



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 9, No. 5

WARREN, OHIO

August, 1956

"R" DAY AUGUST 16, 17, 18

"TARGET" - HOTEL WILLARD - WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello, Buddies:

As you are all aware, the time is drawing closer for the 10th Anniversary Reunion of this our great 83rd Infantry Division Association. The success of this great organization was made possible by men like you, who have tried so hard to keep this Association growing. As you well know, each time we gain a new member, the strength of our Association grows, and through the untiring efforts of many of you men, we have grown to a new high in membership. As I read over the records of this great Association, I feel proud to be a member of such a fine organization, and feel doubly proud to have served as an Officer of such a fine organization.

There are many things that must be done to help keep our Association growing. One of the biggest things that must be done, is the proper selection of Officers; by this I mean choosing men for these positions who have the Association at heart, men who will work hard to help make this a bigger and better Association. Being chosen an Officer of an organization like this is much more than just making a big shot out of you. It is an Honor, and to me it one of the greatest Honors to be bestowed upon a man. If you stop and realize, there were approximately 20,000 men who wore the great patch of the 83rd Infantry Division, and to be the individual chosen from such a large potential of men, to hold office in this great Association, it is one of the greatest Honors that a man could hope for. In taking Office in this great Association,

you make a personal vow to try to do a better job than the man you succeeded; you analyze his past record, and pick out a mistake that he made, and say to yourself that you are not going to make that same mistake, that you are going to work hard for the good of the Association, and as your year draws closed, you see the mistakes that you have also committed.

Let us all start now in thinking over our selections of Officers for the coming year. Let us choose men who are Association men, men who will give their every effort to the betterment of this great Association. Send in the names of your potential Candidates today, so that they may be screened. The security of our Association depends on the type of Officers we select, so by screening them, we can be sure that they are men worthy of the Honor of leadership in this great Association.

Our next biggest problem is the choosing of a Reunion City. The men from our Reunion Cities of the past can tell you that there is more to choosing the Reunion City than just saying we want the Reunion to be held in such and such a city. There is a lot of hard work to it, and we have to be sure that we have the type of men in that particular city who are willing to work hard to make it a great Reunion. There are a lot of man hours spent in planning a program, and going around getting all that can be gotten for the minimum in price. Hotel facilities have to be taken into consideration, by this we mean room rates, meeting rooms, banquet facilities, and rooms for our social activities. The program has to be planned in such a way so as to provide something for the wives that attend each year. We have to work out a Memorial Service, so that we may pay tribute to our never to be forgotten Buddies, who sacrificed their lives in helping to carry

(Continued to next page)

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

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PUBLICITY DIRECTOR . . . Lee Titus

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HONORARY PRESIDENT: . Lt. Gen. Frank W. Milburn, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon, Lt. Gen. C. B. Ferenbaugh, Lt. Gen. R. M. Montague, Ralph Neppel.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

(Continued from page one)

on the great work of the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II.

Well, Fellows, these are only a few of the many things that must be done for the good of the Association. Let us all stop and think of what we can do to help our Association. If we could each gain one new member a year, we would soon be the largest Division Association in the Country. Let us all try getting that new member, make this our 10th Anniversary Reunion, the largest ever.

REMEMBER

THE DATE

AND DON'T BE

LATE

AUGUST 16 - 17 - 18

HOTEL WILLARD

WASHINGTON, D. C.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER NEWS

By CASEY KOWALEC—C-Btry, 322 FA Bn,

Our Third Anniversary Dinner-Dance was held here in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 19, and a great time was had by all that attended. Already plans are being made for a "clambake" and another dance this Fall for ALL 83rd MEN AND THEIR WIVES. It was wonderful to meet all the "ole Buddies" and their wives that attended the May 19 dinner-dance and we know that we will see all of them again at our next affair.

Our sincere thanks to the swell bunch from the Warren Chapter who, along with their wives, made it a wonderful evening that we here in Cleveland will long remember. It's really a pleasure to have our two Ohio Chapters working so close together.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Bob (Arthur Murray) Uher, B-329, doing the "Boogie-woogie" at the dance and passing the word around that he was available to any interested parties for lessons (free).

George Krupicka, Can-331, our roving photographer, doing a nice job of picture taking and hoping that he had film in the camera.

Bob Grobelny, A-329, showed no signs of war nerves as he pinned roses on the ladies with a very steady hand.

Nice of Ted Karageorge, A-322, to delay the start of his vacation for a few hours to attend our "shindig". Ted is Assistant Sales Manager at Broadway Pontiac here in Cleveland.

