

# THUNDERBOLT

### 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

WORLD WAR II

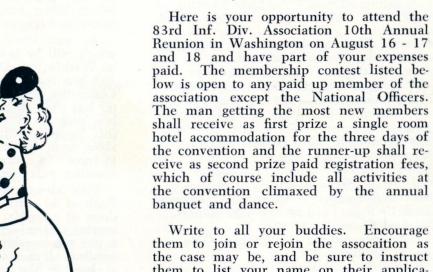
Vol. 9, No. 3

WARREN, OHIO

February, 1956

# THUNDERBOLT MEMBERSHIP **CONTEST STARTS NOW**

By LEE TITUS-331



them to list your name on their application for membership so that our National Secretary can give you proper credit.

Help your assocation grow. Take an active part in strengthening the 83rd Association. The buddies you sign up as new members, with a little encouragement, will meet you this year in Washington.

Rules of the contest can be found on Page Five.

SIGN YOUR BUDDIES UP NOW! BE THE "FIRST WITH THE MOST" DON'T STAND IDLY BY . . . GET INTO THE ACT **GET A NEW MEMBER** 

### 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, Joe Belock.

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#### **ADDRESSES WANTED**

The following list are names and former addresses of men that moved and left no forwarding address. Anybody knowing of their new address, please notify Head-quarters, 1459 Beechwood Street, N. E., Warren, Ohio, so that we may send their copy of the Thunderbolt to them. Robert J. Criswell-Hq 1st Bn, 331 451 Douglas Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah. Philip Rosenbloom—324 FA Bn, 594 Nicholson St., Washington, D. C. John J. Devenney—308 Engr., 2243 Dermond Road, Drexel Hill, Pa. John M. Lee-Hq. 329, 920 Lay Street, Gadsen, Alabama. Col. James Skinner—Hq-322 FA Bn., Staff and Faculty Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. Michael Chismar-K 331, 1122 Rockwood, S. W., Canton, Ohio. James T. Bayle—C 330, Altoona, Pennsylvania. Maj. G. H. Trafford-1st Bn 330, Det B, (Prov) 8202d Ave., APO 20, c/o PM, San Francisco, Calif. Albert Behedere-K 331, 2509 S. Mole St., Philadelphia 45, Pa. Charles Hand-M 330, 83 Highland Ave., Kearny, N. J. Howard R. Coy—A 329, R. F. D. No. 3, Winston-Salem, N. C. John Stewart—A 331, 53 Lincoln Ave., Lake Hiawatha, N. Y. Dowling J. Price—C 308 Eng., 69 Oakway Road, Baltimore, Md. W. Allen Fisher—Ser 331, 411 Dutton Mill Road, Chester, Pa. Walter Benner-Can 329, R. D. No. 1, Alliance, Ohio Albert Bucher—C 308 Med. 1215 A Holland St., Crum Lynne, Pa. Ensio J. Tosolini—Hq 3rd Bn 330, 767 Morrill Ave., Reno, Nevada

# THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello, Buddies:

We, the Officers of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, extend to you the best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. As we turn the pages of a new calendar, we hope that this, the year of 1956, will be the biggest and best year for you, as well as for our Great Association.

Well, fellows, as I have said to you many times before, this is your Association, and its success depends on you. You can do your part by organizing a one-man recruiting committee, and trying to recruit a new member for our Association. Last year we doubled the membership of the previous year; this was due mostly to your efforts along with the hard work of our Secretary-Treasurer George Cooley.

As you know, our coming Reunion, which will be held August 16, 17 and 18 in Washington, D. C., will be the biggest and best reunion ever held. The Reunion Committee of the Washington, D. C. Chapter has gone all out to plan and obtain the best program ever offered. The success of this Reunion will depend on you. How about trying to put forth your efforts today to insure its success? Start planning your vacation today so that you can attend.

