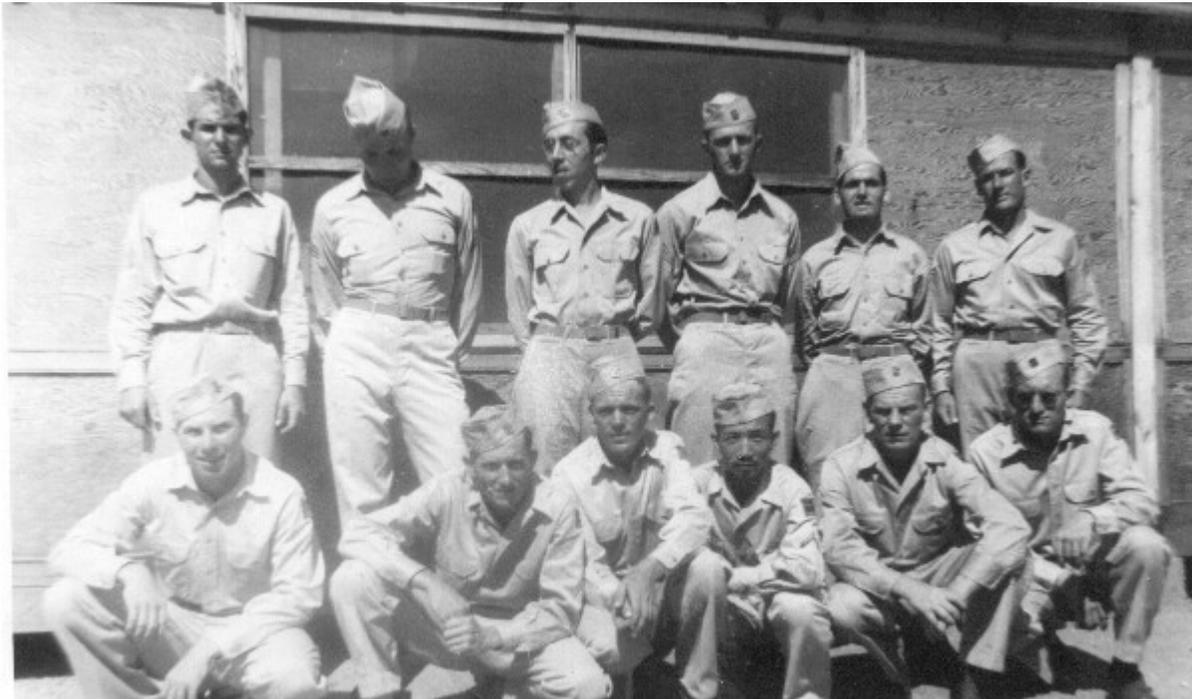




## A Camp Barkeley Squad



My Dad, Hugh H. Melrose, took this picture and so isn't in it. I've heard from two other vets about my questions about whether or not my father should have received other metals/ribbons posthumously. My mother received only the "Purple Heart" . I do have the War Dept. telegrams and the citation that came with the "Purple Heart". I also have a lapel pin with a star in the center with a purple background. I received all of my father's things after my mother passed away on June 12, 1990. I have a shirt and pants and a olive drab neck muffler, 90th Div badge pin, 357 crossed rifle, marksman badge, expert marksman badge w/ 2 bar pins, one is a "rifle-B", the other is "bayonet" , and a good conduct ribbon. I have a copy of a letter from Sgt. Hudec.

I am attaching a scan of the backside of the rifle squad photo and a copy of the text from a letter printed in the "Pagosa Springs Sun" newspaper sent by my dad.

Wendell Melrose



Reverse of Camp Berkeley Squad Photo

My squad at Berkeley  
all but me no 1 left Top  
is Platoon S Sgt. Arkansas 2 left  
is Sgt Hudus Sqd Sgt Bohemian  
3 left Pvt Phillips N.Y.  
4 Cpl Tom Hoffman Okla  
5 Pfc McManagh N.Y. Irishman  
6 Sgt Jacinich Texas Appalachian  
Setting Platoon guide.  
left no 1 Jim Felliop Serbian  
" 2 Hannon Arkansas  
Pfc 3 Skistud Nebraska  
" 4 Ching Chung N.B. N.Y. Pfc Chinese  
5 Waether Leonard Penn. Irishman  
(Red  
6. Pfc Carl Wagner N. Dakota



***Pagosa Springs, Colorado***

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MELROSE WRITES ABOUT HIS WEDDING

Camp Barkeley, Dec. 28, 1942.

Dear Omar:

It's about time for another letter from these parts. There's not much to write about. Our division is doing a lot of bivouacking in this beautiful Texas weather. The wind's got speed and trying to snow Xmas eve. It was like summer, real hot but today it's nearly freezing. We're going through a series of army tests in the field. Pretty soon we are going to graduate from these Texas hills and all I'll hate to leave is my wife which some of you will no doubt be surprised, as Santa Claus brought me. I married a Kansas girl at 8:00 pm., Xmas night. We had a time hunting up the county clerk. We found a minister at his home and he married us there and was more than nice. We had been on a test for three weeks and just returned to camp. My wife had been working in Wichita Falls waiting for a lapse when we could be married. Our company had a beer party Xmas eve, but I hurried off to join Ruth.

The order had just come thru that we were transferring to different squads. I've been with the mortar section for a month and now I am back with my old squad. My wife intends to work near here in Abilene until I am shipped. The Sun is really enjoyed by all of us soldiers, and the folks back home surely do their part in giving greetings for Xmas. I want to thank you for the Sun and wish you and the folks back home a Happy New Year.

You old bachelors back home who think you can't get married, take it from a soldier and join the army and the right girl will come along. However, I knew this girl back in 1937, but I was too bashful to ask her then.

Well, this about all. I thank you for the Sun and wish you all a Happy New Year to you all.

Very Truly,

Pvt Hugh Melrose