

★ NORMANDY ★ BRITTANY ★ ARDENNES ★ RHINELAND ★ CENTRAL EUROPE

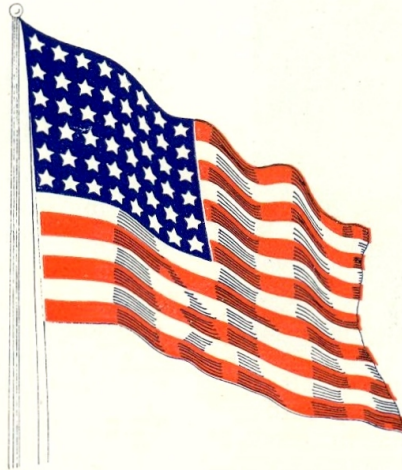
# THUNDERBOLT

Vol. 8, No. 3

WARREN, OHIO

May, 1955

## MEMORIAL DAY 1955



**“Greater love than this no man hath  
that he lay down his life for another.”**

Will you honor our Country's dead? Will you pay tribute to our Division's dead? Will you say a prayer for our Division's dead? Plan to attend a Memorial Day Service in honor of our dead, lest it be said: He forgot his friends who gave their lives that he might live in happiness and in freedom.

# THUNDERBOLT

Official Newspaper of the  
83rd Infantry Division Association

THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II, and is published at 1459 Beechwood St., N. E., Warren, Ohio

EDITOR . . . . . George Cooley

STAFF REPORTERS . . . . . Leroy Titus, Henry Hine, Dave Rosenberg, Russell Hite, Harry Lockwood, Will Zack.

EXECUTIVE BOARD . . . . . James Hanrahan, Shelly Hughes, Walter H. Edwards, Jr., Leo Schneider.

HONORARY PRESIDENTS Maj. Gen. Frank W. Milburn, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon, Maj. Gen. C. B. Ferenbaugh, Ralph Neppel.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By LARRY REDMOND

Hello Buddies:

Well fellows, we have passed the half-way point in our term of office, and are now starting on the final phase of it. I must say that the first half was a little rough going, but we have gotten things pretty well straightened out, and should have it much better from here on in.



In our last issue of the *Thunderbolt* I asked you to check your membership cards and see if you were a member in good standing. Well, surprising as it may seem, we had some good news from this appeal. We received dues from several men who had just forgotten about their dues, and from others who just never bothered to send in dues for the past several years, so we now have some who are like new members and other who were just a little delinquent.

I would like to base my appeal to you in this letter on the Reunion. I attended a meeting with the Reunion Committee just a few nights ago, and the program that they have outlined so far promises to be very enjoyable to you and your family. They are sparing no efforts to try and obtain the most entertaining program that is possible. I know that if you attend this Reunion that you will be very well pleased with it. I think that it would be a good idea, if every man that intended to attend this Reunion, would drop us a line and let us know, maybe we could publish your name and address in the next issue of the *Thunderbolt*; maybe a buddy that you haven't seen for some time would attend

the Reunion also if he knew that you were going to be there. Think this over fellows, and let us know how you feel about this idea. We would have to have word from you on or before May 28th.

Well fellows, we are looking forward to hearing from you and also that long-lost Buddy of yours. Remember, write to a Buddy, that three-cent stamp that you use, may mean another new member in our Association, and another man to join us at our Reunion in August.

## T-H-U-N-D-E-R-B-O-L-T

By HARRY LOCKWOOD—329

T—is for the times we've had, the tumult and the tears as members of the 83rd throughout these many years.

H—is for the hectic moments and there have been quite a few; yes, and come to think of it, we've had our heroes too.

U—means we're united and on that we must insist, for a house divided against itself just cannot exist.

N—is for the many nights we spent in needling Jerry, also for the nights we spent in town just making merry.

D—is for the daring deeds when the going was real hot, and for the dangerous assignments it seems we always got.

E—means each and every one of us in some way or another had a duty to perform for God, for country and for his service brother.

R—for Rag Tag Circus, we really had them on the run; it took the good old 83rd to show others how it's done.

B—is for the big shot brass who were criticised all along, but you know, come to think of it, perhaps we are the ones who were wrong.

O—means that we're older now and a little wiser too, and just look back on all of this as a phase of life we'd been through.

L—of course means just one thing which they would not tolerate—looting was strictly forbidden, so we had to liberate.

T—means that we passed the test and can sing the praises loud of the THUNDERBOLT DIVISION of which we're all so proud.

So, let us all remember and remember it real well, this year's Convention at the Ben Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in August of this year, 18th, 19th and 20th—let's all try to be there!

## THUNDERBOLT PERSONALITIES

Ralph Neppel, M-329, the 83rd Division's Medal of Honor holder, was recently featured in the Des Moines *Tribune*. We wish to thank Gordon Gammack, reporter for the *Tribune*, for his gracious permission to reprint the article.