How about getting us a new member? Each of us must have the name and address of a buddy. Try to sell him on becoming a member; or better still, how about a gift membership? This can be done by sending his name and address along with a check in the amount of \$4.00, and his membership card will be sent to him, with your compliments.

I would like to make a personal appeal to each of you, to put forth a little effort and try getting some new members. Remember if we each get one new member this year, we can once again double our membership and make another step up that long ladder of success.

### **Look Around Boys!**

Surely you can find the address of some of your former buddies. This can win the contest for you!

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

. . . enjoyed seeing everybody at Philly reunion last fall. Best wishes for continued success and prosperity for the 83rd Thunderbolt Association in 1956.

Sincerely, C. B. Ferenbaugh, Lt. Gen. USA (Ret), 1350 Tasso Street, Palo Alto, Calif.

from cover to cover as soon as it arrives and then read it again once or twice before the next one comes. I have been traveling in uniform quite a bit and have been stopped on the street in Phoenix, Albuquerque, San Diego, National City, Los Angeles and Oakland by veterans of the 83rd Division who see my shoulder patch. I also enjoy exchanging Christmas cards with a number of 83rd buddies. Keep up your good work.

Kindest regards, George W. Irvine, Ex Cmdr 324 FA Bn., Lt. Col. I G 203 Garden Lane, Daly City, Calif.

Hi, Fellas:

I missed the "55 reunion due to the arrival of our baby boy, Anthony Joseph. We have three on our hands now and we are kept pretty busy. Hope to see all of you in '56 Enclosed check for current dues.

Sincerely, Anthony Provenzano, B, 330 Box 1305, Wauconda, Illinois.

... enclosed is check for my 1955-56 dues. I certainly would appreciate a roster of names and addresses of men of G Company, especially 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon.

Thanking you, I am, Francis C. Murphy, G-329, Darlington, Md.

. . . the reason I didn't attend the reunion in Philly last August is because on September 10, 1955, baby Louie Paul arrived via stork. We sure hope to attend the 1956 reunion.

Paul J. Vitantonio—D, 330 29559 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, Ohio

. . . I am now compiling a list of former men of my company whom I would like the Association to contact by sending them a *Thunderbolt* or in any other way to let them know about the coming reunion in August.

Sincerely, Steve Chicos—ex 1st Sgt, 83rd Sig Co. 101 W. Ridge Road, Gary 10, Indiana . . . sorry I could not make it to Philly in August, hope to make it to Washington this August. Best of luck on your drive for 1,000 members.

Sincerely, Al Wouters, C-331 142 Dartmoor Road, Mentor, Ohio

. . . enjoy our little paper very much. Keep up the good work. Lucien Elie, Hq-329

10 Pleasant St., Amesbury, Mass.

Dear George:

I wish to take this opportunity to send my thanks and congratulations for the wonderful work you fellows are doing. I know that in expressing my appreciation I also speak aloud the feelings of all our members. Though to date I have not been able to attend any of the reunions, it is with great satisfaction that I receive bits of news of some of my friends from Company G, 329 Infantry and of the Division through the *Thunderbolt*. It is through the undivided interest of you active members that we are able to maintain a comradeship through the years. May you have the strength to continue the good work.

Sincerely yours,
Joseph J. Pertusi, G-329
124 MacDougal St., New York 12, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is money order to pay for my 1955-'56 dues. Certainly regret my delay in sending it in and will try to be more punctual in the future. Also wish to notify you of change of address from 44 Shultas Place to 35 Bodwell Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

Sorry I was unable to make last year's reunion due to personal problems, but I shall certainly endeavor to make this year's. You fellows have certainly been doing a great job for the Association and I really look forward to receiving the *Thunderbolt*.

As you may know, I have been a member of our association since its inception, and although not as active as I should be (due to being so active in local activities) I have always had in the back of my mind the plan of having a local chapter here in Hartford, as I know we have a potential of 200 or more former members living here.

Would appreciate it if you could send me any information and by-laws relating to forming a local chapter. Can't promise you any big results, but I'll be willing to give it a whirl.

