



# THUNDERBOLT

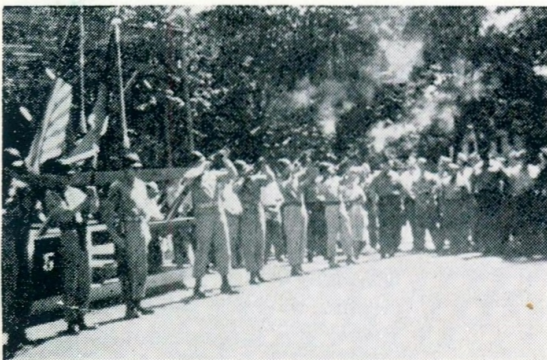
## 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION WORLD WAR II

Vol. 9, No. 1

WARREN, OHIO

October, 1955

## PHILDELPHIA REUNION "TOPS"



MEMORIAL SERVICE  
RIFLE SQUAD SALUTES 83rd



CMH RALPH NEPPLE AND GEN. G. B. FEREN-  
BAUGH AT MEMORIAL SERVICE

### 9th ANNUAL THUNDERBOLT REUNION SPECTACULAR SUCCESS

By DAVE ROSENBERG—F-331

The greater Philadelphia Chapter has given each succeeding reunion city a new mark to shoot at and attain. The efforts of Tony Adelizzi (C-322-FA) and his hard working committee paid excellent dividends and resulted in the unanimous approval of all who attended. This year's reunion saw the emergence of the true doughboy spirit in well-planned campaigning. Close to five hundred participated in the varied events and get-togethers. Never before have so many of the men been joined by their womenfolk. In the past the registration of the visitors was a gradual process with the maximum attained only at the last moments. In Philly the "Thunderbolts" came early and stayed late. Thursday's registrations reached an all-time high. The Thursday night cocktail party was a huge success. The true spirit of comradeship was evident early. Our Hero, Ralph Nepple, was greeted by a military reception at Maguire Field that saw high military officials, brass band, and newspaper coverage. True enough, it poured "pitchforks" Thursday evening, yet the crowds still swarmed in to register and meet their old buddies. Friday a beautiful, sunny day greeted all. The regular business meeting was held by an immense enthusiastic group. At the meeting all old business was settled and groundwork was laid to expedite important business of the final meeting on Saturday. Association President Larry Redmond (H-330) officiated and the lengthy Friday meeting culminated amid rousing cheers and enthusiastic approval of the fine work of the Philadelphia Chapter's efforts in making

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# THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

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 . . . Mike Skovran,  
Henry Hine, Dave Rosenberg, Russell Hite,  
Harry Lockwood, Will Zach.

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR . . . Lee Titus  
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M. Montague, Ralph Neppel.

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello, Buddies:

Here we go starting off on a new year. We are just recuperating from the Reunion, and are ready to start trying to make this year even a better year than the past year. Our 9th Annual Reunion was a grand success; we had a very nice group there, and I am sure that it was enjoyed by all. The Reunion Committee is to be congratulated for the fine job that they did in arranging this Reunion.

I would like, at this time, to extend my thanks to all of you for extending to me the honor of serving you for a second time as President of this great Association. This is indeed a great honor, and I only hope and pray that I can fulfill my obligations to you, and serve you in a manner fitting for the job. I am going to appeal to all of you for the same co-operation this year that you extended to me in the past year. As you all know, we increased our membership last year over 100 per cent. We would like to appeal to you for your help in doing the same this year. The strength of any organization depends on its membership, and our strength can and will grow also, with your help. We will never get

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WASHINGTON, D. C.  
1956 CONVENTION SITE

THE WILLARD HOTEL  
14th and Pennsylvania Ave., N. W.

ON AUGUST 16 - 17 - 18, 1956

Remember the place and date, so that you may plan your vacations accordingly. The Convention Committee here in Washington, headed by Jack Levin, has commenced its work in planning a reunion not only for the men of the 83rd, but for their families. We feel that this can be an educational convention as well as a pleasurable one, since the National Government is located here and can, in some instances, tie in nicely with the school work of your youngsters.

To aid us in this endeavor, The Willard Hotel has graciously consented that children 14 years of age and under can be housed in rooms with their parents *at no extra charge*. A third adult in a room will be for a nominal fee of \$2.50. Single rooms will be \$6.50 and double or twin rooms \$10.00. The double rooms are large enough to adequately accommodate a family of four without having crowded conditions.

For your comfort and entertainment, *all* rooms will be air-conditioned and equipped with television *at no extra charge*. Also, all meeting rooms and banquet hall are air-conditioned, so your comfort will not be in jeopardy from the summer heat. The hotel is located in the heart of the shopping and theatre district and within walking distance of the White House, Treasury Department, Washington Monument, and other Government Buildings.

