

Medals, Pins, Patches, Badges, Etc.

Various WWII medals, pins, patches, badges, etc. were found among my father's Chester Charles Schliep belongings after he passed away. Chet served just short of three years in the U.S. Army during and after WWII. His first year was spent with the Coast Artillery Corps based out of Ft. Canby in Washington State. Most of the following photographs are actual photos taken of Chet' medals, etc. A few have been downloaded from the Internet and include the website address from which they were obtained.

Coast Artillery Corps Insignia



Above left is a "Cede nullis" pin which is Latin for "submit to none". A griffin (a mythical animal typically having the head, forepart, and wings of an eagle and the body, hind legs, and tail of a lion) is portrayed. The middle photograph is the "Distinctive Unit Insignia" patch of the 249th Coast Artillery Corps designed in 1928. On the right is the WWII collar badge of the coastal and anti-aircraft artillery designed in 1941 for the ninth CAC (Coast Artillery Corps). It consists of crossed cannons with a gun shell in the middle.



cannons.

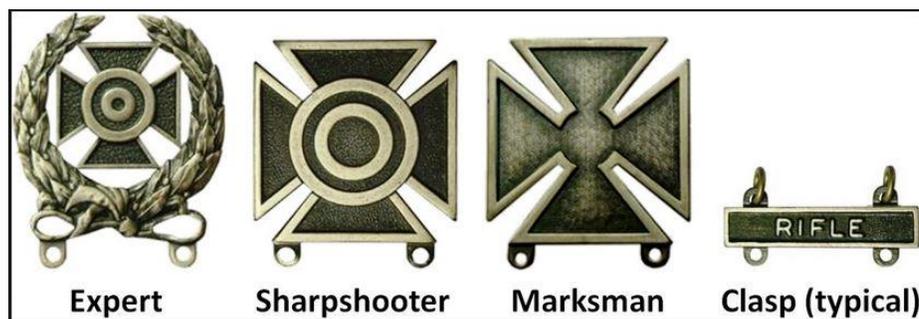
The phot on the left is the crossed cannon insignia pin of the U.S. Army artillery which first appeared as an individual insignia in 1834. In 1901 the artillery branch was reorganized and field artillery and coast artillery became separate service branches. In 1902 the coast artillery was given a special branch insignia with an artillery shell in an oval at the intersection of the

Brass Lapel Pins

The Branch of Service insignia was worn on every uniform even if other insignia or patches were not. The crossed rifles pin indicated that Chet's branch of service was the infantry. It was worn on the lower left collar lapel. The U.S. Army insignia was worn on the lower right collar lapel. The U.S. Army insignia was worn on the lower right collar lapel.



Marksmanship Badges



(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marksmanship_Badges_%28United_States%29)

The United States Army awarded **Army Marksmanship Qualification Badges** to WWII soldiers who qualified at three different qualification levels (highest to lowest): Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman. Suspended from the badges are Army Weapon Qualification Clasps that indicate the type of weapon the individual was qualified to use.



Chet had the Expert Qualification Badge with qualification clasps for three types of weapons. (See photo to the left.)

- 1) Rifle (top) - 03 Rifle (1903 Springfield) (bolt action)
- 2) Carbine (middle) - M1 (Winchester) Carbine
- 3) Sub Machine (bottom) - M1 (Garand) Rifle (semi-automatic)

Chet's discharge papers listed three marksmanship areas: Expert M1; Sharpshooter 03 rifle; and Sharpshooter carbine.