> Your buddy, "Jim" Prentice—908-FA 35 Bodwell St., Hartford, Conn.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

. . . hope Harry Lockwood, an old Co. A buddy, would compile his poems for us. He's a swell guy.
Edward Gilbert (formerly Goldberg)
A, 329
210 Tuscarawas Ave., Dover, Ohio

... it was through Guy Madison from Ft. Bragg, N. C., that I received a copy of the *Thunderbolt*. I was in the Cannon Company of the 331st Regiment from 1943 to 1945. Congratulations on your excellent organization, and I enjoyed reading the paper. I would like to hear from some of the buddies of Cannon Co. 331.

Thank you, Lawrence B. Armand—Can 331 721 S. Washington Street, Marksville, Louisiana.

Dear Sirs:

I am herewith enclosing my check in the amount of \$400, payable to 83rd Infantry Division Association This is the first communication I have had from any member of our division since my discharge back in September, 1945. I certainly hope that we can have a meeting in the near future, and if there is any way at all in which I can render any aid or assistance, please let me know and I shall be delighted to do so.

Very truly yours, Alonzo D. Folger—C-324-FA P .O. Box 107, Madison, N. C.

Gentlemen:

I am starting the new year right. Enclosed is my check for 1955-56 dues. I enjoy the *Thunderbolt* very much.

Edward J. Mudre—A, 329 24 Champion Terr., Stratford, Conn.

Thunderbolt Editor, 83rd Infantry Division Association, 1459 Beechwood Street, N. E., Warren, Ohio. Dear George:

For the past months I have been wanting to offer you congratulations for the excellent issues of the *Thunderbolt* reaching my office. The attractive presentation not only offers interesting reading, but also stimulates new vigor in the Association.

In the past it has been almost impossible for me to plan to attend the 83rd Conventions because of late knowledge received on the dates or again because of the distance and expenses involved or pressing work at our understaffed Social Service Agency.

I have put on my 1956 calendar the dates of the August 16-17-18 Convention in Washington. Every effort will be made

to attend this Convention since it is coinciding with the 10th Anniversary of the disactivation of the 83rd Division, I presume.

As a former Chaplain of the 331st Infantry from August 1943 to October 1945 I anticipate meeting many friends. A special appeal is made to all chaplains, officers and men of the 83rd, and particularly to those of the 331st to be present at the 1956 Convention. If Chaplains respond you might want to plan for your program separate group religious services to be conducted by the Chaplains of the various faiths. You can count on my presence unless unforseen events force me to cancel my plans.

I cannot report any additions to my family, as many individuals have been proud to report. I share their happiness and wish them and their families God's choicest blessings. There is not a day that the men of the 83rd Division, those enjoying the blessings of life as those who have fallen on the battlefields or who have passed away since the end of the war, are not remembered during my prayers.

not remembered during my prayers.

As for myself, it might interest some to learn a bit of news of my life since 1946. I followed at the Catholic University of Washington, D. C. for four years courses and took training in Social Work. After a doctorate degree, I opened a Bureau of Social Service in Lewiston, Maine. This Bureau offers counseling to children and families. On January 17-20 the Bureau will observe its Fifth Anniversary. Enclosed is a Newsletter published periodically and giving a detailed account of our work for the past five years.

I freely volunteer this information not because I wish to leave myself open to sob stories and "weeping on the Chaplain's shoulder" during the 1956 Convention. I anticipate the Convention in a more joyful spirit and each must contribute to its successful outcome in an atmosphere of happiness.

See you and all my many friends of the 83rd at the 1956 Convention in Washington .

Congratulations again for your successful efforts in bringing former buddies closer to one another through *Thunder-bolt*.

Sincerely yours,
(Rev.) Jean P. Cossette, Executive Director, D. S. W.
197 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Maine.