### Code One

Flying between Des Moines and Waco our pilot, Maj. Roy Schauer of Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois, used what is known as "Code One" in contacting by radio other bases en route. And when he did he got top priority attention.

"Code One" is used when a four-star general, a member of congress or a holder of the Medal of Honor is aboard. It was the presence of Medal of Honor Winner Ralph Neppel that entitled our flight to this attention.

And even though Neppel was in civilian clothes, he was saluted by officers as he got out of the plane. A Medal of Honor winner rates a salute from every officer in the military, no matter how high the rank.

He's also entitled to ride on military planes, anywhere in the United States.

### One Problem

Neppel says the only time he feels keenly the fact that he is a double amputee is when his 6-year-old boy says, "Daddy, I wish you could run and play ball with me like other daddies do with their boys."

"That hurts," says Ralph.

As manager of the veterans administration office in Waterloo, Neppel receives some unusual applications for compensation.

"The strangest one of all was from a fellow who wanted compensation because he said he developed dandruff while in service. It made him bald, he said, and that decreased his value as a musician."

"Then we get quite a few applications from men who say they got flat feet while in service and they want compensation."

### War Records

Neppel says that usually the veterans who talk the most about their war records when they come to the veterans administration office are the ones who really didn't see too much combat.

"The fellows who went through the toughest combat don't say much about it," said Neppel.

The city of Waterloo did a nice thing for Neppel, assisting with his problem of getting around. Near his office, a parking meter was taken out of use and marked off as Neppel's own parking spot.

"I appreciate it," says Ralph, "but it makes me feel a little funny. Take now, for instance, I'm away for two days and that space stays vacant."

William O. Shuman, our Association Chaplain, Hq-Div Arty, from Greencastle, Pa., is not only Adjutant of the VFW Post over in Greencastle, but also Director of the Teen Canteen, a very worthwhile community service.

Leo Schneider, Hq-331, one of the members of our Association Executive Committee, is the "travelingest" fellow it seems. Every time that Leo puts in a call to us here in Warren it's from a different part of the country. If he calls us from the same place twice we are apt to think that the guy has settled down. We had the pleasure of spending a few hours with Leo in Philly last month at the reunion planning meeting. He tells us that he and lovely wife, Shirley, are expecting a new addition to their family in May. This will be number three.

George Johnson, A-322 FA, is now a restaurant operator up there in Grand Rapids, Mich., we might mention that Nick Chirekos, C-331, President of the 331st Association, is also in the restaurant business in Rock Island, Ill. So, any time any of you Thunderbolts are in the vicinity of Grand Rapids or Rock Island, stop in and "mooch" yourself a free meal.

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**Remember . . .**  
**Your buddies will want**  
**to see you in**  
**PHILLY**  
**HOTEL**  
**BEN FRANKLIN**  
**AUGUST**  
**18, 19 and 20**  
**1955**

## TIGER BY THE TAIL — THE STORY OF SAM MAGILL

By COL. BARNEY OLDFIELD

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The *Thunderbolt* Staff wishes to thank the *American Weekly* Magazine and Col. Barney Oldfield, Director of Information Services, Air Defense Command, for their permission to reprint the following story that appeared in the September 12, 1954, edition of *American Weekly*. As a result of this story Sam Magill, now Captain Magill, was featured on Ralph Edwards' television program, "This Is Your Life" on February 16, 1955.

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History doesn't record many instances of a handful of men stopping an army. Thermopylae, maybe, but that was 300 Spartans against a horde of poorly armed Persians in a 50-foot pass. Sam Magill's problem was different.

How he solved it is one of the dramatic stories of the collapse of the German armies in France during General George S. Patton's dash from Normandy. But headlines were a dime a dozen then and so Sam Magill for years was more or less forgotten.

But recently a friend of mine, Robert Hardy Andrews, a top novelist and script writer, prepared a script called *Tiger by the Tail: The Story of Sam Magill*, and two leading Hollywood producers are interested in it. So, after 10 years, Sam Magill's name will emerge from the ranks of forgotten heroes.

This is Sam's story:

In September of 1944, Sam was a lieutenant commanding a 24-man intelligence and reconnaissance platoon along the Loire River near Joan of Arc's home town of Orleans. One of the resistance French, highly excited, came in and was turned over to Sam's interpreter, a Belgian.

"Here's what he says," the interpreter explained. "Hitler has ordered all available Germans in France to fall back and defend the Siegfried Line. Major General Erich Elster has collected 20,000 men, 2,000 commandeered vehicles and more than 1,000 requisitioned horses and is about 75 miles away. He hopes to get through the Belfort Gap before Patton and General Patch, who is coming up from the south, come together."

Sam thought fast. The 329th Infantry Regiment of the 83rd Infantry Division, to which Sam's outfit was attached, was part of Patton's hard-charging Third Army, then racing almost unopposed toward the German border. Lieutenant General Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army was coming up the Rhone Valley from the Marseilles area. Maybe the two of them could

nutcracker Elster before he reached the Belfort Gap in the Vosges Mountains, but it was certain to turn into a bloody and unnecessary battle. And if Elster did sneak through, his 20,000 men would be the equivalent of 100,000 behind the Siegfried Line.

