



# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 21 - No. 3

Mar.-Apr.-May - 1968

**DO YOU HAVE ONE?**

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

This is to Certify that:

Name John M

Address 233 Ia

11111 Ia

Organization 83rd Div

**IS A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING OF THE**

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

Expires AUG 1968

Sec. Treas. Larry Redmond

**Sign up!**

**be 1 of 1000**

# THE 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 132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.

Editor — Larry Redmond

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## A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS

### Who Have Served Us Well

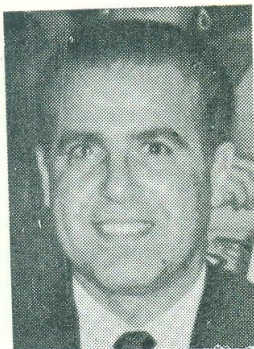
JAMES C. HANRAHAN	1947 (Deceased)
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JULIUS C. BOYLES	1964
SAMUEL KLIPPA	1965
WILLIAM M. DOTY	1966

## President's Corner

Albert Belvedere - 331st Infantry  
February 5, 1968

Hi Buddies:

Once again it is my privilege to communicate with all of you through the Great Thunderbolt. We have only one more issue before Reunion time. It hardly seems possible. However, Lou Volpi, our Reunion Chairman, and myself have arranged our Tentative schedule for our Reunion at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in August. Look for it in this issue of Thunderbolt.



Application Blanks for Ads are in this issue also. We would appreciate our Brother Chapters sending their Ads in as soon as possible as our Ad Book is started already. Send all Ads to yours truly, Lou Volpi, or Larry Redmond.

Our November and December meetings were held at Lou Volpi's Restaurant and besides settling a great many things at our meeting, a good time was had by all. As usual, Lou and Lucy Volpi were a perfect Host and Hostess.

A Social Banquet was held on January 20th at the Personnel Support Center in Philadelphia and it was a fabulous success. Two hundred people were in attendance and the evening was most enjoyable. We had our 50-50 drawing. I would like to thank all our friends from out-of-town and our local buddies who helped us by sending their returns by mail for this chance. The winner was No. 229, JOSEPH FASSO (Mother), 3131 S. 6th St., Phila., Pa. He is a member of the 83rd Division Association and contributed to the music that evening by playing in the orchestra. The amount of the winning purse was \$150.00.

"New Faces attending the Banquet"

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Filingo from Roseta, Pa. and their daughter and son-in-law Michelle and Bob.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zinni, from Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. Valentine Wunsch, from Woodbury, N. J.

Hope to see them at more affairs and of course at our Reunion.

"Out of Town Visitors"

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Zenz and their son John. Always nice to see them.

Of course it is always nice to be together with our regular crowd. I would like to thank the members of the Phila.

(Continued on Page 8)

## The Chaplain's Corner

To My Buddies of the  
83rd Inf. Div. Assn.:

If the world ever needed fellowship among nations, it is today. The same applies to we as individuals. Certainly we should give a helping hand to our neighbors, our friends—everyone. It would be such an encouragement to the person doing the encouraging and the person receiving the encouragement.



The following anonymous poem entitled "Fellowship" is so timely and so fitting to repeat herewith:

When a feller hasn't got a cent  
And is feelin' kind of blue,  
And the clouds hang thick and dark

And won't let the sunshine through,  
It's a great thing, oh my brethren,  
For a feller just to lay  
His hand upon your shoulder  
In a friendly sort o'way.

It makes a man feel queerish,  
It makes the tear-drops start.  
And you kind o'feel a flutter  
In the region of your heart.  
You can't look up and meet his eye,  
You don't know what to say

When a hand is on your shoulder  
In a friendly sort o'way.  
Oh this world's a curious compound  
With its honey and its gall;  
Its cares and bitter crosses,

But a good world after all.  
And a good God must have made it,  
Leastwise that is what I say,  
When a hand is on your shoulder  
In a friendly sort o'way.

May the Lord richly bless and keep you as you go about encouraging others. Why not place your hand on the shoulder of another in need of encouragement and help. It works wonders. God bless you.

Faithfully,  
William O. Shuman

**SEND YOUR DUES TO  
THE SECRETARY  
NOW !!**

## Secretary's Report

Hello Buddies:

Time rolls by so fast that it just seems as if we are getting settled down from the publication of an issue of "THE THUNDERBOLT"



when it is time to start working on the next issue of it. This year with sending out only 4 issues, it has lightened the burden quite a bit, because with the 5 issues we used to have, we didn't even have a breather between issues.

Just as I was about to get this issue ready for the printer, I had to go down sick with the flu and was confined to bed for almost a week. This tied things up but good. Each day I would get out of bed for a couple of hours and try to answer the mail that had come in. Believe me, with the publicity that Vic Landis has been giving us, there has been quite a bit of mail coming in. If we were to receive paid up membership for about one third of the men that write in for information, we would be well over the 1,000 paid up member mark. It is surprising to see each year how many men fail to send in their dues, then the next year they send it along with an apology for not having sent it the year before.

Remember men, the running of this Association is like any business, you must have the money coming in to keep the business running. The printing of the "THUNDERBOLT" is a considerable expense, along with it we must have membership applications, return envelopes, stationery and membership cards. On top of this we have the great expense of postage as well as other office supplies and office expenses. I am not trying to cry poverty to you, I am just trying to explain to you that this like any other business, must have money to survive.

I have been receiving a lot of letters in the mail, complimenting me on the good job being done in keeping the Association rolling along and also on the great job in the printing and editing of the "THUNDERBOLT". Gentlemen, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all of you for expressing your thoughts to me, but believe me, credit should be given where credit is due. I would like to tell each and every one of you, that were it not for the fine staff of Reporters that we have it would be impossible to publish

(Continued on Page 26)

## Chapter News

I am sorry to report that the Dayton Chapter seems to be at a stand still; there is no news whatsoever coming from them. I think that someone needs to light a bomb under them and get them rolling again.

\* \* \* \*

As of the publication of this issue, we have no news from the Dixie Chapter; what is the matter with you all down there? For a while you had a very active Chapter, and showed us a great time at a Reunion, then all of a sudden you fell by the wayside. Let's get back on the ball again, and start some activity down there; get your Chapter reactivated and the Dixie News coming in to us.

\* \* \* \*

To the boys of the Washington-Baltimore Area. I thought that this year you would blossom into an active Chapter once again and soon be coming to the Reunion with a Washington Reunion Program. I have received a few letters from men down that way wanting to know what happened to that Chapter that you were reactivating. Right now we have quite a few paid up members from the Washington-Baltimore Area, and you should be able to get your Chapter rolling again.

## A Report From Your National Publicity Director

By Vic Landis Co. F. 329th.

Am glad to report, on the publicity front, everything is coming along in fine style and I really believe we are in front of last year's deal. Last year we had the greatest publicity we have ever had and will be only too glad to surpass that record this year.

Larry Redmond, our wonderful secretary, informs me he has inquiries pouring in from all over the country and I have hardly broken the surface. Hate to think of the work he will have to do when I get in full swing and the United Press wire service, springs into action.

I hate to keep reiterating myself, but the best method of securing new members is for all the regular old guard members to contact all their former buddies and at least pay for one membership. I have done this for years and am happy to be in a position to do this.

Sincerely hope by the time the next issue of THE THUNDERBOLT is published, I will have an affirmative answer, in regards to a national magazine, covering the reunion in Philadelphia. If not I will have the reply of the chief editor.

That's all.

## Reunion Chairman's News

Lou Volpi  
324th F.A.

Folks, let me tell you that the work involved in making the Annual Reunion, for the Great 83rd "THUNDERBOLT" Association, a big success is a lot of hard work.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter hasn't stopped for one day, trying to promote a bigger and better Reunion, for the members who attend, and I believe that this Reunion is going to be a little different, in many ways. Anyway, we sure are going to try to make it so.

The National President, Al Belvedere and our Greater Philadelphia Chapter President, Bill Chavanne, are both good men to have on your side, and I do have them on my side. These fellows both have their whole heart and soul in the interest of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, and have given many man hours in assisting me in any way they can. God Bless our women of the Chapter also, they are trying to do their part to help plan and promote a successful woman's program.

A tentative program for the Reunion has been drawn up and is being published in this issue. This is only a potential program and may be subject to periodic changes. We sincerely hope that any changes made will be made for the benefit of you—our members. If you care to make any suggestions, please feel free to do so. If we feel that they are for the benefit of the members attending, we stand ready to accept them and try to formulate them in our program. If they are not accepted, please don't feel hurt in any way. Any and all suggestions will be given due consideration.

Also in this issue you will find the ads for the Program Book. This is a big thing and is for the good of the Reunion. The more monies that can be raised through this ad book, gives that much more money that can be used to help make this a bigger and better Reunion without having to cost you any additional registration fees. I am sure that each and every one of us can sell at least one additional ad along with the one that we are taking ourselves. Almost any business house in your community will take at least a half page ad, when they are told that this is a national program book and will be seen in every state in these United States as well as a few foreign countries. Let us each and every one make a special effort to push these program book ads. Start selling them today, as time is flying by on us.

I would like to repeat, anyone missing this Reunion will be missing a real great time. Plan your vacation now, and make it a point to join us in Philly, August 22,

23 and 24. In the meantime, if you are visiting our great city between now and then, make it a point to try to look up your Reunion Chairman and pay him a visit.

Dear Buddies:

Hope all of you had a wonderful Holiday Season, your headaches are gone and you're on your way to getting all those bills paid up. The post holiday season is the toughest part of all. Things haven't been going too well for me almost all of the past year so to those of you who haven't heard from me or received Xmas cards, I'm sorry, because I didn't get too much accomplished as far as corresponding goes. I promise to do better this year.



The most important message I want to bring to you now is the fact that this is the time of year when most of us have to put in for vacations. Please remember that the "Reunion" will be held at the Ben Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia on August 22, 23 and 24 of 1968. Get together with your wives and start making your vacation plans now and I'm sure that you'll never regret picking Philadelphia for your vacation. Let's get together and make this the best attended reunion ever.

Another important message for you is the fact that "Dues Are Due". I understand that many of last year's members are not paid up yet. Let's get on the ball fellows and send in your dues now because this is what keeps the Association going. Soon I'll be sending out letters to those of you that are not paid up and to those in my files that have never been membership members in our fine Association. There is no reason I can think of for us not to hit the "Thousand" mark this year. Just a little bit of help from each one of you will do the trick. **Send In Your Dues Now.**

What has happened to the 331st Regiment attendance and membership? We used to be tops all the time and now are dropping off. The same goes for "D" Co. of the 331st. I remember the one year in Pittsburgh when "D" Co. had 56 men in attendance and to my knowledge no one has ever come close to this figure. Let's go T.T.F. and show everyone that we can do it again.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy Easter and the very best of health always.