DON'T FORGET THE DATE . . .
AUGUST 16, 17, 18
HOTEL WILLARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

## NEWS OF WARREN, OHIO, CHAPTER

By MIKE SKOVRAN-Hq., 331

The Warren, Ohio, Chapter held its annual Christmas Party for all their little "Thunderbolts" December 18 at Joe Minnotti's Club "83". In addition to all the usual goodies each child received a nice individual present from old St. Nick. Much credit is due Johnny Teringo, G-331, who was ably assisted by Dick Kelly, Hq. 908 F., for staging this nice party.

Additional holiday festivities included a treat to a very nice dinner at Warren's Astoria Cafe, to the men of the chapter by the Warren lady "Thunderbolts". This was followed by more "refreshments" at Pres. Charlie, B-322-F, and Ann Tomazin's home that lasted well into the night. Again we say to our ladies—Thanks!

All present indications point to a 100 per cent attendance at the Washington Reunion by the Warren Chapter, including women. (Special note to Joe Macaluso. This includes Lee Titus). Tentative plans are to charter either an airliner or bus in order that the chapter may travel as a group. At any rate, "we're a-coming!"

The Warren, Ohio, Chapter want to issue a standing cordial invitation to all 83rd men and their ladies visiting our city to call us and partake of our activities.

The Third Anniversary of the Warren Chapter will be celebrated on Saturday, February 11 with a dinner dance. You men who are in around the vicinity of Warren are cordially invited. Bring the ladies. There is always a good time with the Warren Chapter gang. For reservations call Dick Kelly, 3341-3 in Warren.

The following letter was received from



Pictured above are the "Thunderbolts" and their wives as they enjoyed the hospitality of Warren Chapter Prez, Chuck Tomazin.

Millie Kelly, who does up the publicity for the Warren Women's Auxiltary:

Dear Thunderbolt Friends:

The Warren Chapter was in a gay and festive mood during the holidays.

The Women's Auxiliary treated their husbands to a delicious steak dinner on Decemebr 17. As we were seated at the table, the men presented each of us with a beautiful corsage of red roses. What a wonderful surprise. Following the dinner we were all gathered at the home of Ann and Chuck Thomazin for refreshments. Clarabelle and Andy Pankovich (Ser-330) went all out to see that we were entertained. (Ask them to do their little skit at the reunion in August).

Birdie Titus and Mary Ann Cooley are to be congratulated on the fine job of making the dinner arrangements.

Well, I'll sign off for now hoping that all of you had the best that the holidays could bring. — Milly Kelly.

## 83rd ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CONTEST RULES

- Any paid up member of the 83rd Inf. Div. Association is eligible to compete except the National Officers.
- 2. Contest to begin Feb. 1st, 1956, and end Aug. 1, 1956.
- 3. A participant in the contest will be given credit for a new member only if he sends in the new member's dues along with his name, address and unit in which he served, to the National Secretary or if the new member specifies to whom credit shall be given for his membership.
- 4. Prizes shall be awarded to the two men who get the most new members. 1st Prize—Hotel accommodations, consisting of a single room not to exceed 3 days at the convention to the man getting the most members.

  2nd Prize—Free Registration at the convention to the man who is runner-up in the contest.
- Winners shall be notified by mail immediately following the close of the contest and also at the convention.
- 6. Progress of the contest will be published in each *Thunderbolt*.
- For the purpose of this contest only, a new member shall be defined as follows:

A. A man who served with the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II and who has never been a member of the 83rd Association.

B. A former member of the Association prior to 1955 shall be reinstated upon payment of his dues and termed as a new member if he so desires.

### NEWS OF THE NEW— NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

By Harry Lockwood—Hq-329

Things are running along smoothly for the New Jersey Chapter at present and you will hear a lot more from us in future issues. We held our first election of officers and just received Chapter stationary in Division Association colors. Paul Jacobson, 83rd Signal Company, was elected President, Arthur Mechanic, B-308 Engineers, Vice President and Harry Lockwood, Hq-329, Secretary-Treasurer. We hold our meetings at Legion Hall in Cresskill, N. J. on the third Monday of each month. Meetings start at about 8:00 P. M. After the meeting we have refreshments. Any 83rd buddy that can make it to Cresskill, N. J. on these meeting nights is cordially welcome.