Something had to be done—something that a general and not a lieutenant ought to decide. On the other hand, time was precious and Patton had called for "aggressive patrolling."

"Get into your jeeps and board the ferry," Sam called out. "We're going across the river."

Sam had no illusions about the ride ahead. The 72 miles to Issoudun, where the Frenchman said Elster had his route headquarters, was full of desperate German as well as harrying Free French and FTPF (the Communist French resistance forces), who would shoot first and ask questions afterward. Any moment there might be a burst from a hidden machine gun.

The tiny column grew smaller and more vulnerable as it progressed. Along the way, at regular intervals, Sam left detachments with order to keep their radios tuned and to relay any message he might send. Toward the end there was only Sam left, with his driver and radio operator. He stuck a flag of truce on the jeep and bounced on ahead as if he were out for a Sunday drive. When he reached Issoudun, the puzzled guard let him through and he barged right up to General Elster himself.

"You haven't got a chance, general," Sam said through an interpreter. "My boss, Major General Robert Macon of the 83rd Infantry Division, knows exactly what you plan to do and he's waiting for you. So are the resistance French and our air force. If you're wise, you'll surrender right now."

The general scowled, then snapped to his interpreter. "Ask him how many men he commands."

"Me? I've got a platoon of 24," Sam said. "But—"

"Are you crazy?" the general sputtered. "I can't surrender 20,000 men to 24. How would that look on my record? No, there must be a show of strength, and fast. Either I surrender now or go ahead full speed."

"How about a show of strength in the air?" Sam asked. "I'll radio the division and ask for some planes."

"And bring your air force down on my back?" the general demanded.

"Look, it's your only chance to save a lot of lives," Sam said. "I'll tell them to watch for white panels on the ground, meaning you'll negotiate and they're to let us alone. Okay?"

Elster looked only half-convinced, but he assented. Sam ground out the message on the jeep radio. His confidence was all on

the surface. Suppose his bluff failed? Suppose his message was garbled in transit or didn't get through at all? Furthermore, he was a long way from his normal patrol area, which in itself would look suspicious.

The wait gnawed on his nerves. Staff officers were jabbering at Elster and Sam knew they were telling him that the whole business was silly and probably just a delaying action. The general's scowl was getting blacker.

Suddenly American planes appeared overhead. Sam had no way of knowing whether they were the ones he had asked for, but he reached into the jeep and pulled out a couple of white panels.

"Shall I spread 'em, general?"

Elster took another look at the planes. "Yes," he said.

Sam held his breath. Could one man, aided by a dozen fliers who didn't even know what it was all about, capture an army?

"I am surrendering," Elster said. "Can you arrange for me to meet a ranking member of the division staff who has power to negotiate?"

"You bet I can," Sam said, and did.

It still was a ticklish situation. The leaders of the Free French had no wish to see the arms and ammunition of 20,000 men fall into the hands of the French Communists. When they were informed of the situation, they insisted that the Germans be allowed to carry their arms and equipment to the Loire before surrendering.

To Sam, whom I had joined by this time in my capacity as Public Relations Officer of the Ninth Army, fell most of the details. He had to arrange for hay for the German horses and food for the men. He was continually contending with emotional German surrender rituals, speeches and the burning of famous battleflags.

For a lieutenant from Ashtabula, Ohio, this was quite an experience, but Sam pulled it off.

The actual surrender on the banks of the Loire took place on September 17, 1944, and, to my disgust, as Sam's unofficial Boswell, it coincided with the airborne invasion of Holland and was almost completely buried in the news columns.

When at the end of the war, his train came steaming into Ashtabula, Sam was trying to spot his family out of the window. There were four big army bands and thousands of people on the platform. He wondered vaguely who was on the train to warrant such a fuss. The train stopped and he found out. It was Sam, of course. Somebody'd finally remembered.

Sam is back in the Army now, a captain in the 532nd M. I. Battalion at Stuttgart,

Germany, not far from the Iron Curtain. If the Russians are smart they won't be starting anything right away. Not while Sam's around.

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## WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

By LEE TITUS, G-331

The Second Anniversary Dance of the Warren Chapter was held on Saturday, February 26th and was a big success due to the hard work of the entertainment committee headed by Dick Kelly and Joe Nuzzi. We enjoyed the pleasure of having a special guest, Henry Hine, Secretary of the Pittsburgh Chapter.

\* \* \*

The Warren Chapter has just about completed plans to attend the Ninth Annual Reunion in Philly this year, stronger than ever before. At the last monthly meeting held at the Club 83, a reunion committee was appointed to contact the members that are going to attend the reunion so that arrangements can be made to secure rooms and travel facilities as early as possible. We hear that Mike Skovran, C-331 and John Teringo, G-331, have their baby sitters all lined up and will be "Turnpike bound" with their wives on August 17th.

