



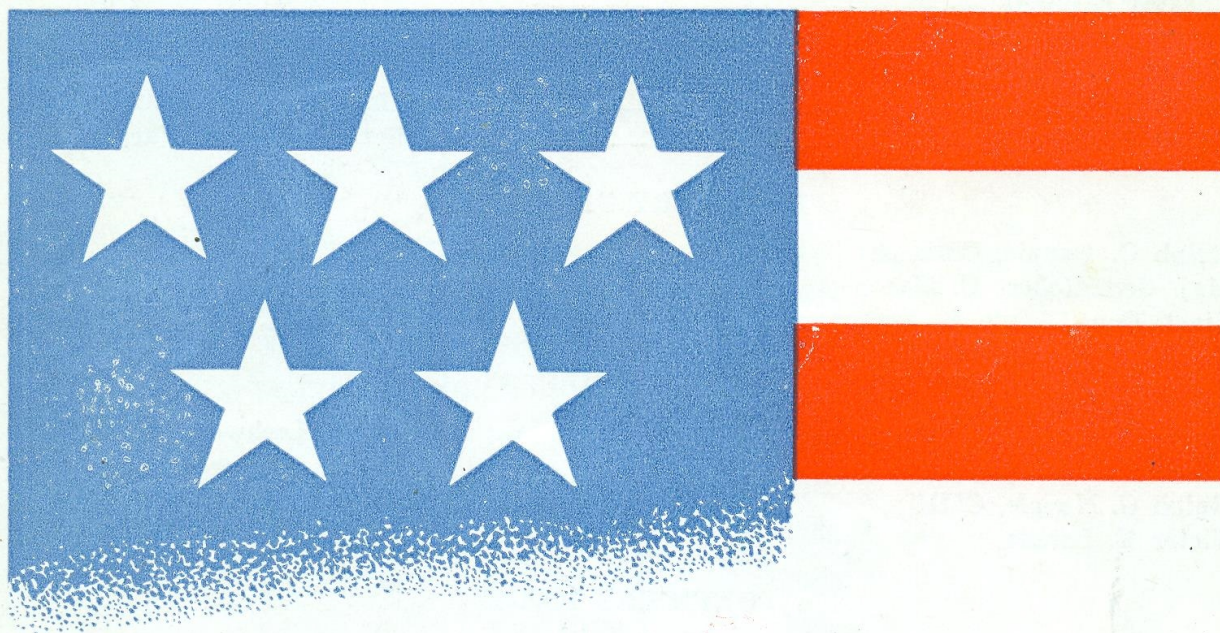
THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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MEMORIAL
Day 1969



THE THUNDERBOLT

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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.

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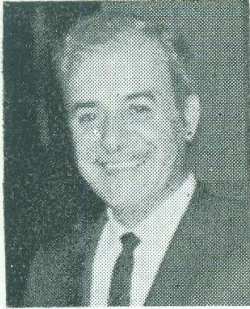
A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS Who Have Served Us Well

JAMES C. HANRAHAN	1947 (Deceased)
JACK M. STRAUS	1948
SHELLY HUGHES	1949 (Deceased)
JULIUS ANSEL	1950 (Deceased)
WALTER H. EDWARDS, Jr.	1951
LEO SCHNEIDER	1952
FINLEY HEYL	1953
LAWRENCE J. REDMOND	1954
LAWRENCE J. REDMOND	1955
LIEUT. GEN. ROBERT H. YORK	1956
HARRY W. LOCKWOOD	1957 (Deceased)
RAYMOND J. VORACEK	1958
CHARLES ABDINOOR	1959
JOSEPH F. MINOTTI	1960
FRANK J. MCGROGAN	1961
JOHN W. ROBINETTE	1962
MANUEL C. MARTIN	1963
JULIUS C. BOYLES	1964
SAMUEL KLIPPA	1965
WILLIAM M. DOTY	1966
ALBERT A. BELVEDERE	1967

President's Corner

Dear Buddies,

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays, and are well on the road in their diets, in getting rid of all that excessive food and drink that you have consumed.



Time sure is going by fast now and only one more issue of the (Thunderbolt) and Reunion time will be here.

Your host chapter is really going all out to get a good program together for your enjoyment here in Detroit.

Busy, busy, busy is the word, and yet

let us not forget that you to can help us make a successful reunion.

In the last issue of the Thunderbolt, your reunion chairman tried to convey to each of you, the importance of Ads in our Program Book. He stressed 100 per cent participation on the part of every member in the Association, and urges all of us to participate.

He touched lightly on the effect, revenue from sale of Ads have on our registration fees. He pointed out that the more Ads we sell the less the registration fee will be.

In this issue you will find an Ad Order Blank. Please use it to your best advantage. You will also be receiving a letter, requesting your help and assistance.

Subscription forms — Make checks or money orders, payable to 83rd Inf. Div. Asso. . . . 6217 Jonathon, Dearborn, Michigan.

If you have a business of your own, we urge you to send in an Ad for our book.

Larry Redmond informs me that we may have a record year and it seems that the long awaited 1,000 paid up membership is in the making. Let's hope it is.

If you haven't sent in your dues as yet, please do so and let's make this the biggest year of all.

I have written letters, personal letters, to the chapters asking for activities that are coming up, but I have not had any response. Again I say, I will try to make a visit to all chapters before my term of office expires. Please let me know by letter what's coming up in the near future.

This being the issue before "Easter", on behalf of Virginia, Joseph, Salvatore and Anna Maria and myself, we wish all of you a "Very Happy Easter".

"God Bless All"

Vito (Bill) Palazzolo

Secretary's Report

Hello Buddies:

Here we are, past the midway mark of the year, and before we realize it, we will be packing our bags for the trip to



Detroit, where a wonderful time is being planned for us. Believe me, those of you who have never handled a Reunion, have a lot to learn. The work involved in planning and putting it on is more than you can realize. It takes many man hours, and enough praise can never be given to the men who

make these Reunions possible. You can do a small part to help them in their work. First of all, send your Hotel Reservation Cards in as soon as possible, so that you can be assured of a nice room or suite, whichever you chose to have. Another thing you can do is to take an ad in the program book, or make an effort to sell an extra ad or two. The purpose of the Ad Book is to help defray the hidden costs that goes along with a Reunion. With the increased cost of everything, it is getting harder each year to put on a good Reunion without having to raise the registration fee. This we don't want, this is a working man's Reunion and we must keep the expenses down so that we can have it at a working man's price. In this program book, an ad is an ad, if you are able to afford a full page, all well and good, if you can't, then try to purchase an ad at a price that you can afford.

Now to get away from Reunion business and get back to the Association business. As of right now, we have about 850 paid up members. I would like to at this time thank all of you who have sent in your dues for supporting the Association. There are many of you who normally do send in their dues, but have failed to do so as of this time. There is another group who never send in their dues, but ride the gravy train. Gentlemen, this year is going to be the breakdown of that. We hope to go over the records at an Executive meeting at the Reunion and remove from our active files the names of the free loaders. I can't see for the life of me, how any man who saw service in the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, could honestly accept the issues of the "THUNDERBOLT", and not help to contribute to it. Believe me, I deem it a great honor to be able to open my wallet and take out

(Continued on Page 18)

Chaplain's Corner

April 8, 1969

My Dear Buddies:

With the approaching Mother's Day and Memorial Day, I felt the following poem would be so appropriate for me to relate to you on the occasion. To me it is one of the most wonderful poems ever written in memory of mothers.



**ROCK ME
TO SLEEP**
by Elizabeth
Akers Allen

Backward, turn
backward, O Time,
in your flight,
Make me a child
again just for
tonight!

Mother, come back from the echoes
shore,
Take me again to your heart as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of
care,
Smooth the few silver threads out of
my hair;
Over my slumbers your loving watch
keep;—
Rock me to sleep, mother,—rock me to
sleep!