Samuel Klippa "D" 331st.  
Corresponding Secretary

# Twenty-Second Annual Reunion Program

(Tentative)

August 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1968

Benjamin Franklin Hotel

Chestnut Street at 9th, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Thursday, August 22nd, 1968

- 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. REGISTRATION
- 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. AQUARAMA—One of the World's Greatest Showplaces,  
"Theatre of the Sea"
- 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Dancing — Refreshments

## Friday, August 23rd, 1968

- 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. REGISTRATION
- 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon Men's Business Meeting
- 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Guided Tour of Historical Sites at Independence Square.
- 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Tour of Newspaper Plant
- 9:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Entertainment provided by Philadelphia's famous QUAKER  
CITY STRING BAND. Just as they appear in Phila's yearly  
MUMMERS PARADE.
- 10:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. Dancing and Refreshments

## Saturday, August 24th, 1968

- 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. REGISTRATION
- 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon Men's Business Meeting
- 10:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. Women's free time to shop and beautify themselves for  
Evening's festivities.
- 12:30 P.M. to 1:30 P.M. UNIT LUNCHEONS (Men and Wives)
- 2:00 P.M. MEMORIAL SERVICES — PARADE
- 6:30 P.M. GALA 83rd DIVISION ANNUAL BANQUET
- 9:00 P.M. to 2:00 A.M. Dancing and Refreshments

Hospitality Suite will be open except during the Meetings and Memorial Services.  
Hospitality Room will also be closed at 5:30 P.M. Saturday, August 24th to give  
Men time to get ready for the Banquet.

Albert Belvedere  
President

Louis J. Volpi  
Convention Chairman

P.S. The above is a tentative program and is subject to some changes. There is also a  
tentative program for the Ladies being formulated.

## Detroit Chapter News

Here it is again time for another issue of the Thunderbolt. We here in the Detroit Chapter have been working quite hard on



reorganizing our chapter. This coming week we are going to hold a meeting at the Statler Hotel in Detroit. Ed Zurieka and Nick Barbu have sent out over 30 cards to potential members. We are hoping to see a lot of new faces at this next meeting. Our President, Marian Murio and his wife Josie had the gang

over to their home a few weeks ago; we all had a real swell time. The weather that night was awful, which we thought would keep some of the folks from coming. To our surprise the first to arrive were the Pangles, Kate and Loyal. The Chapter met at our home two weeks ago. Bill Pallazolo did a lot of singing as Betty Spano and my wife Hankie played the organ. Bill told me that he had a sore throat the next day from singing. But we all know better, Bill always burns his throat on seven-up, ha, ha.

I know that Larry sends out a lot of copies of the Thunderbolt to members. I sure hope that some of these fellows can see their way clear to rejoin our great organization. We were talking to the fellow at the Statler Hotel and he was telling us that the 83rd Infantry Division Association is just about the largest of its kind, and he should know as he gets his information from the convention bureau. So let's all try a little harder to build this great organization bigger and better.

Jack Daugherty  
Co. L-329 Infantry



Left to right: Jack Daugherty, Loyal Pangle, Nick Barbu and Bill Palazzola.



Left to right: Josephine, Marian, Murio, Kate Pangle

## President's Corner

(Continued from Page 4)

Chapter and their friends and families for supporting this affair and making it a profitable evening. It was very nice to see Dave and Ann Rosenberg at the affair since we haven't seen them since her accident. Glad she is getting around again. Also wonderful to see John and Joe Piscatelli and Mr. and Mrs. Nick Tagliannetti after a leave of absence.

I would like to commend Vic Landis for the widespread Press Notices he is giving our 83rd Division Association. Quite a few friends in the Phila. area are calling my attention to clippings in our local newspapers. I know it attracts new members and some old members who might have lost interest in the past. The same kind of notices are appearing in all cities across the nation. Thank you Vic for this support.

If you have not paid our Association Dues, or know of any of your Buddies who have not, please make a special effort to get it paid before Reunion time in Philadelphia.

Before closing, I would like to inject some of the suggestions brought up at our meetings in Chicago in your minds. Namely, supporting a charitable function, such as: Scholarship Funds or helping to raise the morale of hospitalized Veterans. I was approached by a number of people who support our fund-raising projects, asking what charitable function does our Organization participate in. I would consider my term of office as President a success if we could establish such an endeavor. Every man reading this should give it some thought and have suggestions toward reaching this goal. I also volunteer my services after my term expires in following this through.

Well Buddies! Is your "Let's Meet in Philly" Reunion fund growing?



## Greater Indianapolis Chapter

At the time of this writing it is really cold here at Naptown, also plenty snow. By looking at the weather report it is cold just about every place (including Arizona). Now that the Xmas and New Year Holidays are past, things are again normal. Our chapter's annual Xmas Party was again held at the Officers Club at Ft. Benjamin Harrison. We had a real good turn-out. The group included John (the Camera Man) and Mary Raikos, Wilfred and Myrt? (Hope I spelled it correct) Zander, The Kenny Bairds, Frank Pope, John and Dorothy Soroko (Sorry, I have forgot the name of your guest John and Dorothy) but they are certainly nice people, John and Mrs. Robinette, Matt and Judy Brumbach and guests Howard and Verna Shearon. We missed the Ned Smith's but they were attending the wedding of Geanie Smith's nephew (I hope I haven't flubbed this Ha!) if anyone has been omitted from the Xmas Party list apologies are in the offering. About the Xmas Party: I hope everyone present enjoyed themselves, I know I sure had a ball and the food was well prepared and most delicious, all in all seems as if everyone had a real fine time. I'm very sorry that our pictures didn't turn out very well, but we are contemplating on sending John Raikos to Photographer School! (Nothing like being school trained, eh John?) You know if all the former members of the 83rd Division could attend at least just one Division Reunion and get together with buddies perhaps he had not seen since WW II, I bet he wouldn't mind paying the \$5.00 dues each year, that really seems to be a very small price to be a member of an Association like our 83rd Division, with publicity directed to our reunions through all the media such as T.V., newspapers, etc. It almost seems impossible for a person to miss out on being a member of the THUNDERBOLT DIVISION. I think Vic Landis has did everything but sky-writing on our reunions (maybe he has did that too). I hope the Philadelphia Reunion date is marked on lots of calendars for I know that the Philly Chapter will leave no stones unturned to show the members a good time, and no doubt there is a lot to see in Philly.

Our Indianapolis Chapter meets the second Friday of each month, the place is the 40 & 8 Chateau, at 619 North Pennsylvania Street, the phone number is 635-0772.

Received Christmas cards from several of my old buddies, one from Jim (LT) Sanders out Jersey way. Sure nice to hear from the guys and nice to know that they are doing O.K. Sure did miss the Dick Ammons, Joe Lowrys, Lou Meyers, Walt Edwards, Mickey Gilberts, (Lafayette)

Bill Ledgers, John Walkers and all the boys that didn't make the Xmas party. Maybe next time, eh boys.

Will say so long for now and lots of luck to all THUNDERBOLTS and their families.

MATTHEW F. BRUMBACH  
(Bcom Boom)  
7144 Lockwood Lane  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46217  
Staff Reporter

## Jersey Chapter

Hi Buddies,

Hope everyone has sobbered up after the holidays and that they were one of the best.

Everything in Jersey is about the same—cold one day, warm the next, rain or snow—you name it and we've had it. The good weather should be just around the corner, which means start making plans for the summer and reunion in Philly. I have a hunch it will be the biggest yet.

Sometime in February a couple of us from the Jersey Chapter are taking a ride down to the Jersey Shore to see what kind of a place and deal we can get from a motel for the four days before our reunion. If anyone is interested in this affair, just drop me a note and when we get the information, we will send it on to you.

I missed out on the Banquet the Philly gang had on January 20, as I had a wedding to attend. It sure is fun getting together with that bunch. They are really putting a lot of effort into our coming reunion so let's get behind them and give them all the help we can.

If I'm out of place, than let me know if I am. I would like to suggest that something more be done for our teenagers. I think they would like to have some place to go or do that they themselves would enjoy during the day, while at the reunion.

Heard from my Captain last month and am sure looking forward to seeing him in August. It's been 23 years, quite a long time since I last saw him.

It seems everytime our Thunderbolt comes out, I find another name of someone I knew or met overseas. I still think it's the biggest little book published and I look forward to receiving it.

Hope this issue finds you all in the best of health.

Yours truly,  
Jim Bowie  
Co. B - 330th

**SEND YOUR DUES TO  
THE SECRETARY  
NOW !!**

## Warren Chapter Auxiliary

Warren, Ohio  
February 8, 1968

Hi Everybody,

We all survived the Xmas Season and the trimmings are put away for another year Now into Spring and working in the yard.

Our Holiday festivities started with our annual dinner at the Chateau Supper Club. Everyone was in a gay holiday mood and we had a wonderful time. The corsages were very colorful this year and we thank our members for being so thoughtful every year. Nothing makes you feel better than a bright posy. A young couple stopped by from Pittsburgh Chapter but could not stay.

We celebrated New Year's Eve at the Cafe 83. Joe Minotti cooked the sauerkraut and spare ribs and for him that was a chore. (He does not like that kind of food). The party lasted until the wee hours in the morning.

Another date on our agenda is February 24. The men are celebrating their Chapter Anniversary. Hope to see some of the other chapter members there.

The men had an exciting meeting last month. They hold their meetings at the Cafe 83 and during the meeting the place was robbed. They are still hashing the event over.

I told you the Warren Chapter has real exciting times.

Two of our buddies are in the hospital. Claude Whitman is in Trumbull Memorial Hospital and Joe Minotti is in St. Joseph's Hospital. Hope to see them up and around real soon.

Our Auxiliary is preparing for the Easter Candy Sale. This is how we raise some of our money for different things that we do during the year.

On February 13th we are treating ourselves to a dinner at Alberini's. No men included in this one. They said they are going to go out stag. They are just jealous.

To C. J. Hendricks of Greenville, Pa.: I referred your letter to the secretary of the men's chapter and he is supposed to furnish you all details of the chapter. Hope you heard from him. We welcome any who want to join the Chapter.

Louise Bellay was released from the hospital a few weeks ago and is recuperating very nicely. Hope all your troubles are over, Louise.

This is all the news I have for now. Tell you more in the next issue.

So long for now,  
Millie Kelly

## The 64 Billion Dollar Question

People keep asking why we are in Vietnam? It seems that nobody knows the answer. I would like to try and answer that question from my personal point of view by first asking a few questions.

Why did Moses lead the Israelites out of Egypt? Why did Jesus Christ give Himself to die on the cross? Why did George Washington and his men with bleeding feet cross the Delaware? Why was slavery abolished in the United States? Why did we fight and defeat Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan in World War II? Why did we go to the rescue of South Korea? And why are our boys fighting and dying in Vietnam today?

