



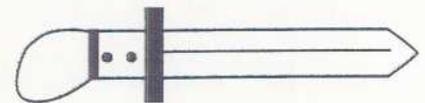
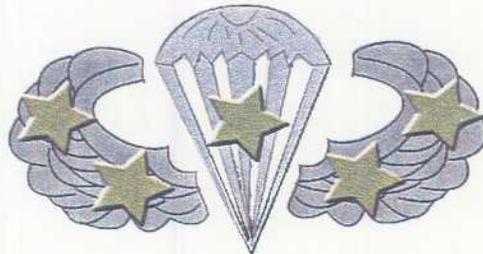
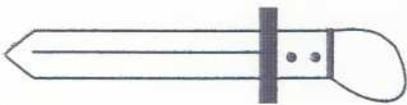
# 509 Victory Song

Words by Sgt. Charles Woodhead  
Music by S/Sgt. Francis X. Kowalski

We're paratroopers, jumping on the foe.  
Hard hitting troopers, out the door let's go.  
Guns all around us, but we'll smash their lines.  
Victory becomes us, we're the 509.

Air, land and sea, we have fought to victory,  
Day-time or night, the enemy has felt our might.  
Those who must die, on the ground or in the sky,  
Shall not have died in vain,  
in victory hall will be their names.

We're paratroopers, now the job is done.  
Stout-hearted troopers, a battle justly won.  
Go back and rest boys, we will jump again.  
Onward to victory, with the fighting 509.



# 509 Victory Song

Words by Sgt. Charles Woodhead  
Music by S/Sgt. Francis X. Kowalski

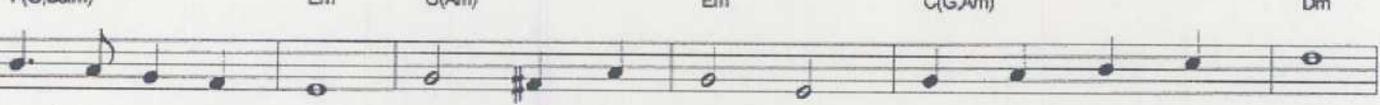
1/509th Parachute Infantry Battalion (Airborne)  
Fort Polk, Louisiana  
Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC)

G Em C(G,Am) Bdim F Dm



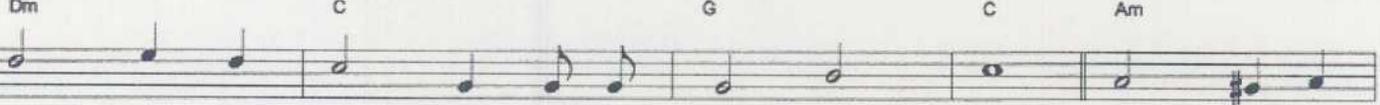
1. We're pa ra troop ers jump ing on the foe. Hard hit ting troop ers,  
2. We're Pa ra troop ers now the job is done. Stout heart ed troop ers, a

F(G,Bdim) Em G(Am) Em C(G,Am) Dm



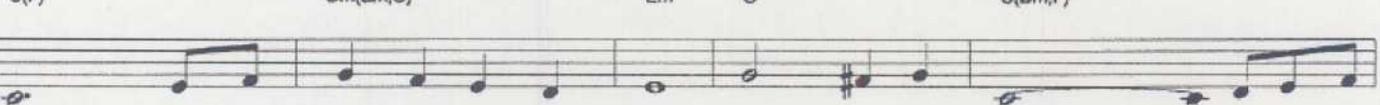
out the door we go. Guns all a round us, but we'll smash their lines.  
bat tle just ly won. Go back and rest boys, we will jump a gain.

Dm C G C Am



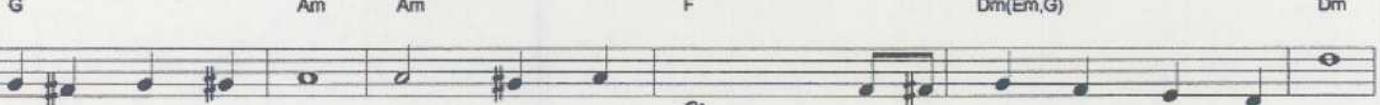
Vic 'try be comes us we're the 5 0 9. Air, land and  
On ward to vic 'try with the fighting 50 9.