Frank Balcerzak, H-329, Ray Heinley, Roland Warner and Alf Uridel, Can-329, are to be commended for the swell job they did in handling the "refreshment stand".

Joe Belock, Bill George, Hq-323-FA, and Ray Voracek, Hq-324-FA, acted as goodwill ambassadors and made certain that everyone had a good time.

A most cordial welcome to our two newest chapter members, Casey Szubski, C-322-FA, and Chester Czech, Hq-322-FA.

Congratulations and good luck to Will Zack on the opening of his new delicatessen.

Just a reminder to all our 83rd buddies: The Cleveland Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of every month at V F W Post 3456, 9503 Miles Ave., Cleveland, Ohio, and the welcome mat is out to all, whether a resident or visitor. Our meetings start at 8:30 P. M. and refreshments are served after each meeting, so come on out and bring a guest.

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
NEWS ITEMS**

By RUSS HITE—83rd Div. Hq.

Congratulations to Reverend Raphael R. Stovik (better known to his 83rd Buddies as "Doc") on his ordination to the Priesthood on Sunday, May 20, 1956, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Bismarck, N. Dakota. He offered his first Mass in St. John's Church, Wahpeton, North Dakota, on Sunday, May 27, 1956. Ray has been studying at the Assumption Abbey in Rich- ardton, North Dakota, and is now a Priest in the Benedictine Order (O.S.B.). God's Blessings upon you Father in the admin- istration of your religious duties.

Congratulations are also in order to James C. Ward, of Clarksburg, West Vir- ginia. "J. C." was married in Weston, West Virginia, to Miss Eleanor Anne Locke on June 2, 1956. The best of luck to both of them and here's hoping they save part of their honeymoon for the Conven- tion in August.

I would like to make a plea to all Di- vision Headquarters men at this time. I know quite a few of you live nearby Wash- ington and I would certainly like to see some of you attend this 10th Annual Re- union. Attendance is what makes these reunions successful, so please make every effort to be present on August 16, 17, and 18.

If by chance you cannot attend, kindly remit your dues of \$4.00 and support the Association. Keep it alive with the hope that one year you will be able to attend and renew some of your old acquaintances. See all your "ole Buddies" in Washington come August.

OBITUARY COLUMN

The 83rd Infantry Division Association expresses deepest sympathy to the families of our buddies who have passed away in recent months.

Kenneth J. Miller, Hq. 83rd Division
Artillery—Died July 1, 1956.

Donald R. Reiter, Co. D, 330 Inf.
Regt.—Died May 14, 1956.

**CONVENTION COMMITTEE MEM-
BERS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Everett M. Brewer
3016 Lakta. Road
Alexandria, Virginia
King 9-1654—324th F. A.

Russell T. Hite
3927 Alabama Ave., S. E.
Washington 20, D. C.
LUdlow 2-5377—Div. Hq.

Jack S. Levin
9713 Braddock Road
Silver Springs, Maryland
HEmlock 4-6409—Q.M.

Eugene F. Trainor
2701 Elnora Street
Wheaton Hills, Maryland
LOckwood 5-1724—329th Inf.

Andrew Carras
3860 Rodman Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
WOodley 6-4763

Melvin L. Staff
601 Symphony Circle
Vienna, Virginia
DUnkirk 5-9516—783rd Ord.

NEWS OF WARREN, OHIO, CHAPTER

By MIKE SKOVVAN—Hq. 331

With the annual reunion coming up in Washington, D. C., very soon, all present indications point to the Warren, Ohio, Chapter turning out in full force; and, as we said back in the February issue of the *Thunderbolt*, "we're a-coming".

Many members and wives of the War- ren Chapter were privileged to attend the 3rd annual anniversary dinner-dance of the Cleveland Chapter at Cleveland, Ohio, this year, and as such want to thank the Cleveland Chapter for their fine dinner, dance and hospitality.

The Warren Chapter and the Cleveland Chapter held a joint picnic-outing at Round- up Lake, Ohio, in what we hope will be at least an annual affair. Unfortunately due to the sudden change in the weather (rain and more rain) the ball game could not be completed and consequently a champion was not determined, even though the score was 32 to 31. (We're not saying who was ahead.)

The Warren, Ohio, Chapter would here- by like to issue an open invitation to all 83rd "Thunderbolts" and their ladies at- tending the coming convention in Wash- ington, D. C., to please come to the War- ren Chapter C. P. for refreshments and a plain old-fashioned get-together.