\* \* \*

Congratulations are in order to George Bellay, Cannon-329, and his lovely wife, Louise, on the recent birth of their third child, a girl. Also, to John Dillon, C-329, and charming wife, Lillian, on the birth of their second child, a boy. (The boys are still waiting for cigars from both fathers).

\* \* \*

In the next issue the Warren Chapter News will contain the names and organizations of all the men from this area that are definitely going to the reunion in August. Look for your buddy in the list and make plans to meet him in Philly.

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# Be Aggressive!

# Form A Chapter

# In Your Area

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Dear Sir: I was delighted to receive the information about the 83rd Infantry Division Association. I was not aware of its existence before. I am eager for all information you may have at your disposal. I am enclosing a check which will cover my dues and the back issues of the *Thunderbolt*. I am a former member of the 2nd Bn. 329th Med. Det. and was aidman assigned to F Company. I saw only a few names of the boys in the organization and none from North Carolina. I know that there are several from N. C. and some from this area which I would like very much to get in touch with. Can you help? I have written to several people and asked them to meet me at the reunion in August, which my wife and I are looking forward to attending. I am looking forward to a very pleasant experience in belonging to the 83rd Division Association and am doubly happy to have found out about it.

DR. M. D. KEITH, O.D.-F-329  
High Point, North Carolina

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... since I have moved I have lost all communication with the Association. If you would drop me a card telling me what the dues are I would be glad to get paid up and back in.

JOHN J. HOUSTON, HQ & L-330  
Office of Supt. of Schools,  
Winslow, Maine.

(He is paid up and back in.—Ed.)

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Dear Mr. Cooley: I received the copies of the *Thunderbolt* containing the information regarding the coming convention in Philadelphia. It was a real pleasure to read these issues as they brought back to me many fine memories of my days with the 83rd Division. They also acquainted me with some of the doings of some of my friends from whom I have not heard, nor seen, since the war. I was returning from Europe early in December of last year aboard the *United States*, when I saw a face on deck that seemed very familiar to me. To my pleasant surprise I found that it was none other than that of our good friend Col. Schuck, the Division Finance Officer. We had a most pleasant time discussing our days with the 83rd and renewing our acquaintance. In closing, I just want to mention that I am enclosing my check for membership in the Association, and, if it is at all possible, I hope to attend the Division reunion this year in Philadelphia.

ELFORD A. CEDERBERG, Div. HQ  
Representative In Congress  
Washington 25, D. C.

... I am looking forward to the reunion this year in Philadelphia, and if possible, I will bring Martha and the boys along. I want to make a suggestion, why don't we have a Junior Membership? This would be a way in which we could get more money for our treasury. I am enclosing check to cover my dues and an extra eight dollars (\$8.00) for my boys as a starter. Hoping to see you and many of the other buddies at the reunion this year.

H. T. McCLAIN, 1-330  
Knoxville 19, Tenn.

(We are holding the eight bucks for Mac until August when he will have the opportunity to present his idea for a Junior Membership to the Association.—ED.)

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Dear Sir: I received my membership card and copies of the *Thunderbolt* and was very glad to get them. I have already received my leave of absence from the shop for the reunion in August and sure hope to get there.

DONALD R. REITER, D-330  
1135 Shuler Ave., Hamilton, Ohio

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... I checked my latest membership card and to my chagrin I discovered that I was not paid up to date, so enclosing money order to cover my dues. I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations on the job you fellows are doing in maintaining our wonderful organization. The amounts of work entailed are only realized by you fellows who are taking an active part in keeping the association together. I know that I speak for all members in saying thanks for all your work well done. In the past I have not been able to attend any of the reunions. I shall certainly try to make this one in Philadelphia this year. Also thanks for continuation of mailing the *Thunderbolt* even though not paid up.

JOSEPH J. PERTUSI, G-329  
124 MacDougal St.,  
New York 12, N. Y.

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Mr. George Cooley, Editor—*Thunderbolt*  
Congratulations on some of the finest *Thunderbolt* editions since its conception and also on the success of your Warren Chapter of the Division Association, keep up the good work.

Am enclosing a poem I wrote soon after my discharge in 1945 and thought perhaps you could use it in your paper.

It is as applicable today as it was in "45" since our Vet hospitals are now filled with men from Korea as well as World War I and II. Perhaps its publication will remind people of these men to the point of visiting some of them and let them know they are not forgotten.

See you in Philadelphia in "55."

A. WOUTERS  
Co. "C" 331 Inf. Reg.

Each Decoration Day we pay tribute to our war veterans with ceremonies, parades and prayer. A rifle salute is fired over the graves of the dead and a reverent prayer spoken for these men who have made the supreme sacrifice.

