



THE ATLANTA WORLD WAR II ROUND TABLE

PRESERVING HISTORY

INTERNET: <http://www.atlantawwiiroundtable.org>

VOL. 26 No. 10

260th MEETING

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- * Col. Glenn Frazier
- * Professor Emeritus Herbert W. Benario
- * Randolph Goulding / Lee Weinstein
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Date: JUNE 21st, 2012 (THURSDAY) >> Next Meeting SEPT. 20th

Time: Social Hour: 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM > MEETING START TIME 11:30 AM - Speaker Immediately Following Lunch

** **PETITE AU BERGE RESTAURANT**
2935 N. Druid Hills Road, **Web Site: www.petiteauberge.com**
Atlanta, Georgia 30329 (Restaurant Phone: 404-634-6268)

Price: \$ 15.00 Per Plate ** NO RESERVATION REQUIRED **

Speaker: Col. Glenn Frazier

Subject: “ Hell’s Guest – Ordeals & Triumph: Bataan Death March’”

Mission Statement

We, who by our own actions, and by our heritage, know that liberty has not, is not, nor ever will be free, do in association with our friends and comrades, who believe as we do, pledge that we will meet at the call of our Commander no less than ten times a year:

- * To hear of the war experiences of our members and invited guests
- * To encourage and demonstrate pride in our country and its armed forces
- * To pass on to posterity our knowledge of World War II, and of the price - human and material - that was paid by our nation for the preservation of liberty in the United States and the world

Speaker for JUNE 21st, 2012– Col. Glenn Frazier (To Be Introduced By Dep. Cmdr. Weinstein)

Glenn was born and grew up amidst the cotton and corn fields of Lowndes County Alabama. He ran away from home to join the Army when he was 16 and soon found himself engulfed in the struggle along with Filipino soldiers to save Bataan from Japanese conquest.

Bataan, as you know, is a province of the Philippines and occupies the whole of the Bataan Peninsula on Luzon. The Americans had used Bataan, in part, as a supply depot, storing over 1 million gallons of gasoline on the Peninsula. The Japanese were more interested in the strategic importance of Luzon and in mid December 1941 attacked Luzon and started their advance towards Manila. General MacArthur defended the Peninsula with vigor but found himself unable to hold back the Japanese and withdrew his troops to the Bataan Peninsula, effectively enabling the Japanese Commander, Lieutenant General Homma Masaharu's 14th Army to blockade and isolate the American and Filipino forces.

MacArthur requested reinforcements and aide from Pearl Harbor and Australia, but none could be sent, and with more Japanese reinforcements coming in to strengthen Homma's forces, MacArthur was ordered to break out of Bataan and avoid capture at all costs by sailing for Australia, forcing the 78,000 defenders to surrender to the Japanese. The Japanese were unprepared for the number of prisoners they were responsible for and General Homma forced them to march 80 miles to the capitol of Bataan, Balanga; along the way the Japanese delighted in the physical abuse and murder of the soldiers, denying them food, rest or water.

Thus the story begins which Col. Frazier will tell us about on June 21st. Frazier found himself marching north in the *Bataan Death March* and then spent the next three years trying to survive in the hell of the Japanese POW camps. Col. Frazier's book, *Hell's Guest, 3-1/2 Years As the Emperor's Guest In The Japans POW Camps* gives great detail about his ordeal and the sacrifices he saw many of his friends make in serving their country.

Glenn will be accompanied by his wife Elizabeth Terri Frazier and will personally sign any of his books purchased at the meeting. Please welcome Colonel Glenn Frazier (Ret) as our JUNE 21st, 2012 speaker (**260th Meeting** .)

Review of May 17th, 2012 Speaker Herbert W. Benario (Introduced by Deputy Commander Weinstein)

Deputy Commander Weinstein introduced Professor Benario as *Professor Emeritus* of Classics at Emory University in Atlanta and a former long-distance marathon runner (*Boston Marathon.*). Herbert is a academic receiving his BA from the City College of New York in 1948, a MA from Columbia University in 1949 and his Ph.D. from John Hopkins University in 1951. He is past President of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South and the author of several books including *An introduction to Tacitus*, published in 1975. Herbert has been married to long-time Round Table member Dr. Janice Benario for 54 years.

The Professor became interested in General Sir John Hackett while reading Hackett's book, **CONTINUED ON BACK**

Third World War, a fictional novel written in the style of a non-fictional historical account and primarily a Geopolitical look at what could happen if NATO and the Warsaw Pact Nations started the third World War in 1985. At the time the book was published (1982), British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher requested all her military professionals read it as it covered all facets of the fictional future war, from the action on the ground, the air, the oceans, and finally the nuclear option.

