



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 15 — Vol. 1

Sept.-Oct. 1961

THANK YOU CLEVELAND CHAPTER FOR A WONDERFUL REUNION !!

“President’s Corner”

By Frank McGrogan, Co. D-330

It is with a deep feeling of humility and gratitude that I accept the wonderful honor of being your president for the next year. I follow a succession of wonderful men, whose devotion to the 83rd Infantry Division Association will serve as an inspiration to me.



I pledge myself to fulfill my duties with untiring efforts. My aim will be to continue to increase our membership to an all time high, and see that

our convention in Atlantic City in “1962” will be a huge success.

I am further blessed by having a thoroughly capable group of men in my cabinet. I know that I can count on them to support me in all tasks I may assign them.

I am thankful that our Executive Board is composed of capable men, devoted to the cause of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. But above all, I am thankful to you men, my buddies, in

(Con’t. on Page 2)

Co. G - 331st Reports

By Lee Titus

To all company G men who did not attend our 15th annual convention in Cleveland we can only say “we are sorry”, because we enjoyed our best turnout yet. We had 21 of our gang there, most of whom brought their wives, and needless to say we won the booze prize for having the best company attendance.

(Con’t. on Page 3)



1st row—Andeson, Costanzo, Murphy;
2nd row — Teringo, Corder, Schwartz,
Guarnieri, Flanary; 3rd row — Bogacz,
Vecchione, Mizeerock, Gaynor; top row—
Titus, Phillipon, Mathey, Tomco, Mac-
aluo, Piette. Present but not in picture
—Vollmer, Pangle and Robson.

THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.
THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II and is published at 43 Oakland Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey.

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— Executive Board —

Lawrence J. Redmond, Col. Robert H. York, LeRoy Titus, Raymond J. Voracek, Manuel C. Martin.

— Honorary President —

Ralph G. Nepple, CMH, Lt. Gen. Frank W. Milburn, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Maccon, Lt. Gen. Claude B. Ferenbaugh.

— Honorary Member —

James C. Hanrahan, Edward J. Murphy.

Telegram

Following is a telegram sent to President Kennedy by the Division Association on Saturday, August 19, 1961 in Cleveland, Ohio.

This telegram was suggested by the men of the Boston Chapter and drafted by John D. Raikos of Indianapolis, Indiana, former Communications Officer of Regt. Hqts. 329th Infantry,

To: Mr. John F. Kennedy, President of the United States, Washington, D. C. Greetings.

The members of the 83rd Thunderbolt Division Association, having shed the blood of 14,335 of our comrades in the struggle for freedom and being among those first to the Rhine River and first to cross the Elbe River, the gateway to Berlin, making possible the Berlin keyhole through the Iron Curtain extends to you a vote of confidence in the action you have taken in the Berlin crisis and conveys it's best wishes to you to continue to remain steadfast so that the blood of our comrades will not have been shed in vain. Adopted by resolution this 19th day of August, 1961.

Harry W. Lockwood, Secretary, 83rd Infantry Division Association Assembled in Convention in the City of Cleveland, Ohio

**MAKE YOUR PLANS
NOW TO ATTEND
THE
ANNUAL REUNION**

(Con't. from Page 1)

honoring me by selecting me as your president. It is with great pride that I introduce the men who will be serving with me. Secretary-Treasurer, Harry W. Lockwood, Regt.-Hq. 329; 1st vice-president, Ed Paulino, C Btry.-322 FA.; 2nd vice president, John Robinette, Co. C-308 Eng.; 3rd vice-president, Vic Landis, F-329; judge advocate, A. A. Rugienius, Dn, Hq.; chaplain, Bill Shuman, Divarty; assistant chaplain, Hubert Edwards, B-331; sergeant-at-arms, Bill Pugh, A-Btry 324; Bob Piette, G-331, Ted Hodum, 308 Med.; service officer, Ed Murphy, G-331; executive board, Lawrence Redmond, Leroy Titus, Col. Robert H. York, Raymond J. Voracek and Mannie Martin.

There they are! Men ready to serve you. Make your wishes known, and we will serve.

Men, it is not unreasonable to expect at least 500 men, or possibly more, to attend the August reunion in Atlantic City, New Jersey, August 16, 17 and 18, 1962.

Your newly elected officers and executive committee are hard at work to achieve continued success. We can't do this alone, we have exhausted our personal contacts. **YOU AND YOU ALONE CAN FINISH THE JOB**, by contacting your buddies and have them join their association.

The 83rd Association is your exclusive private club. To be eligible you must have worn the black triangle during a portion of your World War II service. It is of no consequence whatever, whether an ex-Thunderbolt is rich or poor, whether he is from East or West, North or South. There are no religious or political qualifications, regular army or draftee, private or officer, when we meet at the reunion we are one and the same in this, your 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Write or phone your buddies today. Urge them to join the association, so that we won't lose contact with each other.

Thanks again for everything.

The White House
Washington

September 7, 1961

Dear Mr. Lockwood:

Thank you for letting the President know of the resolution passed by your Association with regard to the Administration's action in the Berlin situation. He appreciates to the full the vote of confidence on the part of your membership.

With President Kennedy's every good wish to you and your associates.,

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Dungan

Special Assistant
to the President

(Con't. from Page 1)

We ended the year with 32 paid-up members which ranked us third behind Div. Artillery and Co. F 329, but we gained some revenge by having such a wonderful turnout.

Some of the boys came into Cleveland early so, as we promised in earlier articles in the Thunderbolt, Mike Mizerock had open house at his home in Parma, Ohio on Wednesday night. Mike and Kay went all out to make sure we had aching heads for Thursday A.M.

Early Thursday morning our former Company Commander Joe Macaluso came in from New Orleans and promptly at 6:30 A.M. he awakened everyone for reveille. It was certainly nice of "Mac" to travel all that distance to be with his boys.

An open letter to all Co. G men from Lt. Col. Bill Waters arrived at the hotel and was read and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Col. Waters was our C.O. in the States and in Normandy and Brittany, before being promoted to Btn. Hqrs. He expressed his regrets at not being able to be with us because he is presently on duty in the Canal Zone, but rest assured that at the first opportunity Col. Waters will attend a convention . . . maybe Atlantic City in 1962.

Following is a list of the men and their wives from Co. G who were in Cleveland:

Joe Macaluso, New Orleans, La.; Edward Murphy, Cumberland, R. I.; Mort Gaynor, Milford, Conn.; Bob Piette, Athol, Mass.; Clyde Flanary, Indianapolis, Ind.; Selma Corder, Nokesville, Va.; Bill Bogacz, Chicago, Ill.; John Robson, Bellaire, Ohio; Don Schwartz and son Bob, Larchmont, N. Y.; Loyal and Kate Pangle, Flint, Mich.; Harvey and aKy Vollmer, Parma, Ohio; Mike and Kay Mizerock, Parma, Ohio; Benny and Edith Vecchione, Baltimore, Md.; Ralph and Toni Guarnieri, Levittown, Pa.; Glen and Helen Mathey, Salem, Ohio; John & Olga Teringo, Warren, Ohio; Joe and Angie Phillipone, Youngstown, Ohio; Andy and Mrs. Tomco, Garfield Heights, Ohio; Monte and Dee Anderson, Akron, Ohio; Gene and "Yo" Costanzo, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Lee and Birdie Titus, Warren, Ohio.

It was certainly a pleasure to see so many of the lovely ladies from Co. G. Conventions are not stag affairs as there is always a full program for the women while the boys shoot the bull, and fight the war over.

If space would permit we could go through the whole convention, day by day with comments on each man present, but we don't want to use the whole Thunderbolt exclusively for Co. G, however, without exception everyone is already planning to be in Atlantic City

next year. We have all started vacation funds, piggy banks, etc. to insure our having ample funds to get there.

We of Co. G especially thank the boys from the Warren Chapter for their wonderful hospitality. We practically flooded their C.P.

We also would like to congratulate Ed Murphy who was elected to the office of National Service Officer and Bob Piette who was elected to the office of sergeant-at-arms. Our National Association now has three Co. G men holding office which is a pretty good representation for any company.

Well fellows it's time to put an end to all this chatter. For those of you who couldn't be in Cleveland, let's hope you can be in Atlantic City in 1962. In any event please send in your dues promptly. We have 23 paid-up members already so we should easily beat out the rest of the companies in paid-up membership for 1962.



Mesdames—1st row—Mizerock, Pangle; 2nd row — Vecchione, Vollmer, Titus, Guarnieri, Mathey. Present but not in picture—Olga Teringo, Angie Phillipone, "Yo" Costanzo, Dee Andreson and Mrs. Tomco.



Mrs. John Teringo's Leg-acy.

Following are four telegrams received and read at the reunion in Cleveland. They are being printed by request of many of the members.
Gettysburg, Penna. Aug. 18
James R. Mellman
3625 Rawnsdale Rd.
Shaker Heights

Please assure my old comrades of the 83rd who helped liberate Europe from Normandy to the Elbe that my best wishes are theirs for a successful reunion.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

* * * *

Harry S. Truman
Independence, Missouri
July 19, 1961

Dear Mr. Mellman:

You do not know how very much I appreciated your good letter of the 14th with the enclosure and the picture of the bridge across the Elbe.

