

U.S. Army Military History Institute
950 Soldiers Drive
Carlisle Barracks, PA 17013-5021
20 Jul 2012

Holidays

CHRISTMAS, MILITARY STYLE

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

CONTENTS

General Sources.....p.1
Revolutionary War-Civil War....p.2
Late-19th Century.....p.2
World War I.....p.3
-Christmas Truce(s)....p.3
World War II.....p.5
-Bastogne/Bulge.....p.6
Since 1945.....p.-
-Korean War "Truces".....p.7
-Vietnam War.....p.8

GENERAL SOURCES

New York Times on microfilm.
See pub indexes.

"Christmas during Wartime Past and Present." VFW (Dec 2006): Entire Issue. Per.

Wallgren, Albion A. Photograph Collection. 1 Box. Photo Arch.
Stars & Stripes cartoonist; includes many of his cartoon Christmas cards and cards sent to him by famous fellow cartoonists.

See also:

-Unit Miscellaneous Files, which contain numerous pamphlets on holiday events, esp. menus; and December issues of periodicals such as Army, Soldiers, etc.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR-CIVIL WAR

Agnew, James B. Eggnog Riot: The Christmas Mutiny at West Point. San Rafael, CA: Presidio, 1978. 211 p. PZ4.A27.

Fictional presentation of actual event.

“Christmas in Blue and Gray.” Civil War Times (Feb 2012): pp. 56-57. Per.

Cox, Elbert. Winter Encampments of the Revolution: A Soldier's Christmas at Morristown in 1779. Wash, DC: NPS, 1941. E173.U624no1.

Cox-Paul, Lori A., & Wengert, James W., comps. A Frontier Army Christmas. Lincoln, NE: NE State Hist Soc, 1996. 136 p. U766.C87.

Engelman, Fred L. The Peace of Christmas Eve. NY: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1962. E358.E5.
Treaty of Ghent ending war of 1812.

McIvor, James. God Rest Ye Merry Soldiers: A True Civil War Christmas Story. NY: Viking, 2005. 162 p. E468.9M33.

Owen, Fred W. A Christmas Reminiscence of Fredericksburg. n.p., 1890s. E474.85.O93.
A poem of 1862 battle.

Rawlings, Kevin. “Christmas in the Civil War.” Civil War Times Illustrated (Dec 1998): pp. 46-53.
Per.

_____. We Were Marching on Christmas Day: A History and Chronicle of Christmas during the Civil War. Baltimore: Toomey, 1996. 170 p. E468.9.R39.

Stryker, William S. The Continental Army at the Crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas Night of 1776. Trenton, NJ: Murphy, 1896. E241.T7.S93.

LATE-19TH CENTURY

Army & Navy Journal. Per.

10 Jan 1885, p. 465: Columbus Barracks, OH.

6 Jan 1883, p. 507: Ft Douglas, UT.

13 Jan 1883, p. 528: Plattsburg Barracks.

Christmas

p.3

- James, Marquis. "The Strangest Christmas a Soldier Ever Spent." American Legion Weekly (19 Dec 1924): pp. 3-6 & 14-16. G670.1881.J23.
Adolphus W. Greely, 1880s, arctic expedition.
- King, Charles. The Story of Fort Frayne. Chicago: Neely, 1895. pp. 90-91 & Chap VIII. PZ3.K58St.
- Knight, Oliver. Life and Manners in the Frontier Army. Norman, OK: U OK, 1978. pp. 155-56 & 254. F593.K56.
- Mattes, Merrill J. Indians, Infants and Infantry. Denver: Old West, 1960. p. 83. F594.M34.
- Roe, Frances M.A. Army Letters from an Officer's Wife. NY: Appleton, 1909. pp. 23-29. F595.R69.

WORLD WAR I

- Ashworth, Tony. "The Live and Let Live System." In Michael S. Neiberg, The World War I Reader. NY UP, 2007. pp. 209-24. D509.W65.
- "Christmas Day during the World War." PA Guardsman (Jan 1938): pp. 11-13. Per.
- Insignia Denoting Rank of Officers...to which is Added a List of Useful Articles Suitable for Christmas Gifts to Officers and Civilians. NY: Brooks Bros, 1917. 40 p. UC533.I58.
- Pilcher, J. Mitchell. Upon the Midnight Clear: Angel Chorus at Meaux, France. Montgomery, AL: Paragon, 1955. 7 p. D525.P5.
Account of 1918.
- Wakefield, Alan. Christmas in the Trenches. Gloucestershire, England: Sutton Pub, 2006. 211 p. D640.A2.W35.
- _____. "Christmas in the Trenches." Military Illustrated (Dec 2006): pp. 40 & 42-47. Per.

WORLD WAR I-Christmas Truces

- Ashworth, Tony. Trench Warfare, 1914-1918: The Live and Let Live System. NY: Holmes & Meier, 1980. pp. 32-33 & 232. D523.A756.
Mentions 1914 & 1915 Christmases.
- Bairnsfather, Bruce. Bullets & Billets. NY: Putnam's, 1917. pp. 69-81 and 131. D640.B27.