We here in Washington are giving the program a lot of thought, but won't have any definite plans until after the first of the year. However, the hotel is reserved for the above dates, so plan now on attending the 10th Reunion in your Nation's Capital with your family.

We will keep you posted on all developments as they materialize.

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PICTURED AT RIGHT ARE THE "THUNDERBOLTS" WHO GREETED THE ARRIVAL OF RALPH NEPPLE TO THE NINTH ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 83rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION.







## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*(Continued from page two)*

so big that we can't accept new members, so let's all get on the bandwagon, and try to get a new member. We were approached by several men at the Reunion this year, who stated that they never knew about the Association and were very much interested in it. You can help with this by trying to contact any local newspapers in your home town, and try to get a plug in the paper for us.

Well, fellows, while on the subject of Membership, I would like to say that one of the best ways to build Membership is the forming of Chapters. While at the Reunion this year, I was approached by three men who are interested in forming new Chapters. This is one of the best ways to build the Membership. Where there is a Chapter, there is a closer fellowship among the men. This is brought about because of regular monthly meetings which bring the men together about twelve times a year instead of just once. Let us all consider the possibilities of Chapters in your area. For any information, drop a line to Headquarters and we will try to give you all of the details.

Our next Reunion will be held in Washington, D. C., the third week in August. Start making plans to attend. This promises to be a very nice Reunion also, and I am sure that all of us are looking forward to our 10th Anniversary Reunion at our Nation's Capital. For the benefit of you who were unable to attend the 9th Annual Reunion, I would like to say, that we owe a vote of thanks to the great Warren, Ohio, Chapter for the American Flag that they presented to our Association. It is things like this that let us know the type of men that we have behind our great Association. I sincerely hope that we are off to a great start on one of the most successful years of our Association.

The following officers were elected for 1955-1956: President, Larry Redmond, Co. H, 330th Inf.; 1st Vice President, Melvin Staff, 783rd Ord.; 2nd Vice President, Frank McGrogan, Co. D, 330th Inf.; 3rd Vice President, Walter Poland, Co. I, 329th Inf.; Secretary-Treasurer, George Cooley, Btry. A, 322nd F. A.; Judge Advocate, Jack Levine, 83rd Q. M.; Sergeant-at-Arms, Willard Boyle, 3rd Bn., 331st Inf.; Manny Epstein, Co. K, 331st Inf.; Lester Hauck, 308th Eng.; Chaplain, Bill Shuman, Hq. Div. Arty.

These Officers are proud to have been

## PHILADELPHIA REUNION "TOPS"

*(Continued from page one)*

the reunion a grand one. A trip to one of America's sacred shrines, Valley Forge, was participated in by all and everyone enjoyed the trip.

Friday evening a huge beer party was held. Because of the tremendous crowd, this affair was held in the Grand Ball Room. The assemblage was further entertained by the showing of motion pictures of the Thunderbolt march across Europe and the "This is Your Life" program, which featured the life of our own Capt. Sam Magill. Good fellowship really prevailed this evening and lasted until the wee hours of the morning, as the "Thunderbolts" moved to their various rooms and hailed each other.

Saturday's meeting found another huge throng eager to select the 1956 reunion site and elect Association Officers for the coming year. The Washington, D. C., contingent placed their bid and were joined by a bid from an enthusiastic group from New York. The acceptance of the Washington, D. C., nomination was spontaneous and the New Yorkers joined in making it unanimous. For the office of President, Joe Minotti, of the Warren, Ohio, Chapter, most graciously stepped aside to make the reelection of Larry Redmond unanimous. This move by Joe Minotti won him a host of new friends. With the selection of a new reunion city and new officers the meeting adjourned and all prepared to take part in the mammoth parade from the Ben Franklin Hotel to the Memorial Services. A forty-five piece military band from nearby Fort Dix led by a uniformed color guard escorted the "Thunderbolts" as they paraded to Independence Hall where, in a moving and sentimental inspirational service, homage was paid to our fallen comrades.

Wherever the 83rd Division men will meet they will speak of the Saturday night banquet. Never was there one like it. Never was the crowd larger or more enthusiastic. A better crowning event could not be asked for; it was simply the greatest. Throughout the night the most repeated phrase was "see you in Washington."

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selected by you, and have pledged themselves to do all they can to fulfill their jobs properly. On behalf of them, I appeal to all of you to join in making this a big year.