My physician, who afterward became the White House physician, set up the first hospital on Omaha Beach in Normandy, and he also set up the first hospital on the other side of the river where the bridge you pictured was located.

I sincerely hope that your reunion will be a most successful one and I am sure that it will. My only regret is that I cannot be with you on the occasion of that meeting. Please welcome everyone and tell them I wish I could be there in person to do it.

Sincerely yours,
Harry S. Truman

* * * *

Luxembourg, Aug. 1961

I take great pleasure in extending cordial greetings to the members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association at the occasion of their annual reunion.

It is a dear and sacred duty for me to seize every opportunity to reiterate my heartfelt thanks and those of the people of Luxembourg towards the men who have liberated our country from a long and cruel oppression. The memory of their deeds will forever be the living token of the close and sincere friendship that unites the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg to the United States of America.

In conveying our expression of gratitude most particularly to the members of the valiant 83rd Infantry Division, whose sacrifices in the cause of freedom will never be forgotten, Prince Felix joins me to assure you that the hospitality, that our people showed with open heart when you came as gallant liberators, will be kept alive for the future in the minds of all our people.

Charlotte
Grand-Duchess of Luxembourg.

Washington, D. C. Aug. 17, 1961

Dear Jim,

It is with pleasure that I extend greetings to the members and guests attending your annual reunion in Cleveland.

This nation has cause to be proud of the 83rd Infantry Division who fought from Omaha Beach to the Elbe River. Yours is an outstanding combat record.

You are now enjoying the principles for which you fought. In order to keep these principles alive, we must maintain constant vigilance the same courage and devotion to duty which you exemplified during the war is required today, not only of you but of peace loving citizens everywhere.

With every best wish for an enjoyable reunion.

John F. Kennedy

Past Presidents to be Honored

It was brought to the attention of the assembled meeting on Friday, August 18 that a motion to honor the past presidents with the award of a gavel had never been acted upon. Larry Redmond recounted that some where along the line it had gotten lost in the shuffle.

From the floor, Karl Burkhard, Co. H-330, volunteered to make the gavels, Karl Burkhard, at present, is a department head at one of New York's largest high schools.

His ability, as a skilled artisan, is well known to his buddies who witnessed many of his artistic skills overseas. Karl is remembered by his buddies as the man who taught the tankers how to penetrate the hedgerows. His mechanical skill and artistic abilities have been recognized by the school authorities of New York. His woodworking and mechanical arts department has received many awards from the city. And we are sure that we can count on his contribution of gavels to be the finest and best.

There was still the problem of getting the gavels engraved. Dave Rosenberg, Co. B & F-331, solved that problem by offering to furnish the engraved plates so to Karl Burkhard and Dave Rosenberg the Association is deeply appreciative and extremely grateful. It is cooperation such this that makes our Association the wonderful organization that it is.

The presidents to whom the gavels will be presented are:

Lawrence J. Redmond, 1954-56; Col. Robert R. York, 1956-57; Harry W. Lockwood, 1957-58; Raymond J. Voracek, 1958-59; Charles Abdinoor, 1959-60; Joseph F. Minotti, 1960-61; Francis J. McGrogan, 1961-62.

— Just A Reminder —
DUES IS DUE

Co. F. News & Side Lights

By Vic Landis

The wonderful reunion in Cleveland has come and gone—but the memory will linger long, in the minds of the people of the grand old 83rd. Joe Minotti, Ray Voracek and his cohorts are to be congratulated for the bang-up job they did in forming and carrying out the reunion program.

The Landis suite and F.-329 C.P. was the busiest spot in the Hotel Manger and that takes in the days and nights. We had one of the most enjoyable times F-329 has ever promoted.

Hats Off Dept.—To Jim and Trudy Fowler, who came all the way from Oklahoma City, Okla. - a special to Trudy who baked the 83rd Division cake with F.-329 combined. To Doc. Marshall Keith and his wife Ollie, who came all the way from High Point, North Carolina. To George Kittrel, his wife, Becky, and their daughter. To Bill and Arlene Nickell, along with their children, Joanne and Glenn. The Nickells just don't miss a reunion. To Hervey Ward who came down from Penfield, New York. To Burnette and Kathy Helleckson who made the trip from Madison, Wisconsin. To Bob Heidel and Frank Fleming, good old Ed Zerucha and Manny Martin along with his wife, Adeline. Last but not least, Tommy Rybarczyk who made his first trip to the shindig.

A special to Sylvain Fishman, his wonderman wife, Eunice, and their show dog, Dumplin. Dumplin was the belle of the ball and the F.-329 rumpus room was not complete without his presence. Long may they come.



Front row, Hank Golembiewski, Dumplin, Sylvain Fishman, Hervey Ward, Vic Landis. Second row, Bob Heidel, Jim Fowler, Doc Keith. Third row, Bill Nickell, Ed Zerucha, George Kittrel, Bill Flemming.



Bill Nickell, Jim Fowler, Vic Landis, Kathy and Burnette Helleckson with caked baked by Trudy Fowler.



Ollie and Marshall Keith, Sylvain Fishman and Jim Fowler.



Joann Nickell and Dumplin.

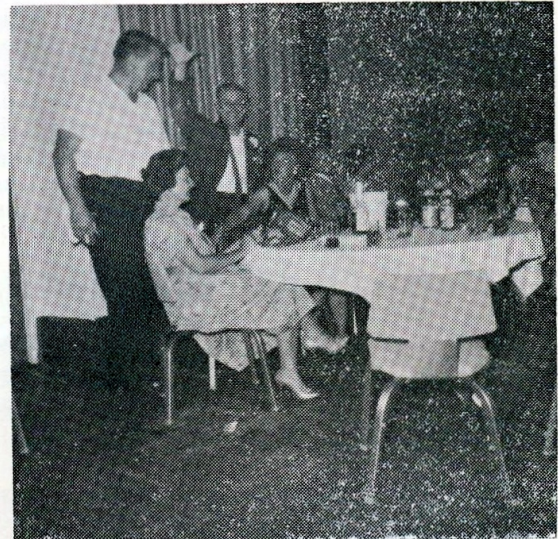
Thunderbolt Report

First and foremost our chapter wishes to extend its gratitude and appreciation to the Cleveland Chapter for a "job well done" on this year's reunion. Everyone of our members who attended had a wonderful time. To those who did not attend, all we can say is "you sure missed a good time." For us to put into words, remarks concerning the good times had by all without giving a little thought to the work put forth by the Cleveland Chapter would be empty and meaningless. Words alone cannot evaluate the months of planning and work put forth by these wonderful guys. The headaches and problems that continually cropped up throughout the year cannot be adequately described by words—nor the feeling of relief when the solutions were finally found. Words alone cannot express the concern felt for a fellow association member (and there are always many) who came to the registration desk with problems concerning their rooms, rates, hotel services, etc. and then the efforts put forth by the Cleveland Chapter members to solve these problems so that the visiting Thunderbolt would be provided with every convenience for a comfortable and enjoyable stay. And when the last Thunderbolt has departed for his home, words alone cannot express the wonder that lingers in the minds of the Cleveland members—"did everyone have a good time—was everyone satisfied—did we do everything humanly possible to make this a good reunion". We of The Metropolitan Detroit Chapter say that the Cleveland reunion was a *!?'!b! good one and if future reunions are as good, the 83rd Infantry Division Association will be around for a long, long time. Again to the Cleveland gang—many, many thanks.

If it is expected of us to make comment on some specific part of the reunion, we would select the memorial services. To begin with it is a very important part of the reunion, and one where a very small slip-up could easily offend many people. It is a matter which must be handled with much care, proper concern for detail and utmost delicacy. All of us have memories concerning our buddies who didn't come back and at the memorial services we sense these feelings more so than at any other time of the year. On such an occasion we feel that in honoring these lost buddies everything must be done just right. This year's memorial services were the finest! It was a very quiet and dignified service and fulfilled everyone's wishes as to the homage paid to our respected dead.



Mrs. Nick Barbu, Nick Barbu, Jack Daugherty, Bill Stepanowich, Mrs. Jack Daugherty, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Marks, Bill Palazzolo.



Ray Voracek, Mrs. Walter Marks, Bill Palazzola, Mrs. Jack Daugherty and Mrs. Bill Palazzolo.



Mr. and Mrs. Jack Daugherty

Many were the heads that were bowed and a lot of people were using their handkerchiefs to remove strange objects from their eyes or to wipe their noses. I can't say that I envied Joe Minotti, Frank McGrogan or Harry Lockwood. They were up on the platform where everyone could see them and it was a little more awkward for them to use their handkerchiefs. A special word of praise has to go to Jim Burton, a wonderful Thunderbolt from Chicago. Jim's part in the memorial services was to sing the songs that are appropriate for such an occasion. His selections were "My Buddy" and "I'll Walk Alone". Now here is a guy who has the same feelings that the rest of us have for our departed buddies and who, I suppose, would have liked to be able to bow his head and perhaps use his handkerchief once or twice like the rest of us—but he didn't. He stood proud and erect and put forth his songs with a feeling that left everyone speechless. The hush that overcame that room when Jim completed his songs was unbelievable. You could hear a pin drop!! The man did a wonderful job for which he deserves profound thanks and never ending gratitude.