Two .50 Caliber Machine Gun Bullets

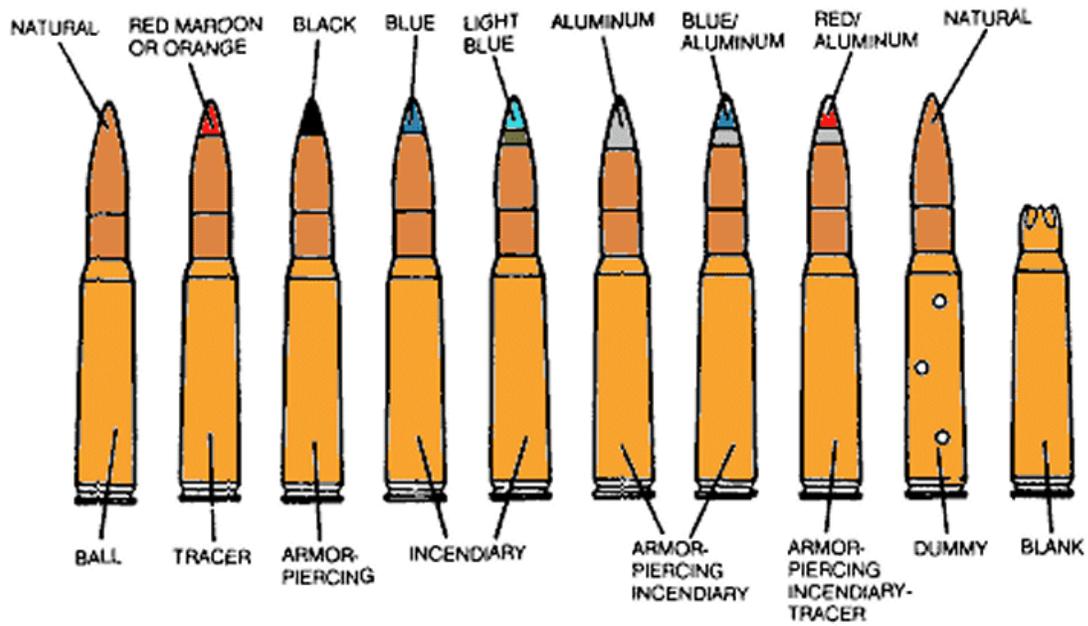


The red-tipped bullet above on top is for an M2 Browning machine gun (a.k.a. .50 BMG). It is approx. 5.45" long. The manufacturer was Lake City Ammunition Plant, Lake City, MO. L & C are stamped on the headstamp to the right. The number 42 on the headstamp indicates that the bullet was made in 1942. It is a tracer bullet and was intended to permit visible observation of the bullet's in-flight path or trajectory to the point of impact. This specific bullet was limited to the continental U.S. for training purposes only.

The bottom bullet pictured above is a .50 caliber bullet most likely used in an M2 Browning machine gun. It is approx. 5.125" long. The manufacturer was Remington Arms Co., Bridgeport, CT. R & C are stamped on the headstamp. The number 42 on the headstamp indicates that the bullet was made in 1942. It is called a "ball" bullet. The cartridge was intended for use against personnel or unarmored targets. There is no color on the tip. It was also used in marksmanship training.

For more information on headstamp codes see:

<http://cartridgecollectors.org/?page=headstampcodes#R>. Also, below is a chart showing various types of ammunition for the M2 Browning machine gun. For more information please see: <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/munitions/50.htm>.



Ammunition for the M2.

U.S. military brass uniform buttons



Above are U.S. Army buttons from Chet's uniform(s).

Chet's Army Stripes



Above are the various rank insignia (chevrons) that Chet earned in the U.S. Army as an NCO (Non Commissioned Officer). The chevron on the left indicates the rank of Private First Class. The next chevron indicates the rank of Army Technician 5th Grade Corporal (abbreviated as T/5 or TEC 5). Those who held this rank were addressed as Corporal - often called "Tech Corporal". The third chevron indicates the rank of a sergeant. The chevron on the right indicates the rank of Army Technician 4th Grade Sergeant (abbreviated as T/4 or TEC 4). This last rank was often nicknamed "buck sergeant" to distinguish it from other senior grades of sergeants. According to his discharge papers, Chet achieved the rank of Tec 4.