- Brown, Malcolm, & Seaton, Shirley. Christmas Truce. London: Leo Cooper, 1984. 228 p. D641.B72.
Includes bibliography.
- Caldwell, M.R. "History of the 12th Company Royal Engineers." Royal Engineers Journal
(Dec 1924): pp. 667-82. Per.
Includes coverage of troops during the truce.
- Candler, Edmund. The Year of Chivalry. London: Simpkin, Marshall, et al, 1916. pp. 41-45.
PZ3.C35Ye.
Collection of his pieces, many from London newspapers, including "Truces."
- Doyle, Arthur Conan. The British Campaign in France and Flanders, 1914. London: Hodder &
Stoughton, 1916. p. 334. D546.D6.
- Ellis, John. Eye-Deep in Hell: Trench Warfare in World War I. NY: Pantheon, 1976. pp. 171-73.
D530.E44.
- Ferro, Marc, et. al. Meetings in No Man's Land: Christmas 1914 and Fraternalization in the Great War.
[Translation of *Frères de Tranchées*, by Helen McPhail] London: Constable, 2007. 264 p.
D530.F7413.
- French, John D. 1914. London: Constable, 1919. pp. 337-40. D544.Y6.
His comments on WWI & Boer War "truces".
- Graves, Robert. Good Bye to All That: An Autobiography. NY: Blue Ribbon, 1930. p. 171.
D640.G72.
Considers such truces "a commonplace of military tradition--an exchange of courtesies
between officers of opposite armies."
- Great Britain. Committee of Imperial Defence. Historical Section. Official History of the War:
Military Operations, France and Belgium, 1917. London: Macmillan, 1940-48. p. 23.
D521.H5734.
- Hasting, Max. The Oxford Book of Military Anecdotes. NY: Oxford, 1985. pp. 339-43.
PN6268.M48.H37.
British officer relates his participation.
- Laffin, John, editor. Letters from the Front, 1914-1918. London: Dent, 1973. pp. 28-29 & 94-95.
D640.L34.
- Lloyd, Alan. The War in the Trenches NY: McKay, 1976. pp. 23, 37-38 & 79. D530.L55.
- Taylor, A.J.P. The First World War: An Illustrated History. Harmondsworth, England: Penguin,
1963. pp. 64-65. D522.T3.
Photo & comment.

Christmas

p.5

von Rohden, Gotthold. "Experience of War: 'Holy Night,' 1914." MHQ Vol. 4, No. 2: p. 112. Per.

The Times History of the War. Vol. IV. London: The Times, 1915. pp. 221-28. D522T5.

Vansittart, Peter. Voices from the Great War. NY: Watts, 1984. pp. 48-49. PN6084.W35.
Two reported anecdotes. See also p. 131 on 1916.

Weintraub, Stanley. "The Christmas Truce." MHQ (Winter 1993): pp. 76-85. Per.

_____. Silent Night: The Story of the World War I Christmas Truce. NY: Free Pr, 2001. 206 p.
D530W45.

Williamson, Henry. "The Christmas Truce." History of the First World War (No. 2, 1970):
pp. 552-59. Per.

Winter, Denis. Death's Men: Soldiers of the Great War. London: Lane, 1978. pp. 217-22. D546.W56.
Mentions holiday truces and various other fraternization practices.

WORLD WAR II

Army & Navy Register (27 Dec 1941): p. 5. Per.
Reviews past holidays.

Biskin, Irving M. "Christmas in Brittany." Journal of America's Military Past (Fall 1998): pp. 105-07.
Per.
Short memoir from 995th Signal Co.

Clark, Herbert. God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen: A Collection of Christmas Stories: Remembering
Some who Served with the 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division. n.p., 1988? 111 p.
#603-60.1988.

Davis, Glenn. Papers. 1 Box. Arch.
Includes 3rd Armored Division Christmas Cards.

Fine, Donald I. A Blood-Dimmed Tide: The Battle of the Bulge by the Men Who Fought It. NY: Fine,
1992. 522 p. D756.5.A7.A8.
See Chaps 12-13.

Fort Knox Prison Camp Papers. 1 Box. Arch.
Includes Christmas, 1945, issue of hand-drawn German POW newsletter.

Frank, Benis M. "The Christmas Eve Crab Invasion." MHQ (Winter 1990): p. 112. Per.
Anecdote of US Marine, Palau Is, 25 Dec 1944.

Rowland, Chester A. Photograph collection. 1 Box. Photo Arch.
Includes holiday views of interior of family quarters at Selfridge Field, MI, ca. 1940.

"Soldier's Christmas - Then and Now." US Army Recruiting News (Dec 1941): p. 4. Per.

"Soldier's Feast on Christmas." Victory (22 Dec 1942): p. 26. Per.
Christmas menus.

Spain, Tom & Shohl, Michael, editors. I'll Be Home for Christmas: The Library of Congress Revisits the Spirit of Christmas during World War II. NY: Delacorte, 1999. 210 p. D811.A2.I56.

U.S. Army. 501st Parachute Battalion. Christmas 1940. n.p., 1940. #603-501.1940.