Upon our return from the reunion, our chapter's first business meeting, September 5, was devoted to our annual election. The newly elected officers are:

President, Ed Zerucha; vice-president, Jack Daugherty; corresponding secretary, Art Byrne; treasurer, Nick Barbu; publicity chairman, Bill Palazzolo; sergeants-at-arms, Eli Giura, Curt Heinmiller and Alan Wandrie; refreshment chairmen, Steve Benson and Nick Boyd.

Many thanks are extended to our outgoing officers for the time and effort they put forth furthering our chapter's cause during the past year. Some commentary concerning these gentlemen might go something like this —

to Bill Palazzolo our outgoing president—a word of sympathy. Bill tried a lot of new ideas and innovations during his term of office. Unfortunately, they weren't as successful as they could have been as Bill didn't always get the full cooperation of the membership.

to Ed Zerucha our outgoing V.P. and newly elected president — more sympathy. He's stuck with the work now.

to Art Byrne our outgoing and also re-elected corresponding secretary — what else, but more sympathy. He got writer's cramp last year and has more of it to look forward to.

to Marion Muoio our outgoing treasurer—mixed emotions. Appreciation for a job well done and disappointment that he couldn't get a new car while he had his hands on the chapter loot—what is that saying about honesty pays. Newly

elected treasurer Nick Barbu goofed up by buying his new car the week before the meeting. However, if he keeps roaming around like he has in the past he'll probably need new tires or something so **LOOK OUT TREASURY.**

to Nick Barbu our outgoing publicity chairman—snarls!—what publicity—the chapter was lucky that he at least managed to get in a few Thunderbolt Reports. This being his last one, he now identifies himself so that people will know who to blame for statements that were made under the Detroit Chapter heading.

to Steve Benson and Dom Spano our outgoing sergeants-at-arms — many thanks for the efficient manner in which they broke up the numerous brawls during the year. It wore Dom Spano down to the point where we haven't seen him for the last few meetings to the newly elected sergeants-at-arms — see Vic Tanny and get those muscles built up — you'll be needing them.

to Jack Daugherty our outgoing photographer and newly elected V.P. — some more of that sympathy stuff. "Ole Instant Pictures" was always ready to snap the pictures but he couldn't get us to quit weaving long enough so he could get his shot. Maybe now that he's V.P. we'll listen to him when he gives an order.

As mentioned before, this is my last Thunderbolt Report. For the next year Bill Palazzolo will be our chapter's reporter. To Harry W. Lockwood I extend my sincere congratulations. He had the unenviable task of trying to interpret my hieroglyphics for the past year and managed to make some sense out of them. At times he must have wondered



Left to right, Walter Marks, Bill Palazzolo, Jack Daugherty, Bill Stepanowich.

(Con't. on Page 11)

15th Annual Reunion A Smasheroo Hats Off to Cleveland Chapter

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Co. B & F
Thursday

The Thunderbolt invasion of Cleveland was a huge success. It is unusual to go through a reunion without a gripe from a doughboy, but the 15th annual reunion will long be remembered, for the wonderful, wonderful time all who attended enjoyed, plus the remarkable cooperation and effort expended by the Cleveland Chapter men. A distinguished service award should be awarded to "Captain" Ray Voracek and his capable staff of men.

No request, no small detail was too much for Ray Voracek's crew. I witnessed Walter Meczka, and Casey Szubski tirelessly at all hours personally attending to trivial demands. They went all out to provide the ultimate in service to their buddies and the result was a slam-bang success. Despite cancellations of scheduled events, that were caused through no fault of the Cleveland hosts, substitute programs and events turned out to be superb feats of entertaining fun for all.

We must mention the excellent help Ray, Walt and Casy received from their Cleveland members namely, Bill Herhuth, Lou Rosolowski, Al Uridel, John Evans and George Krupicka and others whose names fail me. Their women folk also must be commended, they too did more than their share. A reunion that will be always remembered, days and nights of sheer delight resulted for all who attended, thanks to a great crew of hard workers. Thanks again fellows and gals, you were terrific.

The Cleveland reunion was marked by an early influx of Thunderbolts and their wives and their families. The registration for the first official day was tremendous. And the early comers were treated royally. A hospitality room graced by an everflowing bar, was the first stop of all. The cordiality of the Cleveland hosts was apparent even then. Any assistance a guy might want, as far as accommodations, addresses, places to see, places to go, places to eat, the Cleveland men stood at the ready position always on the ball, helping and directing.

For the boys who liked to "improve the breed" there were free race track tickets. And many of the men and women enjoyed perfect weather at the track, and not so perfect luck at the betting cages. Oh well, a guy can't also be lucky. A swell convention and luck with the nags would be too much for he asking. For those who abstained from

the races a fine welcoming meeting was held by President Joe Minotti and Ray Voracek. There we received a thorough briefing of the reunion program. And of course the bar at the hospitality room got as much play as the nags at the track. What could be better than to loll around in an air-conditioned room and drowning ones sorrows with an ever filled cup of good cheer. When the boys got "cheery" enough, the everlasting bull sessions began and never stopped.

Most chapters were given a huge swellegant room for a CP. As each chapter gained possession of its own CP room, a beachhead was established and a bar and bottles of "good cheer" appeared and "old mister gloom" never graced our reunion halls.

The evening festivities continued with the Cleveland hosts fashioning a cocktail party that was rsplendant with good cheer and fine dancing music. It was an evening that everyone will remember. The drinks were generous, plenty, and various. The music was dancable, singable and brought listening pleasure to the stags and non-dancers. It was a joy to watch our "Russian and Polish cousins" dance to the tintlating polkas and waltzes. The dance floor was crowded for very dance, the bar dispended unending drinks. And then it came. The community sing portion, with the Philadelphia Chapter songsters(well oiled) (I must admit we were mellow). The hall rang with singing of old ballads and ditties. It was a tremendous evening of rollicking good fun and enjoyment and worth all the traveling time. They say that all good things come to an end. No sir, not at an 83rd Infantry party, when the strains of the last melody faded. Everyone just picked himself up and hied away to the various chapter rooms, and good cheer flowed and joy reigned until the wee hours of the morning. And so Thursday passed on . . . A wonderful, wonderful day . . . Again many thanks to Ray, Walt and Casey and the rest of the gang . . .
Friday

Soon after the sun rose on Friday another onslaught of new Thunderbolts entered and registered. For the men the business meeting was a must. President Joe Minotti greeted one and all. Chaplain Bill Shuman did his usual admirable job of the invocation and we were off and running with "business" both old and new.

At the conclusion of the business meeting, individual unit meetings were held to nominate new offices for the coming year. Two men were selected from the units to represent the body at a nomination meeting in Joe Minotti's suite later in the day.

For the men the conclusion of the business meeting meant a release to seek out their buddies and begin anew the "bull sessions" and endless winning of the war again. For the ones who hadn't learned their lessons thoroughly the previous day the track provided diversion and separation of cash for some.

And then came the men only "stag party". The party was prefaced by a beer party and viewing of movies. The 83rd Infantry Division across the ETO, and the Cleveland Browns enjoyed equal billing but the picture of the Thunderbolts across Europe again thrilled everyone. The "stag" portion of the show was capably handled by emcee Eddie DeCarlo and a slinking well stacked platinum blonde "performer" named "Dawn". This Dawn erupted into an act that had several of the men participating and enjoying every minute of it. The emcee had the men rolling in the aisles as he delivered his monologues and his stories. He was great, she was great the evening was a tremendous success.

Of course the women were not left out of the picture. They were privileged to witness a performance of DER FLEDERMAUS at an outdoor theatre that had the top stars of opera and stage performing.

And then again back to the chapter room. Everybody was welcome. No one need be alone. The wee hours of the morning found the Thunderbolts still shooting and rooting.

Saturday

Saturday appeared on the scene, and found ever present Ray, Walt and Casey on hand to greet the newcomers. The registration desk buzzed with activity. Everyone perusing the unit books trying to locate a long lost buddy and hoping to find a new name.

The final business meeting was held reasonably prompt and was well attended. President Joe Minotti banged his gavel and the men responded. The invocation by Chaplain Bill Shuman set the right spirit for a well conducted meeting. All items on the agenda were dispatched with care and deftness. The election of officers, the selection of another reunion site for 1964, was consummated quickly. The various announcements and reports were hailed enthusiastically. Assistant Chaplain Hubert Edwards offered the benediction and the meeting was closed. And again the "bull sessions" began. For the baseball fans the hotly contested Cleveland vs Yankees games was a must and many went to the ball game. The rest of us old guys sought solace in rest and bunk fatigue awaiting for the Saturday banquet.

The 331st Regiment men gathered and we had our usual unit luncheons. This one was arranged by Big Ned Smith and he did his usual good job. A huge turnout for this luncheon was not dis-

appointed. We elected Ned Smith to the presidency of the 331st Regt. unit, and appointed Hubert Edwards as secretary-treasurer. They succeeded two hard-working guys who relinquished their reigns after officiating for 10 years, namely John Teringo and Mike Skovran.

One of the most touching and memorable memorial services was held at 6 in the evening as a prelude to the banquet. This ceremony was attended by more men and women than ever before and never have we witnessed more tears being openly shed. The conduct and direction of Chaplain Bill Shuman was simply an emotional and stirring experience for those as they listened rapt and attentive to the entire proceedings. The singing of Jim Burton and recitation by Bill Shuman was magnificent and inspiring. It was a touching ceremony and our departed comrades were well remembered and honored.