C(F) Dm(Em,G) Em G C(Dm,F)



sea we have fought to vic to ry. Day time or night, the en e-

G Am Am F Dm(Em,G) Dm



my has felt our might. Those who must die, on the ground or in the sky,

Dm(G) Am C(Am)  $\boxed{1}$   $\boxed{2}$



Shall not have died in vain, in vic 'try hall will be their names. names.

**KEY:**



PARACHUTE  
LANDING



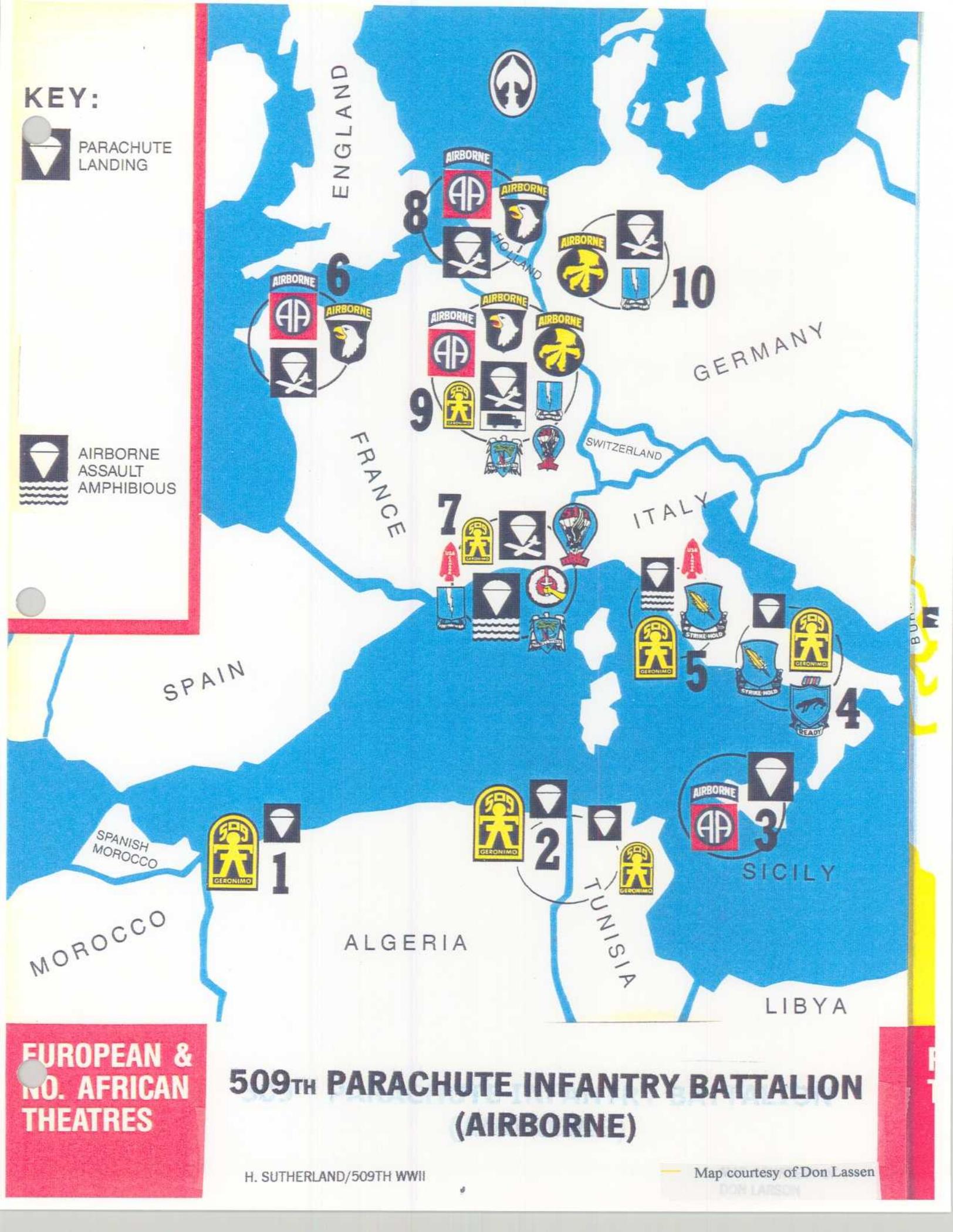
AIRBORNE  
ASSAULT  
AMPHIBIOUS

**EUROPEAN &  
NO. AFRICAN  
THEATRES**

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

H. SUTHERLAND/509TH WWII

Map courtesy of Don Lassen



## **GERONIMO HIGHLIGHTS**

First U.S. Airborne unit to deploy overseas arriving in Glasgow, England on 10 June 1942.

