted and honored to be back among my colleagues, wartime colleagues, and their families, and I wanted to also say a couple of words about this gentleman on my left, over here, we are honoring today. There isn't anybody, in my eyes, that is more of a paratrooper than Charlie Doyle, and very few that wear the silver wings that tasted combat the way he has, Airborne Combat.

Not only a veteran of America's first combat parachute operation, but an individual who, over a half of a century has gathered, cherished, protected the files and records and battle diaries of our own beloved 509<sup>th</sup>.

He has been a major factor and a quiet driving force in many actions that have taken place in order for the 509<sup>th</sup> to remain a vital and vibrant part of the active U.S. Army.

You know, over the years there have been several dramatic occasions upon which it seems that the U.S. Armies organizational policies would put our 509<sup>th</sup> into permanent retirement. Over a considerable period of time Charlie kept me informed about his activities to preserve the history and the heritage of our outfit.

His letters became more and more of a challenge, as time went on I finally had to admit that even though I had training in hieroglyphics and deciphering .....(words blurred by Laughter) I was unable to decipher Charlie's letters. I think Charlie did that on purpose as he was testing my I.Q. and he won.

The historic material that Charlie has gathered over the affirmative part of our own Airborne special operations museum, as will be the record of his own career, as one of America's pioneer parachute soldiers.

Charlie, you are our "GingerBread Man" and my hat is off to you.

God Bless you.



*All the very best Charlie  
Warmest personal regards  
Bill Yarbrough  
25 Nov 2000*

Reception for  
Charles H. Doyle  
Fayetteville, N.C.  
16 September 2000

Keynote Speech given by  
Lt. General Wm. P. Yarbrough  
U.S. Army (retired)  
Honorary Chairman

# 509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION (AIRBORNE)



509<sup>TH</sup> Parachute Infantry loading up to perform American's First Airborne Combat Assault –North Africa, November 8<sup>th</sup> 1942 – earning eternal fame for its tenacity and fighting ability. (U.S. Army).

