

CAMPAIGNS*

Algiers-Tunisian
Sicily-Naples
Foggia-Rome
Arno-Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland-Central
Europe-Ardenes
Alsace
New Guinea
Luzon

INVASIONS*

North Africa
Sicily Landings
Salerno Beachhead
Anzio Beachhead
Normandy Beachhead
Philippine Landings
Arzew-Oran
El Guettar
Gela-Licata
Pursuit to Messina
Chiunzi Pass



DESCENDANTS OF WWII RANGERS

BATTLES*

Venafro-San Pietro
Cisterna
Pointe duHoc
Vermilliers-Brest
LeConquet Peninsula
Huertgen Forest
Castle Hill '400'
Saar, Roer & Rhine River
Battle of the Bulge
Leyte Landings

RAIDS*

Dieppe
Sened Station
Cabanatuan
Aparri
Carbruan Hills
Homobon

PLEASE HELP GET THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL
FOR THE
WORLD WAR II RANGERS

*TIME IS SHORT
THEY NEED YOUR HELP*

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

**Contact Your United States Senators and
Ask Them to Co-Sponsor
Senate Bill S.1872**

and Also

**Contact Your United States Representatives and
Ask Them to Co-Sponsor
U.S. House Bill H.R. 3577**

Please keep us informed of any success. Our Contact Person:

J. Ronald Hudnell
Cell 336-577-9937

ronhudnell@gmail.com

www.wwiirangers.org

Information Attached (Scroll Down):

WW II Rangers by State as of July 9, 2021

Fact Sheet on U.S. Army Rangers Who Fought in World War II

Endorsements for the WW II Ranger Congressional Gold Medal

WWII Rangers by State as of 07-09-21

	Still Remain	KIA	Overseas Cemeteries		Still Remain	KIA	Overseas Cemeteries		
AK	3		1	1	MT	10			
AL	34		5	1	NC	50	5	2	
AR	38		3		ND	14	3	1	
AZ	21		1		NE	27	3	3	
CA	146	3	21	11	NH	10	2	2	
CO	26		4		NJ	115	23	17	
CT	55	1	9	6	NM	11	1	1	
DC	8				NV	8			
DE	6		2		NY	230	38	24	
FL	100	2	2	2	OH	170	30	11	
GA	36		7	3	OK	55	9	5	
HI	2				OR	16	5	4	
IA	96		16	8	PA	313	1	59	33
ID	7		2	1	RI	17		5	4
IL	180		36	16	SC	27	1	7	1
IN	82		18	7	SD	14		2	
KS	42		9	4	TN	43		5	1
KY	64		10	4	TX	119	2	11	8
LA	28		2	2	UT	5	1	2	1
MA	168	1	25	19	VA	71		17	5
MD	59	1	3	2	VT	9		2	2
ME	26		6	3	WA	38	1	4	2
MI	148	2	34	22	WI	73	1	10	5
MN	114		18	10	WV	49		9	4
MO	68	2	11	3	WY	6		1	1
MS	31		3	1					

Total Identified by State 3088 19 501 263

% of Total 44.5%

Total WWII Rangers 6947

Total Remaining 19

KIA by state 501

KIA known but not yet identified by state 100

KIA Israel, Korea, Vietnam 11

Total KIA 612

Total KIA as % of Total 8.8%

Total Interred Overseas 263



Fact Sheet on U. S. Army Rangers Who Fought in World War II

Seven Battalions of Rangers fought in World War II, some 6,947 men, all volunteers. We know of only 19 of these men who are still alive as of 09 July 2021, all in their '90's. Rangers spearheaded every invasion in the North African and European theatres, and in the Pacific the 6th Ranger Battalion performed one of the bravest rescues of the war many miles behind enemy lines at Cabanatuan to save 516 POW's from certain execution by the Japanese. Throughout World War II, Rangers Led the Way!

The World War II Ranger veterans are among the most worthy of all veterans to receive the Congressional Gold Medal. Their assault landings, campaigns, invasions, battles and raids are the subject of military doctrine as well as other books and movies, including *Darby's Rangers*, *Saving Private Ryan* and *The Great Raid*. War veterans have said there is nothing more frightening than a night invasion of a defended enemy shore, and many of these men did that several times in the face of overwhelming odds. WWII Ranger Battalions include:

1st Ranger Battalion (Bn), activated 19 June 1942, was commanded by COL Bill Darby, West Point Class of 1933. Fifty Rangers first participated in a raid at Dieppe, France, two months after the Bn was formed. Ranger 2nd Lt. Edward Loustalot was the first American soldier to die in ground combat in Europe. The 1st Bn spearheaded the invasion of North Africa and helped defeat the German General Rommel, and then landed in Sicily and Italy. In a raid deep behind the lines near Anzio, most of the Bn was either killed or captured trying to secure the transportation network at Cisterna. The Bn was deactivated 15 Aug 1944, but many Rangers remained prisoners of the Germans until the war's end. The 1st Ranger Bn earned two Presidential Unit Citations (PUC).