Backward, flow backward, O tide of the
years!

I am so weary of toil and of tears—
Toil without recompense, tears all in
vain—

Take them, and give me my childhood
again!

I have grown weary of dust and decay—
Weary of flinging my soul-wealth away;
Weary of sowing for others to reap;—

Rock me to sleep, mother,—rock me to
sleep!

Tired of the hollow, the base, the untrue,
Mother, O mother, my heart calls to you!
Many a summer the grass has grown
green,

Blossomed and faded, our faces between;
Yet with strong yearning and passionate
pain,

Long I tonight for your presence again.
Come from the silence so long and so
deep;—

Rock me to sleep, mother,—rock me to
sleep!

Over my heart, in the days that are
flown,

No love like mother-love ever has shone;
No other worship abides and endures—
Faithful, unselfish, and patient like
yours:

None like a mother can charm away
pain

From the sick soul and the world-weary
brain.

Slumber's soft calm o'er my heavy lips
creep;—

Rock me to sleep, mother,—rock me to
sleep!

Come, let your brown hair, just lighted
with gold,

Fall on your shoulders again as of old;
Let it drop over my forehead tonight,
Shading my faint eyes away from the
light;

For with its sunny-edged shadows once
more

Haply will throng the sweet visions of
yore;

Lovingly, softly, its bright billows
sweep:—

Rock me to sleep, mother,—rock me to
sleep!

Mother, dear mother, the years have
been long

Since I last listened your lullaby songs:
Sing, then, and unto my soul it shall
seem

Womanhood's years have been only a
dream.

Clapsed to your heart in a loving
embrace,

With your light lashes just sweeping
my face,

Never hereafter to wake or to weep;—
Rock me to sleep, mothe,—rock me to
sleep!

God Bless you and may he richly keep
you in his Grace.

Faithfully,

William O. "Bill" Shuman
83rd Division Association
Chaplain



PLEASE PAY DUES

Report From Your Reunion Chairman

August 14, 15, 16, slowly but surely these dates take on greater significance and the realization that in just a few short months from now all that we have planned, hinted and suggested must start shaping up if we are to taste success.

Success has been uppermost in all of our meetings and discussions and your Hosts have gone to great lengths to insure it. We have vaguely referred to success as it relates to the great deal of planning the Michigan Chapter has accomplished thus far. We now emphasize it as it relates to you who will be our guests in Detroit.

My desk is literally cluttered with slogans, memos, and company literature theorizing that success in any venture is assured only when team work comes into play. It is in this spirit that we here in Michigan wish to achieve success in August. We need your help, we're certain you will respond.

To a business man success means the differences between cost and income period. I hardly think this formula can be applied to ex-G.I.s anxious to let themselves go at a reunion. They throw caution to the wind and disregard costs, expenses and what have you. To most the word success simply means to be able to say, "Man, I had a good time in Detroit; I saw some of my dearest friends, I got stoned, and the Hell with what it cost me." Others would say, "Sure I had a good time in Detroit, sure I got stoned, etc., BUT—look at what the Hell it cost me?" Although the latter thought the reunion was a smashing success they were concerned with expenses.

We want to measure success by getting these two points of view a little closer to dead center. We want you all to have a good time in Detroit. We hope most of you will find it necessary not to get stoned, but most of all we want to be gentle and kind when we start tugging on your purse strings. We want to make it just a little easier for all to attend the reunion economically. How? Pay as you go style.

To the Airlines, Department Stores and Finance Companies, "Pay as you go" means you pay a little now but pay more later. The results naturally is increased expenses. Our "Pay as you go" plan is intended to reduce your expenses.

Through the combined efforts of Larry Redmond, Nick Barbu's City Hall connections, Robert Taylor's folding machine and Uncle Sam's Pony Express, the Michigan Chapter has extended its invitation to 2,500 Thunderbolts to get on the

team. The objective of course is to accumulate as much pre-registration revenue as possible.

Gentlemen, the Program Booklet can be a great reservoir of funds. Funds, fantastic amounts of funds. If you will, conjure-up a vision. 2,500 active or inactive members or any portion thereof, each buying space in any denomination from booster to full page, coupled with another ad sold by each member or portion thereof, conceivably, we could substantially reduce our registration fees if we all make a special effort towards 100 per cent participation. We have the capacity and the man power to pull this off, but Fellas, let's face it, we have to get out and SELL.

Selling is a rough job, it becomes that much more difficult when selling ads in a program book which cannot possibly net results in our particular community. Prospective buyers are aware that we are scattered all over the country out of reach of their particular commodity and thus not in their market.

What's in it for me? they will ask. If we take this at face value we are defeated before we start. We do not argue the fact that this is a legitimate question, we suggest it is the negative approach to the question. We suggest further that if we approach the question positively we can get good results.

What answer can you give your friend when he asks the question? A positive answer is "Friend I'm going to Detroit and I'm going to have a good time. How would you like to buy me a drink while I'm there? It should be good enough for a booster ad. Or what is the appropriate answer when Mr. Barber asks, "What's in it for me?" I think if you answer, "Mr. Barber you've sold me haircuts for 20 years and you will be selling me haircuts for the next 20 years — OR WILL YOU?" Those three important words—Or will you?—should be worth at least a half page ad. There are many answers, some are tactful some not so tactful, the net results is sales and sales is what we're after.

In a nutshell men, we've got to go all out to sell ads. We have to buy ads and match our own subscriptions with one, two, maybe more from our friends, our clients, our customers, our suppliers. Let's give them all a chance to express their appreciation for our friendship and our patronage. One final word on the program booklet. Those of you who are self-employed or professional people. You may be in the enviable position of writing off the cost of ads as a tax deduction, we would urge you to be especially generous.

Now then, if we consider that all of

us fall in the category of average American public then you have been bombarded with junk mail from the Madison Avenue Boys. Their literature usually begin with this phrase, "You may already be the winner of—etc." Reading further, those of us who are intrigued by this promise of something for nothing deal, we find that before you can be considered to be eligible you must buy a product. If you don't buy then all you are eligible to win is the hole in the dough-nut. Usually this kind of literature ends up in the trash can.

The Boys from Michigan want to capitalize on this great American pastime. We have a product to sell, TICKETS. In a sense we can truthfully say "You are a winner".

Revenue from the sale of tickets also play an important part in determining registration fees. The frosting on the cake if you will. This in itself makes winners of us all. A few of us will be real winners though in that the prizes offered represent a full or partial reimbursement of our total reunion expense.

The product we sell cannot be purchased elsewhere, it's strictly our Bag, our hope is that unlike the subject matter from Madison Avenue, you do not file our plea in the dead file.

This is our message to you gentlemen. We must buy and we must sell ads, we must buy tickets or we must sell them. The end product of this all out campaign is success — Success measured in these terms. Plenty of winning and plenty of dining but minimum expense. Let us paraphrase pay as you go and say to you "Let someone help pay your way before you go".

A few words now for the Early Birds. A great deal of discussion has gone into what to make available for Early Arrivals. We debated the pros and cons of including early arrivals into the reunion program. We always came up with the same conclusion, to program for Wed-

nesday would ultimately mean that the traditional three-day reunion would be extended to a four-day reunion and maybe to a five-day reunion in the future. On the other hand we did not feel that those who do arrive early should be ignored for a whole day.

After great deliberation we decided a tour of Detroit and Canada would be most attractive. The tour will be sponsored by Convention Services International. It will be on a voluntary basis and at your own expense.

Included in the price of \$10.75 each is transportation, sight seeing and dinner at one of Canada's most exclusive club the Elmwood Casino. There is no minimum or maximum participation required but it will be available to all who want to take advantage of it. Literature explaining this tour in detail has been forwarded to the editor for publication.