Executed the lowest altitude mass parachute jump in history exiting the aircraft at 143 feet in England during August 1942 rehearsals.

Initially awarded the "right" to wear Red Berets by Major General Sir Frederick A.M. Browning, Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> British Airborne, who made the 509<sup>th</sup> honorary "Red Devils."

Performed America's first parachute assault insertion on 8 November 1942 following the longest combat invasion in history of 1600 miles from England to North Africa.

Conducted five parachute assaults during World War II: three (3) into North Africa, one (1) into Italy and one (1) into Southern France.

Led amphibious invasion with Darby's Rangers at Anzio, Italy on 22 January 1944, and subsequently participated in a successful Allied campaign that lasted 70 days.

First Airborne unit awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, 29 February 1942.  
A second Presidential Unit Citation was awarded 14 March, 1944 (Charlie Company)  
Also awarded another Presidential Unit Citation in 1945.

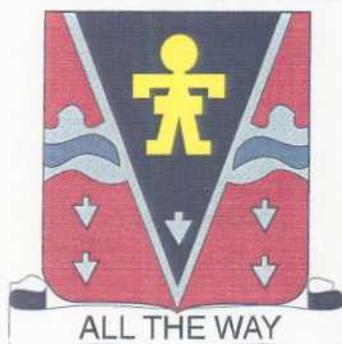
Paul B. Huff, a member of the 509<sup>th</sup>, was the first American paratrooper awarded the Medal of Honor on 29 February, 1944 at Anzio, Italy.

Participated in the Battle of the Bulge.  
Ardennes – Alsace, Liege, Sadzot and St Vith, Belgium.

In August, 1990 five members were selected to serve as pathfinders for the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during the Persian Gulf War. Their helicopter was shot down during a search and rescue mission. Casualties included two (2) KIA and one (1) POW. All five were awarded the Valorous Unit Award.

Since the Persian Gulf War, JRTC and the 509<sup>th</sup> have helped train over 300,000 U.S. Army soldiers that may eventually be deployed on missions around the world..

The battalion received the Army Superior Unit Award in June, 1995.



## **LINEAGE AND HONORS OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION (AIRBORNE) 509<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY**

With the advent of World War II, the United States Armed Forces foresaw a need for highly mobile units that could be quickly inserted into a given theater of operations. Following great debate and an arduous decision process, the United States Army began forming Airborne units for combat. On 14 March 1941, company A, 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion was constituted and activated on 5 October 1941 at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The 504<sup>th</sup> moved to Fort Bragg, North Carolina for training in February 1942 and became part of the Army's first Parachute Infantry Regiments. The 503<sup>rd</sup> and 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalions were joined together to form the 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, with the 504<sup>th</sup> being renamed Company D, 503<sup>rd</sup> Parachute Infantry on 24 February 1942.

As an independent battalion, the 503<sup>rd</sup> sailed to Scotland in June 1942, becoming the first parachute unit to go overseas in World War II. It was attached to the British 1<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division for training that included night airborne operations and forced marches. On 2 November, as the 503<sup>rd</sup> prepared for the invasion of North Africa during Operation Torch, it was reorganized and redesignated as Company D, 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry. This day marked the birth of what was to become one of the most storied airborne units in history.

The training paid off when the Allied invasion of North Africa commenced. The first combat operation involving American paratroops took place on 8 November 1942. After a flight of over 1600 miles from England, the battalion seized Tafaraoui Airport in Oran, Algeria by parachute assault. One week later, the battalion conducted its second parachute assault on 15 November 1942 to secure the airfield at Youks-Les-Bains near the Tunisian border. On 26 December 1942 a third parachute assault was made at El Djem, Tunisia. The mission was to destroy the bridge on Rommel's main supply line. The 509<sup>th</sup> conducted combat operations with various Allied units against the vaulted Afrikakorps. The soldiers of the French 3d Zouave Regiment held the paratroopers of the 509<sup>th</sup> in such high esteem that they bestowed their own regimental badge upon them on 15 November 1942. This badge is worn today by all members of the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion.