Then came the "famous" 83rd Infantry banquet. What more can be said. It was a repetition of all 83rd banquets. Great, great, greatttt. The food was tasty, the speakers were good. The new officers were introduced, President-elect Frank McGrogan received the gavel from Joe Minotti and every new officer and the Executive Board members received the accolade they deserved and then the fun, gaiety, music, dancing, singing, good fellowship began.

The band played on and on and on. The joyous crowd danced and danced and danced. It was an evening highlighted by unquenchable good fellowship and friendship. The men, the women folk mixed, laughed, joked together, danced and enjoyed every second. And the entire assemblage held on to each moment, careful not to waste a single moment of joy. It was a most pleasant evening. The band played an extra hour to satisfy the desire of all to continue. And as the refrain of the parting song was played, the exodus to the chapter rooms began.

It would be useless to try to describe the continued gaiety of all who visited the different chapter rooms. There they revived the weary and exhilarated the newcomer. The festivities lasted until dawn beckoned and everyone retired to catch a few hours sleep to tide them over until their trip back home was concluded. And as they slept I am sure that each 83rd man and his wife and family dreamt of wonderful times they had at the Cleveland reunion. It was one of the best and will long be remembered.

And so another reunion is laid to rest. A pleasant memory, but there is always the thought to comfort one. Next year's reunion will be just as swell and maybe a little better so make your plans to join us in Atlantic City, August 16, 17 and 18, 1962. Don't miss it! And bring a buddy!

Secretary's Report

Back from another successful reunion and what a reunion it was To say it was the biggest and best would be repeating



on oft mentioned cliché but I will say this: The reunion committee for Atlantic City has its work cut out for it and to top it they've got to go some. You will read more elaborate recaps in other parts of Thunderbolt and everything said is true, I know, I was there, along with about 360 others.

In your slate of officers, this year, which appears in another part of Thunderbolt you have experience coupled with desire and effort, how can you go wrong. **But**

As great as our officers are they will need your help. We are confident that our association will rise to new heights but no one group of men can do it alone. It takes the combined effort of each and every one of us and it is the duty of each to get the ball rolling, join in our membership drive and get your buddy to join the association or present him with a buddy membership and we can make this the best year we've ever had.

The best way of showing the men you chose to lead you this year that you appreciate their efforts is by helping them achieve the desired results through your efforts to achieve those results also.

As the sun rose on another day on Sunday, August 20, 1961, on through the morning and into the late afternoon and evening, a steady stream of men, women and quite a few children were seen leaving the fair city of Cleveland, Ohio, heading for the various parts of the country from which they emanated or heading elsewhere to continue the last part of a vacation. The highways, railroads and airlines all came in for their share of the traffic and with this exodus another reunion became history and will take its place of honor, along with 14 others, in the annals of the division association.

These people were not leaving Cleveland because they wanted to. They were leaving because the 15th annual reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association had come to a close on the familiar note of a banquet, held in the ballroom of the Manger Hotel, the previous evening.

The banquet marked the end of the last scheduled function but certainly not the end of the reunion. The visits to the individual rooms and chapter C.P.'s went

on and on long after the last strains of "Home Sweet Home" by the orchestra faded into the night. The die-hards, a class in which most 83rders belong, kept things going through the night and, at each room or C.P. the exchange of social amenities ended in a bull session.

Sleep, in many cases was a word unheard of and you were considered "chicken" if you mentioned it.

When the liquor supply ran low in one place more was "borrowed" from another where the supply was more ample and the scrounging around for the ice and mixings, long after room service closed, was really something to behold. telling a Thunderbolt "that's all there is and no more to be gotten" is like inviting disaster and an insult to his intelligence and you can be sure that if it can be begged, borrowed, bought or gotten in any way at all he'll get it and, if I may repeat an old cliché, "You can always tell a Thunderbolt, but you can't tell him much".

That's partly the story of the 15th annual reunion just completed in Cleveland, in other parts of this publication you will find more elaborate recaps but in closing I might mention a word of commendation to the men and women of the Cleveland Chapter for the wonderful job they did and especially to the reunion committee for the manner and finesse with which they coped with situations that arose, from time to time, and I'm sure that if we have another reunion in Cleveland, some time hence, we can rest assured that not even the smallest detail will not be overlooked if the same group of people are in charge. A tip of the Lockwood toupee to the gang from Cleveland, long may their banner wave.

One thing more, to the Hotel Manger, on behalf of the officers and men of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, and all those who attended the reunion, a vote of thanks for the manner in which they received us which, with one or two exceptions, was without criticism.

Harry W. Lockwood, Rget. 329
Secretary-Treasurer

**Make Your
Plans
For
The
Atlantic City
Reunion**

Frank McGrogan Named President

At the conclusion of the Friday business meeting, the individual units met to nominate officers for the coming year. Two men from each unit were appointed to represent their respective groups at a nomination committee meeting that was to be held in President Joe Minotti's room that same afternoon with Dave Rosenberg, B&F-331, acting as chairman. The nominations were unanimous and the following men were selected and presented to the body at Saturday's meeting by the chairman:

President, Frank McGrogan, D-330; 1st vice president, Edward Paulino, C-322 FA; 2nd vice president, John Robbinette, Co. C-308 Eng.; 3rd vice president, Victor E. Landis, Co. F-329; secretary-treasurer, Harry W. Lockwood, Regt. Hq.-329; chaplain, William O. Shuman, divarty; assistant chaplain and historian, Hubert L. Edwards, Co. B-331; judge advocate, A. A. Rugienius, Div. Hqtrs.; service officer, Edward J. Murphy, Co. G-331; sergeants-at-arms, William A. Pugh, Btry A-324 FA; Robert J. Piette, Co. G-331; Theodore A. Hodum, Co. B-308 Med.

Executive board, Lawrence J. Redmond, H-330; Leroy Titus, G-331; Raymond J. Voracek, Hq. Btry-324 FA; Col. Robert H. York, Hq-331 and Manuel C. Martin F-329 with Joseph Minotti, Hq. Btry-324 FA to succeed Col. York if he is forced to withdraw.

This slate of officers was unanimously adopted by the body of men present. Frank McGrogan and Ed Paulino's victory marked a new innovation in our organization. The Philadelphia Chapter, selecting these men to lead us this coming year, distributed badges reading: "Phila.'s Choice" Frank and Ed. These buttons were pinned on all who registered by a crew of volunteers. The buttons, and two huge banners, hung in prominent spots, told the story: "Phila.'s Choice," Frank and Eddie, so it was no strange result that these two led in popularity for the two posts.

The selection of Frank McGrogan and Ed Paulino to lead our Association for the ensuing year was a wise choice. Both art hard workers and have taken part in the affairs of the Association. They have worked diligently for the past two years on the reunion in Atlantic City, next year and we are sure that the efforts they have expended thus far, along with their continued efforts, will lead up to the biggest and best reunion our Association has ever known.

The Philadelphia Chapter stands ready, willing and able to lend any support and assistance to Frank and Ed. To make their term of office, along

with the Atlantic City reunion the best yet.

(Con't. from Page 7)

just what in the *!:#! I was trying to say. To others who may have taken a few moments to read the Detroit Chapter Reports, I express my appreciation for having had an interest in what we were doing. I hope my limited vocabulary was sufficiently adequate to describe in some detail our chapter's doings. To some of the guys in our chapter that I may have kidded a little in some of the reports—it was all in fun. It gave me great personal pleasure to be a part of The Thunderbolt. I sincerely enjoyed doing my little part.

your now identified and outgoing
Detroit Reporter,
Nick Barbu



Bill Palazzolo holding down the fort at the Hotel Manger, Cleveland reunion, 1961.



Beach Party at Steve Benson's

Greater Boston Chapter

The Greater Boston Chapter held its pre convention meeting at the Gates Tavern in Providence, Rhode Island on August 5 and the turnout was very good.



Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Nick Francullo, Mr. and Mrs. Pat DiGiammerino, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Herman, Mr. and Mrs. Silvio Allard, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Abdinor, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Tynan, Mr. and Mrs. Caruse, Mr. and

Mrs. Petrucci, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Caprio, Mr. and Mrs. Resnick, Mr. and Mrs. Rocke, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Edwards, Lucien Elie, Earl "Pappy" Jennings, Dick Armstrong, good old Father Spike Morrissette, and our long lost buddy, Ed. "Spud" Murphy.

After the dinner a surprise birthday cake was set up for Ginny DiGiammerino who was indeed surprised. Thanks to Mike and Veria Caprio for their thoughtfulness. May you have many more happy birthdays, Ginny.

Ed. Murphy came in with all the dope on the trip to Cleveland and acted as our advance party.

The Boston Chapter was very well represented at the reunion with an attendance of 19 members and we were very proud to have been the Chapter to present the new 50-star flag to the association in behalf of the chapter and in honor of Father Spike. We were a little disappointed though that Father Spike could not be with us having been called to Canada shortly before.

It was good to see our smiling buddy Bill "Shiftless" Schiffert there from New Britain, Conn. (Bill, don't forget the tie clasps and hope to see you at the next meeting).



Checking the road map to Cleveland.



Setting the plans for Cleveland.



3 big wheels—Pat, Mike and Nick.