We were the first nation to establish a true democracy. We became the envy of nations of the world. So Vietnam wants to have the same democracy and freedom that we enjoy, but the atheist communist hordes want to crush and destroy this small nation that only wants to live in peace and have their God given right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness their own way.

We are there in answer to their plea for help. We are there because of a pledge to help if their freedoms are threatened. We are helping the South Vietnamese save their nation and this is right.

We must let the world know that we will fight and, if necessary, die for what we know to be right. When we become so self sufficient and unconcerned that we turn a deaf ear to the cry of our neighboring nations when they are oppressed by atheist hoodlums who would enslave their lives, minds and morals, then God help us for then we will begin to disintegrate as a great nation.

I feel that I can truly sympathize with the men who are fighting in Vietnam. I waded ashore on the Normandy Beach in June, 1944 and fought in the hedgerows and then in the Hurtgen Forest in Germany. I spent two years in the hospital and have five deep scars as souvenirs.

We must show our men in Vietnam that as a nation we are behind them 100 percent; that they are fighting for the things we fought for in the past; that we are proud of their courage and achievements; that they are truly the world's finest.

George P. Lamar  
former member of  
Co. G. 330 Inf., 83 Div.  
and Co. E, 22 Inf., 4th Inf. Div.

**1000  
For  
Harry**

## Fall River Chapter Chatter

By Manny Martin F-329th

Deadline time for the famous Thunderbolt again, and time is really fleeing, before we are conscious of it, Reunion time will be here. I know that Adeline and I are anxiously looking forward to the reunion, and the opportunity to spend a few days with our many friends, from all over the United States. I don't mean to become repetitious, but let me say again, if you are not planning to attend this year's reunion in Philadelphia, you had



better change your plans right now, because I can assure you, the Philadelphia chapter, under the leadership of Al Belvedere and Lou Volpi, will leave no stone unturned to show you the happiest three fun-filled days, that you have ever experienced. I still maintain that our 83rd reunion is the biggest vacation bargain being offered in this country. At the moment I am delighted beyond description, because the Fall River Chapter, will travel enmasse to the reunion, making this the first time I have been able to get most of these guys and their wives to travel.

Lena Gonsalves, lovely and charming wife of our good friend Tony Gonsalves, underwent major surgery in the early part of December, missing both our Christmas and New Year's Eve parties. However, I am happy to announce that she has made a most wonderful recovery, and is feeling more herself now. The entire chapter was gladdened by her rapid recovery, 'cause Lena is a grand person as is Tony, who served with the 83rd Signal Co.

Freddy, Louise Costa and their little doll Ted Vernon, forsook all of us, as well as the nasty zero weather here in December, by flying out to Long Beach, Calif., to spend a few weeks with Louise's family. They really took in everything that there is to see out there, including a few days at Las Vegas. Freddy informs me that he could have broken the bank at Las Vegas, but Louise watched him too closely. All in all, they had a fabulous time and brought back many beautiful photos. We were all glad to see them go, but we sure are happy that they are back. You were missed kids.

Our own Norm Bowers, whom many of you have met at some of the reunions, has successfully completed a stiff three week course on command training and police department management, at Babson Institute, here in Mass. Norm, who is the

police chief here in Fall River, tells me that this was one of the hardest police training courses he has ever taken. We, of the chapter, salute you sir, and offer sincerest congratulations. I don't believe that many of you are aware of the fact that Norm was the first man in the history of Massachusetts to come up through the ranks from patrolman, topping four consecutive Civil Service exams, and becoming one of the youngest police chiefs ever appointed on merit, to head the police of a city with more than 100,000 population. No wonder that everyone in the chapter has a great deal of respect and pride for this man, especially your reporter, who has enjoyed a warm friendship with him of many years standing. And he is always willing to help the chapter before, after and during any affair, when we sponsor them.

I was thrilled to come across a quote by my old running mate, John Raikos, in Time magazine, a couple of weeks ago; a very knowledgeable quote that is too often true. I am delighted that Time thought enough of my long time buddy to ask for his opinion; I always knew of his great abilities in the field of law, and I am happy that the rest of the country is finding out. I won't rest now, till I get you on the cover of Time, Pistol Point.

I wish it were possible for me to form a word picture of the most happy and gay times that were enjoyed by our capacity crowds at both our Christmas and New Year's Eve parties, the wonderfully beautiful decorations at the hall and at White's Restaurant, the lovely ladies in their very colorful cocktail dresses, the music, the meals, and just about everything this is beyond description. Unfortunately the hall we use is too dark for pictures, though we did try at the New Year's party, not one picture developed. They told me defective film, but I would like for all Thunderbolts to see the enjoyment of our group at all of our affairs. To spend an evening with good friends is what makes these affairs really the joy that they are.

I expect to see a capacity house at Philly. Don't let our guys down after the tremendous amount of effort they are expending to make this one of the finest reunions ever, and if you haven't paid your dues yet, please bring a smile to Larry Redmond's face by getting your dues dough up.

All of the best to you and your's from Manny Martin and the entire Fall River gang.

**SEND YOUR DUES TO  
THE SECRETARY  
NOW !!**

## Warren Chapter News

Joe Minotti, 324th FA

From the bedside of St. Joseph's Hospital, Warren, Ohio.

Hello Buddies:

I have just had a little bit of me removed, and the old rear end is not feeling so good, but still not as sore as I had expected it to be, by the time you read this, I probably will be home and well on the road to recovery.

Now that the holidays are over and things are back to normal, all seem to be in quite good health.

At the last meeting of the Warren Chapter, the ones that missed it, missed quite a thrill. After the regular monthly meeting, we sat throwing the bull at the Cafe "83", two gunmen walked in and held up the place. After firing a shot into the floor, everybody behaved very well. They took a few dollars from the cash register and asked for the wallets from the men. Charlie Russ turned over his, and Tomazin, Kelly and I said that we did not have one, so he got 27 cents from me and a couple of dollars from the others.

Mike Skovran and family spent the New Years in sunny California, took in the Rose Bowl game and the A.F.L. playoff, says that they had a wonderful time, all except for the loot, but a memory never to be forgotten.

At the last meeting, plans for our Annual Anniversary Party, Dinner and Dance were definitely set for February 24th at the Chateau Supper Club. All friends and all other Chapter members are invited. If you come from any distance and plan to stay overnight, I would suggest that you contact one of us to make arrangements to stay at one of our homes. We all can put up at least one couple and some can put up a couple, so give us a buzz.

In March, we plan to get together for an evening of dancing. As of now plans are for the Champion Ballroom for March 24th. The Club will furnish the booze and chasers. It has been a long time since we just went to a dance and not have to set up a party plan.

Congratulations to Charley and Ann Tomazin on their new home. It is a place of fine design, and quite spacious. Charlie is quite proud of his new Bar. A fine set up too. All his friends will now know where to bend an elbow. A fine collection of booze also, so don't forget to give Charlie and Ann a social call. At least give him a little workout behind his bar. Although we did give him a little initiation after the steak dinner. They invited us all to see

their home and we accepted like all good friends, and I don't believe anyone left without his full share of booze and food. A fine host and hostess. Looking forward to the next invitation, hope the pantry and the bar have been replenished.

For years and years I had talked to Harry Lockwood in regards to printing names and addresses of all Officers in the publication, and I congratulate you, Larry, for doing it. Now this way, if someone needs some information from a Chapter or an Officer of the Association, he does not have to write to Larry for the address, then write another letter. I think that this will get more correspondence to all the Officers and Reporters.

Another thing of great importance to the Association members is to realize that Sam Klippa is the corresponding secretary, and for some matters, to write to him and save Larry a big headache, especially for addresses, I do believe that Sam has the same roster of names and addresses that Larry has. If not, I think it would be a good idea for Larry to compose a complete list of names, active and inactive and send to Sam Klippa. Let's give Sam something to do and relieve Larry of his burden.

Well I guess that is all for now and I hope that you are all well, and that you have a Happy Easter.

## Co. F. 329th.

### News & Side Lights

By Vic Landis

First things first—and we are all cheered by the report on good old Hank Golembiewski. The last news on Hank, he was coming along real well and here's hoping he has made a complete recovery. Hank as you know, had a very severe heart attack just prior to the reunion in Chicago and missed the annual conclave for the first time.

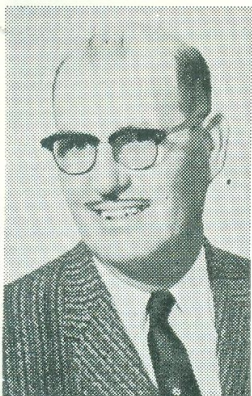
I wish to apologize for not mentioning two very nice people, of Co. F, who attended the affair in Chicago. They are Nester Barli and his lovely wife. Cheers for them both. Don't believe I mentioned Manny and Adeline Martin, but everyone knows they were there. How could they miss the old goat Manny.

Chuck and Lavona Whitcomb attended for the first time in years. Sincerely hope they will be able to make it to the big one, staged in Philadelphia this year.

I coasted last year to let Leroy Titus and his gang win the paid-up attendance prize, the first time in five years. The year before last F. Co., set an all time record, with 50 paid-up members. F. Co. will ride again. Come on Leroy.

## "Frankly Speaking"

On behalf of the members of the Executive Committee of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you, the Chapter members and also to those of you not affiliated with a chapter, for the wonderful help and cooperation you have given the Officers of our great association this year.



Well fellows, in another "seven" months you will be on your way to Philadelphia for our 22nd Annual

Reunion. The boys here in Philly are very hard at work trying to show you another never-to-be-forgotten time. Under the leadership of Lou Volpi, Reunion Chairman, they have a very nice time planned for all.

From time to time we have called upon each and every one of you to help do your part. In the seven months that are left, we ask all of you to get behind our Officers, and show them that by trying to get behind our Officers, and show them that by trying to get at least one new member, or pick up some member who has fallen by the wayside and hasn't sent in his dues as yet. At the time of this letter, we have shown a very nice increase in paid-up membership, but we will never be so great that we don't have room for another member.

Let us all help start a "HELP YOUR BUDDY CLUB" by sending in dues for a former buddy, and surprise him by making him a member of our great Association.

He may be one of the many that doesn't know of our Association. This is your way of letting him know and also your way of helping our National Publicity men reach some of those long lost buddies that they have been trying so hard to reach.

Sincerely,  
Frank McGrogan  
Co. "D" 330th 83rd Div.

### "ANSWERS FOR MOTHER"

Mother, don't worry, I know it looks bad,  
But we boys remember the prayers  
we've had.

We love you, pray with you, and hope  
with you too,

But right at the moment, there's a  
job we must do.

The thing that is always first on  
our minds,

Is to come home and live for  
happier times.

We are doing the best we can over here,  
But soon it'll be over, so stop all  
your fears.

We appreciate every little thing that  
you do,

From the prayers to the letters, to  
the packages too.

We are here for you, our country and  
friends,

To help save freedom in a fight to  
the end.