From December 1942 to June 1943, the 509<sup>th</sup> trained in Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco in preparation for the Allied invasion of Sicily in July 1943. During the invasion of Sicily the 509<sup>th</sup> was attached to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division but was held in reserve and saw no action in that campaign.

The invasion of Italy began in September 1943 with the amphibious assault at Salerno. On 14 September, while the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division dropped inside American lines to reinforce the beachhead, the 509<sup>th</sup> was assigned the mission of cutting enemy supply lines behind the German defensive positions. The 509<sup>th</sup> launched its fourth parachute assault at Avellino, Italy only to find that the drop zone was occupied the night before by the 6<sup>th</sup> Panzer Division. The 509<sup>th</sup> operated independently for some two weeks behind German lines in company and platoon size elements disrupting the enemy's rear area. The scattered elements of the battalion finally reassembled in Salerno on 29 September 1943.

On 10 December 1943 the battalion was reorganized and redesignated as the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion and recognized as an independent unit. From October to December 1943 the battalion operated with Darby's Rangers and fought in the mountainous region above Venafro, Italy.

The next operation was an amphibious assault at Anzio, Italy on 21 January 1944. The 509<sup>th</sup> was in the first assault wave of the invasion force and was assigned a critical mission. For its heroic actions in stopping the desperate German counterattack at Carano, Italy, the 509<sup>th</sup> was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the first parachute unit so honored. In addition to the battalion award of 29 February, Charlie Company was awarded a second Presidential Unit Citation for a night attack on 14 March. It was during this action that Corporal Paul B. Huff became the first paratrooper to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

After Anzio, the 509<sup>th</sup> conducted its fifth parachute assault and fifth assault landing during the attack by the First Airborne Task Force at Le Muy, in southern France, on 15 August 1944, December 1944 saw the 509<sup>th</sup> attached to the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during the Battle of the Bulge. In another defensive mission, against incredible odds, the 509<sup>th</sup> held out from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> December at Sadzot, Belgium, against two battle-hardened SS Panzer Grenadier Battalions and earned the battalion its second Presidential Unit Citation. In January, the 509<sup>th</sup> advanced on St. Vith, Belgium, capturing and holding critical high ground for the passage of the 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. Only seven officers and forty-eight enlisted men remained in the entire battalion.

Towards the end of World War II, separate Parachute Infantry Battalions were no longer considered necessary, and the 509<sup>th</sup> was disbanded on 1 March 1945, with the survivors and returning wounded being sent to the 82<sup>nd</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> Airborne Divisions as replacements. The 509<sup>th</sup> was later reconstituted on 12 May 1947 in the Regular Army as Company A, 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion, and redesignated on 27 March 1963 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 509<sup>th</sup> Infantry, with subsequent assignment to the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

On 1 September 1973, the 509<sup>th</sup> was relieved from assignment to the 8<sup>th</sup> Army and subsequently moved to Vicenza, Italy. In 1975, one company of the 509<sup>th</sup> moved to the continental United States to fill the requirement for a company sized Airborne/Pathfinder unit to support the United States Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker, Alabama. The redesignation of the 509<sup>th</sup> Airborne Battalion Combat Team in Italy as the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Infantry in July 1983 left C Company, 509<sup>th</sup> Infantry (Airborne/Pathfinder) as the only remaining unit of the battalion.

On 18 December 1987, the Headquarters for the 509<sup>th</sup> was transferred to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command and organized at Little Rock Air Force base, Arkansas. A Company, B Company, and D Troop were formed and initially served at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas as the opposing forces for the Army's Joint readiness Training Center.

On 22 August, 1990 five members were selected to serve as pathfinders for the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division during the Persian Gulf War. Their helicopter was shot down during a search and rescue mission. Casualties included two KIA and one POW. For this they received the Valorous Unit Award.

In 1993, the 509<sup>th</sup> was transferred to the U.S. Army Forces Command subsequently moved to Fort Polk, Louisiana, where it serves today as the world's premier opposing force for light infantry and specialized warfare units. In June, 1995 the 509<sup>th</sup> received the Army Superior Unit Award.