### NEWS OF MEN OF 330th INFANTRY DIVISION

By HENRY HINE, M-330

And a Happy New Year to you, too! Just returned from a lengthy holiday vacation (two weeks) today to find the rest of my Xmas mail and other (a bushel basket full) waiting for me. Hope that you got over the New Year's celebration OK.

Just a few changes from the list of 330th

personnel which I want to pass on.

Change John R. Snyder's address to 750 Baker, N. W., New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Ray G. Witherell (member) L & Personnel 330th, has been promoted to the office of Ass't Vice resident in charge of "Beaucoup Loot" for Depositors Trust Company and transferred to Lewiston, Maine.

Clarence J. (Buddy) Balfe, Jr., E & Personnel 330th, writes that he survived the two floods of the Mad River in Winsted, Conn., and hopes to make it Washington next year for the Tenth Annual.

Enclosed is check from John F. Braz, Cannon & Personnel, 330th, from 1736 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii,

for 1955-56 dues.

#### PHILADELPHIA SCRAPPLE

February marks the anniversary month of the Philadelphia Chapter and also the signal to inaugurate officers for the coming year. On February 23 the Quaker City men will nominate a slate of officers at their regular monthly meeting.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter extends its deepest sympathy to our Chapter Treasurer James Logue and his family on their recent bereavement, the loss of Jim's

Dad.

"Sick Call"—Drop a get-well card to Ex-Prez Walt Sammler (308 Eng.). Walt incurred a broken ankle during a bout with the slippery, icy sidewalks of Bris-

tol, Pa. Walt has our best wishes for a speedy recovery. We know that a mere broken foot won't keep the irrepressible Walt away from the meetings and the big Second Anniversary Banquet. Drop a card to Walt at R. F. D. No. 3, Bristol, Pa.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

All of the Philly Chapter "Thunderbolts" are eagerly awaiting the kick-off of the gala celebration planned to hail the Greater Philadelphia Chapter's Second birthday. On Friday evening, February 24, everyone will head for Palumbo's Restaurant 824 Catherine Street, Philadelphia, This nationally famous banquet hall will be the scene of a long to be remembered second anniversary shindig. The enthusiasm generated by the Quaker City group augers for a wonderful turn-out. All "Thunderbolts", the young, the old, male, female, friends and neighbors are invited. Palumbo's, long famous for its hospitality, its unexcelled cuisine and fine entertainment, are going all out to surpass all previous efforts. Talented entertainers of national prominence will attempt to outdo each other for the celebrating "Thunderbolts". Continuous music will serenade and provide dance music until the wee hours. Special arrangements with Palumbo's management have produced a special reduced price for all mixed drinks.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter with its usual flair for organization and well planned preparation have left nothing amiss to make this party a well remembered one. Make your plans to join us at Palumbo's on February 24 at 6:30 p. m. Tickets may be secured from George Kirk, 5532 Pentridge St., Philadelphia, Pa., or Frank McGrogan, 7236 Battersby Street,

Philadelphia, Pa.



Pictured above are some of the members, and their guests, of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter at their annual Christmas Party.

#### 331st CORNER

By MIKE SKOVRAN, Hq.—1st Bn.

For the benefit of the men who did not attend the meeting of the 331st at the past convention in Philadelphia, we would like to pass on the following information:

Officers elected at this meeting were: Johnny Teringo, Co. G, President and Mike Skovran, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., Secretary-

Treasurer.

Other business concluded was the decision to design and purchase a regimental guidon in time to attend the convention at Washington, D. C. Anyone having any suggestions or ideas how this guidon should be designed are requested to mail them in.

