

**ROYAL HOSPITAL KILMAINHAM:** On the Sunday closest to the 13<sup>th</sup> July, the Irish Government conduct the National Day of Commemoration at Royal Hospital Kilmainham, Dublin to remember all Irishmen and Irishwomen who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving the Nation of Ireland, the United Nations and in the uniform of various other countries. The event of presided over by The Taoiseach and The President and is televised live. Attendance is by invitation only. Should you be interested in attending the 2017 occasion, please let me know and I will add your name to the invitation list.



**DEPARTMENT OF FRANCE CONVENTION:** I had the great pleasure to represent our Post at the Annual Convention held in Hoffalaise, Belgium on 16-19 June 2016. Good news is that John Shanahan, Commander of The Pride of Erin Post IR-01 was elected as the new Department of France Commander. Well Done Commander John. I want to thank Joe Schramm, Commander of the Flanders Field Post BE-02 for conducting a very successful convention. Highlight of the trip was a tour of Bastogne where one could almost re-live Easy Company's (Band of Brothers) ordeal during the Battle of the Bulge.



Commander Shanahan inspecting SS staff Car



Where Easy Company was deployed (No Snow here)

**CONGO:** In 1960, the United Nations requested that that Ireland deploy a battalion of soldiers to the Congo in Africa to simply act as Peacekeepers. These soldiers were lightly armed and soon found themselves engaged in fierce battle against well-armed mercenaries resulting in over a dozen Irish soldiers KIA. To commemorate this historic event in Irish history the Boyle, Co Roscommon ONE Branch organized a plaque unveiling ceremony to remember these peacekeepers from the Boyle area that partook in that first deployment exactly 56 years ago. **Page 3 of this Newsletter is an excerpt from the bi-monthly ONE Magazine giving credit to the Boyle Branch ONE and Post IR-03, The American Legion. (The Royal Australian Army - Vietnam Veteran is Ed Sommers a good friend with Tom Kelly)**

**MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GEORGE EWART:** After extensive searching, we eventually located the last resting place of our Dear departed Comrade George, RIP. George lived alone in Newry, Co. Down and died suddenly in March 2013.. We were not notified of George's death until three months later. We were under the false assumption that he was buried in Newry and efforts to locate his grave there proved fruitless. We later found that George was buried in the family plot in the cemetery adjoining St Patrick's RC Cathedral, in Armagh. We also managed to get in touch with his sister Iris (aged 84) in Michigan. Per the family's wishes, we now plan to conduct a ceremony at George's gravesite on his anniversary in March 2017. We will advise all when a date is selected by the family

**MEMBERSHIP DUES:** For those who have not yet renewed their membership, please send me a cheque for €40.00. Don't forget our 2nd October meeting. See you there.

*Michael Noone*  
 MICHAEL NOONE  
 Adjutant