## REUNION ROUND-UP

By DAVE ROSENBERG—F-331

A convention is just another day in the life of the hotel keeper, but the 9th Annual Reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association was one that the Ben Franklin Hotel will long remember. The management agreed that never in their long career have they seen drinking combined with such gentlemanly conduct. All the "Thunderbolts" left a real warm feeling with the hotel management.



Service Company 331 was well represented and when Ted Davenport, erstwhile C. O., made his appearance, Logue, Lacey, Kemmerly, Fisher and the rest really had themselves a time.

G Company, 331, also had something to cheer about as Capt. Joe Macaluso made his reunion debut and participated in the floor show. Capt. Mac hails from way down New Orleans way, but it did not deter him a bit. Don Schwartz guarded his Capt. Mac like he did in the good old days and, although at times he needed a little attention himself, he carried out his mission very well. Don was very ably assisted by John Teringo, Mike Mizerock and the ever present reunion delegate from Athol, Mass., Bob Piette. The boys all missed the presence of Lee Titus, who had to sit this one out due to the arrival of his son, Tim.



Olga Teringo made a very able side-kick for Capt. Mac in the floor show.

Speaking of missions, let it be known that Div-Arty and the 323rd boys carried out a few firing missions themselves and used plenty of "firewater" to extinguish all pain. The 322nd FA Bn. was well represented

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and were headed by Capt. Maurice Phillips and First Sgt. Massie of A-Btry. R. J. Voracek, Hq.-324th, again entertained all present with his hilarious tales of his younger day escapades in the 83rd.



Gurney Jaynes, H-331, old soldier that he is, attended his boys like a mother hen and shepherded them like in the old days. No H Company man was permitted to feel any pain when Gurney was through with them.

Speaking of good hosts, Leo Schneider, Hq.-331, and his wife, Shirley, went all out to spread southern hospitality. The hotel management swore that they furnished more ice cubes and soda to Leo's suite than any other. That couple who captured all the attention as they danced in the ballroom was Dave Benek, A-331, and his wife, Millie. Dave, who hails from Brooklyn, tried to do the impossible, his attempt to burn the candle at both ends during the

three days found him a mighty tired man at the playing of the usual "Good night, Sweetheart" refrain.

Co. B-331 was well represented at the reunion. Lt. Les Schwadron, Bill Klotz (from far off Dallas, Tex.), Frank Powell, Buddy Harmer, Curt Deisher, Bill Bernardo and Pete Guzik re-fought every campaign. A somber note was struck and a toast was drunk to the memory of their late C. O. Capt. Danny Moore. Thanks to Les Schwadron, Guzik and Bernardo will sleep well again. Les solved the riddle of who drove the jeep that saved their necks in a rotten situation, and so another toast was drunk. Buddy Harmer broke the news that he became a father for the fourth time.

No mention of the reunion would be complete without a word of well deserved praise to Paul Powell, Hq. 331. Paul had little time to celebrate; the only time he did have was between visiting his wife and new born child and manning his post at the reunion desk.

A highlight of the banquet evening was the well deserved round of applause tendered to George Cooley, A-322-FA, hard working, personable Association Secretary-Treasurer. George, always the gentleman, brought the house down with a few well-chosen words of thanks he extended to his beautiful and charming wife, Mary Ann. They make a handsome pair.

Pres. Larry Redmond, H-330, most graciously praised his wife for her assistance and introduced his mother to the assemblage.

One of the peppiest women in attendance was Mary McGrogan, (Frank, D-330). Mrs. McGrogan was everywhere spreading good cheer and welcome to all with her Scotch cooler.

We had heard vague reports that one of our men had a talented wife. This was a rank understatement. When Mrs. Allen Fisher, (Serv-331), made her appearance on the ballroom floor to render a few songs she captured everyone's heart. That vivacious, charming girl has the sweetest voice one could hope to hear. I personally nominate Mrs. Fisher to charm us with her singing at all future reunions. She was terrific.

Sal Capone, E-329, played the gracious host to his Company E buddies. They will always remember the spaghetti dinner he set up for them. Sal's popularity with his buddies is well deserved. In fact, Bill Ledger no sooner hit town on Wednesday than



he called Sal.

Good to see Al Bizzini, G-329, all the way from California, get together with his buddy, Casile, and the rest of G Company boys. Hope Al can make it to Washington next year.

And so another reunion is put to bed. For those who attended, the memory of the splendid time will act as a spur to participate in all future reunions. For our buddies that couldn't make it, we hope that your plans materialize and you can make the next one. It's not too early to make your plans to be in Washington, D. C., in 1956. The annual reunion of all "Thunderbolts" serves as a beacon to beckon all former 83rd buddies, to convene and meet your former companions. Men who found friendship on the battlefield share valued memories that should never be left to die.