We always like to hear and want to hear from all of the men of the 331st, but right now we would like to hear in particular from those planning to attend the Washington Convention. Present indications point to our being honored by the presence of our esteemed commander, Col. Robert York, at this convention. comments or suggestions as to how we may show, at least in some small way, our appreciation to him for the services he rendered to us, our regiment and our country, will be most welcome. Address any communications pertaining to 331st Regt. to Mike Skovran, 2447 Reeves Rd., N. E., Warren, Ohio.

#### **OBITUARY COLUMN**

We extend deepest sympathy to Jack R. Masters, H Company Commander, 330th Infantry, on the loss of his wife on December 26, 1955.

THIS IS YOUR

# **THUNDERBOLT**

WE WANT TO PLEASE YOU . . .

SEND US YOUR IDEAS . . .

MOST OF ALL SEND US NEWS
OF YOURSELF AND YOUR
FAMILY

#### STORK COLUMN



Congratulations are in order for Tony (B330) and Mrs. Provenzano, who recently welcomed arrival of number three, baby boy Anthony Joseph.

Congratulations also to Paul (D-330) and Mrs. Vitantonio on the September 10, 1955, arrival of 11 lb. 3 oz. baby boy Louie Paul.

Baby girl—Janice Lynn—7 lbs. 3½ oz. born August 22, 1955, to Al and Wilma Kirpas in Bridgeport, Conn. Al formerly F & Service Co. (Personnel) 330th, works in the Department of Labor, State of Connecticut.

Twins! Boy and girl—Wayne Robert and Wendy Leanne, 5 lbs 5½ oz. and 5 lbs. 11½ oz. respectively to Janet and William H. (Ben) Lehr (A & Personnel 330th), of York, Pa., on October 28, 1955.

Son—Wilmer Boyd—7 lbs. 14 oz. on July 16th, 1955, to Mrs. and Mr. Charles E. Caven (A-331st) of Wilkinsburg, Pa.

Girl—Denyse Jeanne—5 lbs. 6 oz. to Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred P. Puhl May 19, 1954. Bill was formerly the mail clerk for Hq. Co., 3d Bn., 330th, and works for Crucible Steel, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Baby girl—Mary Kay—7 lbs. 6 oz. to Martin P. and Norma Propst (Cannon, 330th), of Aliquippa, a., on September 21, 1955. That's the fourth for the Aliquippa contractor and ties him with Joe DePalma in the Diaper Race in the Greater Pittsburgh League.

DON'T STAND IDLY BY . . .

**GET A NEW MEMBER!** 

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
1459 Beechwood, N. E. Warren, Ohio

Sec. 34.66, P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
WARREN, OHIO
PERMIT No. 319

Form 3547 Requested

### AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE

By HARRY LOCKWOOD-329

The Christmas tree's been dismantled and the ornaments put away, Wrapped and packed real carefully to be used another day. The cards from friends and relatives have been crossed off on your list; They've all been checked and double checked to be sure no one's missed. The set of trains that Junior got now take up too much space, For them it's a box in the basement—there is no other place; The doll that Santa left for Sis that wets, and cries real tears Is just about the only thing you'll see throughout the years. Mother's been real busy, when no one paid her heed, Exchanging some of the things she got for some of the things she'll need. Dad goes on as usual without realizing yet
That instead of being up to his knees, he's up to his neck in debt.
Cousin Jane still rides a cloud; she received a ring; I think they've set the wedding date for some time in the Spring. Uncle George really had a day, the best of all by far, Got a nice fat bonus from his boss and from his wife a portable bar. He drank a toast with everyone till there was nothing on the shelf; He revised the "Lost Weekend" in a way to suit himself. Aunt Mary got a television set of which she's very proud, But she's a little hard of hearing and plays it much too loud. The grandfolks dreamed of the "Crinoline days" when they were girls and beau, As we sang some real old-fashioned songs of 1890 or so. Even to the dog and cat—they too had their day-They got the scraps and turkey skins, what more need I say, All part of our AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE, whether in your house or mine. And that's the way it shall always be until the end of time.