Soon we'll be home, and sing out a song,  
But at this moment, a year seems  
so long.

When we are home, it'll be laughter  
and play,

And thanks to God for giving us  
that day.

Our hearts will be filled with Oh,  
so much joy,

And we'll act like a kid with a new  
little toy.

Our family circle will be united again.  
And then we'll all sound a thankful

"AMEN".

## Hero Operator Hurt As Big Crane Topples

The operator of a heavy crane with a 90-foot boom that crashed onto the deck of a barge today at the municipal dock, Fields Point, stayed at the controls of his cab and shouted warnings to barge crewmen who ran to cover and escaped possible serious injury.

Gerald DiBattista, 46, of 151 Preston Ave., Cranston, the operator, suffered injuries himself. He was taken to Rhode Island Hospital and treated for bruises of the legs. Mr. DiBattista stayed at the controls until the 15-ton rigging settled on the barge.

The crane was in soft sand alongside the dock. Recent rains made the ground wet.

The barge which was towed up to the dock last week had been used in pouring concrete at the site of the Newport-Jamestown bridge now under construction. It was equipped with a complete cement mixing plant on the deck. Workmen were dismantling the plant when the accident occurred.

Mr. DiBattista said that the carterpillar drive gears on the left side of the crane began to settle in the soft sand surface at the dock and the crane suddenly lifted to the left in the direction of the barge and the Providence River.

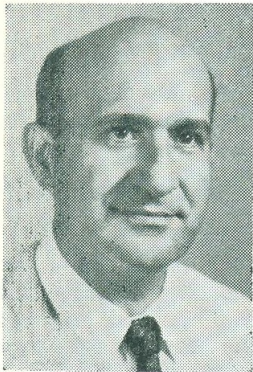
Workmen were unable to estimate the damage to the crane and the upper part of the boom as well as a section of the cement mixing machine which fell into the water.

Gerald DiBattista was a member of Co. F, 330th.

## Philadelphia Chapter Pay Tribute to President Belvedere

By Dave Rosenberg  
331st Infantry

On Saturday evening, January 20, a tremendous turnout of Philadelphia Thunderbolts and their



friends paid homage to our popular, hard working National Association President Al Belvedere. More than 250 assembled at the Defense Personnel Support Center in Philadelphia to give Prez Al Belvedere the kudos and honor he so richly deserves. It was literally old home week for the Philadelphia Chapter. It was a fitting tribute to Al Belvedere

that more of our Philadelphia Chapter men assembled for this occasion than ever for our annual banquet. To try to list the many Philadelphia men who came for the banquet would be futile. Our toastmaster was Colonel Larry Redmond, and a wonderful job he did, keeping the speeches to minimum. As the head table diners, peered at the assembled group, I am sure that many remarks were made testifying to the popularity of Al Belvedere.

There was John Piscitelli and his lovely wife Josie, Sam Aiello and his wife Vi, Big Bill Hoolan and his dancing wife Carol, Bill Pugh and the stunning Virginia Pugh had a ball dancing all night without a single pause, except for the pause that refreshes. Les Hauck and his congenial wife Elsie, were conspicuous as they ushered in a table full of guests. Our Treasurer Les Hauck, although living quite a distance, never misses a meeting or fail to bring guests to our parties. Joe Ponzi and stunning Olive Ponzi made a handsome duo, not to be outdone Bernie Mendelson had two tables of friends and guests who had a wonderful time. Ken Seiger presided over another table and surely enjoyed the proceedings.

Pleased to see the Joe and June Zenz. They are a wonderful couple. At our table was the wonderful La Trentas, Bill La Trenta and his wife Louise were wonderful, Art Federici and his Selma were resplendent, and also the irrepressible Joe Zinni and his wife Ann, were great company. My dear wife Ann made her first appearance since her accident four months ago, although still hobbling with her cane, Ann is on the mend and never lost her remarkable sense of humor. Ask our table. Between Joe Zinni and Ann Rosenberg the table was kept in stitches of laughter. Ann Rosenberg wishes to thank

all our friends who wrote and called during her sojourn at the hospital and the many cards that followed.

Executive Board member Frank McGrogan and his lovely wife Mary Radiant, Mary in a beautiful white gown and Frank bedecked with a very smart grey plaid suit he had made special for the occasion. A Philadelphia social gathering would not be complete without the presence of two hard-working men—Lou Volpi and Larry Redmond. Lou Volpi and Larry Redmond were very active in the arrangement and the seating of the vast group. Their lovely wives Lucy Volpi and Mary Redmond were most understanding. They knew that their men were involved, so they too volunteered and aided in making all of the guests feel at home.

The guest of honor was our own National President Al Belvedere. Yet, one must pay tribute to a fine lady. Our own First Lady Ann Belvedere. Much has been written about Ann Belvedere, but truly the most fitting description is "a perfect lady". Always cheerful, always with a smile, always with a friendly word, a true perfect lady. She has always assisted Al Belvedere in his quest to make our National Association and our local chapter the greatest. We are honored to have the Belvederes on our side.

(Continued on Page 25)



Mary and Larry Redmond



Center: Bill and Bea Chavanne.



Al and Anne Belvedere



Right to left: Frank McGrogan, Art Federici, Mary McGrogan and Thelma.



Bill Litrenta and his lovely wife.



Lou and Lucy Volpi



Left to right: Frank McGrogan, Anne Rosenberg, Mary McGrogan and Dave Rosenberg.



Joe Zenz and his wife June (seated in center).

## Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

Dear Buddies,

Now that the holidays are over, we again must think sincerely of boosting our membership, so that we can reach that 1,000 mark before our forthcoming reunion this August, in Philadelphia, Pa.



We had our annual Christmas Party this year at the Carrick Eagles, on Dec. 9, and in all, there were 64 people in attendance, of which the only guest was Greer Thompson's daughter Francine, and her boyfriend, a First Lt., in the U.S.

Army. We gave six electric appliances as door prizes. They were: a can opener, knife, roaster, waffle iron, coffee pot, and toaster, and the lucky winners were Mrs. Gene Costanza, Mrs. Paul Dietrick, Mrs. Henry Golembieski, Mrs. Andy Churpack, Mrs. Greer Thompson, and Mr. Emil Becker. This party was in a form of a dinner dance and such a good time was had by all, that Joe DeLuca is now heading a committee for a similar spring dance to be held April 27, 1968, in the Monessen American Legion Home.

The chapter is planning a stag dinner at the close of our March meeting at the Brentwood V.F.W. Post, and Al Gruber is chairman of this affair. We have an attendance award at our meetings and at our December meeting, Ted Lozowski was the winner, with the Jackpot being \$20.75. The winner for our January meeting was Andy Churpack and the Jackpot was \$11.25, so good luck fellows, and continue coming as we are glad to have you. Our attendance never has been less than 23, and as high as 37.

George Gelety was in Warren, Ohio during December, and it was learned that he attended a party held by the Warren Chapter.

Joe DeLuca's daughter, Sally, had the misfortune of being robbed at the Clinic where she works, but we are all grateful that she was not harmed.

Paul Dietrick's son, John, will have plastic surgery done to his face within a few months, following the bad dog bite that he received and we are wishing him great success and a speedy recovery. Some of our members sick, now and recently, are Joe Setticasa recuperating after a slight heart seizure. Sam Klippa is scheduled to go into the hospital again soon, and Sam has sure had a rough time late-



Sam and Vi Aiello



Art Federici and his lovely girl friend, Thelma.



Josephine and John Piscitelli



ly, as he is now on a temporary disability and not working. Steve Blasko is scheduled for neck surgery, January 9, at the Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh, so here's wishing Steve and the other boys a speedy recovery. Some notes on the brighter side are that Adam Hassick's son Dennis was recently given another raise with Goodyear Tire Co., in Akron. Incidentally, his fourth raise in little over a year. Good luck and congratulations, Dennis.

Al Suess Jr., son of Al Suess Sr., Co. G. 331st Inf., will graduate from South High School this June, and then will attend a college nearby in Pittsburgh this fall. Frank Zagoda was recently elected assistant fire chief of a large fire company in Moon Run Township.

A letter was received from our past historian, Sgt. Ira Rion, who is now in Vietnam, informing us of the rough conditions the boys are having with the Viet Cong. The Pittsburgh Chapter is sending Sgt. Rion a gift package very soon in appreciation for all his faithful work done in the past as a member of our Chapter. Good luck and may God bless you Sgt. Rion, from all the boys of the Chapter. Our best wishes also go along to his lovely wife, Carol, and we ask her to join us anytime that she may be in the area. If anyone would like to drop Sgt. Rion a card, his address is as follows:

Sgt. M. Ira S. Rion  
Hq. Special Command  
9th Inf. Div.  
A.P.O. San Francisco, Calif. 96370

The Pittsburgh Chapter has also been making plans to attend the Philadelphia reunion by chartered bus, so we ask all members to think about this seriously and let us know what their pleasure will be.

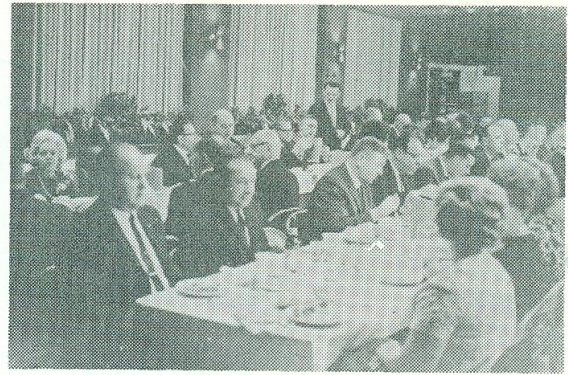
The winning number of our Jan. 5, 1968 raffle was 081.

This is all for now, except I wish all of you a joyous and healthy Easter season.

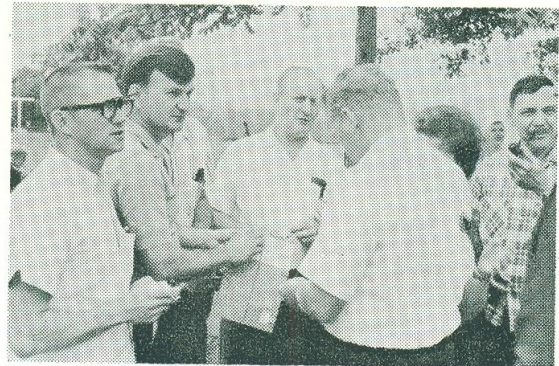
Your Pgh. reporter,  
Charles Altomari  
Co. B, 308th. Engr. Bn.

P.S. Enclosed are some pictures of our Christmas party, and past picnic at Hassicks Farm.

**1000  
For  
Harry**



Part of crowd at Xmas party. Churpack, Suess, Ruprept.



Josephine Altomari selling dope tips at last year's picnic. L. to r.: Dietrich, Gelety, Palm, Ruprept, Josephine Altomari and Smoky Alicandri.