The parades, music and speeches are in themselves a tribute to the living—yet in all the ceremonies throughout the year one never hears a tribute given to the thousands of men in the veterans hospitals whose nervous systems have been shattered and who will spend the rest of their lives confined in these institutions. These men, neither living nor dead, have also paid the supreme price for our freedom and yet are left to be forgotten.

As a small tribute to these men, I submit the following:

#### THE LIVING DEAD

In his face you see the things  
His lips will never tell  
The things he's seen, the things he's  
done  
To him a living Hell.

From his eyes the spark has gone  
That used to light his face  
A dull, tired and empty look  
Is there in its place.

Those lips that were so cheerful  
Before he went away  
Seem so drawn and quiet now  
Their smiles have gone to stay.

He turns those dull and tired eyes  
And looks you in the face  
You long to take him in your arms  
To hold in close embrace.

It's then you see there's something  
That keeps you two apart  
You turn and leave him standing there  
An aching in your heart.

Those of us who stayed at home  
And sent this boy across  
Will never know the price he paid  
We cannot share the cost.

Yet in his face we see the things  
His lips will never tell  
The things he's seen, the things he's  
done  
To him a living Hell.

— AL. WOUTERS

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**Did you write to your buddy yet?  
Do it now! Don't stand idly by!!**

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**DUES DO COME DUE!**

**DON'T FORGET THE DATE . . .**

**August 18, 19 and 20**

**PLACE . . . Ben Franklin Hotel  
9th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.**

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#### THUNDERBOLT THANKS . . .

\* \* \* The Disabled American Veterans,  
\* \* \* The Veterans of Foreign Wars,  
\* \* \* The American Legion,  
\* \* \* The Air Force Association, for the prompt and courteous consideration that these Veterans organizations gave us in publishing the notice of the Ninth Annual Thunderbolt Reunion.

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#### BUDDIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

S/Sgt. Byron Wilt, former Mess Sgt. with C Company, 330th Infantry Regiment, is trying to establish service connected disability for frozen feet he claims to have received during the Battle of the Bulge. Wilt would especially like to get in touch with Chaplain Blitz and Bernard Turner who was hospitalized at the same time. Please send verification or any information that you may have to, 83rd Headquarters, Warren, Ohio.

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Edward F. Rose, formerly of Co. A, 331st Infantry, needs verification of the fact that he was hospitalized while in service. Ed Rose needs this verification to establish disability claim with the VA. Anyone having any knowledge of Ed's claim, please contact him at his residence, 21 Quimby Street, Watertown, Mass.

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83rd Infantry Division Association metal tags for your license plates, 3½ x 10 in., beautifully done up with gold on black background. The perfect way to advertise your Division Association. \$1.00 plus 25c to cover postage and handling.

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#### OBITUARY COLUMN

T/Sgt. William G. Howard, Jr., formerly Company M, 330th Infantry, killed in action at Heartbreak Ridge, Korea, January 13, 1952. Bill stayed in the Regular Army and volunteered for combat service in Korea. We just received notification of this from his family in Taunton, Mass., a few weeks ago.

Maurice J. Lindley, Hq. 3rd Bn. 330th Infantry, who died at his home in West York, Illinois, in the Spring of 1954. Lindley was with the Communications Platoon, 330th.

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## BY-LAWS OF 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

### Membership

*Active*—Any person assigned to the 83rd Infantry Division during the period 8 August 1942 to 30 April 1946.

*Associate*—Members of designated units attached to the 83rd Infantry Division during the above specified period long enough to qualify for a battle star shall be entitled to all privileges of active membership except voting and right to hold office. The next of kin of any person qualifying as an Honorary Member is eligible for Associate Membership.

*Honorary*—Any person who would qualify for Active or Associate Membership and is deceased shall be an Honorary Member of this Association.

No person who has been dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States Army will be eligible for membership.

### Officers

This Association shall have an Executive Board composed of the first eight National Officers and four Members-at-Large.

The National Officers shall be:

1. President
2. 1st Vice-President
3. 2nd Vice-President
4. 3rd Vice-President
5. Secretary
6. Secretary-Treasurer
7. Secretary for Publications
8. Asst. Secretary for Publications
9. Chaplain
10. Historian
11. Assistant Historian
12. Judge Advocate
13. Sergeant-at-Arms (3)

Commanding Generals of the 83rd Infantry Division during the period required for membership shall be Honorary Presidents of the Association.

### Election, Term of Office and Duties of Officers

Election of Members-at-Large to the Association Executive Board and the National Officers of the Association will take place at the annual meeting.

The term of office of the above named will be for one (1) year.

A member of the Association in good standing will be entitled to one (1) vote. Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

In the event that an annual meeting is held the annual election shall be conducted by mail in a manner prescribed by the Executive Board.