Many of you will be bringing children. What should be done for them or what should be done with them has been the subject of many discussions and the target of the severest criticism. We ask you now to please give us the number of children and their ages. This information in our hands will minimize this problem and enable us to plan appropriate and adequate programs around their age groups.

We have asked for replies on comments made in previous articles. Needless to say we have had no response. I feel children and their welfare while in Detroit is important enough reason to warrant an answer to at least this one question. Do it now.

Lest you be concerned about the plight of my mailman, let measure you his bag is always empty when he reaches my house. Let's change that. SEND me your ads, SEND me your stubs, SEND me your checks, SEND Mrs. Muoio out to greet the mailman with a bushel basket.

SEE YOU ALL IN DETROIT . . .

AUGUST 14, 15, 16

ATTENTION ALL MEN

**Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —
If it does not read Aug. 1969 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.**

April 6, 1969

Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower
Gettysburg, Pa.

Dear Mrs. Eisenhower:

In behalf of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, World War II, I would like to express our sincere condolences to you, on the loss of your late husband, General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

We the members of this Association, served in World War II, in Europe, under the late General. We served under him from the Hedgerows of Normandy up to the linking with the Russians outside of Berlin.

General Eisenhower was a man of courage, a man who had the respect of all who served under his Command. He served his Country well both as a General and as a President.

May we at this time say "MAY GOD BLESS YOU" and give you the graces to carry on for many years as I am sure the General would want you to do.

Very truly yours,
Lawrence J. Redmond
National Secretary-Treasurer

330th Regimental Unit

Larry Redmond
Co. H, 330th

Hello Buddies:

Here it is time once again for another issue of the "THUNDERBOLT" to go to press. There is very little that I can say at this time except that once again I am proud of the 330th men for their tremendous response, in our appeals for dues. Right now I think that the 330th is about the leading Unit in paid up memberships.

I would like to once again ask each and every one of you 330th men to take out your wallet, examine the cards that are in it, and see if you have a card that reads "Expires August 1969"; if not, then sit down today with your pen in hand and send off that check or money order in the amount of \$5.00 for your dues. One thing that I ask all of you, please inform me of your Unit, by that I mean, what Company were you in. This helps tremendously in keeping my records.

In the last issue, I promised a complete breakdown of all Units. I am sorry to say that I don't have it compiled enough at this time to give it. With the publicity that we have been getting, I am so flooded with mail that I am devoting most of my time to getting answers out to the people who write in. I will try to have it in the next issue. You can rest assured that next year we will come up with a better system. We will start publication in the first issue of the paid up membership.

Hoping to see you all in Detroit.

Jersey Chapter

Hi Buddies:

Well the time has come to write my column again. Time goes so fast that before you know it the reunion will be here and I won't mind that. My wife and I look forward to them and it gives us another opportunity to travel.

In April of every year, I bowl in the American Bowling Congress which is held in another state every year, so we make these trips and then in August the reunion, so it works out fine. This year, we go to Madison, Wisconsin on April 14 and 15. Next year, it will be Nashville, Tennessee, so we might be able to see Shirley and Leo while down there. Then the Boston reunion, so it will be two nice trips again.

On December 13, we had a nice party at Mr. and Mrs. Emil Wehling's home. They really put on a good time with the food and drink coming as fast as you got rid of it. There were only a few members and wives that couldn't make it because of sickness. On behalf of the Jersey Chapter, we would all like to thank them again for a swell time.

Just received a letter and tickets for a raffle from Ed Zerliche asking for a little help and God knows they need it. It's no easy job putting on a reunion, but these guys that do always come up with something. I wish our chapter was larger so we could put one on ourselves. Maybe in the near future, we will be able to, as we have been talking about it lately, finding out different things so who knows, we might surprise you yet.

On Wednesday, February 26, my son pulled a surprise on us as he came home from the Phillipines. We didn't expect him home until April, 1970, so it was quite a thrill to see him. He has to be back March 22, for another 14 months this time he can take his family back with him.

I hope this darn war gets over soon so all these kids can get home. I thought we fought the war that was to end all wars but I guess not.

The next meeting, we are planning to go on a tour of some plant one of the fellows works in and then take our wives out to dinner. It's something different and gives the women something to do.

I hope all you fellows and families are in the best of health and I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Best regards,
Jim Bowie
330th, Co. B

**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY**

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter President

William J. Chavanne
308th Engineers

Dear Buddies:

Sorry I missed writing my column for the last issue of the "THUNDERBOLT". Time passes so quickly that the deadline was here and gone before I became aware of it.

The old year has passed and the new one is almost one quarter gone. I would like to see, (and I know that the Michigan Chapter agrees) the largest turn out ever for our National Reunion in Detroit this August. It's that happy time when Buddies get together and renew old friendships. With a little more effort from all of us, maybe we can at last reach "1,000 Member" goal in Detroit.

As I write this, the Greater Philadelphia Chapter is contemplating a new Chapter home. We have been talking about our Chapter having a place of their own, so a committee of members went to see the place that Lou Volpi had suggested. The house is spacious and just recently redecorated with paneling and new carpeting. This building is owned by a Knights of Columbus Council; they made a very generous offer to lease this property to us. Let's go Philly members, let us make this the biggest year yet in our Chapter. Let us have the largest membership in the history of the Chapter and the largest amount of attending members. I can think of no better way of spreading the good word to all of our Philadelphia members



Rear row, l. to r.: Cecil Walters, Joe Pizza, Lester Hauck, Clyde Moad. Front row, l. to r.: Cliff Woolridge, Marion Muio, Bill Chavanne, Harry Kirby and Bernie Mendelsohn.

than through the "THUNDERBOLT".

I am enclosing a picture taken at the Philadelphia Reunion; it was sent to me by my buddy, Cecil Walters. It was taken at the Saturday night Banquet. I guess that I am getting pretty old because I am looking forward to more picture taking in Detroit in 1969.

Chicago Chapter News

William M. Doty, Reporter

Nothing exciting has been going on here in the Windy City. We have been trying to get our members out to meet-



ings, but seem to be having a little trouble. We did have a nice turnout in January at Lottie and Henry Kukulski's home. Our new member, Dick Fletcher, (Dick Tracy comic strip cartoonist) and his lovely wife attended and had a good time. In February, Wally Marks and his charming wife, Mae, hosted

the meeting at their home. Many of our members were sick with the flu and couldn't attend, but those of us who did make it had a wonderful time. Then in March we all went to the Millionaire's Club and had a nice dinner and lots of refreshments. Our next meeting will be a good old-fashioned Polish dinner at a Polish bar and restaurant. If all the Poles in our chapter don't turn up, we will want to know the reason why!

Jim Burton came into town last month to see your reporter and says he misses the Chicago gang. We miss him, too.

If any of the chapters have any good methods for getting their membership out to meetings, we will certainly appreciate any suggestions you have.

That's all for now.



is not a sentiment - it is an economic necessity. ----- Charles Scimmetz

Warren Chapter News

Joseph F. Minotti
324th F.A.

Hello Buddies:

Down the homestretch, to the Reunion in Detroit. It just does not seem possible that six months have passed so soon.

Winter is slowly drawing to a close, and then, looking forward to nicer weather. Although I won't mind the last couple of weeks of March, as Dimps and I, and Ray Voracek and his new wife Marge, will spend a couple of weeks in Venezuela, South America, Ray and Marge will be on their honeymoon, while Dimps and I will be visiting our son in Caracas, Venezuela. By the time this issue is out, we will have made the trip and be back home, planning for Detroit.

Ray Voracek took unto himself a new bride the first Saturday in February. Yours truly and Dimps had the honor of standing for them. A lovely small family affair, with a few friends followed at Ray's home, after the ceremony. A few of the 83rd fellows attended the reception later. After the happy Bride and Groom left for parts unknown, we all visited Lee Titus at his home and finished the evening. Although Birdie was not home, Lee made a fine host. Birdie was visiting her new grandchildren, twins to her oldest daughter. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents.