While driving along Route 128 in Massachusetts, we picked up a hitchhiker thumbing his way to Cleveland. Boy, was he full of gall. Butting in on all conversations, telling us where, when and what to eat and what a swill belly; he had double portions of everything. He told us how to drive the car, how much gas we should use and where to buy it. We were tempted to put him out two or three times but he turned out to be good company and we all had a swell trip. His name is Silvio Allard and if he reads this we're only kidding. You're really our boy Sil and we did have a swell trip.

And now I would like to put in a plug for one of the nicest men any of us has ever met.

On the way home from the reunion we stopped off in Buffalo to look up Bob "Spike" Spychala of Btry. A-322 FA. Spike was not at home so we decided we'd have something to eat and inquired about a good Italian restaurant. We were told that the LaHacienda Sheridan at 3734 Sheridan Drive was the best in town. Upon arriving there we were greeted and seated at a table by our host who, we found out later, was the owner. His name is Nick Mariello and he was a former member of a glider outfit that landed on Omaha Beach in the war. He has a friend who works in the Providence, Rhode Island Post Office with Mike Caprio. Nick proved to be a real swell host. He sent over to our table a bottle of Italian wine, beer, whiskey and ginger ale, all on the house. And the meal was a good Italian dinner, I know, I'm Italian.

After the dinner, while we were waiting for Spike Spychala, we were taken to the lounge where our host set up his Hi-Fi set and we were treated to music that topped off the whole evening. It was such a wonderful evening, and from a total stranger, that it made the rest of the trip home all the more enjoyable.

If any of the members of the Division Association ever are in the vicinity of Buffalo, N. Y. it's more than worth your while to stop by and see Nick Mariello. You'll not only enjoy his food, you'll enjoy his hospitality and find him a most congenial host.

We, of the Boston Chapter would like to extend the best wishes to the officers of the association for this year and especially to Ed. Murphy on his being elected to the new post of Service Officer. We know you'll do all you can to help, Ed.

To the boys of the Boston Chapter, try to get out to the meetings. We do have a swell time and we're glad to see you.

Nick Francullo
Hq. 3rd Bn.-330



Father "Spkie" receiving his Thunder-belt jacket.



Our cameraman, "One Shot" Jiggs Elie, with Mary Francullo and Father Spike.



Happy Birthday, Ginny.

Warren Chapter News

Well, another great 83rd convention has come and gone and another great one is coming up in Atlantic City next August. In the meantime I guess all must go on at a just usual pace. The Warren Chapter takes great pleasure in both thanking and congratulating that great bunch of guys and most certainly the gals of the Cleveland Chapter for a great convention. Of course, how could it help but be great under the expert guidance of the one and only R. J. Voraček.

More congratulations and best wishes to the new President of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Frank McGrogan. To him, Harry Lockwood and all the other fine officers of the Association, we the Warren Chapter pledge our wholehearted support. Come to Warren and visit us.

The Warren Chapter wants to welcome the following men into our chapter:

Bob Costello, Gloversville, N. Y.; Doc. A. T. Laird, Youngstown, Ohio; Charles Sihlanick, New York City; Bill Bogacz, Chicago, Ill.; Monte Anderson, Akron, Ohio; Ralph Guarneiri, Levittown, Pa.; Don Schwartz, Larchmont, N. Y.; Benny Vecchione, Baltimore, Md.; Loyal Pangle, Flint, Mich.

Anyone wishing to become members of the Warren Chapter are most certainly welcome and are asked to contact John Teringo, 1356 Hamilton Street, S.E. Warren, Ohio for further information.

Joe Minotti has now taken over the proprietorship of the Elm Road Bowling Alley here in Warren, and along with his operation of his Cafe 83, we wish him much, much success.

Mike Skovran

An Apology to the Miami Valley Chapter

Due to an oversight in the publishing of the 15th annual reunion ad book I forgot to insert your ad for the sum of \$25. We, of the Cleveland Chapter thank you very much and regret making the error.

Although your name was not in the ad book you can be sure that your donation was used for the same purpose as the other ads, to help defray the cost of the reunion and to make it a successful one.

Thanks once again and my apologies to the Miami Valley Chapter.

Walt Meczka, Ad Chairman

Miami Valley Chapter And Dayton Flyings

By Vic Landis, F. 329

First things first—a vote of thanks to Marge Fink, who drove the Fink car back to Dayton, while Ed and I slept. Believe me we were that tired. They dropped me off at a local hotel where I rested and re-grouped. Next day I took off for the races and ball games, also various points of interest. It took me 10 days to get back home. How in the hell did I do that?

At the reunion in Cleveland, the Miami Valley Chapter was a very busy place and all admired our new 50-star flag. Leo (Little Stupid) Boyd was all over the place and Ed Fink was the official mixer of the potent drinks. Old Grandad gives you a fast start.

Jake Glenn came all the way from Knoxville, Tenn.—a special tip of the hat to the guy. Bob Hedger and wife were there and of course, Del and Pearl Rinehart. Boots Boyd was very much in evidence and helped Little Stupid out with the festivities.

All in all while we did not have a big turnout from the Miami Valley Chapter, a wonderful time was had by all, and we will now turn to building our chapter to a greater strength. CHEERS to the Cleveland Chapter for the great program they staged.

For Sale

There is a supply of 83rd Division Association "T" shirts for sale at 75 cents each or three for \$2. These shirts are made of white cotton and have printed on them, 83rd Infantry Division Association, Thunderbolt. Sizes available are medium and large.

* * * *

Also available are drinking glasses with the 83rd Division insigna and Thunderbolt printed on them. The cost of these is \$2.50 a half dozen plus postage.

* * * *

There are still some 83rd Division histories "Thunderbolt Across Europe" that can be purchased at \$2.50 each.

* * * *

All order for these items arranged through the Secretary at 43 Oakland Ave., Jersey City 6, New Jersey.

PLEASE
PAY

YOUR
DUES
NOW!!!

New Jersey Chapter News

By Nicholas E. Esposito (B-331st)

We of the New Jersey Chapter wish to thank our comrades from Cleveland for showing us a wonderful time as host to our reunion. Our special thanks go to Ray Voracek for his untiring effort to see that everyone was made happy. We also wish to salute Joseph Minotti in the way he conducted all of the meetings and for the fine job he did during his presidency.

Bob Wash was the vanguard of the New Jersey Chapter. On Saturday Bob took his mother to Bangor, Maine and from there he flew into Cleveland arriving Monday morning. Bob still believes in the old saying that the early birds catches the worms. One question are there any worms left? Fern and Harry Lockwood accompanied by their chauffeur, yours truly, made the trip Tuesday. Our jaunt started at the ungodly hour of four in the morning and arriving in Cleveland censored hour. Fern kept saying "Take it out of first" and Harry was hollering "The forward speeds must be broken" all the way. These Ramblers have a way of sprouting wings especially when Harry took the wheel. Being a modern family the Wehlings, Emil, his wife, Hazel, and their boy, Russell, flew in from Newark early Wednesday. Stanley Bielen accompanied by his boy, Kenneth, drove in late Wednesday from Fords, N. J. and not in a Ford car. Vito Lascari arrived Wednesday driving his 1940 Packard which by the way consumed only a quart of oil, but how many gallons of gas, Vito? Our biggest surprise was to see Manny Epstein who recently became a bridegroom? Congrats, Manny, from all of us. Bring the lovely young lady to our next reunion in Atlantic City.

My personal impressions of this reunion were, first, I had to make appointments to see my brother chapter members as they were too busy partying with their former buddies whom they haven't seen since last year. As for the Lockwoods I knew they checked in to the same hotel, but where did they stay? Second, I became more acquainted with some of the people whom I met at previous reunions; to mention a few the Minottis, the Voraceks, the Finks, Abdinoor, the Martins and many more. Third, former members but this being their first reunion such as Herbert Wirik of Windber, Pa. and J. McCroy of Benton, Tenn., Bill Doty and his lovely wife from Chicago, my old stamping grounds of a few months past. Last but not least my former buddies and their families who make the annual treks such as the Bernards, the Palms, and John Gu-

zek and the good old crew from Philadelphia including the bus driver. Saying hello and howdy to all was indeed a pleasure. I must not forget Charles Lesser and his mother who jetted in from Seattle, Washington. Charles is a likeable character with a gift of gab, but I talked him into being a member of the New Jersey Chapter but I forgot to mention to him that all members are assessed five dollars for failing to attend a meeting. How about that, Mr. Lesser? The highlights of the reunion were Thursday afternoon at the race track and long faces. The cocktail party Thursday evening which was a preview of Saturday's banquet. Friday night's stag party which left everyone staggering and finally the banquet.

I am looking towards the reunion of 1962 which will be held in Atlantic City, N. J. and of seeing the old faces and maybe some new ones.

All members of the New Jersey Chapter are requested to attend the next meeting as our new president, Stan Bielen, is going to buy the drinks during the evening.

At the New Jersey Chapter meeting, held on Friday evening, September 15, we extended the hand of welcome to Frank Todd, attending for the first time. From all indications Frank enjoyed himself and we trust that he attends frequently. Other members picked up at the reunion were Charlie Lesser, Seattle, Washington; Frank Kasuba, Vandergrift, Penna. and George DeFilipps, Holley, New York. Although we are sure that they will not be available for the meetings, at least we will have three more buddies to look forward to at the reunion each year. Glad to have you boys.