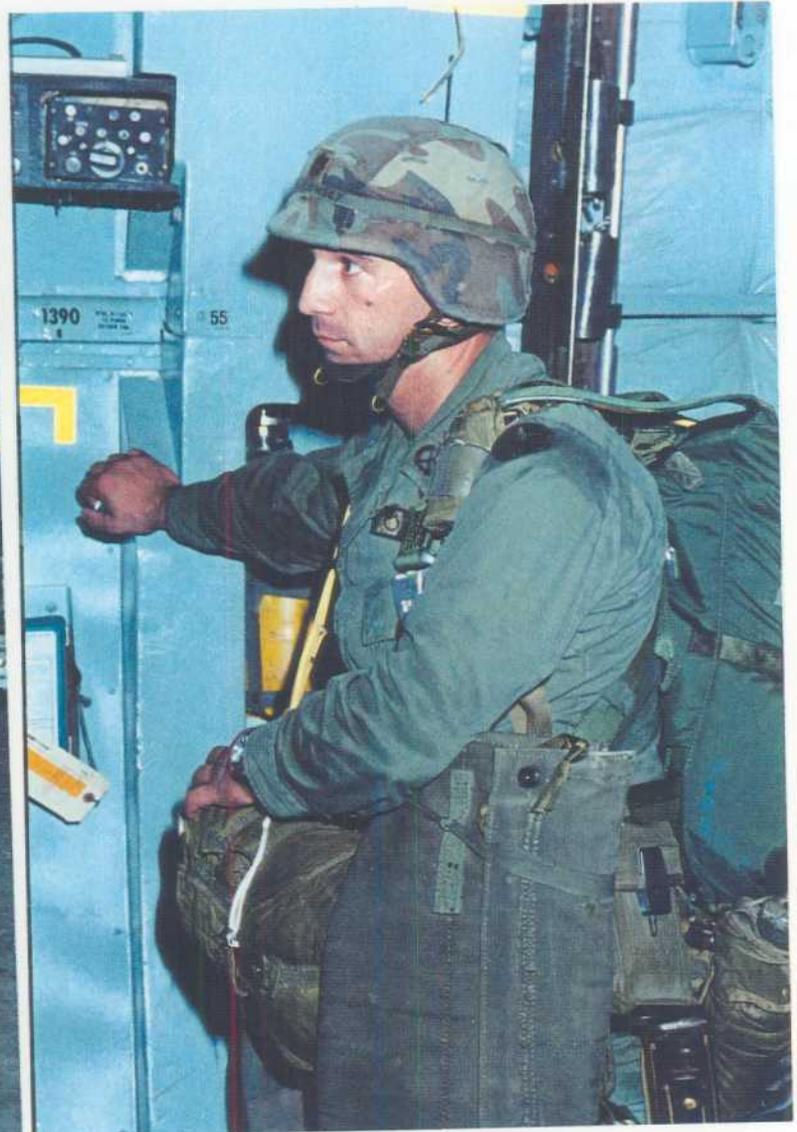


*"Gingerbread Men" of the 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion jumping from C-47s. They fought in numerous campaigns during World War II. Their finest but most costly action took place at the Battle of the Bulge in which they repelled overwhelming Panzer units without giving up a single yard. Out of the entire battalion, only 49 paratroops were left in the ranks! Their devotion to duty is awe-inspiring to this very day. (U.S. Army)*

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**(LEFT)** LTC Jeffrey Jarkowsky prepares his elite paratroopers for field rotation maneuvers against enemy forces as part of the (JRTC) Joint Readiness Training Center's Mission at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Since the Persian Gulf War, JRTC and the 509<sup>th</sup> have helped train over 300,000 U.S. Military personnel that may eventually be deployed on missions around the world.

**(RIGHT)** LTC Jeffrey Jarkowsky



H. Sutherland/509<sup>th</sup> WWII  
July, 2000

Picture: Courtesy of 1LT Grant Stoebner/509<sup>th</sup> S-1

# 509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION (AIRBORNE)

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H. Sutherland/509<sup>th</sup> WWII  
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Picture: Courtesy of 1LT Grant Stoebner/509<sup>th</sup> S-1

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Picture: Courtesy of 1LT Grant Stuebner/509<sup>th</sup> S-1

# 509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION (AIRBORNE)

Vigilant warriors, ever alert and always ready, are poised to bring total destruction to the enemy below

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H. Sutherland/509<sup>th</sup> WWII  
July, 2000

Picture: Courtesy of 1LT Grant Stoebner/509<sup>th</sup> S-1

## ***GERONIMO PRAYER***

Heavenly Father, Hear my Call,  
For through the sky I will soon fall.  
Stand up, hook up, shuffle to the door,  
I pray for your will, nothing less, nothing more

One thousand, two thousand, three thousand,  
four.....

My canopy fill fore I count any more  
Give me courage in the midst of my fear,  
To enjoy your world's beauty from way up here.

From jumpers and obstacles float me clear  
And safely to the drop zone help me steer.  
Feet and knees together, preparing myself to land,  
Never more aware that I'm secure within your hand.

Guide and help me Lord, as I get quickly to my feet,  
To conquer every obstacle 'till the mission is  
complete.

In his name, I shall forever pray,  
"Cause I'm Airborne", and "Prayerborne"

***ALL THE WAY!!***

**AMEN!!**

Chaplain's Bulletin Board  
1/509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion (Airborne)  
Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC)  
Fort Polk, Louisiana, 71459-5455

**509<sup>th</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION  
(AIRBORNE)**

***REMEMBRANCE  
OF OUR  
FALLEN WARRIORS  
MAY THEY REST IN  
EVERLASTING PEACE  
"CAUSE THEY ARE AIRBORNE"***

**ALL THE WAY!!**