So until the convention-reunion, we'll be seeing you—!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear George:

Just had to let you know that you and your staff are doing a great job with the *Thunderbolt*. It is always a sheer pleasure to read it. Sorry that I'm so late with my dues, but I was rounding up some buddies and it took a little time. Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,
Andy Banyon—A T Co., 329
137 Nevada, N. W., Warren, Ohio

* * * *

Dear Mr. Cooley:

Thank you very much for your letter. The 83rd was very dear to Vic's heart and I would like very much to continue to receive the *Thunderbolt*. I would feel very honored to be kept on your files as a lifetime Honorary Member of the Association.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Victor W. Jacquot,
1419 Cottonwood Street,
Casper, Wyoming

* * * *

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that Don Reiter, D-330, passed away on the 14th of May, 1956.

He was hoping that we would be able to make the reunion this coming August. Last year he took sick at the time and we had to cancel our reservations.

He was very proud of the 83rd.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Donald Reiter,
1135 Shuler Ave., Hamilton, Ohio

* * * *

... I am planning on attending the reunion in August as usual. I received the *Thunderbolts*, and enjoyed them very much, only wish I could do more to help out. Until I see you in August, lots of success and good luck.

Ted Hodum, 308 Medic.

* * * *

... I am looking forward to the reunion in August.

Yours truly,
Raymond Anderson,
1414 State St., New Haven, Conn.

* * * *

... I am hoping to see you all this August in Washington, and I hope to meet some of my buddies there.

Best of luck,
Lloyd Ashburn, B-329.

Dear George:

I've lost contact with the Association in the last few years, and due to the good offices of Walt Edwards (B-331), I found out that you are the man to write to, to renew my membership.

Please forward any new, and/or old copies of the *Thunderbolt* publication, so that I might catch up on my old buddies' activities.

I also expect to make the reunion in Washington.

Very truly yours,
Jim Glenn, 331
16 No. Broadview Avenue,
Lombard, Illinois.

* * * *

... I was just thinking this A. M. of certain events that took place just eleven years ago, while we were in Germany after leaving the area of the Elbe River. It is a rare event to run into an 83rd man in this Groton-New London area.

Truly yours,
Joseph Healy, A-331
39 East Street, Groton, Conn.

(Dear Joe: If you really want to re-live those events come to Washington, D. C., this August, buddy. You ain't lived or re-lived a war until you do it with your buddies in a nice cozy hotel room over a bottle of soda.—Ed.)

* * * *

Dear Sir:

I am a former 83rd man, and would like to know if it is possible to get another map of the ground the 83rd Division covered in World War II. I received one with the Division History but it came apart at the seams and if I could get another I would put it in a frame.

Enclosed is four dollars for this year's dues. Please send me the paper that you put out.

I won't be able to make the reunion this year, but be sure to give William S. Nickell credit for reminding me about my dues. Tell all the boys "Hello" for me.

Thank you,
Richard Lee Yoder, F-329
334 N. Magnolia Street,
Lansing 12, Michigan

(Anybody know where Dick can get hold of the Division map?—Ed.)

**DUES ARE NOW
DUE FOR 1956 - 57**

Convention Time

By HARRY LOCKWOOD—329

Each year we have a convention, and it's usually quite an affair;
A reunion with some of our buddies who were with us over there.
Who you were or what you were doesn't mean a thing;
The stories and oft-repeated tales have a familiar ring.

We live again in retrospect, the good along with the bad;
We talk about the things we did and some of the times we had;
We quite often mention others who went over on the ship
But, unfortunately, for them it was a one-way trip.

For them the Good Lord had other plans and they were forced to stay,
But please, let's not feel sorry for them; I'm sure they'd want it that way.
In the land of eternal peace and rest they have their reunions too,
And they don't have to send out notices, everything's in view.

They don't have to dicker for the next convention site—
They know exactly where it will be and with them that's quite all right.
They too invite their buddies to come and join the show;
The response is really tremendous, they don't have far to go.

I'm sure they have a lot of fun in their own particular way,
And, with everyone being welcome, they see new faces every day.
Again, who you were or what you were doesn't mean a thing,
The door is always open, there is no bell to ring.

So, please, let's not feel sorry for them; I'm sure they'd want it that way,
For this is just the time in between till we all meet again some day
In that far off land of peace and rest, and I'm quite sure when we do
One of them will be waiting to intercede for me and you.

To show we haven't forgotten we have a Memorial service each year
In memory of our buddies, those who are no longer here,
And I'm sure they'll again be present, in spirit though it be,
At this year's Annual Convention in Washington, D. C.



Meet your Buddy!