Dave Benick regrets that he could not be with us at the reunion as he had a Beauty and Barber Supply convention to attend at that time and that, being his living, it's a good reason.

Two kids who really had themselves a ball at the reunion were Russie Wehling and Kenny Bielen. They rode up and down on the elevators so much that the operators refused to take them after awhile, so they walked up and down. Also they went to the hotel where the Boston Red Sox were billeted and got autographs from all the players and came back proud as peacocks. Kenny had such a good time that he tried to get his dad to stay another day.

Last but not least. Emil Wehling must have won money at the track; he's been smiling ever since and although Vito Lascari hasn't been seen since we wonder why he seemed so lost at the reunion; perhaps because EDITH was not there.

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Buddies:

Many of us have just returned from a most enjoyable reunion with our friends and buddies at Hotel Manger



in Cleveland. It was occasion for a warm and friendly hand-clasp. It was a weekend of fellowship and smiles. It was a reunion of former members of our great 83rd Infantry Division and to many of us it was a moment of meeting new buddies and friends, because we made it a point to recall old times and

to gain new friends. We stretched our hand out to other buddies of our great outfit, perhaps whom we have seen for the first time in many years and of course in some instances the first time, even though they served in our great Division. Yes, it was **FELLOWSHIP**.

"There you sit," Harry Lauder used to taunt his audiences merrily—"been side by side for two hours, and not one of you spoke to the fellow in the next seat!" Under that warm-hearted influence, few there were who did not turn and speak to the stranger beside him.

Yes, fellows it is as easy as that. A word, a smile, and the stranger at your elbow may become an interesting friend. All through life we deny ourselves stimulating fellowship because we are too proud or too afraid to unbend.

We too, can travel if we like, cased in the cold armor of privacy. You haven't seen the world if you have failed to look into the human hearts that inhabit it.

Someone a long time ago wrote a very beautiful poem and I'll try to repeat it to you now:

Life is like a journey on a train,
A lot of people sitting at every
windowpane;
I may sit beside you all the journey
through,
Or I may sit someplace else, not ever
knowing you.
But should chance have me sit beside
your side,
Let's be pleasant travelers, 'til such
short a ride.

It isn't hard to approach a person who has a friendly smile on his face, but why not be the first to smile? Many of us feel that we haven't much to give, yet we can at least be receptive. If we look at people instead of staring ahead, we may recognize an anxious question in their glance.

We all are strangers to each other until one of us puts out his hand — and

makes a friend — and smiles. Perhaps to some it is hard to smile — perhaps we already have great burdens, but then too we should remember the "Test of the Heart". Here goes:

It is easy enough to be pleasant

When life flows by like a song,
But the man worth while is the man who
will smile

When everything goes dead wrong!
For the best of the heart is trouble,

And it always comes with years,
And the smile that comes with the
praises of earth

Is the smile that shines through
tears.

May the Lord richly bless you as you
go along life's by-ways.

Wm. O. "Bill" Shuman
Assn. Chaplain

Convention Chairman's Corner

By Ed. Paulino, 322 FA.

It is not too early to make plans to attend our "Sweet Sixteen Party", Aug. 16, 17 and 18, 1962, at the Hotel Ambassador, Atlantic City, New Jersey.



Your host, the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, is pulling out all stops to make this reunion, the most fabulous one. Frankly, we can't miss! Atlantic City, known as the "Playground of the World", should provide enough attractions to bring out buddies we haven't seen be-

fore.

We advise you to do what so many others have told us they are doing, namely, incorporating their vacation with the family with the 16th annual reunion.

We are gaining major concessions from the Hotel Ambassador. The special rates they are offering for the convention may be had for your entire stay, regardless of length. The savings in your accommodations will be considerable. The ocean front hotel smack dab on the boardwalk, is one of the most modern of all hotels at the seashore. Now is the time to plan. Make your date now, the 83rd Infantry Division's "Sweet Sixteen Party", the 16th Annual Reunion at the Hotel Ambassador, Atlantic City, New Jersey, August 16, 17 and 18, 1962 . . .

— Just A Reminder —
DUES IS DUE

Chapter News

Hello Buddies:

Pending the appointment of a Chapter Co-ordinator for the coming year, I



will act in that capacity as I have done in the past and try to give you some information that was gathered at the meeting of the Executive Committee and the Chapter Representatives.

First of all we discussed the most important item of all, that was Chapter co-ordination. By that we mean that

all Chapters should function as members of the National Association. They should all stand ready to be able to help one another in any way possible. We have got to function as units of a National Organization, and not try to outdo one another. Some Chapters have been fortunate in the past and have been able to build up a sizable Treasury, while others have been just about able to survive. In the past at Reunions we have had Chapter rooms, some Chapters have had larger representation there, thereby having a larger and more active crowd than the others. We have discussed the possibility of having a large room, whereby each Chapter could have their bar set up, and able to form a closer relationship amongst the members. There are several men who come to the Reunions that do not belong to any Chapter, thereby making them feel a little lost. We have talked over the idea of all men becoming a members of the chapter of their choice, regardless of where they live, that way making them feel as if they are a part of the Chapters as well as the Association. This idea should be brought up at the meetings of all Chapters and discussed among the members for their approval. We are also in favor of more chapters being formed, so any man who thinks that he can get enough men together to form a Chapter, should contact our Secretary-Treasurer for full information as to the requirements.

We have another thing that was brought up at the meeting, that is the idea of having Chapter representation at Chapter functions, by this we mean, that when a Chapter is having an Annual Banquet or a large affair, that a member of each Chapter should try to attend if at all possible, thereby having Chapter representation. This would also help to stimulate Chapter Co-ordination. We have also requested all Chapters to

send to National Headquarters a roster of their Officers so that it could be available to all Chapters, so that they could correspond, or such rosters could be published in the "THUNDERBOLT" so that any men that wanted to contact a particular Chapter, would know who to write to

We would like all members of our Association to know that just because you are not a member of a particular Chapter, you are not a forgotten man. You are still an important part of our Association, and at all Reunions, you are cordially invited to visit all Chapter rooms and take part in the activities there. So remember men, that even if we are not a member of a Chapter, we are all members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association and all men who served with this Division in World War II are welcome, regardless of who he is or where he lives This is your Association, join it and take an active part.

Larry Redmond, H-330
Executive Committee
Chapter Co-ordinator

Fall River Mass. Chapter News

By Manny Pacheco, Co. L-331

The first meeting under the charter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Fall River Chapter, was held at the home of Manny Martin.

Previous to the meeting, Manny and his charming wife, Adeline, also a wonderful hostess, sent invitations to the members and their wives for a get together social at their home.

A wonderful evening was had by all and many thanks to the Martins for their exceptional hospitality.

At the meeting the following officers were elected for 1961-62:

President, Manuel C. Martin; vice-president, Albert R. Coelho; secretary-treasurer, Manuel F. Pacheco; chaplain, Father Jean P. Coccette; sergeant-at-arms, John Bernard.

**Make Your
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Indiana Chapter News

By Murray Therber, Med.-330

Well, another Reunion has come and gone and we of the Indiana Chapter say "Hats Off" to the Cleveland fellows for a job well done.



Our group surely did enjoy themselves from all reports. I made the trip over on Friday night and may have missed seeing all from here but a swinging group I did observe were Dick and Laverne Ammon, Walt Edwards, John and Mary Raikos, as well as his brother, Andy, and his wife,

John and Gay Robinette, Ned Smith, John Walker and yours truly. Friends of mine, Willard and Frieda Olsen helped me with the driving and had themselves a ball. I regretted I was unable to attend the full session because I learned the

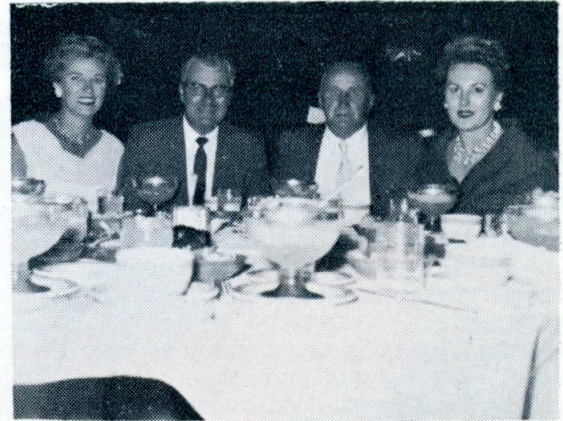
Thursday night party was really something!! Nice to see old firends again from the other chapters. John Soroko, our president, was unable to make the trip due to illness and Lucy Edwards was missed by her many friends. Thanks again to everyone who had a hand in making the affair a memorable one.

Thanks to John and Gay for their party! I saw the biggest cucumber up in their suite that I have ever seen. It must have been for John, too, as it made him run!! Wonder if Mike Champey could have had anything to do with that??? I heard he and his wife, Maria, have a garden back home in Connecticut. I wish someone would explain to me about the "red undies" that may be seen in Naptown in '63 also!!! And so in passing, we'll be looking forward to next year.

Our meetings of the local chapter will continue to be held at the Chateau, on the second Friday of each month and the welcome mat is out to everyone. We hope to make this a banner year for our chapter so let's attend all the meetings.



John and Gaynette Robinette and Mrs. Dick Ammon with Ned Smith looking on.