#### **Campaign Participation**

(\*designates Bronze Arrowhead for an assault landing):

Algeria-French Morocco\*  
Tunisia\*  
Naples-Foggia\*  
Anzio\*  
Rome-Arno  
Southern France\*

Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Liege, Belgium  
Sadzot, Belgium  
St. Vith, Belgium  
Persian Gulf War

**Decoration presented to the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion:**

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), streamer embroidered Liege, Belgium  
Presidential Unit Citation (Army) streamer embroidered Carano, Italy  
Presidential Unit Citation (Army) streamer embroidered Carano, Italy  
(Charlie Company)  
French Croix de Guerre with Silver Star, streamer embroidered Muy En Provence  
Citation in the Order of the Day of the Belgium Army for action in the Ardennes  
Citation in the Order of the Day of the Belgium Army for action at St. Vith  
Insignia of the French 3d Zouave Regiment

Revised to correct and reflect current status

ATTEST – OFFICIAL

ATTEST -- OFFICIAL

*Charles H. Doyle*

Charles H. Doyle  
President, 509<sup>th</sup> Association  
Historian, 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute  
Infantry Battalion (Airborne)  
July, 2000

*Jeffrey Jarkowsky*

LTC Jeffrey Jarkowsky  
Commander  
1/509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry  
Battalion (Airborne)  
July, 2000

For more indepth history of the elite 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion (Airborne), refer to the book "Stand in the Door" by Charles H. Doyle/Terrell Stewart. 20 Wharf Lane, Kingston, Massachusetts, 02364 or call Charlie (781) 585-2060.



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

**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER  
AND  
509<sup>TH</sup> PARACHUTE INFANTRY BATTALION**

Building on the success of the National Training Center, which began training armored and mechanized forces in 1981, the Army also recognized that light infantry forces needed similar training...and the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) was born.

JRTC training began on a test basis at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas, in 1987 with the center's headquarters located at Little Rock Air Force Base. The JRTC now makes its permanent home at Fort Polk, Louisiana, as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure recommendations approved by Congress in 1991. The official opening of the Fort Polk JRTC was 20 August 1993 with the first training rotation in September 1993.

JRTC's heavy integration of Air Force and other military services, as well as host-nation military and civilian personnel, makes its training uniquely realistic. As in real-world situations, light units depend on the Air Force for airlift, close air support and resupply and Air Force units have been involved in every JRTC exercise to date. Units from the Navy and Marine Corps continue to increase their level of involvement as have military units from foreign countries. The JRTC's emphasis on joint-service teamwork has become even more crucial as the United States reduces the size of its military force.

The combined-arms nature of most contingency missions has drawn heavy armored units into JRTC training. Light Infantry soldiers—including paratroopers, air assault soldiers, Special Forces and Rangers—are among the first called in a military crisis. They must deploy on short notice and be prepared to fight upon arrival. In most situations, however, they can expect to operate with heavy armored units equipped with tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and armored personnel carriers. During JRTC training, heavy and light units now team up for a true-to-life training experience.

Tomorrow's battlefield will feature highly lethal and mobile weapons systems and violent combat will determine the victor—sometimes in a matter of days. JRTC's training strategy provides the key to victory on any future battlefield: leaders with warrior skills and mental agility and forces trained and ready to win that first battle.

Within the JRTC, the mission of the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion is to provide the player unit with a dedicated, highly trained opposing force (OPFOR) employing threat tactics and capable of operating at different levels of conflict representing low to mid-intensity warfare. The OPFOR executes sustained collective tasks under conditions beyond those possible during external evaluation based exercises and training at the unit's home station. The forces that rotate through the JRTC receive an unparalleled training opportunity short of actual combat experience. This difficult and demanding mission requires an opposing force that is motivated, skillful and extremely well trained.

The 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion possesses this combination of attributes and ensures that when the player unit returns to its home station, it is a wiser and more experienced unit which is better prepared to face the demands of low to mid-intensity combat wherever it may be.

## UNIT CREST AND SHOULDER SLEEVE INSIGNIA

### JRTC PATCH

The unit's mission of training rapid deployment forces is symbolized by the bayonet and wings. The bayonet symbolizes military preparedness and the strike capability of rapid deployment forces which train at the JRTC. The wings are emblematic of speed, mobility and joint training with joint and combined partners. The colors blue, yellow and red are traditionally associated with Infantry, Armor and Artillery, and reflect the combined arms character of JRTC training. The overall shape is reminiscent of an arch or portal and portrays the knowledge, education and training provided by the JRTC as the "doorway" to enhanced unit proficiency and skill.