10th ANNUAL THUNDERBOLT REUNION
HOTEL WILLARD
AUGUST 16 - 17 - 18

COME AND MEET YOUR BUDDY IN WASHINGTON THIS YEAR

SPECIAL FOR THUNDERBOLT

As the 83rd Infantry Division marched through Europe, so does it sparkle in the pages of USAF Col. Barney Oldfield's new book, "Never a Shot in Anger", which will be published by Duell, Sloan & Pearce in October.

One whole chapter recreates the historic high-point of Lt. Samuel W. Magill's 329th Infantry I & R platoon when it confronted General Major Erich Elster and his 20,000, and the 83rd weaves in and out of the chronicle right up to the Zerbst bridgehead over the Elbe.

"Never a Shot in Anger" is really about the war correspondents and their shenanigans behind the war.

It tells about how contraceptives saved the D-Day pictures for combat photographers, how a pigeon got the first story back from Normandy, how three women war correspondents wanted to go in with the

paratroopers, Marlene Dietrich's search for her mother, what was in Dr. Josef Goebbels' studbook when it was found at Munchen-Gladbach, and how Barney forged the names of Gen. George C. Marshall and President Harry S. Truman to vouchers to get \$3,200 worth of liquor left over from the Potsdam Big 3 Conference which he used to establish the Press Club in Berlin.

There were more than 1,800 war correspondents accredited to World War II, and more than a hundred of them were around the 83rd Infantry Division at one time or another. Three were captured trying to get to Magill's platoon.

Since the book has more than a thousand names in it, about 40 of them former members of the 83rd, "Never a Shot in Anger" is something for Thunderbolters to re-live memories with during the coming winter. Since it's loaded with anecdotes of the great and small, it's what you might call a hysterical history.



SURRENDER SET-UP is discussed with war correspondents at the Beaugency bridge site at the Loire River in France by 83rd Infantry Division commander, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon. The press conference was held just before the 20,000 Germans inveigled by Lt. Sam Magill's 329th I & R platoon into capitulation were to come forward and go into the PW cages. This makes one chapter in the new book, "Never a Shot in Anger", published by Duell, Sloan & Pearce in New York. The author, Colonel (then Major) Barney Oldfield is at upper right between Macon and the MP, and as Ninth Army's public relations officer, he was with Magill during the ordeal leading to the Loire give-up. (Photo by US Army Signal Corps).

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Name (please print)

Address

City or Town State

Co. Regt. or Bn

I have been honorably discharged from Army Service or I am still on active
duty

Enclosed check or money order (\$4.00) payable to

83rd Infantry Division Association
1459 BEECHWOOD STREET, N. E., WARREN, OHIO

Date Signature

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION WORLD WAR II
REUNION CONVENTION — AUGUST 16, 17, 18, 1956**

WILLARD HOTEL
14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

PLEASE RESERVE: Single Double Twin

ARRIVING AT
(Date) (Time of Day)

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ADDRESS

NAME

ADDRESS

NAME

ADDRESS

SPECIAL RATES:

Single — \$6.50 Double — \$10.00 Twin — \$10.00

Extra adult in room, \$2.50 Plus 3% D. C. Sales Tax

No charge for children 14 years or under when occupying room with one or both parents.

Please fill out this form and return to:

THE WILLARD HOTEL—14th and Pennsylvania Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

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

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Hartford, 14 Conn.

Form 3547 Requested

PROGRAM

Thursday — August 16th

- 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.— Registration
- 10:00 A. M. — Welcoming Meeting
- 12:00 Noon to 5:00 P. M.— Sightseeing at your leisure
- 8:00 P. M. — Beer Party and Entertainment

Friday — August 17th

- 9:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.— Registration
- 9:15 A. M. — Special White House Tour (Ladies)
- 10:00 A. M. — Business Meeting
- 12:30 P. M. — Luncheon and Fashion Show (Ladies)
- 2:00 P. M. to 5:00 P. M.— Sightseeing at your leisure
- 9:00 P. M. to 11:00 P. M.— Cocktail Party and Entertainment

Saturday — August 18th

- 9:00 A. M. to 1:00 P. M.— Registration
- 10:00 A. M. — Business Meeting and Election of Officers
(Welcoming address by D. C. Commissioner)
- 10:00 A. M. to 12:00 Noon— Shopping at your leisure (Ladies)
- 11:45 A. M. — Unit and Organization Luncheon
- 1:15 P. M. — Memorial Services—Arlington Cemetery
- 7:00 P. M. — Banquet, Entertainment and Dance
(Guest Speaker—Assistant Secretary of State,
Mr. George V. Allen)