Winners of prizes at our Xmas party in December. Left to right: Andy Churpack, Mrs. Paul Dietrich, Mrs. Gene Costanza, Emil Becker, Mrs. Greer Thompson and Mrs. Henry Golembieski.



Some of the men at the party. Left to right: Bill Demarino, Joe DeLuca, Adam Hassick (standing), Charlie Altomari, George Gelety, Elmer Palm and Al Gruber, standing in rear.



Yolanda Costanza holding first prize — an electric rotarsiree.



PLEASE  
 PAY  
 YOUR  
 DUES  
 NOW!!!



Women at Xmas party. Left to right: Gertie Blasks (holding glass), Josephine Altomari, Marge Gelety, Carrie Palm and Mrs. Setticase.



James Hassick picking winner of prize at our picnic last July with Josephine and Charlie Altomari looking on.

## 330th News

Hello Buddies:

Once again I am about to report on the progress of the 330th Infantry Regimental Unit. As of this date we are running second on Regimental Unit dues. The 331st is in first place with about 150 paid up members, we are next with about 140 paid up members and the 329th with about 130 paid up members, so you can see that with your support we can still forge ahead. The two units that will give us a run for our money are Co. G in the 331st and Co. F in the 329th. As of my last count, Co. G, 331st is leading Co. F, 329th by a two to one margin, Co. G, 331st at this time has 24 paid up members and Co. F, 329th has only 12 paid up members.

In the 330th membership race, Co. D, 330th is leading with 16 paid up members, followed by Co. E with 15 and Co. H with 14, so let's go 330th men, start pushing your buddies, either sell him on a paid up membership, or put him to shame by paying his dues for him, thereby making him a Buddy Member. During Combat, the 330th Infantry Regiment was the better of the three Infantry Regiments, let us show them that we are still the better Unit. Our Association was in hopes of reaching the 1,000 paid up membership quota this year. We can still do it if we get out and hustle. Let us in the 330th Regimental Unit get out and try to make our paid up membership equal our unit number. 330 paid up members for 1968, we will gladly surrender leadership in paid up membership to 331st Regimental Unit only if they top us with 331 paid up members. Let us show them that we are out for a good race. Start contacting your Buddies today, remind them that we are out to be the leaders and need their support.

Larry Redmond  
Co. H, 330th

## Chicago Chapter News

Nothing too exciting has been happening since we last reported the activities of our Chicago Chapter. Our membership is up from last year, and all of our new members seem to enjoy our organization a great deal. We are constantly urging the boys to get their dues in to National, and trying to get new members for our chapter.



Our January meeting was held at the home of Herman and Lee Koeneman on January 27th. In spite

of the terrible weather—rain and dense fog—15 members made their way out to Arlington Heights, some of them driving 40 or 50 miles to attend. As usual, when we Thunderbolts get together, everyone had a marvelous time. Food and drink were plentiful and the Koenemans were most gracious hosts.

We took time out for a business meeting and discussed plans to attend the Annual Reunion in Philadelphia as a group. We hope to have a large contingency from Chicago and are in the process of contacting all forms of transportation to see how we can best make the arrangements.

Our President, Jim Burton, was at the meeting. Unfortunately, Jim finds it rather difficult sometime to get to our meetings since he has been transferred to Indianapolis, but it is always pleasant to have Jim with us when he can make it.

That's about all for now. Hope this finds everyone in good health, and that I have more to report next time from the Windy City.

William M. Doty

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## ATTENTION ALL MEN

Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —

If it does not read Aug. 1968 your dues for this year are due.

We would appreciate if you would send it in as soon as possible.

Send your remittance to Larry Redmond, Secretary-Treasurer,  
132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083.

## Boston Chapter

Just before Thanksgiving, the Greater Boston Chapter had a real swinging time at the Italian Club in Malden. As usual the food was delicious and prepared by our favorite cook, Margaret Di Giammerino. Larry Bisso's music kept us singing and dancing until the wee small hours. A drawing was held and the first prize of a case of cheer went to K. Desmond of Harvard Street, Malden. A turkey was won by Mrs. Rose Breen of Winchester and the container that held the tickets was won by Mrs. Helen Piantedosi of Wattertown. Each guest received a gaily wrapped gift.

Guests were from Greater Boston, Rhode Island and Conn.

Bob Hunnewell and his wife came up from Braintree and had such a good time that they promised not to miss another party.

We were glad to see A. Farias from New Bedford and hope to see him more often.

These Boston Chapter parties are getting bigger and better. The makings of another party are in progress and the tentative date is April 20. So come on down or up, we will keep you informed.

We missed Gerry and Clara Di Battista but they have had a series of misfortunes, one of which was a crane that Gerry was operating toppled over.

Pat and Gin Di Giammerino enjoyed having Mr. and Mrs. Candido from Conn. Mr. and Mrs. Piantedosi from Watertown and Mr. and Mrs. Tessitore from R.I. and more 83rd friends at a Saturday night get-together. Naturally the talk from the men was all their brave deeds and misdeeds with a laugh a minute.

Pat and Gin's son Paul has been transferred from the air base in N.H. to Clark Field in the Philippines for 18 months.

This winter was bad for some of our 83rd friends. Larry and Fran Arrigo's son skidded and fell from his bike and broke his arm. On the same day Chuck Abdinoor's boy was thrown from a Snowmobile and hospitalized believing that

his back was broken. Thank goodness it wasn't and both boys are doing well now. Nick and Mary Francullo's daughter was hospitalized for a few days because of heavy cold but she is on the mend too.

We are sorry to hear of the death of Nick Francullo's grandfather. "You Sleeper" from the Greater Boston Chapter wake up.

Pat Di Giammerino  
Service Btry. 323rd F.A.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hunnewell



Helen and Ernie Smith



Margaret DiGiammerino — The Boston Chapter's No. 1 cook.



Mr. and Mrs. Tessitore



Mike Amicone and sister-in-law



Larry Arrigo representing the 83rd at the Columbus Day banquet.



Mr. and Mrs. J. Sbraccia, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gaetani, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gaetani, Mr. and Mrs. L. Arrigo, Mr. and Mrs. P. Di-Giammerino.



At Pat and Gin's home—Mr. and Mrs. M. Candido, Mr. and Mrs. Tessitore, Mr. and Mrs. L. Arrigo, Mr. and Mrs. A. Tyman, Mr. and Mrs. A. Piantedosi, Mr. and Mrs. N. Francullo.

## He Grew Too Fast And Died Too Soon

By John York  
The Charlotte Observer

Thomas York Osborne, age 26, First Lieutenant, US Army, died in Vietnam. He died, it is probable, on a barge on a dirty river in the steaming jungle south of Saigon.

If I know this boy, he died the way a Soldier should die, fighting, if he had a chance to fight before the enemy cut him down.

Thomas York Osborne, grew up on a farm, where three generations of the York family were raised. He came to Harrisburg, near Charlotte when he was still in high school, after finishing high school like the others in his family, he worked his way through Berea College, in Berea, Kentucky.

In January 1966, Thomas York Osborne entered the Army. He went to Officers Candidate School at Fort Sill, Okla., where he graduated with high honors, wearing the gold bars of a Second Lieutenant. He was reassigned to the school as a tactical instructor and was promoted to a First Lieutenant in November 1967.

He had gone into the Army not unwillingly, as some go, but, prepared by the strength his Mother and Father had given him, to do what had been done and to do it as well as he could.

Somewhere along the line, he decided that for a mountain boy, the Army offered possibilities of an interesting career. He had discussed this with his uncle, a Lieutenant General (Lieut. Gen. Robert H. York) and had decided to make the Army his life. It was a short life.

On or about February 14th, Brenda Osborne, wife of Lieut. Osborne received word of him being missing in action, his body was recovered two days later and en route back to the the United States for burial.

Ed. Note: The above story is typical of what is happening to many families today. We as former combat men, extend our sincere sympathies to all of the families of these boys. This is only a partial story of what appeared in the Charlotte newspaper, written by Jhn York, Staff Writer and brother of our Lieut. Gen. Robert H. York.

PLEASE

PAY

YOUR

DUES

NOW!!!

## Signal Musings

Don Hinz

Here is another deadline and with Christmas cards, letters at my side I haven't met the copy date. Thanks to all



who wrote letters and notes, etc. you're a great bunch. I received a nice card from Bob and Alice Horning (he was with B-331st and picture developer) stating that he had stopped by and had seen Bud Baker and his wife in Harrisburg. Bud like all of us is heavier and a little older, oh for the fountain of youth!

The Narducci's are all fine (all three) in Lambertsville, N.J. Mike and Mary Kiehlion enjoyed a healthful year with no hospital trips this year. Mike would have been in Chicago but couldn't get his vacation until October.

I was very pleased to hear from Lt. C. D. Doyle family. 25th Wedding Anniversary, with one son graduated from college last January and another son a freshman at the U. of Bridgeport. Things are going well with the Doyle family. Keep writing! Bubbles you come up with these informative letters periodically, with addresses, etc. Many thanks to you. I do have some sad news passed to me by Buddies Hathaway and that is that Richard Block passed away October 27, 1967. He had had a heart attack about nine years ago and a stroke four years ago and had been in ill health the past four years. He was supply sergeant from early 1943 until September, 1945, acting 1st Sgt. while Steve Chicco was in the hospital shortly after the Bulge. Thank you for conveying our sympathies to Mrs. Block from the Signal Company. Dick had lived at 156 Market St., Aurora, Indiana 47001.

Ervin Hawk brought me up to date on his many activities, 27 years with the Call-Chronicle Newspapers, Allentown, Pa. Hawk saw Frank Kehler last June and he is in the wholesale meat business, and Republican politics during the election periods. Ninety miles to Philadelphia Erv, take a run down for at least one of the days. We should have a great bunch from that area, tell all 83rd men you see about it. Publish the Reunion on page one, please?

You should see the letter I got from Clayton Lee Thomas, Sr. Clayt, how about taking over this job? I believe you are about one of the most loyal contributors I have. When you start talking about snowing, cold temperatures at Camp At-

terbury I begin to believe that I was fortunate to miss that part of 83rd Signal, I like to freeze to death in Louisiana one winter. Thanks for the addresses you sent, I'll refer more to your letter in a later issue of the Thunderbolt and will see that you get full 83rd Reunion info, that's a promise!

To Bob Barber many thanks for the photo and letter. I want to use the photo in another issue if you don't mind? Beef cattle business in the eastern part of U.S., I thought you had only people out there? Get that photo mob together for Philly! Anyone know the whereabouts of Ned Foltz and Tom Duff? Sorry Bob, I have nothing on them in my file. Perhaps someone in Thunderbolt-land can help us.

Hey Nat, is this better? Thirty for this time. Thanks again, men.

## In Memoriam

Word has come of the death of Richard Block, former Supply Sergeant, 83rd Signal Co. Dick passed away October 27, 1967. Dick will be sadly missed by his Buddies; he was liked by all.