The holidays went by in great fashion. The children's party was a great success, with Santa Claus (C. Whitman) doing another great job of passing out the gifts to the children. The adults party at the Chateau Supper Club was a lot of fun. Good food, plenty of refreshments and fine music. The boys still like to shake a leg on the dance floor.

We all send our deepest sympathies to Mike Skovran on the death of his mother. She was in her 80's. Angie PPhillipone spent some time in a local hospital, and is now home and well on the road to recovery. Get well soon Angie, at least in time to be in shape for Detroit. Steve Kiresturi's wife had an operation on her ear, and now Steve is afraid to talk too loud as she says he is hollering at her.

The Warren Chapter is planning their anniversary party on April 19 at the Chateau Supper Club. Dinner, dancing and refreshments. All 83rd members and friends are invited to attend. If anyone from out of town plans to attend, get in touch with Dick Kelly, Babe Gautschi or myself, so we can make arrangements for overnight accommodations. Hope some of you can make it.

The Warren Chapter still meets the third Wednesday of the month. If you are ever in the area, please try to attend.



Ray Voracek and his lovely bride, Marge.



The Bridal Party. Front: Ray and Marge Voracek. Rear: Joe and Dimps Minotti.



Ray Voracek and Joe Minotti (the bridegroom and best man).

Warren Chapter Auxiliary

March 17, 1969

Hi Everybody,

Spring is almost upon us again and this is one gal who will be glad to see it. Then along comes Summer with all the picnics to look forward to and also the Reunion in Detroit. So it won't be long before we are all together again.

We had our annual Christmas party at the Chateau Supper Club with everybody in attendance. As usual, the food was delicious and there was plenty of refreshments.

Again Phillipone has been in and out of the hospital since the last report and is recuperating very nicely. She is anxious to get back to work again. You can't keep a good gal down!

Our sympathy to Mike Skovran and family. His mother passed away last month and she was a very lovely looking woman.

John and Helen Caparanis are celebrated their 25th anniversary on March 23. Congratulations to both of you. We are looking forward to next Sunday.

The Minotti's and the Voracek's are leaving today for Caracas, Venezuela. It will be Margie and Ray's honeymoon trip. They are going to visit young Joe Minotti who has a business in that country. Hope they have a nice trip and don't go by way of Havana.

Chris Minotti received her First Holy Communion yesterday and she was a perfect little hostess at the open house.

One of our annual projects is in progress right now, selling candy for Easter. We take orders and have them filled at Kozy Korner Kandies. It is home made and we have no trouble selling it. A very profitable project.

Our next meeting is at the home of Theresa Gautschi. Liz Skovran will be celebrating her birthday so we all take a small gift and she will also receive one from her secret sister. It is my turn to bring the raffle gift. We all give a quarter and then draw a name. This is one way of replenishing our flower and gift fund.

Well, it is time for me to go to work so I will sign off for now. Don't work too hard doing your Spring cleaning. But if you do, you can always take time off during the Summer to relax in the backyard and bask in the warm rays of the sun.

So long for now,
Millie Kelly

**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY**

Cleveland Chapter Report

Spring is once again upon us and it is time once again to start thinking of pleasant pastimes — picnics, swimming, golf and most of all the coming Reunion in Detroit in August. Many of our members are making their plans and I'm sure we will be well represented.



Ed and "Jo" Glinka's boy is now in the service and doing well. Al and Eleanor Uridel's son John made the plunge and is now happily married.

Congratulations.

We had our election meeting at the home and John and "Jo" Evans after which we were served a very fine spaghetti dinner. "Joe" is a fine lady and wonderful hostess. Our heartfelt thanks from all that were able to attend.

The results of the election were:

Ed Glinka, president

Walt Meczka, vice president-treasurer

Al Uridel, secretary

John Evans, sergeant-at-arms

Congratulations to all and a big hand to the outgoing officers who served so well in the past year.

Our March meeting was held at the home of Ed Glinka. We had some lively discussions and are awaiting word from Pittsburgh Chapter in regard to their proposed get together in May. Also received tickets from Detroit Chapter for raffle to help defray cost of their Reunion. Happy to be able to help out.

Time is running out for sending in this report, but I would like to take time to salute our great commander and past president, Dwight David "Ike" Eisenhower, a great man who richly deserved all the tribute paid him when he passed away. A truly great man.

I close this report with fond thoughts of all 83rd people we will soon be seeing at the Reunion. Happy Easter to all.

Casey Szubski

**Make Your
Plans
For
The
Detroit
Reunion**

Fall River Chapter Chatter

by Manny Martin, F-329th

Since I am late with this article, and I have Larry Redmond on my tail for it, I will try to be brief, and those of you who know Martin know how very hard that is going to be.



The Fall River Chapter has not met for a few months now, due partially to me being very busy and also because of an apathy that seems to be setting into some of our members, I will elaborate upon this and other matters in our next issue of

Thunderbolt, when there will be time to elaborate upon it.

Our Christmas, New Year's and February affairs were as successful as all of our affairs have been, with a wonderful time being had by good sized crowds at each of the affairs.

I, along with each member, that was privileged to serve under and with a fine gentleman, such as Jim Fowler (1st Sgt. of F Co., 329th); could not help but feel deep pains of sadness upon hearing of his untimely death. Jim was the type of fellow that could eat you out real good one minute, but in the very next minute, would be the first to extend his hand to assist you in anything, if you needed it. A tremendous person, a good non-com, a credit to his country, a superb husband and father. Jim Fowler exemplified everything that was decent as a person, and in these trouble times he was the kind of people that we can ill afford to lose. Trudy, to you and each member of your family, please accept especially from Adeline and I, and from the rest of the outfit, the deepest, sincerest sympathy that one can convey.

We of the chapter were saddened just before New Year's, at the sudden death of Adelard Larue's father. He had been a spry old gent for his age, and one could really enjoy himself in his company. Deepest sympathy were and are extended to Pete and his family.

On January 5, some 800 leaders of the community, along with just ordinary citizens, trooped into White's Restaurant to do honor with a testimonial dinner for my good friend Norman Bowers, upon his retirement as police chief. One of the finest affairs of its kind ever held here. I was proud to be a part of the committee, and really privileged to have served as toastmaster. Those of you who remember Norm (he has attended a few reunions with us), know what a great guy he is, and I know that you join with

me in wishing him many years of good health, to enjoy his, so richly earned retirement.

At our last meeting the chapter elected Romeo Maynard as President, Anthony Gonsalves as Vice President, re-elected your reporter as Secretary-Treasurer, and Fierre Barthelemy as Chaplain, except for that Martin guy, they made all good choices, and I am sure that now that things are quieting down at the Martin's they will all give good account of themselves during their tenure of office.

Those of you who enjoy square dancing, may be interested to learn that our own Freddy and Louise Costa have opened their own business catering to people who enjoy wearing authentic clothing for square dancing. Louise is a tremendous seamstress, and is making up most of the outfits that will be fore sale. Both men and women clothing and accessories will be featured. If any of our members are interested in well made outfits with a real quality look and also want to help a chapter member get a business venture off of the ground, write to Freddy or Louise at 595 Chace St., Somerset, Mass.

That is about it for this issue. I hope that all of our Thunderbolts and their loved ones are enjoying the finest health available. Oh my goodness, I almost forgot—to our many, many friends in the association, Adeline and I are again on cloud nine, with the birth yesterday of our second child, a boy Jeffrey James. Born April 8, both Adeline and the baby are doing fine, and I am in a state of delirium.

Editorial Special

As of this issue of the "THUNDERBOLT" goes to press, there are many things that come to my mind. One big thing is membership. As of this date we are about 850 in paid up memberships. This is far from what it should be. At the present time I have over 2,000 names and addresses in our files, which means that we are a little over one-third in paid up membership.