Chet's Military Patches



The patch above on the left was on the upper part of the right sleeve of Chet's uniform. It was the patch for the 3rd U.S. Army. This field army is best known for its campaigns in World War II under the command of George S. Patton – commonly known by the nickname "Patton's Own". The patch on the right is an army antiaircraft artillery patch.



Chet had two gold stripes on his left sleeve to indicate one year's service overseas – each stripe represents 6 months of service.



To the left is Chet's service (enlistment) stripe. A service stripe, commonly called a hash mark, was a decoration of the United States military which was presented to enlisted members of the U.S. military to denote length of service. The United States Army awarded a stripe for every three years of service. It was worn on the left sleeve.

Chet's Military Awards and Medals



At left is a photograph of the left-hand pocket of Chet's wool army jacket.



The photo in the middle above is the American Theatre Service Medal (red background with white stripes) a.k.a, "The Army Good Conduct Medal". The photo on the right is the Army Good Conduct bar. (http://www.marksmedals.com/us_medals_files/army_good_conduct.html)

Service Ribbon Bars

Service ribbon bars are small ribbons covering small metal bars that are mounted using a "pin backing" device, and are generally issued for wear in place of medals. These are military awards which recognize service and personal accomplishments while a member of the U.S. military. Together with military badges, such awards are a means to outwardly display the highlights of a service member's career. Below are samples of ribbon bars that Chet either wore on his uniform (see photo above) or ones that were found among his army belongings.

Chet had several service stars on his ribbon bars. A service star is a miniature bronze or silver metal device worn by members of the uniformed services of the United States on medals and ribbons issued to denote additional awards or periods of service. The service ribbon itself indicates the first award, with a bronze service star being added to indicate the second award. Five bronze stars were equal to a silver star.



To the left is a photo of a WWII Victory Bar. The bar was awarded for service between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946. Chet had one bronze service star on this ribbon.



To the left is a photo of an American Defense Service Bar. This bar was issued by the Army for service outside the continental limits of the United States. Chet had one bronze service star on this ribbon.



The American Campaign Medal on the left was intended to recognize those military service members who had performed military duty in the American Theater of Operations during World War II.



Chet received the European African Middle Eastern Campaign Service Ribbon (a.k.a. "EAME" Ribbon) shown to the left. Chet has this "bar" with 4 bronze service stars – one for each of the campaign areas that he served in. Those areas were Northern France, the Rhineland, the Ardennes, and Central Europe.

The five photos of the above service ribbon bars come from the website at <http://www.precisionmedals.com/army-ribbon-chart>.



This ribbon bar belonged to Chet. It is an Oregon Faithful Service ribbon issued by the Oregon National Guard. In 1940 new Regular Army coast artillery regiments were activated and National Guard regiments were called into federal service. This award would have been awarded to Chet because of his one year's service (1942) in the Coast Artillery Corps at Ft. Canby, WA.



Chet had an ETO (European Theater of Operation) patch on the left shoulder of his formal uniform jacket along with the Oise patch which was sewn on below it. The ETO patch was commonly called the European Operations Patch.

The patch below it is the Oise patch. (Oise is a department in the north of France named after the river Oise.) Oise was the name of one of a handful of base sections in the U.S. Army's Western Communications Zone (mostly in France) that was set up during the war to be able to supply the front lines with medical and equipment supplies. As the war progressed, base sections were merged and/or renamed. After the war, the Oise section became a base for many U.S. personnel who remained in Europe until they were able to be demobilized.

The lightning bolt on the ETO badge represents the Allies breaking the chains of Nazi oppression. The patch is similar to the ETOUSA patch with the addition of the blue 5 pointed star in the white six lobed field. This blue star in the white field is the emblem of the Services of Supply organization a.k.a. the Army Service Forces. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ADSEC>)



Chet had an Honorable Service patch colloquially known as the "Ruptured Duck" sewn on his uniform jacket above the right-hand pocket. It served as proof that the wearer was an honorably discharged veteran returning from duty.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honorable_Service_Lapel_Button)