Weintraub, Stanley. "Christmas in War Time." World War II (Dec 2007): pp. 34-43. Per.

_____. Pearl Harbor Christmas: A World at War, December 1941. Cambridge, MA: DaCapo, 2011. 216 p. D755.3.W45.

WORLD WAR II–Bastogne/Battle of the Bulge

Allen, George R. To Bastogne for the Christmas Holidays, 1944. Philadelphia: n.p., 1994? 23 p. D756.5.A7.A45.
Veterans' retrospective.

Greinal René (Countess). Christmas 1944 at Isle-la-Hesse (Bastogne). Belgium: Ceuterick/Louvain, 1965. E756.5.A7.G74.

Heyman, Marshall N. Christmas in Bastogne: A Personal Story of World War II. Falls Church, VA: Basyac, 1994. 327 p. D811.H49.
Reminiscence of 3rd Tank Battalion.

Lanigan, Kelly. "Christmas Memories From the Battle of the Bulge." VFW (Dec 2008): pp. 14-15. Per.

Lion, Peter. The American St. Nick. St George, UT: WindRiver, 2003. 175 p. PZ4.L56Am.
Fictionalized account of members of the division "making Christmas" for Wiltz, Luxembourg, during the Battle of the Bulge.

Marshall, S.L.A., et al. "Christmas Eve at Bastogne." Infantry Journal (Dec 1945): pp. 8-15. Per.
101st Airborne Division surrounded.

_____. "Christmas Tree Defeat: General Bruce Clarke's Blackest Yuletide." Army (Dec 1958): pp. 22 & 24. Per.
At St Vith, 1944.

Weintraub, Stanley. 11 Days in December: Christmas at the Bulge, 1944. NY: Free Press, 2006. 203 p. D756.5.A7.W45.

Winter, George J. Manhay, the Ardennes, Christmas 1944. Winnipeg, Canada: Fedorowicz, 1990. 48 p. D756.5.A7.W46.

SINCE 1945

Aguirre, Emilio. We'll be Home for Christmas: A True Story of the United States Marine Corps in the Korean War. NY: Greenwich, 1959. DS921.6.A4.

Ambrose, Stephen E. "The Christmas Bombing." MHQ (Spec Airpower Issue, 1996): pp. 86-95. Per. Vietnam.

Binder, L. James., editor. Front and Center: Heroes, War Stories, & Army Life. NY: AUSA Book (Brassey's), 1991. pp. 171-80 & 191-95. U766.F76.

Carrig, John T., Jr. "A Special Carol." Army (Dec 1992): p. 35. Per. By ROK soldiers, 1950.

Dyhouse, Tim. "A Ranger-Style Christmas." VFW (Dec 2008): pp. 16-17. Per. Christmas-day raid in Iraq, 2007.

Hargrove, Richard L. "A Box from Santa." Army (Dec 1991): p. 43. Per. Reminiscence of "goodie" delivery by helicopter, Vietnam, 1967.

Meloy, Guy S. "Christmas Eve in War Zone D, Vietnam." Army (Dec 2007): pp. 45-46 & 48. Per.

Peterman, James A. "A Christmas in War-Torn Vietnam." Army (Dec 1999): pp. 53-55. Per. 24 Dec 1962 by Catholic chaplain.

KOREAN WAR "TRUCES"

There is no indication of any major Christmas-related cease fire in effect during the war years. In fact, each 25th of December contained various ground and air hostilities, according to official histories and other sources consulted. Beginning Jul 1951, of course, cease- fire negotiations had been taking place at the highest level until final armistice agreement, 27 Jul 1953.

Localized case-fires could conceivably have been arranged between the opposing forces at points along the battle line. Such informal arrangements by front-line troops, without official sanction, have occurred in the past, notably in the American Civil War and in the early years of World War I.

A general tendency may exist for opposing soldiers in positional warfare to mutually avoid killing each other whenever possible, as suggested in the provocative study, Trench Warfare, 1914-1918: The Live and Let Live System, by Tony Ashworth, cited above.

However, it seems unlikely such informal Christmas truces would have spontaneously appeared in the Korean War, considering the cultural difference and ideological antagonisms inherent in the conflict. Nonetheless, on Christmas Day 1951, the 24th Infantry Division experienced a lull in combat and its semi-official history 24th Forward (#05-24.1953; 39th page from rear) describes this benevolent scene:

"An uneasy hush fell across the battle-line during the day...the enemy had refrained from staging any expected nuisance raids, as if in deference to the high holiday."

Another division's semi-official history, the 25th Infantry Division's Tropic Lightning in Korea (#05-25.1954), p. 50, relates that enemy propaganda increased during December 1952 and was specifically oriented to the Christmas season, but it makes no reference to any mutually-agreed upon truce. Furthermore, in a dispatch from Korea appearing in the New York Times, 26 Dec 1952, pp. 1-2, a correspondent reported a Christmas cease-fire proposed by Communist propaganda loudspeakers, which did not materialize.

VIETNAM WAR

Leepson, Marc. "Christmas in Combat." Vietnam (Feb 2010): pp. 44-51. Per.