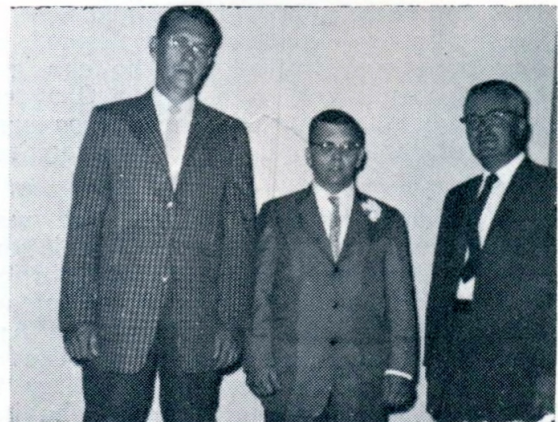


Mr. and Mrs. Glen Wible, Mr. and Mrs. John Evans.



ARTILLERY BUDDIES

Russ Davy, Jim Prentice, Nelson Reisinger, Paul Sadler and Mike Jarmoska.



Charles Caven, Dick Ammon and Glen Wible.

Philadelphia Chapter Invades Cleveland

It was a very enthusiastic crew of Thunderbolts and their wives who made the trip to Cleveland. Its enthusiasm knew no bounds. It was infectious, it was conducive to a great time. The consensus of those who "hit the trail" together was that this trip rated with the wonderful times we had on previous reunions.



Our capable, efficient bus captain, Sam Aiello, ran a tight ship and we left Lou Volpi's promptly and noisily. Henry, our pilot on the two previous trips, to Detroit and Boston, was once again at the helm. Henry is now an honorary member of our chapter and our guest at the reunions.

Aboard the bus with us were Charley "Lone Wolf" Agnello, Mike "T-Bird" Jarmoska, Bill "JFK" Pugh and his charming wife, Virginia. Up front in the co-pilot's seat were Sam "Captain" Aiello and his gay, lively wife Vi. Snuggled amidship Lou "Hello There" Volpi and his wife, Lucy, carried on lively chit-chat with "Biff" Buffano and wife, Lucy, acting as co-pilot was the dance king Arnie "Arthur Murray" Coccetti and his agile dancing partner, Nellie. The two "Love Birds", Al "Adonis" Belvedere and his beautiful wife, Ann, held hands and billed and cood throughout the entire trip. A strikingly handsome couple and real good company. Al Belvedere's imitations of the rest of our gang must make you laff and laff. From far off Bethlehem our two youngsters Joe "The Rake" Zenz and his better half June anchored the middle of the bus. Settled on the right side of the bus was Frank "Our Candidate" McGrogan and his vivacious wife, Mary. Ed "Quick with the Pun" Paulino and his popular wife, "Sweet Rosie" Ruth. Ed and Ruth are perfect companions for a long trip, gay, lively and refreshing. And holding down the rear, was the "Queen of Burlesque" Ann Rosenberg, and yours truly. No need to tell all those who have attended our last three reunions about my wife, Ann. An entirely uninhibited "comedienne" her antics and stories, jokes and songs had the bus load rolling in the aisles. Her refreshing repertoire of good "clean" jokes set the spirit for our entire trip. It was a rousing ball . . .

We hardly knew the hours were passing as we sailed along in our bus. And

before we realized it the Cleveland suburbs were reached. And then just a brief jaunt to the hotel. It was but a short time before we all were billeted comfortably in our respective rooms. There wasn't a single hitch in our accommodations. Everyone knew that our "first day" banquet was on tap, so we changed into our glad rags, and away we went to Rohr's Restaurant. Thirty of us ate like kings, drank like lords and lived it up like a doughboy on a 3-day pass.

After our "banquet" we gathered at the hotel and another evening of good fun was started. The liquid refreshments were broken out and the fun began.

And so it began and so it ended. Throughout our stay in Cleveland not one small hitch spoiled the festivities. The Philadelphia Chapter Room again was headquarters for all Thunderbolts. There were liquid refreshments and midnight snacks for the hungry every night. Our captain, Sam Aiello, Lou Volpi and Al Belvedere were our KP men and they did a wonderful job. A good cooperative effort by all Philadelphia Chapter men and women. We ate together, we danced together, we sang together. We welcomed the strangers together, we brought pep and enthusiasm wherever and whenever we entered into the scene. Our contagious good spirits helped make this convention a rip roaring success. We made lots of new friends. We made lots of new members. We had a swell time.

This convention was a wonderful reunion for the Philadelphia Chapter. We enjoyed every minute of it and we helped others to enjoy it too. So you who missed this one set your calendars to next year when the Philadelphia Chapter will be your host at a gigantic "Sweet Sixteen Party" in Atlantic City. It's Atlantic City in '62, be there, you won't regret it.

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Co. B & F



HOLDING THE U.S. ARMY FLAG
Col. Joe Macaluso and Bob Uher.

A Message From The Past President

Fellow Thunderbolts,

The word "Thanks" is such a small and insignificant word to express my feelings to a great bunch of men, but thanks fellows, from the bottom of my heart, for having selected me to serve as your President for the year 1960-61. It was a great honor, a wonderful experience, and a genuine pleasure to work with such a good group of officers, and an efficient Executive Board.



There are so many people who contributed both time and effort for a better and larger 83rd Association that it would be impossible to thank each of you personally so I'll just say thanks to everyone for making 1961 one of the most successful years in the history of our Association, however, I must give special praise to Vic Landis as publicity director for his tremendous efforts in securing much needed publicity for the 83rd, Harry Lockwood for his usual fine job as our secretary-treasurer and editor of the Thunderbolt, and lastly my old buddy Ray Voracek and his Cleveland Chapter boys for their outstanding work in putting on a well-organized convention at a reasonable registration fee. The 1961 Cleveland Convention will long be remembered for its excellent program for both men and women.

In turning the gavel over to our new President Frank McGrogan, I'm proud to say that if you searched the United States from coast to coast you couldn't find a better man to take over as our President. Frank has all of the qualifications to make 1962 a banner year for the Association, but he needs the support of every member to help build a much larger membership. Let's all make a more determined effort to contact our buddies. Sign them up as a member and encourage them to meet you in Atlantic City in 1962.

Joe Minotti

**MAKE YOUR PLANS
NOW TO ATTEND
THE
ANNUAL REUNION**

A Report From Your National Publicity Director

At one of our meetings in Cleveland, a gentleman from Chicago stated, no one in the windy city had heard of the 83rd Division Association and their reunion. This illustrates a point I have stressed in every column I have written for the Thunderbolt. That factor is this—the former 83rd member has to read the paper on the day it is published and also has to leaf through the paper and find the article. We have to publish the millions to reach the hundreds.

This is the fourth straight year I have had articles published in the Chicago papers. During the month of April, every newspaper and tabloid in Illinois printed an article. The Chicago Tribune carried it three times. The American and News twice, the Sun Times and Wall Street Journal both had an article in their publications. Also, there were spot announcements on radio and television.

This is the point I again wish to pound home. It is of vital importance for every SINGLE member, to place a notice in the daily paper in their city and area. We can have an article placed 20 times in one paper and some of the boys will never see it.

You can rest assured—again this year—every daily paper in the nation will receive a release and Harry W. Lockwood will be able to contact many 83rd men—that never heard of our organization.

Hospitality Fund

We inaugurated this year a fund which we call "The Hospitality Fund". The purpose of this fund is to invite one of our wheelchair veterans to be our guest at the reunion with all expenses paid except meals, for him and his escort.

The finances for this fund will come from voluntary contributions from the members.

The one stipulation is that the member receiving the invitation must be a paid-up member in the Association for at least three years since 1954. If any of you members are aware of a buddy who served the Division or its attached units, who falls into this category, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer at 43 Oakland Ave., Jersey City 6, New Jersey.

Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund send your contribution to the same address. All donations will be gratefully accepted and, upon request, acknowledged in Thunderbolt.

Get behind this, fellows. Let's show these boys that we would like to see them at the reunion by inviting them as our guests.

Thanks To The 6th Armored

On Saturday evening, September 2, three of us attended a banquet at the Hotel Sheraton in Philadelphia, terminating the 14th annual reunion of the sixth Armored Division Association, that been held there on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

We were welcomed by the Reunion Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer and introduced to several of their past presidents as well as their former commanding officer, General Gerow and the honorable Senator Boggs of Delaware who is one of their members.

After being introduced to the people at our respective tables a delicious dinner was served followed by short addresses by Gen. Gerow and Sen. Boggs.

Each of us was introduced to the assemblage and asked to stand and take a bow.

A very fine show was presented for about one hour. Following the show the proceedings ended and everyone left the banquet hall to go to the unit C.P.s.

The welcome that was extended to us at each C.P. made us feel more like members than guests and, of course, the bantering (which was not to be expected) about the Infantry vs Tanks was all in good, clean fun.

We met several past presidents of the Ladies Auxiliary and, in talking with them, we learned the value of a Ladies Auxiliary and learned also that the men spoke of it with the highest regard. We also learned that the amount of help given the reunion committee, by the ladies, lends toward excellent programs for the ladies and takes a big load off the shoulders of the reunion committee.

Our Association has never looked too favorably on a Ladies Auxiliary but after association with the men and women of the Sixth Armored we are more than convinced it is worth a try and should be given some serious thought and consideration next year in Atlantic City.