### President

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Executive Board and shall assist in the formation

of all policies of the Association. The President shall have all of the other usual duties of the Office of the President as well as such additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### First Vice President

2. The 1st Vice-President shall in the absence of the President assume the duties of the President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### Second Vice President

3. The 2nd Vice-President shall in the absence of the 1st Vice-President assume the duties of the 1st Vice-President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### Third Vice President

4. The 3rd Vice-President shall in the absence of the 2nd Vice-President assume the duties of the 2nd Vice-President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### Secretary

5. The Secretary shall read at the annual meeting all reports submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary will assist the Secretary-Treasurer with Association correspondence.

### Secretary-Treasurer

6. a. The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for the Association's funds from all sources.

b. The Secretary-Treasurer will establish an address which shall be known as the headquarters for the Association.

c. The Secretary-Treasurer may be paid a salary in an amount to be determined yearly by the Executive Board.

d. The Office of Secretary-Treasurer may or may not be held by a member of the Association.

### Secretary For Publications

7. The Secretary for Publications shall supervise and be a member of the Editing Staff of all publications released by the Association. He shall have additional powers and duties as prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### Assistant Secretary For Publications

8. The Assistant Secretary for Publications shall help supervise and be a member of the Editing Staff of all publications released by the Association. He shall have additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

### Chaplain

9. The Chaplain shall have all of the duties of the Office of Chaplain as well as



such additional duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

#### Historian

10. The Historian shall keep a record of events of the Association. He may, at the discretion of the Executive Board re-write a Division History, collect from members and maintain a file of published and unpublished unit histories, pictures, papers, and, in conjunction with the Chaplain, conduct contact work between the War Department, deceased members' families, and Association Members to establish the full stories of the deceased members' deaths.

#### Assistant Historian

11. The Assistant Historian shall help keep a record of events of the Association and shall assume the duties of the Historian when required.

#### Judge Advocate

12. The Judge Advocate shall be the legal advisor of the Association and, in particular, of the Executive Board and shall have such additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

#### Sergeants-at-Arms

13. The Sergeants-at-Arms shall maintain decorum at the annual meetings and have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

#### Dues

The annual dues of the National Association shall be payable in advance before 30 June each year.

#### Chapters

The National Association shall grant charters, at its option, to geographic sectional chapters who agree to operate under the provisions of the National Association's By-Laws. A Membership of not less than ten (10) members in good standing shall be required in order to obtain such charters.

#### Committees

A nominating committee of five members, holding no office in the Association, shall be selected by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Board, for the purpose of yearly selecting a panel of members to be voted upon for positions of Executive Board and National Officers. This committee shall be charged with the specific duty of nominating adequate representation of former enlisted personnel and officers for offices in the Association.

A membership committee of five members appointed by the President will assist in the securing of new members, and carrying out the policies of the Association in matters concerning membership.

Other committees may be established by the Executive Board.

#### Amendments

The By-Laws of this Association may be changed by a three-fourth (3/4) vote of members present at the yearly meeting.

Amendments should be submitted to all members in written form no less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. This will not prevent submission of amendments of an urgent nature to the Executive Board for its approval and presentation by the Executive Board to the assembly for immediate action.

#### No. 30926

### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF THE 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

FIRST. The name of the corporation is:  
THE 83RD INFANTRY DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION

SECOND. Its principal office in the District of Columbia is located at 1115 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The name and address of its resident agent is The Infantry Journal, 1115 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

THIRD. The nature of the business to be transacted, promoted or carried on is:

The object of this Association shall be to exist permanently as a national organization and to bring together men who have served with the 83rd Infantry Division, United States Army during World War II.

It is hereby expressly provided that this corporation shall also have the following powers, viz:

To prepare and maintain at all times records of all members of the association as well as records of those persons who are eligible to membership in this association.

To furnish information and assistance to its membership with respect to any and all matters affecting their rights and benefits under any present or future legislation enacted by the Congress or any State Legislature.

To acquire, erect, equip, maintain and operate such buildings, club rooms and other facilities for meetings of members, maintenance of records, preservation and exhibition of historical documents, books, paintings, prints, war materiel and other objects as well as for the administration of the affairs of the association as may be deemed advisable.

To enter into, make, perform or carry out contracts of every kind with any firm, person, corporation or association; to do any acts necessary or expedient for carrying on any or all of the objects and purposes of this corporation not forbidden by

(Continued on next page) ----

## CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

(Continued from preceding page)

this certificate of incorporation, or in its by-laws, or by the laws of the District of Columbia, but only through such officers or special agents as may be designated.

To have offices and promote and carry on its objects and purposes within or without the District of Columbia, in other states, the territories or possessions of the United States, and in foreign countries.

Acting through its executive board, its president, its secretary or special agents herein designated, subject to the powers and restrictions of this certificate of incorporation, and its by-laws, this corporation is empowered to do all and only such acts as are necessary or convenient to the attainment of the objects and purposes herein set forth, and to the same extent and as fully as any natural person might or could do.

In general, to have all powers conferred upon a corporation by the laws of the District of Columbia except as herein prohibited, or forbidden by the by-laws of this corporation.

