

The Robert V. (Bob) Phillips

Palmetto College Military Endowed Scholarship Fund

Bob Phillips was born on Oct. 8, 1920, in Spartanburg, S.C. He graduated from Spartanburg High School with honors in 1938. Knowing it would be a financial burden on his parents to pay for him to attend college, he applied for and accepted a railroad position which had been recommended to him by his father.

After World War II began, Robert V. (Bob) Phillips was drafted on Oct. 5, 1942. He rode a bus to Fort Jackson and began his active duty service in the United States Army on Oct. 19, 1942. He was promoted several times and rose to the rank of Technician Fifth Grade.

After training at several bases, his unit, the 377th Infantry Regiment (part of the 95th Infantry Division), was ordered to deploy to England. They traveled aboard the *USS West Point* departing on Aug. 9, 1944. They arrived at Liverpool

Harbor and were transported to Southampton, England, where they were loaded onto Liberty cargo ships. The Regiment landed via LCTs at Omaha Beach on Sept. 13, 1944.

Phillips' unit fought in Northern France, the Rhineland and Central Europe.

After the war was over, they were assigned to and assumed occupational control of Recklinghausen, Germany. The Regiment departed the battered port of Le Havre, France, on June 20, 1945, aboard the *USS William H. Gordon* arriving in Newport News, Va., on June 28, 1945.

Phillips was awarded the American Campaign Medal,

WWII Victory Medal, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Army of Occupation of Germany Medal, Honorable Service Lapel Button, the Good Conduct Medal and the Bronze Star.

Phillips was honorably



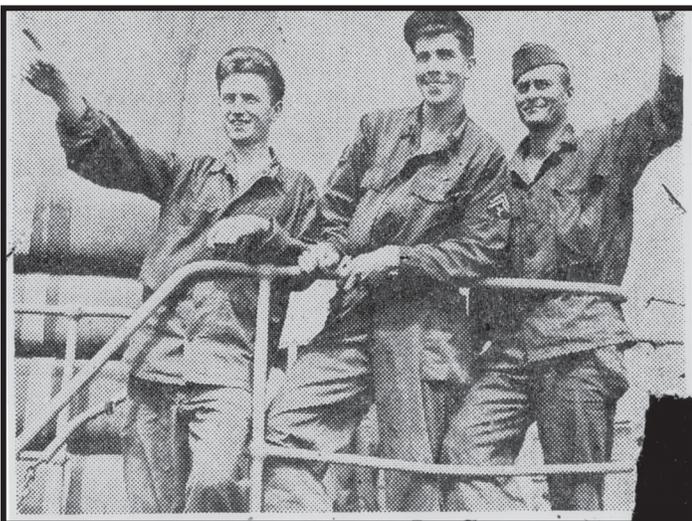
Bob Phillips

discharged from the Army on Nov. 19, 1945. He returned to Spartanburg where he resumed his position at the railroad company and retired from what is now known as CSX after 45 years of service.

Even though Bob Phillips did not have the opportunity

to obtain a college education, he strongly encouraged his two daughters to pursue college degrees, and they did. He even encouraged – and ultimately convinced – his wife to obtain a college education, and she did.

Bob Phillips would be honored and proud to know a scholarship bearing his name will provide soldiers at Fort Jackson and other veterans of the United States Army the help they need to achieve a college education through the University of South Carolina Palmetto College.



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