Gentlemen, I have tried to stress to you men in the past, that this is more than a Veterans Organization. This is in the category of a large family. Every one of us had the honor and privilege to serve in the 83rd Infantry Division. This is more than just a Veterans Organization. Having served together, we should retain our membership together.

I have tried to instill into you the fact that there are many such organizations who are fighting a losing battle also. They are trying to instill in the minds of their members the fact that this is an organization, different from veterans organizations, in as much as everyone

(Continued on Page 13)

(Continued from Page 12)

who served in the Army can not be a member, that you must have served with this particular unit.

We have been trying hard to reach the 1,000 mark in membership. I am afraid that this is a bigger job than we bargained for. We are still trying hard to make it, but we need the help of each and everyone of you. Give this some thought if you are one of the delinquent members. Send your dues in at once.

You who are just dues paying members, or men who are on the delinquent list as far as dues paying is concerned, can't begin to appreciate the man hours and work that is put into this Association to help keep it going. We have been up and down on several occasions, but were it not for the men that have served as Officers and had the Association at heart as we have, this Association would not be operating today. Prove that you are a real 83rd Division man, get behind your Association and lend your support. If you have not sent in your dues as yet, please do so today. If you have and still want to lend your support, send in dues for a particular Buddy. I am sure that all of us have a particular Buddy who we would like to remember. This is our way of doing something for him, something that will show him that he hasn't been forgotten.

Another thing that has come to my mind is in regards to chapters. At the present time we have three Chapters that have more or less fallen by the wayside. These were very active chapters. They were the Miami Valley Chapter, Washington Chapter and the Dixie Chapter. I am sure that with the help of some of you men we could reactivate all three of these chapters, and make them once again the great chapters that they were. I will keep my fingers crossed and sincerely hope that all of you will join with me in helping to make this Association the greatest Veterans Organization in the country. With your help, this can be made possible. This can be done by making sure that you are a paid up member, and by trying to obtain other members.

Larry Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer

The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

by Greer Thompson, 324 FA Bn.

Hi Fellas:

Before The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter meeting opened March 2, 1969, President George Ruprecht introduced William Mattes, 330 Cannon Co., as a new member to our chapter. All officers were present along with an outstanding attendance totaling 25. It's good to see this regular attendance. Steve Blasko, secre-

tary, deserves recognition for informing our members about the meetings. He sends a very versatile cartoon announcement monthly. A miniature reproduction was engraved by Greer Thompson to prove Steve's natural ability.

On May 17, 1969 a Spring Dinner-Dance will be held at the American Legion Home, Monesson, Pennsylvania. Time—7:00 p.m. This dance is for members and their wives, girlfriends and any guests wishing to attend. This will be a gala affair—hope you all attend.

Emil Pecker won the jackpot kitty in March and Paul Diethrich sold the winning raffle ticket to a fellow who has won twice over the past several years. (How does he do it?)

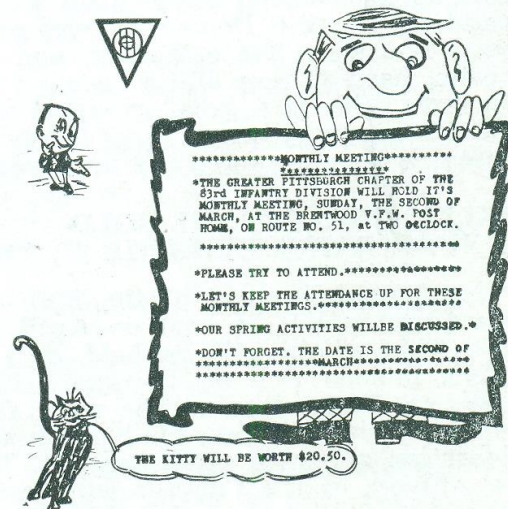
In reply to Thomas Dowell, 26 Strabane Avenue, Cannonsburg, Pa. 15317 letter to the editor in the last issue of the "Thunderbolt", you have been well informed of our Chapter in Pittsburgh. Join us and you will find out about what you want to know concerning the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.

Al Suess, 331 Co., would like to inform "Pike Pub" on Baltimore Pike in Wawa, Pa., Duquesne beer is trucked to Philadelphia on a regular basis and urges everyone to — "Have a Duke". Could this apply to Lou Volpi?

Chapter members on sick call are as follows:

Wilbur Wilson at Ohio General Hospital is in intensive care. Wilbur Campbell's wife Dolores is still experiencing a painful toe that was tramped on while dancing at the Philadelphia Reunion. Greer Thompson's son Alan has made a remarkable recovery from his October auto accident and has just had his third and final plastic surgery operation on his forehead. We wish you all a speedy recovery.

Plan to attend the Detroit Reunion, August 14, 15, 16, 1969.

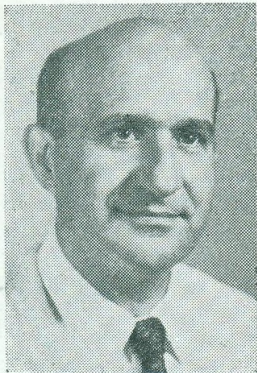


PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND!
Steve Blasko
SECRETARY

Philadelphia Chapter Elects New Officers For 1969

Dave Rosenberg
Co. "B" "F" 331st

A very spirited meeting was held by the Quaker Chapter on March 22, 1969, at their new chapter meeting place —



a veritable mansion in Bala Cynwyd, Pa. The Philadelphia Chapter has leased a beautiful meeting place for the coming year. This site, owned by the local K of C, was engaged by our committee who had been looking for a new home for quite a while. Fortunately Lou Volpi, who is a Knight Templar of the K

of C, was able to swing the deal, and now the Philly Chapter has a new home, where we will be able to hold many socials and business meetings. Our meeting on March 22, 1969 proved to be a huge success. All the women of the chapter, brought food, cake, desserts and specialities which each woman concocted from their own recipes. No need to say, all the chow hounds of the Philadelphia Chapter had a field day. You name it, we had it. All the men contributed a bottle of cheer, and soon a warm glow was added to the meeting. My own special bottle of "Old Jockstrap" was absorbed, and the other brands were also "tasted".

At this meeting a unanimous slate of new officers was placed in nomination for the coming year. The men selected were good, hard workers and the Philly Chapter is again assured of a fine year, with many projects. The men nominated are: Joe Gioa, 322nd Battery, Co. C, for president; Big Bill Hoolan for vice president; Lou Volpi for secretary; and energetic, hard worker Bill Chavanne for treasurer. This is a great group of men and we are very proud and happy to present a fine team for the next year.

PHILLY CHAPTER TO HOLD ANNUAL BANQUET APRIL 27, 1969

The Annual Banquet of the Philadelphia Chapter will be held on April 27, 1969. This affair will be held at Lou Volpi's famous Pub on Baltimore Pike in Wawa, Pennsylvania. The mere fact that Lou Volpi will have his hand in this celebration augers a great banquet. The new officers of the Chapter will be installed into office, and the old officers will be honored for the excellent work they performed the past year.

We of the Philadelphia Chapter have been most fortunate for the last two years that we were most capably led by a hard working gentleman, named Bill Chavanne. Bill in stature is not too tall, but our man Bill Chavanne casts a huge shadow. Bill is a man of perpetual motion. Never in the two years as president, did he say no to any and all jobs. When Bill selected a crew to work out a problem or a project, it was Bill Chavanne who came to the forefront and assumed leadership; he labored, he toiled and gave his all. Never did he take a back seat and wait for the others, but Bill Chavanne pitched in with all his might and main and each project Bill fostered was culminated to the highest degree. We have had two excellent years under Bill Chavanne and no doubt our Bill will still pitch in and make the Philadelphia Chapter a huge success for the coming years to Bill Chavanne we tip our hat, and say God bless our Bill, he has done a good job.