\* \* \* \*

Another news flash came in on one of our former Buddies. He is Norbert F. Siefring, Rossburg, Ohio, formerly of Hq. Btry. 323rd F.A. He died July 23, 1967.

\* \* \* \*

A letter has come to one of our men from a Mrs Mary Ezzi, sister of Amido Capriotti, formerly of C. A., 329th. She stated that her brother, "Cap" as he was known to his buddies, died of a heart attack, December 11, 1966.

\* \* \* \*

Another sad note was received, it was from the wife of a Frank Diquattro, 3345 N. Orkney St., Philadelphia, Pa. She said that Frank had died four years ago, but she was unable to write and tell us sooner.

\* \* \* \*

Word has come to us, informing us that the daughter of one of our members, George Settle, 308th Eng. who lives in Perkiomenville, Pa. was killed in an accident, November 26, 1967. Our sincere sympathies are extended to George and his family.

\* \* \* \*

A report has been sent from the Indianapolis Chapter of the loss of one of their members. He is James C. Jones, 3136 Blaine Ave., Indianapolis, Indiana. He died, February 5, 1968 and is survived by his wife, Vicki and a daughter, Erlene Harmon.

Jim served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World World II, having served with the 783rd Ordinance.

I am sure that you all join with me in extending our sincere sympathies to Mrs. James Jones.



Joanne Uher, Stella Gurgol, Eleanor Uridel, Bernice Grobelny, Alma Herhuth, Eleanore Szubski, Laura Kowalec, Esther Demko and Emily Czeck, front.



Chester Czech, Emily Czech, Stella Gurgol, Ted Gurgol and Eleanor Uridel.



Mike Demko, John Evans, Bill Herhuth and Bob Uher.



Casey Szubski, Bill Herhuth, Casey Kowalec, Bob Grobelny, Bob Uher. Seated, Ted Gurgol.

## Cleveland Chapter Report

Well the Holidays have come and gone, our yearly Spirits Drawing was a success as usual, with the fine job done by Walt Meczka each year.



Ted Gurgol's daughter was married and had a very nice reception. I only regret that I could not attend for more than an hour, because I had to work that night.

Al and Eleanor Uridel have the distinction of being the first Grandparents among our Chapter,

with a son being born to Al junior in California. Congratulations.

Ed Glinka's wife, Jo, had an operation and is now home recovering. We all missed them at our Annual Dinner and election of officers meeting on February 18.

The election was held at the home of Chester and Emily Czek. We had a very good attendance and some lively discussion, and finally the following officers were elected for the coming year:

Ted Gurgol, President

Walt Meczka, Vice President & Treas.

Bill Herhuth, Secretary

Casey Kowalec, Sergeant-at-arms

Bob Grobelny, 1 year Trustee

Bob Uher, 2 year Trustee

Casey Szubski, 3 year Trustee

Al Uridel did the honors with the camera and I hope Larry has room to print a few of them.

On February 24, we were invited to attend the Annual Dinner sponsored by the Warren Chapter. Casey and Laura Kowalec, Walt and Mary Meczka and Eleanor and I were able to attend and a very fine affair it was. Also in attendance were Jack and Hankie Daugherty from Detroit and Loyal and Kay Pangle from Flint. Always nice to see fine people.

This is about all the Cleveland Chapter News for now, so I'll close with the best wishes to all.

Casey Szubski



Joanne Uher, Alma Herhuth, "Jo" Evans and Esther Demko.



General William G. Westmoreland passes the Americal Division colors to LTG Bruce Palmer, right, Deputy Commander, USARV, during reception of colors. MG S. W. Koster, Americal Division Commander, and SGM Max E. Daniels, front, in turn were presented with colors made especially for the occasion by DPSC Manufacturing.

Take From Defense Personnel Supply  
Center News  
Philadelphia, Pa.

## 7 Are Praised For Flag Effort

Two top Military Leaders have commended seven members of DPSC Manufacturing Directorate for prompt and outstanding action in making the "colors and battle streamers" of the 23rd Infantry "Americal" Division in Vietnam.

Praise in separate letters was expressed by Army Vice Chief of Staff, General Ralph E. Haines and iLeut. Gen. Earl C. Hedlund USAF, DSA Director.

The seven praised were Albert Belvedere, Angelo DiGregorio, Salvatore Parrino, Mrs. Edith Cavaliere, Miss Julia Martini, Miss Rose Montagna and manufacturing director Capt. A. P. Hughes, USN.

The drama of the flag making assignment started with a phone call received from DSA Headquarters on Saturday, October 14. The problem: the 23rd was being reactivated in Vietnam and the division's colors and battle streamers were needed for the reactivation ceremony. No flag or streamers were available. To do

the job, DPSC said it needed blueprints and specifications. DSA obtained these from Heraldry at Cameron Station, Va. and rushed them by courier to DPSC.

According to Al Belvedere, making the flag turned out to be easier than locating the skilled workers. After hours of telephoning, five employees agreed to work on Sunday, even though it meant breaking engagements, postponing church services and missing Sunday dinners.

Capt. Hughes canceled a dinner, Al Belvedere missed a wedding, Miss Martini showed up with a case of intestinal gripe. An informal car pool was set up to bypass the possibility of delays caused by haphazard Sunday bus schedules.

The crew started work at 7:45 Sunday morning. By virtue of expert teamwork, everything connected with the flag and streamers was finished and ready for shipment by 2:00 p.m. Someone thought of the need of a Vietnam streamer and it was added to the other six won by the "Americal" Division, born during World War II in New Caledonia.

The flag was sent to Cameron Station by courier, then flown to Vietnam, in time for the reactivation ceremony.

Somewhere on a DPSC desk is a motto that jokingly says: "The difficult we do tomorrow, the impossible we do today".

That witticism became a reality on Sunday morning, October 15, at DPSC's Manufacturing.



Front row, left to right: Joey, Jay and Jim Zenz. Center row: Joe Sr., June and John Zenz. Back row: Earl, Bonnie and Butch Hoover. Above photo taken while the Zenz family paid a visit to the Hoover family.



## Philadelphia Scrapple

(Continued from Page 14)

The testimonial to Al Belvedere was a great affair. The assembled guests were impressed with the affection we hold for Al. We look forward to our reunion in August and know that our friends will join us too.

### Philadelphia Chapter February Meeting A Huge Smorgasbord Success

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter held its Valentine Day's meeting on Saturday, Feb. 17, 1968.

Nothing brings out the Greater Philadelphia Chapter membership to a meeting than a dinner meeting at Lou Volpi's Restaurant at Lima, Pa. with a genial host like Lou Volpi at the helm. The 65 who attended our monthly meeting were treated to a tremendous buffet dinner. Nothing was missing. The food was excellent, the drinks were great, the company was congenial, the spirit of friendship and brotherhood prevailed.

We all were sorry to hear that Larry Redmond would not be with us this evening. Larry was recuperating from a bout with the flu. But we were pleased to see Mary Redmond enter the room accompanied by our long lost brother, Walt Sammler. Walt was always a most active member, but of late had been AWOL for too long. It was a sight for sore eyes to see "Squeaky" Sammler back in the fold again.

We had a most successful meeting after our dinner. The men adjourned to Lou Volpi's private quarters and the women held their own meeting. The women under the guidance of Bea Chavanne, Ann Belvedere and Lucy Volpi outlined their own program of events that they were considering to raise money for the reunion and delineating plans for a great reunion for the women and children who will attend the Philadelphia reunion. These three women are hard workers and are meeting with great response from the Philadelphia Chapter women. We look forward to a wonderful program for all who will attend the Philadelphia reunion.

The enthusiasm engendered by the leadership of Al Belvedere, Lou Volpi and our Philadelphia Chapter President Bill Chavanne is magnificent. This reunion in Philadelphia without a doubt will be a great one. Our leaders are receiving the finest cooperation of all the members. We all see the spirit that these three men are portraying, and its infectious.

We all are pitching in. Giving of our time, exerting ourselves to encourage membership, both in the local and national association. Making calls to our buddies who have slipped away. Writing letters

soliciting favors and prizes for the reunion. Hard working Bea Chavanne has sent off 300 letters to various companies and organizations seeking favors for the guests who will attend our reunion.

Frank McGrogan, always interested in national association business, has written more letters to members of his company than ever. Frank's stationary and stamp bills must be tremendous. As chairman of the Executive Board, Frank has done a swell job. Assigning each and every man on the board a special assignment and getting good results that will show up in the well being of the national association and in insuring a wonderful reunion.

I would be very remiss in my reporting if I didn't speak on how beautiful and exquisite our Philadelphia women appeared at our meeting. All were attired in stylish chic ensembles. Their hairdos were magnificent. Our Philadelphia girls outshine everyone. We are proud of our girls. They not only work hard they behave beautiful. They work for our organization with a zeal that is to be admired.

At the present time plans are being made to hold the annual banquet of the Philadelphia Chapter on May 3, 1968. Through the efforts of Al Belvedere we are again securing the Officers Club of the Defense Center here in the city. Our last social evening held in January at this beautiful hall was a huge success. The annual banquet is the time the new president of the Philadelphia Chapter is honored for his term of office. We in Philadelphia have enjoyed the leadership of Bill Chavanne for this year. Bill has proven to be most conscientious member. He has devoted much effort to make Philadelphia the host chapter everyone will remember. He has offered many excellent suggestions and has pursued them to good results. His wife Bea has endeared herself by her efforts to raise money for our chapter, and has volunteered for all and every chore that needed a bit of doing. We are very proud of the Chavannes, both Bill and Bea. Through this testimonial at the annual banquet we will all turn out and honor a fine president.

The Executive Board of the national association are slated to hold their annual meeting here in Philadelphia on May 4, 1968. We are all looking forward to having the Executive Board attend our annual banquet. In fact we are extending an invitation to all of our members to join us. We must ask you to please contact Al Belvedere at 1428 Hillside Ave., Pennsauken, N. J., for reservations. This affair will be a sell-out, and so first come will be the lucky ones. Write, phone for your reservations now for the Philadelphia annual banquet, it will be great.

You all come.

## Secretary's Report

(Continued from Page 5)

such a paper as we do. Credit is due each and everyone of the Editorial Staff for the fine job they do. We have staff reporters from each Chapter as well as some from units. Others who deserve credit for this are the ones who write in very interesting letters that are worthy of being printed. Don't get me wrong, there are many letters that come in that I only wish that we had the space to publish. I try to pick out the ones that bear some special interest. If any of you have sent in a letter and it wasn't published, please don't feel bad, it is mostly due to our limited space that they weren't printed. Please feel free to write me at any time, if you have something of special interest, I will try my best to see that it is published. Along with this, a lot of credit must be given to our Printer, Jimmy, although not a 83rd man, has the Association at heart as much as any member. He tries very hard to arrange the printing of the "THUNDERBOLT" to keep it attractive to all of us. Another person, who is my right hand on this "THUNDERBOLT" is Jim Bowie. Each time the "THUNDERBOLT" is finished at the Printers, Jim is ready to go there and pick it up and drive halfway down the New Jersey Turnpike to where we rendezvous and I pick them up there and bring it on home where my wife and I sit down and start addressing them, bundling them in Zip Code Packs and get them ready for shipping. Since we have this Zip Coding now, it makes much more work getting them bundled up for shipping. They all have to be bundled according to Zip Codes, must be in packs of not less than 10 "THUNDERBOLTS" per pack and tied and marked according to Zip Code.