ABOVE — THREE "OLD SOLDIERS" GET READY TO PARADE.

BELOW — "OLD SOLDIERS" ON THE MARCH AGAIN.



## REUNION ROUND-UP PICTORIAL ACCOUNT OF REUNION ROUND-UP



Mel Staff, please accept my reservation now for August, 1956. It's great to be with a swell bunch like the 83rd Infantry Division Association.



# REUNION ROUND-UP IN PICTURES







## NEWS OF WARREN CHAPTER I

At the last meeting of the Warren Chapter the following men were elected to serve as Chapter Officers for the year 1955-56:

Charles Tomazin, A-322-FA, President.

John Teringo, G-331, 1st Vice President.

Richard Kelly, Hq.-908-FA, 2nd Vice President.

Andrew Pankovich, Serv.-330, Secretary Treasurer.

*Thunderbolt* Reporter for this year will be Mike Skovran, Hq.-331, who also is the new Secretary-Treasurer of the 331st Regimental Association.

Congratulations are in order for Lee Titus, G-331, who was just appointed National Publicity Director of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

**How about all those Regimental Combat Histories that were promised to us at the recent Reunion in Philadelphia?**



## PHILADELPHIA SCRAPPLE

By DAVE ROSENBERG—F-331

The Philadelphia Chapter with much regret witnesses the resignation of its capable Secretary-Treasurer, Jim Logue, Serv-331. Due to the press and stress of business, Jim was unable to carry on. Stepping into the breach and efficiently embarking on his new chores was W. Allen Fisher, Serv-331. To date Allen's best claim to fame rests with the beautiful voice of his wife, Myra. Allen is a noteworthy musician in his own right, and as an accomplished organist is much sought after. So, between musical notes and Philadelphia Chapter notes, the Fisher family will be heard from.

With the Philadelphia reunion a cherished memory the local Chapter of "Thunderbolts" are making plans for their Second Annual Chapter banquet and dance to celebrate the second anniversary of the Philadelphia Chapter. Last year's gala affair was most successful. This year an early start and wide publicity will insure another bang-up soiree . . . all 83rd men are invited . . . watch the *Thunderbolt* for the time and place.

Philadelphia Chapter's October meeting is scheduled for the 20th at the McCall Post Home. This points to be a humdinger. Everyone is striving to increase membership attendance at meetings. A swell program has been fashioned for this night. Included will be free refreshments, both solid (hot dogs courtesy of Al Boucher, C-308 Med.) and liquid (of the smooth, pale type). K. P. details will be on the volunteer basis. Also for this evening yours truly has secured from the local Navy Recruiting Board their exclusive copy of the Army-Navy football game of 1954, a picture full of spectacular proceedings which precede the actual thrilling game. This meeting promises to be a huge success. Future meetings will be patterned on this one. All 83rd men visiting our fair city are most cordially invited to partake of all activities.

### MILESTONES . . .

- Bob Thompson, D330, and wife, Dorothy, September 2.  
Bill Fenstermacher, Btry C-324 FA, and wife, Edith, September 12.  
Tony Madonna, D-331, and wife, Catherine, September 13.  
Norman Glaze, Hq.-330, and wife, Marion, October 23.

George Afflerbach, Med. Det.-329, and wife, Mabel, November 1.

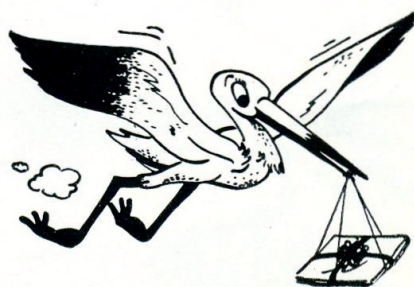
Buddy Harmer, B-331, and wife, Joan Marie, November 19.

Tom Kennedy, Btry. A-323-FA, and wife, Eleanor, November 15.

Al Silverio, 308 Engr., and wife, Mary, November 26.

John Daniels, Hq.-330, and wife, Marie, November 30.

Happy Anniersary to all and many Happy Returns of the day!



### STORK COLUMN

Baby girl, Alice, to Violet and George Belgalla (F-329).

Baby boy, Tim, to Berdine and Leroy Titus (G-331).

Baby girl, to Emma and Paul Powell (Hq.-331).

### BUDDIES IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

In the Memorial Day issue of the *Thunderbolt* we printed a request for information from Edward F. Rose, Co. A-331. So far he has heard nothing from his former buddies. Following is a request from Ed again for help:

"Up until now I have not heard anything at all from my request for assistance from former Co. A 331 men. Would you please make another request and let us hope someone will see it this time. Even one name will do, as my request for disability has been approved by the regional office of the VA here in Boston but was turned down in Washington. Can you help me in this regard? Thank you ever so much for your consideration.