In back of each man there stands a woman, and Bill Chavanne's energetic wife Bea, was truly a wonderful helpmate. Bea Chavanne was a dynamo; no one can forget the wonderful job she performed at the Philadelphia Reunion. Her solicitations for gifts, presents and donations can not be topped. Truly Bill Chavanne is fortunate to have a wonderful woman like Bea as his partner, and we of the Philadelphia Chapter are also blessed. We will always appreciate the Chavannes for their devotion to our chapter.

A Report From Your National Publicity Director

By Vic Landis, F. Co. 329th

Am glad to report, although I have been hospitalized off and on for some months, the publicity still going though. Have been getting a lot of publicity from the UPI Press wire service, which would cost about a million dollars, if we had to pay for the deal.

Have covered the entire nation in regards to the daily papers and most of the radio stations. I am on my second time around, with the papers and the veterans papers, but will keep on firing.

That is about all she wrote. See you all in Detroit.

**1000
In 1969
Now**

Greater Indianapolis Chapter

Greetings to all you
Thunderbolts:

Our Indianapolis chapter held its annual Christmas dinner on December 14, at the Officers Club at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. We ordered right from the old menu; the food was real fine and we had a real nice get-together. Those who attended were John D. Raikos, Joe and Mrs. Lowry, Ned and Geni Smith, Matt and Judy Brumbach. We were sorry that we didn't have more of our chapter members there with us. Hope that all you 83rd members and your families and loved ones had the chance to be together at Christmas time and had a good Christmas. And speaking of Christmas, and the one that has just passed, we now realize that we are into 1969 and that it has been almost 27 years since the 83rd Division was activated at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

The sand of time just keeps sifting through. Lots of things have happened at Indianapolis since 1969 begun. First I'll begin with the Robinettes. On January 1, 1969 a baby girl was born and her name is Melissa Anne Robinette. The proud parents are Barbara and John Robinette who reside at 29 Brenda Court, Indianapolis, Indiana. Well shortly after the arrival of Melissa Anne, Barbara was back in the hospital for surgery. Now I have word that Barbara is back home doing fine, Melissa Anne is growing and the Father **Big John** is doing real well. We hope now that the Robinettes misfortunes and troubles in the future are small ones, if any.

Ned Smith had a bout with the flu. Ned I forgot to ask you if your case was the HONG-KONG type. Could have been another import from China, huh.

I have not had word from some of our chapter members in such a long time, thought maybe Frank Pope had been drafted into the Army, but after checking with the Recruiting Officer they dispelled my fears. Hope we can see you again soon, Frank. Another one of our members moved. Dick Ammon and family now reside at Cambridge City, Indiana. Dick we want to wish you and your family the very best of luck, and hope you can come back to see us often. We especially missed the Hockensmiths and the Soroko's at our Christmas party, also Kenny Baird and wife, John and Mrs. Walker, and all you other members that did not get there. Please try to come to the next one.

And while still on the subject of Christmas, I wonder if the other members of our association noticed the cover on the Christmas edition of the Thunderbolt? There is a little extra color added to the Christmas edition of the Thunder-

bolt. This extra color is rather warming and eye-catching and is just a little more effort on the part of the person or persons that make this possible. Maybe this all seems trivial and insignificant, but it's these little things added together that makes ours a great Association.

I and several other former members of C Battery 908th FA Bn., had a real surprise a short time back. We received a letter from the former "TOP KICK" of the outfit, a fine gentleman and a damn good soldier by the name of Dillion Morrow, residence Dodge City, Kansas. I know First Soldier that the guys as well as I were real happy to hear from you after all these years and I certainly intend to write you a letter.

No doubt the Detroit Chapter is working hard on the next reunion to be held in their own, and I bet that you can rest assured that they will have a good one too. Lots of luck gentlemen.

My wife Judy tried her hand at ice skating at the Coliseum Rink the other night. She came out second best as she fell and broke her right hand. Now she is sporting a cast and has a mighty sore hand. The Doc told her that there was a better place to land on than your hand when you hit the ice.

Well, I'll bid you adieu for this time and hope we can all meet at Detroit when August comes around. So long.

Matthew F. Brumbach
7144 Lockwood Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana 46217
Staff Reporter

BIRTHS

The old saying "OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE", must be ringing true with members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. We are pleased to announce that two of our old Soldiers are far from being dead. They have recently become fathers.

October 6, 1968

Michael Stephen

Son of

Ralph and Ruth Moore

"Cannon Co. 330th"

* * * *

April 8, 1969

Jeffrey James

Son of

Manuel C. and Adeline Martin

Co. F, 329th

Congratulations to both parents from
all of us.

— Just A Reminder —
**PLEASE PAY DUES
NOW !!**

Boston Chapter

Dear Buddy:

Last October, Pat Di Giammerino was installed as president of the Italian American Citizen Club of Malden, at a banquet of about 300 people. This affair was attended by many friends, including a large group of 83rders. Pat received many gifts, but the most exciting of all, was a plaque, bearing the family name and a scroll with the family heritage, given to him by his oldest brother.



Good luck Pat, we know you'll make a darn good president.

Al and Ann Tartaglia have moved into their new home in Johnston, Rhode Island. May they have many years of happiness there.

We have been having regular monthly meetings, but our largest so far, has been at Mike and Vera Caprio's home in Prov, R.I. After the snow bound winter we've had, it was wonderful to see so many old friends again. We were very, very pleased to have Norman Biledeau and his wife from Amesbury, Mass. and who got the prize for traveling the longest distance. It was good to see the Gerald Di Battista's, Ambrose Tyan's, Larry Arrigo's, Al Tartaglia's, Nick Francullo's, Hyman Goodman, Harry Melikians, Ray Bjorks, Joe Petruccis, Pat Di Giammerino, Phil Pappas.



Lucien and Millie Eli and 83rders at Lucien's testimonial.



Head Table. Pat, Louise Iafallo and Larry Arrigo.



83rd at Lucien Eli's testimonial dinner.



Larry and Fran Arrigo at Pat's installation.

Joe Petrucci has written a song entitled, "If You Ever Say You Love Me", and is seeking to have it recorded. Good luck Joe, we hope it is a success.

Nick and Mary Francullo's daughter Helen and new husband Bert, came on from Chicago, to spend the Easter holiday.

Johnny, son of Nancy and Amby Tynan has been inducted into the armed forces. He will leave April 16 for his training.

The Boston Chapter extends its sympathy to Chuck and Bernice Abdinoor on the loss of her mother and to Anthony Piatedosi on the loss of his mother.

On April 12 our girl Ginny Di Giammerino of the Greater Boston Chapter will be entering the Malden Hospital for her third operation. Good luck Ginny.

Lt. Col. James J. Higson, ret., was awarded, in January by the Narragansett Council of Boys Scouts of America the Captain George Buchilin award. It is for the many long hours and meritorious work done for the Boy Scouts. Each year they award nine of these in the state of Rhode Island. He and Mr. Di Ciantis covered the western part of R.I. Better known as a district. Each district has five towns in it. Higson's district is better known as the Apple Valley district. He has been chairman for the district for five years; normally it runs for three years. He also is the Scouting Chairman for the Rhode Island Department of the American Legion. He was Battery Commander of Battery "B" 322nd F.A. until he was sent to the 75th Division.

Sincerely,
Nick Francullo



Testing Big Fuse. Mike Caprio, Lucien Elie, Nick Francullo, Larry Arrigo and Pat Di Giammerino.



Mayor of Malden, Mr. Kelliher and Pat at installation.



Vera and Mike Caprio at Pat's installation.



Helen and Duchy Smith at installation.