To provide a means for collecting and disseminating information and for making studies of and reports on important subjects of interest to its members.

To print, publish and distribute, or arrange for the printing, publication and distribution to its members, of a magazine, newspaper or other periodical with full power to sell advertising space therein.

FOURTH. This corporation shall be a membership corporation and shall have no capital stock. The corporation is not organized, and shall not be conducted, for profit, and no part of its revenues or earnings shall inure to the benefit of its members.

Except as otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation, the conditions, method of admission, qualifications and classifications of membership, the limitations, rights, powers and duties of members, the method of expulsion from and the termination of membership, limitations upon or qualifications of voting power, and all other matters pertaining to the membership and the conduct, management and control of the business, property and affairs of the corporation shall be as provided from time to time in the by-laws of the corporation.

FIFTH. The names and places of residence of each of the original incorporators are as follows: all residents of the District of Columbia and citizens of the United States.

Alan F. S. MacKenzie, 3717 "T" Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

Gurney S. Jaynes, Company "C", 712th M. P. Bn., Army War College.

Daniel G. Hagman, 1465 Columbia Road, N.W., Washington, D. C.

SIXTH. The existence of this corporation is to be perpetual.

SEVENTH. The private property of the members shall not be subject to the payment of corporate debts to any extent whatsoever.

EIGHTH. The affairs and business of the corporation shall be managed and conducted by an executive board, members of such board to be known as directors, the number of such board to be as set forth in the by-laws (but not less than three), the members of which shall be originally named, chosen, appointed or elected by the incorporators and thereafter any and all vacancies in such executive board occasioned by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled from time to time by the method provided in the by-laws of the corporation. Such executive board shall have the power to adopt by-laws for the regulations and government of the affairs and business of the corporation and to amend, alter, change or repeal such by-laws from time to time and, within the limitations of this certificate of incorporation, to fix and alter the number of members constituting the executive board to fix the terms of office of the board; to manage, regulate, govern and conduct the affairs of the corporation, its operations and property either directly or through such committees, officers and agents as it shall elect or appoint; to appoint such committees, officers and agents as the business or purposes of the corporation shall require or permit, to delegate to them such powers and authorities as the executive board may deem desirable and for the best interests of the corporation; to designate their duties, and to provide for their compensation; for and on behalf of the corporation to purchase and convey real and personal property and to mortgage or lease any of such real or personal estate.

NINTH. Both members and board shall have power, if the by-laws so provide, to hold their meetings, and to have one or more offices within or without the District of Columbia, and to keep the books of this corporation (subject to the provisions of the statutes), outside the District of Columbia at such places as may be from time to time designated by the executive board.

TENTH. The corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provision contained in this certificate of incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present given at any annual meeting, or at any special meeting of the members called for the purpose, at which a quorum is present, and all rights conferred upon members herein are granted subject to this reservation.

**GREATER PITTSBURGH  
CHAPTER NEWS**

**"Iron City Chatter"**

By HENRY HINE—M-330

Just letting all you "Thunderbolts" know that we here aren't dead yet! We held our annual spring dance on April 23 and had a fine turnout. But now would like to have you meet some of the "old faithful" who make our chapter move.

Walt Poland, I-329—our genial, affable President—always a staunch supporter of the 83rd—Walt works for Westinghouse at the East Pittsburgh plant—lives with wife and son in Swissvale—really works for the continued success of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter—just brought a new member into the fold for the Association.

Paul B. Diethrich, Cannon - 330—our energetic and enthusiastic Vice President—Paul always comes up with good suggestions on promoting the Chapter—works for the Blaw Knox Co.—his wife, Rita, had charge of the women's program at the Pittsburgh Convention here last year—Paul and Rita, and two children, live up there in Blaw Knox.

Ezio F. Alicandri, D-329—our Greater Pittsburgh Chapter Treasurer — "Smokey" makes a good Shylock—hard man to get money from unless there's "skeenteen" signed affidavits, and most every time he looks at us, it's dig in those pockets for dues—works for the Bureau of Mines, and quite an automobile mechanic on the side. He and his wife enjoying their new home over in Millvale. A really good Chapter Officer, "Smokey" makes the meetings even when he's sick!

Joseph B. DePalma—K-330—Joe's one of those 15-year men at Westinghouse's East Pittsburgh plant—top "Poppa" in our outfit, as he and his charming wife, Val, have Johnny, Joey, Carol Ann, and little Bernie to look after. Joe's quite a bowler and a good member of the Swissvale Moose. As Vice President last year was instrumental in organizing and getting a meeting place for the Chapter.

Charles R. Navish, I-329—You never can get away from those I Company, 329ers who always show up strong at our Conventions. A bunch of rabid supporters, and Chuck is one of them. A good contact man and a good man to know when you're finagling around setting up activities. Chuck's our go-getter in the Turtle Creek Valley, Monroeville area, and he and his wife, Dorothy, and their two children reside in Turtle Creek.