Well Buddies, now to get away from part of the problem, let's get back to membership. In the last issue I gave a rough figure of 600 paid up members. I was wrong, it was 500 paid up members. As of right now we are a few short of the 700 paid up members. I was so much in hopes that I could report over the 800 paid up members in this issue. It is almost impossible to believe how many men leave their dues slip by. This year we picked up several new members, but with the dropoffs we never seem to be able to get ahead. I was in hopes of being able to print up a roster of paid up members for the year, but the added cost of printing about 10 extra pages in the "THUNDERBOLT" to cover the names and addresses of the paid up members was voted down by the Executive Board.

I am going to appeal to each and every one of you, if you are not a paid up member for this year, please send in your dues at once. Don't let your Buddy carry

the load for you. Remember, this is your Association as well as his, do your equal part by paying your dues at once. You should see the letters that I receive from other organizations, both veterans' organizations and fraternal organizations wanting to know how we obtain the publicity that we do. The man responsible for this is none other than Vic Landis. Without Vic and the publicity that he gets for us, we would be a thing of the past. Each year we receive a million dollars worth of publicity. It reaches every newspaper coast to coast. I think that each and every one of us owe a great vote of thanks to Vic for the remarkable job that he does. I sincerely hope that he will be in a position to do it for us for many years to come. Well Buddies, as my closing thought to you, let us all try to become a paid up member in the greatest organization in the world, the 83rd Infantry Division Assn. Inc.

I have one other thing in mind, that is the coming Reunion to be held here in Philadelphia, August 22, 23 and 24 at the Ben Franklin Hotel. In behalf of the Reunion Committee, I am asking your help in obtaining ads for our Reunion Program Book. The monies derived from this book helps cover the added expenses that comes up in the program planning and carrying out. We try to keep your registration at a minimum, which means that we need additional money to cover the extras that come up. The operating of a Hospitality Room alone is a great expense to the Reunion Committee. This extra money helps make such a thing possible. In this issue will be a blank for ads. If you find that you can obtain extra ads, let us know and we will gladly furnish you with all the blanks necessary. Show your Reunion Committee that you are behind them and stand ready to do your part. If for any reason you are unable to attend the Reunion due to circumstances beyond your control, do your part to help the Association by taking an ad in the program book, or if you have an extra dollar to spare, take a larger ad than you normally would have taken. This will be your way of doing your part.

Well Buddies, I guess that I have covered all that there is to be covered at this time. I sincerely hope that by the time the next issue of the "THUNDERBOLT" goes to press, that I can say that this is the greatest year in paid up membership in the History of the Association. Each year we look forward to this report to you, only to be let down. Remember, you may be one of the delinquent members. If so, get off that list and get onto the paid up member list.

Larry Redmond  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Co. H, 330th



Victor Landis

## RETIRED

The above picture is a photo of none than the great Victor E. Landis, National Publicity Director of the 83rd Infantry Division Assn. Vic Landis has just retired after having served over 35 years with the same Company, and a retirement dinner was given him and a tribute so well deserved was rendered him. I am sure that each and everyone of us in the 83rd Infantry Division Association join with his co-workers in extending to him our best wishes for many years of happiness ahead. And we sincerely hope that he will continue to serve the Association in the capacity that he has served so well for so long. Without the publicity Vic has given our Association, coast to coast, I am sure that we would have less than 50 percent of the membership that we now have. May God Bless Him.

### Corporal Pens Timely Poem

Last night I had a shocking dream  
 That filled me with dismay;  
 Our fighting men had gone on strike  
 Demanding higher pay.  
 They wanted overtime, it seems  
 For dying in the mud  
 And shorter working hours for  
 The shedding of their blood.  
 "How dare they strike!" the home  
 screamed  
 "When we give up so much,  
 Like candy bars and pleasure cars  
 And cigarettes and such!"  
 The foe broke through the picket line  
 And left a trail of graves  
 And overnight our people all  
 Were changed to fettered slaves.  
 I woke to find our boys still fought  
 And that the end seemed near;  
 They weren't striking over there—  
 The strike was over here!

The above poem was written by Corporal Hoyt McCurry, son of J. C. and the late Mrs. McCurry, of Cedartown. Cpl. has been fighting in the Korean War.

## Letters to Editor

I was a sergeant with Co. C, from the day it was formed at Camp Atterbury. I would like to hear from some of my Company Buddies.

Nick J. Ciafardini  
 Co. C, 329th Inf. Regt.  
 6919 Merwin Ave.  
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45227

The above letter was answered and within a few days the membership application and check were received at Headquarters. Another member.

\* \* \* \*

Jan. 25, 1968

Hello Larry:

Seen your article in the paper about the 83rd Inf. Div. Glad to hear that there will be a Reunion.

I was with Co. D, 331st, heavy weapons. Was one of the original when it began in Camp Atterbury Indiana in 1942.

I would like to get some news about it. I am sending 9 more names of members of the 83rd Div. that I know are living. I've been keeping in touch with them.

Thanks,  
 Frank M. Cancasci  
 31765 Bainbridge Road  
 Solon, Ohio 44139

The above letter was answered and in a few days, a membership card and check was received at Headquarters for another new member.

\* \* \* \*

January 22, 1968

Dear Sir:

Several weeks ago, the Homestead Daily Messenger had an article concerning World War II men. My husband asked me to drop you a few lines.

He was in the 83rd Inf. Div. during World War II and he isn't enrolled on the permanent roster. His name is

Robert J. Kennedy  
 522 Nordeen Drive  
 West Mifflin, Pa. 15122

Thank you,  
 Mrs. R. Kennedy

Ed. Note: A letter along with copies of the "THUNDERBOLT" and membership applications were sent to this party and a few days later the membership application and check were received at Headquarters.

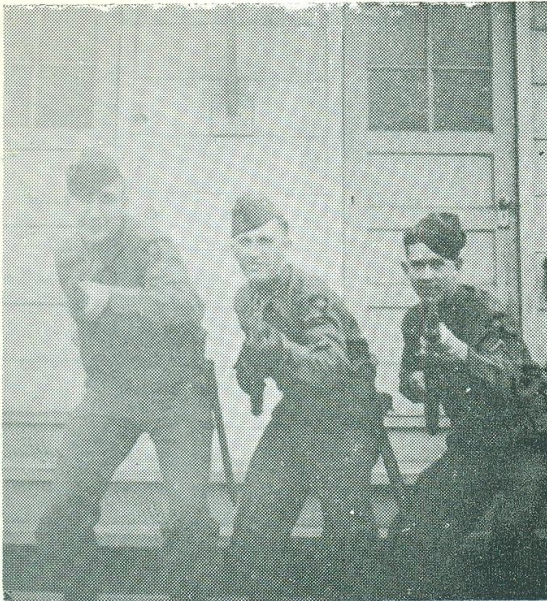
PLEASE

PAY

YOUR

DUES

NOW!!!



The above photo taken December 1942. Left to right: Vernon Döpstadt, Bill Chavanne and James Melvin, Company C, 328th Engineers.

## Letters to Editor

Fort Thomas, Kentucky  
February 7, 1968

Mr. Lawrence J. Redmond  
Secretary-Treasurer  
83rd Infantry Division  
Dear Sir:

I read in the Cincinnati Enquirer in January 1968 that you were trying to locate about 25,000 men who were in the 83rd Division. Maybe I can help with one.

My son was a member of the 83rd Division in the Belgium Bulge. He is Wallace T. Fish, ASN 35 372 362, residing at 1127 E. Hubbard Avenue, DeLand, Florida 32720, with his wife and three daughters.

Sincerely,  
Hazel W. Fish  
22 N. Shaw Lane  
Fort Thomas, Ky. 41075

Ed. Note: This proves that more than just 83rd men read our ads thanks to a great mother, we may gain another member.

\* \* \* \*

Saturday 27 Jan 68

Dear Larry:

Enclosed is my dues which are overdue, but better late than never. Since I left Pittsburgh I've been quite busy. I arrived here in Vietnam in October and am assigned to the 9th Inf. Div., "The Old Reliables".

We are located about 35 miles north-east of Saigon at a place called Long Thanh, our area of operations goes down into the Mekong Delta to a city called My Tho. We have some of the more interesting real state, all mangroove swamps

and rice paddies, about an acre of dry land every five miles. We have found one way to take care of the VC, we use tree crushers and completely wipe out the jungle, when those 35 ton monsters get done, the ground is as clear as a lawn. They clear about 40 acres a day so there isn't many places for the VC to hide.

Our base camps look like old Roman forts. Around the perimeter we have a 10 foot bank of dirt, with sandbagged bunkers built in every 35 yards. In front there is a 50 yard strip of barbed wire, so we are fairly secure. This is like the old Indian wars, hit and run, fortified base camps and armed convoys. You never know when the VC will hit, we run search and destroy operations daily and when we push them far enough into a corner they have to fight and that's when they get clobbered.

During the day the temperature is in the high 90s and since this is the dry season all we get is thick dust. At night there is no twilight, the sun just drops out of sight. About an hour after sundown it gets so cool you need a field jacket. In fact I'm using two blankets and need them.

Give my regards to the 83rd Association and especially to the boys in the Pittsburgh Chapter who made my tour in that area one of the best in my Army service.

Sincerely,  
Ira S. Rion Jr.  
Co. L. 331st  
S G M Ira S. Rion Jr.  
Hq. Spt. Comd. 9th Inf. Div.  
APO San Francisco, Cal. 96320

\* \* \* \*

February 11, 1968  
26 Welcome Street  
Wallingford, Conn.

Dear Mr. Landis:

I saw the piece in the Meriden, Conn. Morning Record about the Thunderbolt Division seeking old members. No one has ever contacted me about the 83rd Div. Association. I was a staff sergeant, rifle squad leader of the 3rd squad, 3rd platoon of the 331st Infantry Regt.

If it is all possible, I will attend this year's meeting and would be happy to have you give me the exact date and place.

Neville Brand, on the T.V. series, Combat, had the 2nd squad. He was a lousy "Black Jack" player.

Sincerely,  
Kenneth Bush

**1000  
For  
Harry**

# Letters to the Editor

27 Jan. 68  
Vietnam

Boulder, Colorado  
12 Feb. 1968

Dear Sir:

I am a former member of the 83rd Inf. Div. Joined them on Tennessee Maneuvers and stayed with them until re-deployed after VE Day.