Secretary's Report

(Continued Page 4)

a paid up membership card of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. You who are not a paid up member, give this some thought as you sit and read this issue. Prove that you are still a real dedicated 83rd Division man.

Well Buddies, in previous issues of the "THUNDERBOLT", I have tried to give credit where credit is due. I will continue to try giving recognition to men who help make this great Association possible. The strength of this organization does not depend on just one man, it is the works of more than one. Right now I wish to point out to you, the work that is being carried on by two of our most dedicated men, men who have been hard at work spreading the news of our Association Coast to Coast. First I wish to say a word of praise and thanks to our one and only Vic Landis. Vic has hit just about every news publication in these United States as well as Radio and Television. This Association could never begin to pay the price, that this publicity would cost. We have had over a million dollars worth of newsprint. May GOD BLESS Vic, and give him the health to carry on for many years. Along with the great work done by Vic, we have another dedicated man, a man who is devoting many man hours letter writing and mailing to men that he has on his rosters, men who have not paid their dues. There have been a few times that we have had to apologize because a letter accidentally went to a paid up member and he was a little hurt because of it. To those men, please bear with us. None of us are infallible, we can all make an honest but innocent mistake. The man I am talking about now is Sam Klippa, our Corresponding Secretary. Sam has done a tremendous job. I dare say that better than fifteen percent of our paid up membership are men who responded to Sam's letter to them. Sam has not been too well and is awaiting entrance to the hospital again. Let us all say an extra little prayer for Sam, that he has a speedy recovery, and is able to be with us and work with us for many years to come. These two men have been the guiding light of this Association; it is through the hard work of both of them that we have the paid up membership that we do. I only wish that I could show each and everyone of you the pile of mail that I have from men who never heard of the Association until they read Vic Landis's writeup in their home town paper.

Fellows, I could go on and on and on, but it would become monotonous to you. Always remember, this is your Association, anything you can do to help it, will

be appreciated. Why not try looking through your old papers and find the names and addresses of some of your old Buddies. Sell them a membership, or tell them about the Reunion in August.

We still have several of the ashtrays left. They sell for \$5.00 each and they make a beautiful souvenir.

I suppose that this is about all I have to say at this time. The only other thing I know of that is important is to remember, "DETROIT IN AUGUST".

Yours truly,
Larry Redmond, Co. H, 330th
Secretary-Treasurer
83rd Infantry Division Assn. Inc.

Letters to Editor

Mr. Larry Redmond
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Pa. 19083
Dear Mr. Redmond:

I am a former member of the 83rd Infantry Division of W.W. II and would like to receive any notification from the organized group.

Sincerely,
John F. Becraft
2088 Toutdale Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30032
March 1969

* * * *

Mr. Larry Redmond
Havertown, Pa.

As a member of the 83rd Div. Assoc. and a former member of "A" Battery, 908th Field Artillery, I was very glad to meet a few old friends at the Reunion in Philadelphia.

I will be unable to make Detroit, but we are making plans for a big get together of all "A" Battery members of the 908th for Boston in 1970. We are already contacting as many as we can and have high hopes for a great get together.

Sincerely,
John Clevenger
529 Parkview Ave.
Pendell, Pa. 19047

**Make Your
Plans
For
The
Detroit
Reunion
In 1969
Now**

Rt. 2, Box 326
Brenham, Texas

Larry Redmond
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Pa. 19083

Dear Mr. Redmond:

So glad to see some one still has interest in the 83rd Inf. Div. of World War II. I am enclosing my husband's name and address and hope that 25,000 wives will do the same.

I read of it in the small local paper here in Brenham.

Thank you,
Mrs. Marvin G. Schroeder
Rt. 2, Box 326
Brenham, Texas 77833

Ed. Note: Thank you Mrs. Schroeder. We of the 83rd Infantry Division Association also wish that 25,000 wives were like you and would contact us.

* * * *

14130 Wabash Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60627

Dear Larry:

A little late with this year's dues, but I certainly want to renew. Even though we missed the annual Reunion, it's good to see the Association prospering, and the membership growing.

It is surprising how many memories come back when I see the names of some of my old Battery mates from the 323rd. I was in each of the Batteries in the Battalion, sometime between Atterbury and Passau, so letters signed by such names as Michaels, Aro Navarini, Max Cox and Ralph Blank, sure strike a responsive cord.

Maybe we can get together and swap a good many notes and tell a few lies at the next Reunion. Hope so.

Yours,
Robert H. Costello

* * * *
14411 N.E. 10th Place
Bellevue, Washington 98004
January 12, 1969

Dear Larry:

Herewith is a check for my dues.

I have just sent my twin daughters some more money for their next term of college.

Lost one deduction this year. Bill graduated from college, got married and enlisted in the Air Force.

Perhaps in two years, when the girls finish college, we'll be able to make a trip to the Reunion.

Too bad there aren't enough 83rd men out west to have a Reunion out here.

Sincerely yours,
Col. George W. Irvine
* * * *

Mr. Larry Redmond
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Pa. 19083

Dear Mr. Redmond:

Read in the Greenville News, our local newspaper where you would like to contact members of the 83rd Infantry Division that served in World War II. I was a member of Battery A, 323rd FA Bn. at Camp Breckenridge, Ky., and served until the war was over. Serving the total months that the Division was committed in Europe.

Am not sure if I can make the annual Reunion, but would like my name added to the roster and if possible, send me some addresses of some of the members of the 323rd.

After the war, I enlisted in the Air Force and completed my service to 21 years, so I retired in July 1959 as a M/Sgt.

Thanks for your interest, and any way I can help in this area, call on me.

Yours truly,
Benjamin F. Duke M/Sgt.
USAF Ret.
111 N. Wingate Road
Greenville, S. C. 29605

* * * *



J. A. Motley, Co. L-329th. Taken somewhere in France.



Take somewhere in Germany. Courtesy Bernard W. Moyer, P.O. Box 253, Sparks, Nevada. Co. I-331st Inf.

Letters to the Editor

March 11, 1969
Kaukauna, Wisconsin

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing an item which recently appeared in our local paper. As a former member of the 83rd Division, W.W. II, namely Co. F 330th Inf.

Please inform me as to details of the Association if you have any information on where I can obtain a history on 83rd tour of duty in the E.T.O. World War II.

Sincerely yours,
Merle G. Schommer
Rt. 1, Kaukauna, Wisc. 54130

* * * *

Mr. Larry Redmond
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Redmond:

Please send me information regarding the annual convention of the 83rd Division.

I served in the 330th from January 1945 until VJ Day.

Very truly yours,
Winford C. Ashley
311 West Saint Clair St.
Jackson, Mississippi 39212

St. Xavier, Montana
January 30, 1969

Sir:

I seen in the Billings Gazette, Montana paper, where they are going to have a Reunion in Detroit in August. I happened to be a member of the 83rd, the 330th Inf. Regt. Co. C. I joined the Division at Kentucky. I came from the 63rd Division at that time. I shipped out with the Division when they left for overseas. I was shot twice, but not bad.

I used to get letters from my friends of Co. C, but I never did for a long time, but there is one member that lives in Billings, Montana that I know.

Well, I'm an Indian, I'm a Crow Indian. I'd like to go to the Reunion in August. Write and tell me the information about the Reunion.

Truly,
Robert Half
Box 144
St. Xavier, Mont. 59075

* * * *

3054 Bayer Drive
Marina, California 93933
January 31, 1969

Dear Sir:

I noted in a small news item appearing in the "MONETREY PENNINSULA HERALD" that you wanted names of former members of the 83rd Infantry Division. I was a member of the Engineer Unit of the 83rd.

For several months following the war in Germany and Austria, having transferred to the 83rd from the 4th Armored Division in Germany. I remember being stationed in Swanentstad, Austria, after moving there from a town or city along the river in Germany, where I joined it. We later moved to Linz, Austria.