### 509TH CREST

The stylized yellow (gold) figure of a parachutist on a black background is adapted from "Little Man in the Door," the patch worn by the regiment during World War II and by which it was known throughout the Mediterranean Theater. The red field alludes to the red berets worn by the British 1st Airborne Division and the close association between it and the regiment during World War II in England and North Africa. The nebuly (heraldic delineation for water) white and blue bars (the colors blue and white are used for Infantry) refer to the record breaking flight from England parachuting into North Africa on 8 November 1942. The two segments of the wavy blue bar simulate the streamers of the Presidential Unit Citations (Army) awarded for the gallant actions at Carano, Italy, and Liege, Belgium, and in being a heraldic symbol of water refer to the amphibious landing on the Anzio-Nettuno beachhead on 22 January 1944. The black pile simulates a parachute jump and in also being a heraldic symbol used frequently for engineers, the two sides refer to the ground defense the organization participated in during the Anzio and Ardennes-Alsace (Battle of the Bulge) campaigns. The five arrowheads are for the five assault landings made by the regiment in World War II.

### GERONIMO PATCH

Designed by LTJG, then LTC, William P. Yarborough while participating in the invasion of Southern France during World War II. The gold arch represents the jump door of the C-47 "Gooney Bird" twin-engine aircraft predominantly used by Paratroopers for their Airborne invasions. The gold "Little Man in the Door" represents the Jumpmaster prepared to exit the aircraft. The name "Geronimo," appearing at the base of the patch, was a popular epithet adopted by Paratroopers to express or bolster their feelings of courage upon exiting the aircraft while in flight. The patch was never officially recognized by the Department of the Army, however, it was locally authorized for wear by General Mark Clark while the unit was guarding 5th Army Headquarters in Italy, and subsequently worn by members of the 509th for the remainder of World War II. Renowned for their tongue-in-cheek humor, the Paratroopers of World War II began referring to the Geronimo patch as the "Gingerbread Man" due to the appearance of the "Little Man in the Door," a term that has remained associated with the patch to this day.





## 509<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY REGIMENT (AIRBORNE)

It is a distinguished history, that of the 509<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Airborne). A storied one, as well. Fabled names of places such as North Africa; Youks-Les-Bains, Algeria; El Djem, Tunisia; Salerno, Avellino, Venafro, Anzio and Carano, Italy; Le Muy, France; Sadzot and St. Vith, Belgium to name a few of the places our Regiment fought with distinction. Our tradition today is our connection with the men who fought and died on these battlefields as the first parachute regiment in the United States Army to conduct an airborne assault during Operation TORCH on 08 November 1942. They conducted four more airborne assaults before the end of the war and in the process earned two Presidential Unit Citations and one soldier, Corporal (later Sergeant Major) Paul B. Huff, became the first paratrooper to earn the Medal of Honor.

That proud tradition carried on through the decades following World War II. In 1963, the U. S. Army adopted the combat arms regimental system. Under this system, the most distinguished regiments became the parent units of various battalions. The Army selected the 509<sup>th</sup> as one of those "finest regiments" whose heritage is kept alive today by our units and comrades. Whether while standing guard against the Iron Curtain in Mainz, West Germany, reacting to worldwide contingencies while stationed in Vicenza, Italy, or to our present assignment of providing the U. S. Army an uncompromising, world-class opposing force in the swamps of Fort Polk, Louisiana, the men of the 509<sup>th</sup> have continued that proud airborne tradition.

The First Battalion, 509<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Airborne) proudly shares the history of the "Gingerbread Man" (created unofficially by the Regiment in WW II, the Gingerbread Man was the crest worn, showing the silhouette of a man standing in the door of an aircraft preparing to jump) Regiment.

LTC JEFFREY JARKOWSKY

LTC Jeffrey Jarkowsky is a native of Jersey City, New Jersey where he was commissioned from St. Peter's College ROTC in May of 1981.

He served as a Rifle Squad and Platoon Leader in the 1-113<sup>th</sup> IN (M), Rifle Platoon and Anti-Tank Platoon Leader in the 1-9<sup>th</sup> Infantry, Rifle Company Executive Officer, and Battalion maintenance Officer in the 2-34<sup>th</sup> Infantry (M), S-3 Plans Officer, 3d Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division; S3 Air and Commander, Company A, 1-506<sup>th</sup> Infantry; Aide to the CG, 2d Infantry Division; Battalion S5, Commander Company C, and Battalion Liaison Officer, 1<sup>st</sup> BN, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regiment; G3 Plans Officer, XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters; S3, 1-505<sup>th</sup> PIR, and Chief of Plans Exercise Maneuver Control Division, JRTC Operations Group.