To the men and women of the Sixth Armored Division Association, we are deeply grateful for your wonderful hospitality and courtesy and trust that we may offer the same to any of your members sometime in the near future. If the opportunity presents itself just drop by at one of our reunions and the welcome mat will be rolled out for you.

A special thanks to those of you who acted as our escorts and to your wonderful secretary-treasurer, Ed. Reed, who made the arrangements.

Frank McGrogan,
President

Larry Redmond,
Chairman,
Executive Board
Harry W. Lockwood
Secretary-Treasurer

Cleveland Chit-Chat

By Al Uridel, Cannon-329

Hello Buddies:

A short time ago I was bidding fond farewell to a lot of friends, seeing them off to their homes and promising to see them again in Atlantic City in 1962.

We had just spent three of the most enjoyable days in Cleveland during our 15th reunion of the Division Association.

The boys of the Cleveland Chapter have every reason to be proud and to walk around and brag about the biggest and best of all reunions for there is only one way to describe it. WOWWWW

We of the Cleveland Chapter doff our hats to R. J. Voracek, Walt Meczka and Walt's wife, Mary, for the splendid job they did.

The stag party was one that I will never, never forget. Never have I seen so many men laugh so uproariously and so completely enjoy it and if anyone can top it, at future reunions, I, for one want to be in on it.

The cocktail party was also a huge success, not to mention the memorial service and banquet. Those who missed this reunion really should feel sorry for themselves.

It was a week before most of us got our voices back, nevertheless, those I talked to had nothing but high praise for Ray, Walt and the rest who had anything to do with the reunion including the women who gave so much of their time.

We are planning now for Atlantic City and sincerely wish that the fellows there have as much success as we had.

These successful reunions all boil down to one thing men, attendance. You can't have fun without company, even if you're miserable, it's always better to have a buddy.

While I write this, my dear wife is in the hospital, recuperating from surgery and we, at home, and all her friends, wish her a speedy recovery. Our son, Johnny, said: "I'm next to go" and when asked why he said, "I'm eating my own cooking". (Like father, like son).

The Cleveland Chapter extends congratulations to our new slate of Association officers. May they be as successful as those who served before them.

That's if for now buddies. Don't forget to get on the ball, pay your dues now. If you haven't already done so, try to get at least one new member and be with us in Atlantic City next year.

Cleveland Reunion Highlights

Dave Rosenberg, 331st Co. B & F

We were very glad to see our good friend Ed "The Senator From Washington" St. Lawrence. Ed was his usual jolly self and enjoyed his visits to our Chapter Room so much that he paid his dues and became a member in good standing. Ed enlivened the business meetings with his droll recounting of his efforts to recruit "The Washington Brass Hats". Ed's unabashed accounts of his recruiting efforts and his excellent suggestions were well received . . .

Lou Volpi met up with his first sergeant for the first time since the end of the war. And it was love at first sight. "Big Bill" Hoolan recently retired from the army, was a welcome addition to the Philadelphia Chapter, as was his charming wife and young son. It was a revelation to see how "Big" Bill answered the call for ice cubes. Away he went and in seconds was back with a hundred pound sack . . .

Never will we see such good sports as Colonel Gillespie and General Ferenbaugh as we fed them drinks from our "dribble" glass. The more they sipped the liquid refreshments, the more dribbled down the front of their shirts but like good sports they took it and luffed as loud as any of us. Both Colonel Gillespie and General Ferenbaugh made our Chapter Room their CP for many hours and joined in the fun . . .

Reggy Regienius and his charming, vivacious wife, Helen, joined in the fun every evening and contributed to the antics and good fun enjoyed by all. Warm and socialable Helen was a hit with all the men. Reggy had a few pet jokes that were well presented and enjoyed by all. Reggy kept me in good cigars and I must say he has good taste when it comes to women and cigars . . .

Nellie and Arnie Coccetti are a swell pair. Nellie tickled the ivories and her fine music lifted everyone's spirits in songs. Arnie has a fine set of pipes too . . .

Nellie and Arnie's efforts to teach everyone the cha-cha was heroic, even the guys with two left feet danced like angels when Nellie spun them around. Those surprise midnight snacks the men brought into the Chapter Room were enjoyed by all. There was the most delicious and tastiest of meats, corn beef, salami, rye bread, pickles, and hot peppers, potatoe salads, cole slaw, all mouth watering tidbits that just hit the spot. Thanks to Sam Aiello, Lou Volpi and Al Belvedere . . .

B Company 331st Infantry had a good

turnout. That inseparable group — the Elmer Palms, the John Bernards and John Guzik — were there and they had a great time. Little giant Curt Deisher brought his family and a more handsome group you'll never find. His wife, Florence, his very, very charming and beautiful daughter, Carol, and his young son "Dougie" made an elegant picture of an American family group. I must confess I was smitten by Carol's beauty and charm and enjoyed several dances with her . . . Hubert Edwards, he of the solemn mein, but good spirited sense of humor was present and delivered several fine benedictions . . . Handsome Stan Bielen brought his son with him and had himself a time keeping up with his young un . . . We must mention that Elmer Palm's lovely wife, Carrie, has the best sense of humor in their family. Always cheerful, full of god spirits, she never misses having a good time And I always enjoy her company. Their "little" son, Richie' has grown into a giant. I can remember when he was a very shy little one. But not now, he knows all the Thunderbolts and feels quite at home with us . . .

As for dancers we must mention that Bill and Virginia Pugh are tops. What a pair of wild jitterbuggers of the first order. And then there was Sammy Aiello. There is a guy who is indefatigable on the dance floor and his lovely, wife, Vi, makes a fine partner for him . . .

Our trip to Cleveland had one slight damper. We were hampered by not having with us our very personable president. "Big Gun" John Piscitelli and his wife, Josie, were missing. John "Don't Spend All the Money" Piscitelli has done an admirable job as president of the Philadelphia Chapter, and we all missed him. The very fine company and mannerisms of Josie were also missed.

One of the finest representations at the reunion was the turnout of Co. "G" 331st Infantry. This swell bunch of boys had their astute leader Col. Joe Macaluso with them and they presented a solid front where ever they congregated. Big Lee Titus had his boys in tow and they behaved liked good soldiers. Capt. Mac is one Joe the boys of George Company admire and this admiration is shared by all members of the Second Battalion who had contact with Capt. Joe. A good egg and a swell Joe.

**PLEASE
PAY
YOUR
DUES
NOW!!!**

Letters to the Editor

Dear Mr. Lockwood:

Please excuse me for not signing this letter but I wish to remain anonymous.

I have been to most of the reunions and, occasionally, I see some of my buddies but one of the reasons I continue to attend is not only to see my buddies but also to be with the many wonderful friends my wife and I have made over the years.

When I hear of some men coming from the states of Washington, Texas, Louisiana, California and many other areas of this vast country, some of whom are incapacitated, but who nevertheless come, I begin to wonder what is wrong and something certainly must be wrong. When a man who is partially or almost totally disabled will take the effort to travel man miles to see his old friends and buddies, is it too much to ask of those who live in the immediate vicinity to attend the reunion or at least acknowledge that they are aware of it by a ten word telegram, the cost of which is nominal enough.

Every year we run into the same condition, many of those who live close-by are the ones who stay away. Why?

I do not intend to offend anyone. I just happen to be curious and thought that perhaps someone receiving the Thunderbolt may have an answer.

* * * *

Members of Co. L-329
And I&R Platoon 329
Hello Boys,

Sorry I could not be with you at convention time and I hope you enjoyed yourselves recalling old times.

My assignment prevented my being at the reunion, however, next year I will make it, come hell or high water.

Interested in hearing from anyone caring to write. My address is:

Robert J. Burns
13 Wennerberg Road
Middleton, Mass.

* * * *

Dear Harry,

Sorry I couldn't make the reunion in Cleveland this year but will try my best to be with you all in Atlantic City, next year.

Enclosed find my check for \$5 for dues. Regards to all the gang of Co. E-329.

Ralph J. Knorr
646 Main St.
P.O. Box 144
Wheeling, West Virginia

— Just A Reminder —
DUES IS DUE

Dear Harry,

Enclosed check for membership dues for another year.

Sorry I was unable to be with you all at the reunion. Hope you had fun.

Best regards to all my buddies of Co. C-329.

Walter T. Reed
Box 248
Pine Bush, New York

* * * *

Dear Harry,

Attached is our Association check in the amount of \$30 which we would like for you to consider as a contribution of any of your funds; as our return for the pleasure of having you, Frank and Larry participate in our closing banquet and reunion festivities on September 2nd (and early morning of the 3rd) in Philadelphia.

I'm sending a copy of this letter along to Frank and Larry, as I'm most anxious for them to also know how pleased we were to have you visit with us that Saturday night.

Our members were much impressed with your fine officers of the 83rd and we look forward to having you with us again in the future. In the meanwhile, don't be surprised to find a delegation of our Philly Chapter visiting you next year in Atlantic City.

Harry, I'm going to get busy on the idea of a central exchange for association secretaries—and will be in touch later.

Thanks again, fellows. We enjoyed meeting you — one and all.

Edward F. Reed
Secretary Sixth Armored
Division Association



A full meal at the Gates Tavern.

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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