Herbert detailed Hackett's life, from growing up in Australia, his higher education in England at Oxford and eventually choosing the Army as a career rather than Academia and teaching at Oxford. He became a fighting General who commanded troops for the British Army during the *Syria-Lebanon Campaign* and in the *North African Campaign*.

Hackett was severely wounded during both of these campaigns and while recuperating was instrumental in the formation of the *Long Range Desert Group (LRDG)* and the *Special Air Service (SAS)*, both of which gave the Germans, particularly General Irwin Rommel, Commander of the *Afrika Corps*, enough trouble that Rommel would later comment that the *LRDG* and the *SAS* caused more damage to the *Afrika Corps* than any other British units of equal strength.

General Hackett was selected to Command the *4th Parachute Brigade* at Arnhem in 1944 during *Operation Market Garden* and was again severely wounded and captured by the Germans. He was hospitalized and a daring group of Dutch patriots helped him escape from the hospital and hid him in Nazi-occupied Holland until he was well enough to make it back to the Allied lines.

The General would go on to serve the British Army after WW II in Commanding the *Trans-Jordan Force* in 1947, the *20th Armoured Brigade*, the *7th Armoured Division*, the *Northern Ireland Command* in 1961 and the *British Army of the Rhine* in 1965.

Thank you Professor Benario for your enlightening presentation, for *Preserving History* and for a job well done. We only hope that perhaps those gas-mask fitting glasses will show up at your door someday.


I am pleased to announce that we have two (2) new members who have joined us since the April 2012 meeting:

WW II Veteran Richard (Dick) S. Bailey – Dick served in the Army Air Force, 450th Bomb Squadron, 322 Bomb Group as a Pilot of a B-26 (2) engine Medium Bomber. He was based in England in 1944 and moved to France in September 1944 after D-Day.

WW II Veteran Fred O. Scheer – Fred served in the U.S. Army, 5th Division, 2nd Regiment, Company B as a infantryman. He enlisted in the reserves in 1942, went on active duty in April 1944 and was captured by the Germans in July 1944. He escaped from the Germans in May 1945 and was discharged in November 1945. Fred wrote a book about his service in WW II titled *A European Sojourn 1943-1945*.

Please welcome Dick and Fred as the newest members of the Round Table at the JUNE 21st, 2012 meeting.


>>> **Upcoming Speakers for – 2012** Program chairman John Davis has done a splendid job in lining up a wonderful list of speakers for the Atlanta WW II Round Table for our January through June 2012 meetings. The following speakers will be making a presentation to the Round Table in: **June – Col. Glenn Frazier (Bataan Death March)**. Please note that the speaker's engagements are subject to change. Thank you John M. Davis for you're continuing efforts to seek-out and engage excellent speakers for our meetings and for a job exceedingly well done.

It should be noted that John Davis is stepping down from the appointed position of Program Chairman effective with our June meeting. Member Larry Robert has accepted the continuing challenges of the position and among other upcoming speakers has secured Ambassador Britton as our September 20th, 2012 speaker. More will follow on upcoming speakers for our 2012-2013 campaign. Larry has requested that any member who has a interest in speaking to the Round Table or knows of a WW II or other veteran that would make a good presentation to the group, to please contact him at 404- or via email at larry.robert@vitas.com


>>> **REQUESTS BY INDIVIDUALS TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS AT ROUND TABLE MEETINGS** – In a effort to not interfere with our scheduled speaker's allotted time and also to allow more time during our lunch for table-conversation, the Atlanta WW II Round Table Executive Board has approved the following policy: ***Requests by individuals to make announcements during the Atlanta WW II Round Table meetings must first be cleared through the Commander prior to the date of the meeting.*** The number of announcements will be limited at each meeting and will also be based on priority of interest to the Round Table. Commander Goulding can be contacted at **770-436-4254** or via email at rgoulding@charter.net


Atlanta WW II Round Table Members – Please remember that there will be NO scheduled meetings of the Round Table in July or August. Our next scheduled meeting will be on September 20th (Thursday), 2012 – at the Petite Au Berge – Meeting start time 11:30 AM

Monthly Quotation:

Abraham Lincoln understood what it meant to wait to worry. On the way to his inauguration, Lincoln stopped in New York City, where he spoke with journalist Horace Greeley. Greeley asked Lincoln the question that was on everyone's mind. "Will the nation be plunged into a civil war?" Lincoln responded to Greeley's question with an anecdote about some lawyers from Illinois. They followed the judge from town to town to argue cases. As they traveled, they had to cross a number of rivers, including many that were swollen. They were particularly worried about the Fox River. In a small town where they had stopped for the night, they met a circuit-riding preacher. He had crossed the Fox River many times, so they asked him about it. "I have one rule that helps me cross the Fox River," he said. "I don't cross the Fox River until I get there."

Are you worried? Don't worry about crossing some of those rivers until you get there. Sometimes they just don't matter!