His military schools include the Command and Staff College, CAS3, Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Course, Ranger Course, Jumpmaster Course, Airborne Course, and Air Assault Course.

His awards and decorations include the meritorious Service Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, United Nations Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Air Assault Badge, United Kingdom and Federal Republic of Germany Jump Badges.

**HONORARY BATTALION COMMANDER**  
**LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM P. YARBOROUGH, U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)**

A 1936 graduate West Point, LTG Yarborough was first assigned to the 57th Infantry Philippine Scouts in the Philippines, he returned to the United States in 1940 to join the U.S. Army's first parachute battalion, the 501st at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he commanded C Company. Later while serving as Test Officer for the Provisional Parachute Group he designed the U. S Army's Parachutist Badge, the jump boot, and the World War II parachute uniform.

Serving as General Mark Clark's airborne advisor, he planned and Participated in America's First use of paratroops in battle; the complicated and hazardous air drop into North Africa, and he subsequently commanded parachute battalions that jumped into Sicily (2/504th PIR) and Southern France (509th Parachute Infantry Battalion).

A veteran of seven campaigns, his last WW II command was the 473rd Infantry Regimental Combat Team that shared the freeing of Genoa, Italy with the famous Japanese-American regiment, the 442nd Infantry. After the German surrender, Yarborough remained in Europe as provost marshal of the U. S. Forces in Austria, where he was responsible for organizing the "International Patrol," which consisted of British, French, Soviet and American members and was dramatized by the film "The Third Man." During this period Yarborough met the ailing Russian ballet star Vaslav Nijinsky and his wife Romola and aided in smuggling the couple through the Russian sector to freedom in the Austrian countryside and eventually to England.

Following assignments at the Armed Forces Information School in Pennsylvania and the British Staff College in England, Yarborough attended and later taught at the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. From 1956 to 1960, he was Deputy Chief of the U.S. Military Advisory and Assistance Group Phnom Penh, Cambodia; reorganized and moved the 1st Battle Group, 7th Infantry from Fort Benning, Georgia to Germany; and commanded the 66th Counterintelligence Corps Group in Germany.

In 1961, he was appointed Commanding General of the John F. Kennedy Center for Special Warfare and Commandant of the U. S. Army Special Warfare School at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where for four years he oversaw the program leading to a massively expanded Green Beret force. Yarborough then served in 1965 as chief negotiator for the United Nations Command in dealing with North Korean and Chinese communists at Panmunjom, Korea.

During the final years of his career Yarborough was Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence; commanded I Corps Group, a Korean-American force numbering approximately 100,000 men in Korea; and as Deputy Commander in Chief and Chief of Staff, U. S Army, Pacific, directed a wide variety of Army activities in Pacific Rim nations. He retired from the Army in 1971 with numerous American and foreign military decorations.

A veteran of four combat jumps, General Yarborough holds, among other awards and decorations, the Distinguished Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Silver Star, Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star, Joint Services Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Italian Bronze Medal for Valor, Italian Cross for Valor, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, Regimental Badge 3d Zouaves, Korean Order of Merit Second Class, Korean Order of Ulchi, Combat Infantry Badge, U. S. Master Parachutist Badge, the Cambodian, Korean, Philippine, Thai and Vietnamese Parachutist Badges, and the Unit Citation with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Now a writer, consultant, lecturer, and who's who in the world, Yarborough lives in North Carolina.