Edward F. Rose, A-331  
21 Quimby Street  
Watertown, Mass."



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find check to cover dues for 1955-56. Sorry that I couldn't make the reunion this year. "Hello," to all the boys and keep up the good work on your fine editions of the *Thunderbolt*. Sincerely, John Fay, Jr., G-329, Cerro Gordo, Ill.

\* \* \*

. . . I have enjoyed reading, from cover to cover, all issues of the *Thunderbolt* and know that you have spent a lot of time and effort in editing them . . . E. M. Brewer, Hq.-324-FA, 3016 Lakota Rd., Alexandria, Virginia.

\* \* \*

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is my check to cover dues in the Association for 1955-56. I wish I could have attended this year's reunion, but it was impossible to do so at the time. My wife and I are owners and operators of Hunt's Dept. Store in Marion, Ky., and would like to see any of the boys from the good old 83rd Division that would happen to be passing through our city. They won't have any trouble finding us, just ask anyone you see. Hoping you success and a profitable year, I remain, Sincerely, Ralph C. Hamilton, Jr., D-331, Box 390, Marion, Kentucky.

\* \* \*

Dear Mr. Cooley:

After an absence of five years, I regained contact with the 83rd Division Association at the recent reunion in Philadelphia. Following the reunion, I made a visit to one of my former stations, Ft. Holabird, Md., where I saw two former 83rd Division men. Both expressed the desire to become members of the Association. Their names and addresses are:

Col. Charles O'Donnell,  
G2 Section, AIC,  
Ft. Holabird, Baltimore 19, Md.

Col. O'Donnell was a member of the MG Sec., Hq. 83rd Div, one of Jim Hanrahan's boys.

Lt. Col. Daniel G. Gust,  
AIC Board,  
Ft. Holabird, Baltimore 19, Md.

Lt. Col. Gust was the C O, Anti-Tank Co., 329 Inf.

Now that I am again a dues paying member, I hope that my name has been placed on the mailing list for the *Thunderbolt*.

Yours truly,

Joseph V. Lowry, Hq.-83rd Div.,  
1215 Wright Street, Indianapolis 3, Ind.

. . . I was with C Company, 330th Infantry. I was the Mess Sgt. and knew many of the boys. If you could help me hear from some of them I would be very grateful.

Yours, James A. Jordon,  
740 Main Street, Shelbyville, Ind.

## OBITUARY COLUMN

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Richard T. Howells, 2394 Moncrest, Warren, Ohio, who died instantly from injuries received in an automobile accident on September 18.

Dick was a former member of Hq. - 2nd Bn., 331st Inf., and attended many of the past reunions.

**Due to the limited amount of space, we are not printing a Roster of Membership and Reunion attendance. We have a mimeographed Roster in the making which will be mailed to all members within two weeks.**



**Send in your 1955-56 Dues NOW.  
Get a New Member!**



83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
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### REUNION REMINISCENCE

By HARRY LOCKWOOD—329

This year's Reunion is over; it's now a thing of the past;  
It has earned a place in history for as long as time will last.  
It can take its place of honor right along with all the rest,  
And, like all those before it, this one was the best.

We are gaining more momentum as the years go rolling by.  
We're learning by experience, and our hopes are riding high.  
We're hurdling some obstacles and pitfalls on the way,  
But, with the help of all of us, we'll get back up there to stay.

We took a hard blow on the chin a few short years ago;  
We crawled and groped and felt our way as many of you know.  
It was hard to grin, as our bankroll got thin, and we were down to our last white chip;  
But it's 7 to 10 that we'd never have won if our nerve had started to slip.

We picked ourselves up off the floor, and, with our backs against the wall,  
We waded into the task at hand, couldn't afford another fall.  
We started moving forward, and it's been a long, hard grind,  
And now as we look back on it this is what we find:

You get back out of anything just what you put in;  
Through a lot of work and effort, and of course, a will to win.  
And when you can replace self-pity with determination and pluck  
Things are bound to even up; that's the mathematics of luck.

I mention this brief resume of the happening of the past  
For those who came for the first time, and I'm sure it won't be the last.  
And for all good things that come to us in the future, I've a hunch  
Everyone will agree, couldn't happen to a nicer bunch.

That's all for now except to say, we had a real swell time  
At our Annual Reunion, so I see no reason or rhyme  
Why you can't attend the one next year; look for us, we'll be  
At the famous Hotel Willard, in Washington, D. C.

