



The Dallas Post

50¢

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF THE DALLAS & LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Vol. 105 No. 22

Dallas, Pennsylvania

Wednesday, June 1, 1994

Emmett Hoover recalls 6-6-'44

By JACK HILSHER
Post Correspondent

There are 80 "Hoovers" in Wyoming Valley, 32 in the Back Mountain and ex-Private 1st Class Emmett Hoover Sr. of Troxell Switch Road (two girls, four boys and seven grandchildren) is certainly responsible for a baker's dozen of them. But in the early 40s Hoover wasn't sure he'd ever have a family, or a home either.

Back then Hoover, at 21, was "going steady," planning marriage, and had dug the cellar for a home he hoped to build. Then everything went on hold when his Uncle Sam invited him to join the army at Fort Meade, Md. There they marched him down to Camp Hill, Va., and later sent him off to England.

He trained with the 115th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Division.

See HOOVER, pg 8



29 LET'S GO
This Is To Certify That

PFC Grade	EMMETT L HOOVER Name	33175128 A.S.N.
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WAS A MEMBER OF THE
29TH INFANTRY DIVISION
ON D-DAY, 6 JUNE 1944, AND SERVED
WITH IT CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL THE
CAPTURE OF ST. LO ON 18 JULY 1944

C.H. GERHARDT,
MAJOR GENERAL, U. S. ARMY,
COMMANDING

PROUD REMINDER - Like all the men in his unit, Emmett Hoover received a certificate from their commanding officer, Major General C.H. Gerhardt, following the invasion of Normandy.

Saga of D-Day familiar to most

But some think of Pearl Harbor

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

Most, but not all, people questioned randomly about D-Day knew what it was and what it meant to the Allied victory in World War II. Four Dallas High School students and nine adults were asked what they knew about D-Day and why its observance this year is so important.

"We learned about that when we studied World War II in Mr. Jayne's sixth-grade history class," said seniors Pat Scoble and Steve Lieberman, both 17 years old. "That's when the Allies invaded Normandy."

Scoble said his grandfather probably served in the armed forces during that time.

"One of my father's employees was there," Lieberman said.

Juniors Beth Delscavage, 16, and Kathleen Krench, 17, said they had studied the war in tenth grade.

"It was a big turning point in World War II," Beth said. "My grandfather was in the Air Force then."



"It was a major battle," Kathleen said. "My grandfather was in the Army in Europe, but he never talked about it."

Three people in the parking lot of the Dallas Post Office said they

See D-DAY, pg 8

Reporter's notebook

Grace R. Dove



Stories from Normandy and beyond during WWII

My generation grew up during the 50s on our parents' and relatives' World War II stories, and war movies ranging from the comic *What Did You Do in the War, Daddy?* to the dramatic *The Longest Day*, *Tobruk* and *The Great Escape*.

The favorite TV fare, at least in our house, included *Combat*, *The Gallant Men* and the award-winning documentary *Victory at Sea*, which my dad, Harry Richie, enjoyed watching with us, pointing out actual film footage spliced into the story line.

Sometimes he'd share stories of his tour of duty in France with an Army medical unit and show us some of his old black and white photos, but it wasn't until I spoke with him, heard his taped remi-

niscences and studied his photos more closely that I better understood the hardships the men and women serving during that time experienced.

Dad described how he had enlisted in the Army on February 14, 1942, in Newark, N.J. After graduating from basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., he was assigned to the personnel department of Fort Dix's Tilton General Hospital.

"I started out as an office flunkie and worked my way up to Tech Sergeant within a year," he said. "At first I had to memorize lots of thick books on regulations. One day when I saw a guy sitting at a typewriter doing the payroll, I said

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PHOTO COURTESY OF HARRY J. RICHIE

BUDDIES - TSgt. Ed Pender, left, and TSgt. Harry J. Richie, right, with their jeep by the hedgerows of Normandy in July, 1944. Dad had written, "Just Pender and me, and our jeep makes three" on the back of the photo fifty years ago.

Vietnam vets tend watchfire

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

To honor the 50th anniversary of D-Day and to remember Vietnam's POWs and MIAs, the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 539 built a watchfire on the grounds of the American Legion Daddow-Isaacs Post 672 at dusk May 29, tending it until the next morning.

"Watchfires were used in the American Revolution to guide lost soldiers back to camp," said John Tasco, who had read about them in a veterans' magazine and suggested that his organization light one.

"It's part of a continuous chain of fires up and down the East Coast this weekend. We're using it as a spiritual beacon for the POW's and MIA's who never made it home from Vietnam. We're also

See WATCHFIRES, pg 2



POST PHOTO: GRACE R. DOVE

THE WATCHFIRES OF A HUNDRED CIRCLING CAMPS - Vietnam veterans Greg Scholes, Chester Kunigonis, John Charney and John Tasco, members of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 539, tend an all-night watchfire May 29 in honor of Memorial Day and the POWs and MIAs.

Franklin Township road issue in limbo

By GRACE R. DOVE
Post Staff

After nearly a year of wrangling and research, the status of three Franklin Township roads remains in limbo.

Last summer residents of the Crown Hill development had asked the township and Luzerne County to upgrade and pave Crown, Hill and Farmview drives, which are little more than 1 1/2 lane dirt tracks.

The Luzerne County commissioners, county solicitors Rich Goldberg and Neil O'Donnell and engineer Jim Brozena met May 25 to again discuss Crown Hill's plight.

No one is certain who owns Crown Hill's roads - Luzerne County, Franklin Township or someone else.

The development, home to 30 families, was apparently set up with a corporation owning "various parcels of land," which turned out to be the roads.

When the corporation didn't pay the property taxes on the three roads, the county inherited them through the tax claim bureau.

Brozena says that he didn't know until last summer that the

"parcels of land" were actually roads.

They aren't officially listed on the county's road docket, he said.

"I don't know if this will ever be resolved unless they go into litigation over it and a judge makes a legal decision," he said.

Brozena has offered to grade the three roads to meet minimum state standards for gravel roads, but the Franklin Township supervisors have refused the offer. They want the county to pave the roads because they say the township can't afford to do it.

After the May 25 meeting, Crown Hill resident Joe O'Donnell told the *Citizens' Voice* that he had received "a verbal commitment" from county solicitors Richard Goldberg and Neil O'Donnell (no relation) that Luzerne County would pave the three roads.

Goldberg denied that any agreement was reached.

"As a solicitor, I don't have the authority to make any commitments on behalf of Luzerne County," he said.

Neil O'Donnell was not available for comment.

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■ 'In Your Eyes' was theme of the Lake-Lehman prom last Friday. Photos on page 14.

■ Title tilts Dallas and Lehman will play for district AAA and AA baseball crowns. Page 9.

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