YARBOROUGH, WILLIAM PELHAM, writer, lecturer, retired army officer, consultant; born in Seattle, on May 12, 1912, son of Leroy W. and Addressia (Hooker) Yarborough. Married to Norma Mae Tuttle, Dec. 26, 1936; children: Norma Kay (deceased), William Lee, and Patricia Mae. Received Bachelor of Science degree, United States Military Academy in 1936; graduated Command and General Staff College, 1944, British Staff College, 1950, Army War College 1953. Commissioned 2nd Lieutenant U.S. Army in 1936, advanced through grades to Lieutenant General, 1968, retired 1971, various assignments include; U.S. Army, U.S. Philippines and ETO 1936-42; Executive Officer Paratroop Task Force, North Africa, 1942; Commander 2d Bn., 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment 82d Airborne Division, Sicily invasion, 1943; 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Italy and France, 1943-44; Commanding Officer 473 Infantry, Italy, 1945; Provost Marshal 15th Army Group, ETO, 1945, Vienna Area Command and U.S. Forces, Austria, 1945-47; Staff member, faculty U.S. Army Information School, 1948-49; Operations Officer, General Staff Joint Military Assistance Advisory Group, London, England, 1951-52; Faculty member Army War College, 1953-56, 57; Deputy Chief Military Assistance and Advisory Group, Cambodia, 1956-57; Commanding Officer 66th CIC Group, Stuttgart. Germany, 1958-60; 66th MI Group Stuttgart, 1960; Commanding General U.S. Army Special Warfare Center; also Commandant U.S. Army Special Warfare School Ft. Bragg, 1961-65; Senior Member UN Command Military Armistice Command, Korea, 1965; Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, DCSOPS for Special Operations Department of the Army, Washington; Chairman U.S. delegation Inter-American Defense Board; Joint Brazil U.S. Defense Commission; Joint Mexican-U.S. Defense Commission; Army member U.S. section, permanent Joint Board on Defense; Canadian-U.S. Defense Commission, Washington, 1965; Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence Department of the Army Washington, 1966-68; Commanding General I Corps Group, Korea, 1968-69; Chief of Staff, also Deputy Commander-in-Chief U.S. Army, Pacific, Hawaii, 1969-71. Contributor to the International Military and Defense Encyclopedia, 1993, MacMillan Encyclopedia of the American Military, 1994; William P. Yarborough collection papers and artifacts donated to Mugar Memorial Library, Boston University, Decorated Distinguished Service medal with three oak leaf cluster, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with three oak leaf clusters. Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation medal with oak leaf clusters, Croix de Guerre with Palm (France), Cross for Valor and Diploma (Italy), Order of Merit Second Class (Korea), Order of Ulchi (Korea). Fellow Company Military Historians, Explorers Club; Member of Kiwanis Club. Home: 160 Hillside Rd Southern Pines, NC 28387-6727. Who's who in the world 2000

**TRIBUTE TO ALL POW'S AND MIA'S**  
(PRISONERS OF WAR AND MISSING IN ACTION)  
**YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN**

(Please all stand and remove your beret, caps, etc.)

We are all aware of the fact that members of our armed forces are missing from our ranks. We refer to them as POW's and MIA's. Because they are unable to be with their loved ones, we join together this day to pay humble tribute to them. We bear witness to their absence, while acknowledging that they may still be enduring the agonies of pain and deprivation of imprisonment.

As you entered the room today, you passed by a small table. There was no one sitting at the table, yet it is designated as a Place of Honor and Dignity. This table is empty to symbolize the defenselessness of a Prisoner of War..... **alone** against his/her oppressors.

Look again at the table and reflect upon each of the symbols and their meanings.....

- The *white tablecloth* represents the purity of their intentions – to respond to our country's "Call to Arms" for freedom from oppression around the world.
- A vase with a *single rose* marks the vigil of the loved ones who never lose faith that someday they will return.
- Around the vase is a *yellow ribbon* acknowledging the countless ribbons worn on the labels of others who demand, with unyielding determination, a proper accounting from the United States Government of all MIA's and POW's.
- The *slice of lemon*, on the plate, reminding us of their bitter fate.
- *Salt* sprinkled on the plate symbolizing the countless tears shed as loved ones await their return.
- A *glass*, bottom up.....since they are unable to toast with us today
- The *candle*, the Light of Hope, eternal flame of hope from a grateful nation.
- A *draped chair*.....empty – awaiting their return
- *Three small flags*:
  - American – for those who have paid the supreme sacrifice to insure our freedom
  - POW/MIA – that prisoners of War and Missing in Action still exist
  - Army – the vanguard and ever watchful keepers of the freedom we have

1/509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion (Airborne) Association and the current 509ers, from Fort Polk, Louisiana pay tribute to all POW's and MIA's (Prisoners of War and Missing in Action) as well as to reflect back on the experiences of the 509<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Battalion (Airborne) memories that are both joyous and painful.

**YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN**  
**PLEASE, LET THEM COME HOME**