I was a Platoon leader of the 83rd Reconnaissance Troop during most of that time.

Sincerely,  
Lawrence E. Burton, Lt. Col. Ret.  
1800 Bluebell Avenue  
Boulder, Colorado 80320

\* \* \* \*

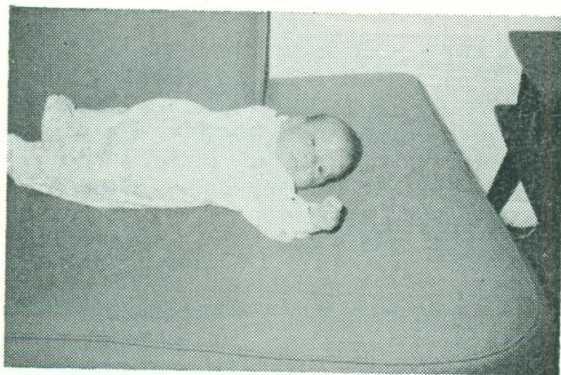
Oakland Avenue  
Oaks, Pennsylvania 19456  
February 1, 1968

Mr. Redmond:

I saw your article in last night's BULLETIN. My husband, Kenneth J. Miller who died in 1956, was a member of Headquarters Battery and was also a member of your group in this area. I wonder if you would be kind enough to send me any literature you might have available on this upcoming reunion. It might present an opportunity for me to have my sons meet some of the men with whom their father served.

Very truly yours,  
(Mrs.) Mildred Miller

E. Note: Information has been mailed to this woman and we sincerely hope that she and her sons will be with us in August.



Alan Jay Friedman, 3 weeks old.

February 6, 1968

Dear Larry and  
all Members of the 83rd:

We are very proud to announce the birth of our son, Alan Jay Friedman. He was born January 19, 1968 and weighed 8 lbs. 12.75 ounces. Hoping to display proud pictures at the Reunion.

With great pride, I remain sincerely

Karl Friedman  
3802 Collier Road  
Randallstown, Maryland

E. Note: Congratulations to the happy and proud parents.

Dear Larry:

One of the fellows here received a paper from home, I believe its the "Daily Messenger" from Homestead, Pa.

I read the ad in the paper in your search for "lost troops" of the 83rd Inf. Div. I was a member of "K" Company, 329th Regt. during WW II. I don't know if I am enrolled on the permanent Association roster now, but I used to be. I unfortunately never attended one of the Division conventions, but I did receive the necessary applications.

I am very much interested in seeing the 83rd Infantry Division name again appear in the papers. It was indeed one of the finest Divisions I ever served with, the 83rd Div. was the first Division I served with.

I left the service in 1946 and stayed out for five years. I have served with the 83rd Inf. Div., 82nd Airborne Div., 8th Inf. Div. and I am now serving as operations sergeant with the 223rd Clet. Spt. Avn. Bn. here in Vietnam. I leave here in June if all goes well.

Forgive me for being informal Larry, but I consider any man who served with the 83rd Div. a personal friend.

Just for the record, I am a Pennsylvanian also, from Erie.

If I can be of any assistance in your program, feel free to issue orders.

Let me know what procedure is required to get my name on the current active books.

Keep up the good work. May God Bless you and yours.

A Buddy' always,  
West

Spc. Mahlon E. Westover, HHD, 223d Clet.  
Spt. Avn. Bn. Box 52 APO San Francisco,  
Calif. 96238.

\* \* \* \*

2805 Oak Avenue  
Altoona, Pa. 16601  
February 15, 1968

Mr. Larry Redmond  
National Secretary-Treasurer  
83rd Infantry Division Assoc.

Dear Mr. Redmond:

In reply to an article which appeared recently in the Altoona Mirror regarding a manhunt for members of the 83rd Infantry Division, Thunderbolt Division of World War II, please be advised that I am a former member of this Division.

My Serial Number is RA 13-146-271.

Due to my disability, I may not be able to attend the conclave this August in Philadelphia. Still, I wanted you to know my whereabouts.

Wishing you lots of luck in your venture, I am

Yours sincerely,  
Warren S. Dublin

## Letters to the Editor

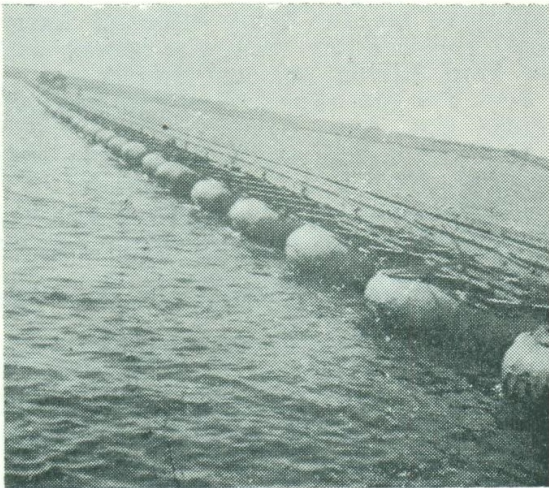
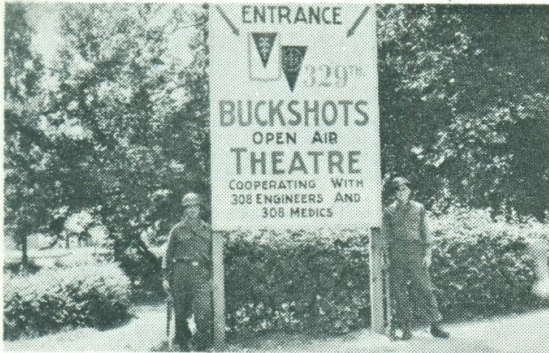
Cpl. Luther Franklin Cline  
New Market, Virginia, Route 1, Box 1  
308 C B Engineers, Company A

Dear Sir:

I saw your ad in the paper, so I am sending you my address. I sure would like to see all the old 83rd boys, so if you have any of the 308 boys' addresses, I sure would be pleased if you could send me their addresses. I will pay the cost.

Very truly yours,  
Luther Cline

P.S.: Here are a few pictures.



The bridge across the Rhine River our boys put across.

\* \* \* \*

January 22, 1968

Dear Sir:

I recently seen your appeal in the local newspapers, where the 83rd Division Association was seeking its former members.

I was a member of that Division from Nov. 3, 1942 to December 7, 1945, my day of discharge. I served with Battery "B" 323rd F.A. Bn.

I wish to join the Association; send me the necessary information.

Sincerely,  
Aro Navarini

910 Exeter Hall Ave.  
Baltimore, Md. 21218

Ed. Note: Information was sent; he is now a paid up member.

Feb. 2, 1968

Mr. Larry Redmond  
130 Rockwood Dr.  
Havertown, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I saw the article in the paper about the reunion of the 83rd Division. I was in the 330th Service Company of the 83rd and would like to know where and when it will be in August.

T5 Richard E. Ashman, 35665768

My address now is: Rt. No. 2, Greenville, Ohio 45331.

Sincerely,  
Richard Ashman

\* \* \* \*

Bedford, Ohio  
January 22, 1968

Dear Larry:

I received a letter from Amido Capriotti's sister (Mrs. Mary Ezzi), and it was a heart breaker. She informed me that he died of a heart attack December 11, 1966.

Cap, as he was so affectionately called in "A" Co. 329th, was one of the old originals of Co. "A", and will be missed by everyone.

Cap's sister writes as follows: I received your Xmas card addressed to my brother, "Cap". I don't like writing this letter, but, I do want to let you know. You know that you would have received a card from him if it was possible. My dear brother died of a heart attack last December 11, 1966.

It pains me very much to write because I relive that awful day, every day of my life.

You know, Cap never married. He spent most of his time with my husband and daughter and myself. We loved him very much and missed him terribly. He was a wonderful guy. He had dinner with us that Sunday. He left my house about 4:30 p.m. and we found him dead a couple of hours later. He lived alone.

I know that I should have written last year, but we buried him 11 days before Christmas. I never opened his cards until today. You wrote little notes in yours, so this is the first I've written to his buddies. If you attend the Reunion, will you please tell some of the others.

Thank you so much for your thoughts of him. We hope that you and your family are healthy and happy. We wish you all the best.

Regards from Cap's Sister,  
Mary Ezzi and Family

Larry, I wish you could put this in your letters to the editor.

Thanks a lot, I remain

Bob Grobelny, Co. A, 329th  
507 Columbus Road,  
Bedford, Ohio

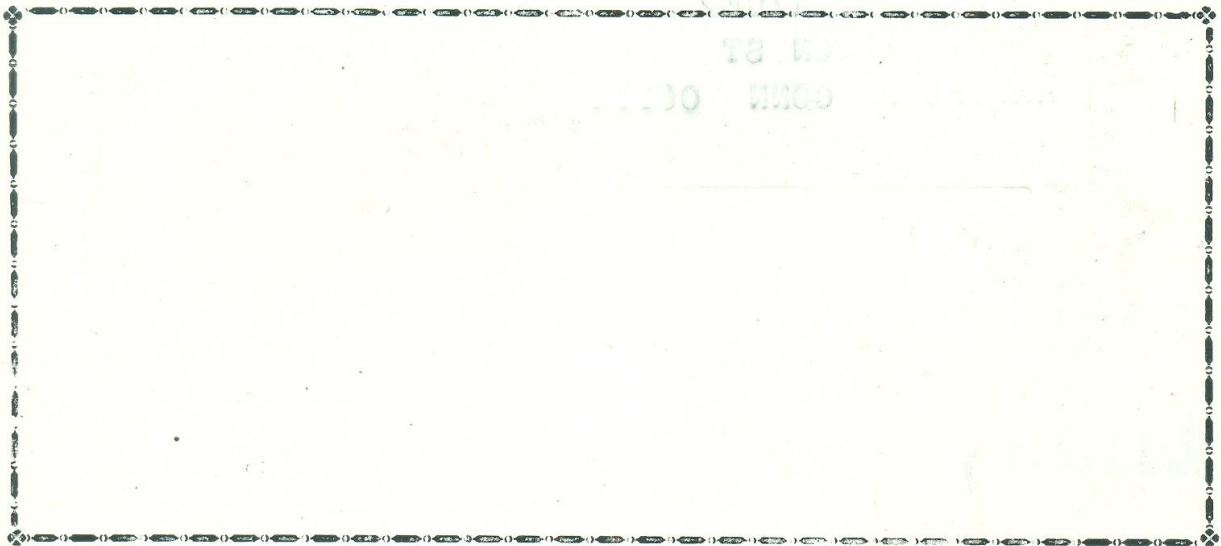
22nd ANNUAL REUNION  
**83rd Infantry Division Association**  
**World War II**

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AUGUST 22, 23, 24, 1968

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