J. K. Shaughnessy, L-329—the old Monroeville Fire Chief—showed up at our last Chapter meeting with one of those Florida sun tans and tales of the Sunny Southland. The latest Latrine Rumor is that another

of our old bachelors is looking marriage in the eye.

Martin P. Propst, Cannon-330—Martin's one of those Aliquippa men who travel a long way to attend our Chapter affairs. They certainly deserve a lot of credit for their active participation from so far away. Martin's in the building contracting business, and he and the wife and their three kiddies live in Aliquippa.

Charles Hopta, A-331, the other half of our Aliquippa duo—Charley's always been an ardent supporter of the Association—works for American Bridge Co.—has promised us the use of his grounds for a picnic, which we expect to take advantage of, now that these warm Spring days are drawing near.

John P. Guzik, B-331—one of our most active bachelors—Johnny is the manager of the Meat Department for the A & P in Crafton and lives in Pittsburgh's Southside.

Lawrence J. Leonardi, A-331—Larry's a commercial artist with studio in the heart of the Golden Triangle—designed membership cards and Chapter Charters for the Association as well as working on the *Thunderbolt* Staff—Larry, Sue, and their little baby boy live in the East End.

Francis G. Beerhalter, H-329—of course most everybody knows Franny, our printer—Rocky's right-hand man for three years—Associate Editor on the *Thunderbolt* Staff—last year's Prexy of the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter—did a lot of work in preparing for last year's Convention—haven't seen as much of Franny lately as we'd like to, but he's really been tied up with his work—but we know he'll come around when he gets loose.

Rocco Catalfamo, C-330—naturally the past Secretary-Treasurer is one of the best known men in the Association—Rocky is really taken up with an exhausting round of union duties these days—sometimes re-scheduling his conference so he can be with us—1435 Clark Street, "Hotel Catalfamo" is where this Staff Reporter goes when he's "down and out," and wants to mooch a free meal, coffee, and pizza better than any I've tasted elsewhere—and to be entertained by that little vixen of a baby doll, Christine, their daughter.

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**9<sup>th</sup>**

ANNUAL

**THUNDERBOLT  
REUNION**

**August 18, 19, 20, 1955**

TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH —  
REMEMBER?

\* \* \* \*

**THE RAG-TAG CIRCUS —  
THEY MAKE HISTORY**

By ERNEST LEISER  
*Stars and Stripes Staff Writer*

WITH 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ACROSS THE ELBE, APRIL 14 (delayed)—General Simpson himself went down to see how they ever did it. This rag-tag "traveling circus" that rode and fought more than 200 miles of Germany in some ten days, keeping up with the best of American armor, just didn't belong in the books of modern warfare. It was impossible but the 83rd Infantry Division did it. From the time they were relieved from the bridgehead they had secured across the *Weser* to the crossing of the *Elbe* and holding of the bridgehead on the far side, they had not only kept up with the armor—they had outstripped it. They used any kind of transport you can name, tanks, TDs, trucks and jeeps, all bursting at the seams with GI passengers, and then added to that were German cars, trucks, fire engines, bicycles and even wheelbarrows. Except for a day or so, they had absolutely no attached trucks to haul their fast freight so they made do with whatever they could find along the road, and they found plenty. Strange things happened in that ten-day blitz, things that could only have happened to this "Coxey's Army". The other day as they were rolling along, a little German sedan was weaving in and out of the column, passing vehicles. No one would have noticed it; there wasn't anything unusual in this convoy about a German vehicle, if the driver hadn't kept honking his horn imperiously. Pfc. David Webster, a Signal Company man from Terre Haute, Ind., took a second look at the car and saw that the guy inside had on a German uniform with red collar patches. The 83rd had captured a German general who was going east in even a greater hurry than they were. In another case, the column overtook a German convoy, consisting of a Colonel and his staff, traveling the same way on the same road.

Up with the 1st Bn. of the 329th Infantry Regiment, fighting their first real battle since they took off, the men were still reminiscing between ducking shells at the perimeter of the *Elbe* bridgehead. They were bitter about some of the things they saw. S/Sgt. Dean Derey, of Bristol, Tenn., described the British and American prisoners they had freed in their sweep, about how they had cried when the 83rd came along and how the German guards had previously beaten the civilians who so much as offered them a glass of water in their death march across Germany.

DON'T STAND IDLY BY —  
GET A NEW MEMBER

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THUNDERBOLT**

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**YOUR  
ASSOCIATION**

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**What would you like  
to see in your  
THUNDERBOLT?**

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Send us your ideas . . .  
Most of all, send us news  
of yourself and your family**

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IN YOUR AREA**

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**NOTICE!**

In nominating men for office, the following information is needed: Name, Home Address, Name and Address of Employment and position held.

Nominations will be accepted for:

- PRESIDENT**
- FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**
- SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**
- CHAPLAIN**
- SECRETARY - TREASURER**

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