2nd Ranger Bn was activated 1 April 1943, and was the first ashore at Normandy on D-Day, 6 June 1944. After scaling the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc, 2nd Ranger Bn soldiers destroyed large caliber German artillery firing on Omaha Beach. They fought to the war's end in some of the most famous engagements and were deactivated 23 Oct 1945. The 2nd Ranger Bn earned one PUC.

3rd Ranger Bn was activated 21 May 1943. These Rangers spearheaded the invasion of Sicily and twice launched beachheads in Italy, helping save the American landing at Salerno. After the Anzio landing, the 1st and 3rd Bn were wiped out at Cisterna. Few Rangers escaped to tell the story. Allied intelligence failed to see that three German divisions had just moved into the area. Infiltrating eight miles behind enemy lines to capture Cisterna, they were outnumbered 700 to 1. They fought until wounded, killed or out of ammunition. Many POW's survived the war. The 3rd Ranger Bn was deactivated 15 Aug 44, and earned one PUC.

4th Ranger Bn was activated 5 May 1943. They led the Allied invasion of Sicily at Gela and again at Maiori, Italy. Spearheading battles up the boot of Italy for months until the invasion of Anzio, the 4th Bn was used as regular infantry on numerous occasions in mountain fighting. At Anzio, the 4th Bn attempted to rescue the 1st and 3rd Bn in the fight at Cisterna and lost fifty percent of the Bn to casualties. The 4th Ranger Bn was deactivated 24 Oct 1944, and earned one PUC.

5th Ranger Bn was activated 21 July 1943. The 5th Bn joined the 2nd Bn in the invasion of Normandy at Omaha Beach, leading other American units off the Omaha beach (Rangers Lead The Way!), and capturing the strongly fortified German guns at Maisy. They fought throughout Europe into Germany in numerous campaigns, always spearheading the toughest fights. The 5th Ranger Bn was deactivated 22 Oct 1945, and earned two PUCs.

6th Ranger Bn was activated 25 Sept 1944. The 6th Bn engaged in numerous combat raids to capture islands and installations held by the Japanese. Their rescue of 516 POW's at the Cabanatuan POW Camp is famous. The 6th Ranger Bn was deactivated 30 Dec 1945, and earned one PUC.

29th Provisional Ranger Bn, was formed in December 1942 with volunteers from the 29th Infantry Division. The Bn participated in British Commando training, and then conducted several raids on German installations usually with British or Norwegian Commando units. The battalion was disbanded in October 1943 (after the activation of the 2nd and 5th Ranger Bns for the Normandy invasion), and its men returned to their parent units. The creator of the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford, VA was a 29th Provisional Ranger.

Endorsements for the WWII Ranger Congressional Gold Medal

The Darby Project
U.S. Army Ranger Association
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Valor Studios (ValorStudios.com)

Authors:

Bob Black

Rangers in World War II; The Ranger Force; The Battalion

Patrick O'Donnell

Dog Company: The Boys of Pointe du Hoc; Beyond Valor: World War II's Ranger and Airborne

Hampton Sides

Ghost Soldiers

Stefano Solferini

Il Fronte A Cisterna

Alex Kershaw

The Bedford Boys

Joseph Balkoski

Omaha Beach : D-Day

Liesl Bradner

Snap Dragon – The WWII Exploits of Darby's Ranger and Combat Photographer

Stephen C. DeVito

Fighting with the Filthy Thirteen – The WWII Story of Jack Womer, Ranger and Paratrooper

John V.O. Kennard

D-Day Journal: The Untold Story of a U.S. Ranger on Omaha Beach

George Despotis, MD and Chris Ketcherside

Rangers Led The Way: WWII Army Rangers In Their Own Words

Adam Makos

Spearhead; A Higher Call; Devotion

John Nadler

A Perfect Hell – The Forgotten Story of the Canadian Commandos of the Second World War

Museums:

U S Army Rangers Museum (Carrickfergus, N. Ireland - Mid and East Antrim Borough Council)

National World War II Museum (New Orleans, LA)

National D-Day Memorial (Bedford, VA)

National Veterans Memorial and Museum (Columbus, OH)

Maryland Military Historical Society (Baltimore, MD)

Northern Ireland War Memorial Museum (Belfast, Ireland)

Anzio Beachhead Museum (Anzio, Italy)

Ranger Museum and Exhibit (Cricqueville-en-Bessin, Normandy, France)

War Museum Winterline Venafro (Venafro, Italy)

Gateway WWII Museum Foundation (St. Louis)