I was later transferred to the 84th Infantry Division for redeployment. I do not remember the number of the Engineer Battalion which I was in when in the 83rd Division. I believe it may have been 308, as that number seems to come to my mind after about 23 years. I finally got mad and quit the Army in 1963 after 21 years.

Very truly yours,
Frederick N. Sullivan
P.S. The 83rd was well thought of by my old outfit, the 4th Armored Division. So I was proud to be a member of the 83rd, even for that short period.

* * * *

Please be advised that I was a Staff Sergeant in the 323rd Field Artillery, Headquarters Battery. Was assigned to the Battery, November 1942 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Yours truly,
Arthur C. Norrie
109 Preston Street
Windsor, Conn. 06095

Letters to Editor

83rd Division Assn.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to you for the many condolences received on the death of Jim.

How does one feel so much pain and yet feel so empty?

Thanks again, and let's keep in touch. If there's anything, anytime, that I can do for the Assn. in Jim's name, please let me know.

Trudy Fowler & Children

* * * *

Dearest Vic:

My heart is too full of pain right now to write intelligently, but we want to thank you for the beautiful flowers.

Jim was buried with Military Honors, and in his uniform with the 83rd Division Patch.

It's hard to believe he's gone, and I'll never see him again. He's been my life so long, but with God's help, maybe I'll survive. Please write.

Love, Trudy & Children

Ed. Note: I am sure that all of you who knew Jim feel as bad as Vic does, but here were two fellows who were inseparable. There was never a Reunion that we didn't have the pleasure of meeting Vic Landis and the Fowler family. Having known Jim personally, I feel also that we have lost a great buddy.

* * * *

226 Sandal Lane, P.B.S.
Riviera Beach, Florida 33404

Dear Larry:

Thanks for your informative letter. It looks as though you are going to take the "THUNDERBOLT" across the U.S. like we took it across Europe.

My free issue supply of the Rag-Tag Circus is exhausted. I now get a special price from the printer (The Vantage Press) of \$1.50 per copy. I will be glad to send copies to any ex-Thunderbolter either of two ways:

1. They can read it and send it back
2. If they want to keep it, I will autograph their copy and they can send me \$1.60

Thanks for Nepple's address. I am sending him a copy today.

Best regards,
E. B. Crabill
Ex-C.O. 329th Inf.

* * * *

Army Times Publishing Co.
475 School St. S.W.
Washington, D.C.
20024

Dear Mr. Redmond:

This company is preparing a 25th Anniversary picture-text about the famous "dash" across France and Germany in 1944-45 of Patton's Third Army. The presentation of both photographs and account follows a "then" and "now".

Since your Association represents one of the important units in the dash, do you know if some of your members have photographs (8 x 10 glossies preferably) or anecdotal material that we could add to our story?

The book will be on the market about a year from now. We feel sure it will be one which all who participated in this action would like to own. Is your organization planning a reunion in late 1969 or early 1970? To be sure that we have plenty of obtainable copies, please tell us the size of your group. Also, do you have an official publication that we could see?

Finally, is it possible to reach your membership through a list you could make available to us.

We shall look forward to hearing from you with our sincere appreciation for whatever help you can give us on this anniversary project.

Cordially,
(Mrs.) Ruth Chenault
Assistant Editor, Books

Ed. Note: Information is being forwarded to this office. Any members who have photos that wish to send, please send them to Army Times Publishing Co., 475 School Street, Washington, D.C. 20024.

* * * *

15 Jan. 69

Secretary
83rd Div. Assoc.
Havertown, Pa.

Enclosed please find personal check for my membership application to the Association. Thank you for the division decal, which now graces my automobile.

I commanded Co. B, 330th Inf. for about a year. (Col. Norm Campbell was by Battalion Commander. A fine officer and to this date a very close, personal friend.)

I am still on active duty and currently stationed in Japan. Please take note of my new address so that I can receive the issues of the "THUNDERBOLT". Also inform Norm Campbell, (your historian) that I've come back to the fold. He's a solid citizen and never lets up. I have not been able to attend any of the past Reunions but the emergencies of the service have prevailed. Rest assured that although I may not be physically present, I'm always with you in spirit.

I wish the 83rd Association a successful Reunion 1969.

Warm regards,
J. A. DeSantis
Col. Infantry

Col. Joseph A. DeSantis
Hq. USARJ, G4 Section
APO San Francisco 96343



Motley and Ralph Bailey. He was our first sergeant. Take in France.

Co. F. 329th News And Side Lights

By Vic Landis

I really believe F. 329h will have the best turnout, we have in the past few years. We really fell on our tails the past two years and I think we will make up for it this year.

Bill Nickel, who had been in the hospital for the past 10 months, will be there and George Kittrell, his wife Becky and his lovely daughter Benda Gaye will be there. Harold Keefer, Hervey Ward, Wilbur Smail, Nester Barli and a host of others have assured me they will be there.

Jim Fowler, 21, the son of the late Jim Fowler just married Zora Thorn, who was the Co. F bugler and in Co. Communications.

I love these people very much and will see them in Detroit, as Jim is stationed there. It is really great to see these people. See you all in Detroit.

Obituaries

Andrew Trcik
415 S. Middle St. Regt. Hq. 329th
Frackville, Pa.
Died May 5, 1963

* * * *

John Gaither
18 E. Caven St. Co. B, 308th Med.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46225
Died September 21, 1966

* * * *

John J. Ford
58 Garfield St.
Natrona, Pa. 15065

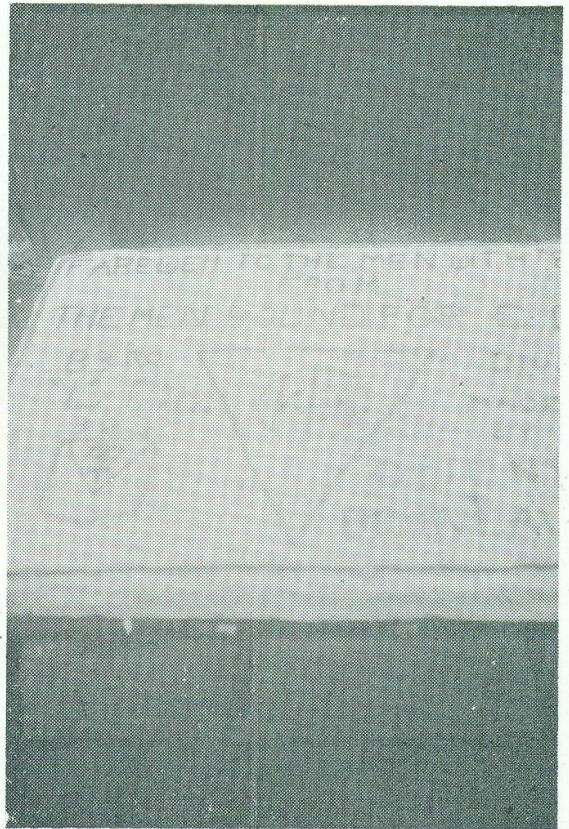
* * * *

Thomas J. Lonergan
9 Bellingham Ave. Co. D, 308th Med.
Revere, Mass.

* * * *

We owe our condolences to John Noe Jr., 83rd Div. Arty. on the death of his father. John is the man responsible for the very fine cover we have on our "THUNDERBOLT". John's father passed away a couple of weeks ago and the Greater Philadelphia Chapter is deeply sorry that we didn't know it in time to pay our respects.

Ed. Note: We try to acknowledge any and all death notices that we receive, if we have overlooked someone, let us know.



This is a big cake we made when the boys who had 85 points came home first and the rest of us were heading to the C.B.I. I was acting Mess sergeant at the time and had only 80 points. Vernon Callihan.

23rd ANNUAL REUNION
83rd Infantry Division Association
World War II

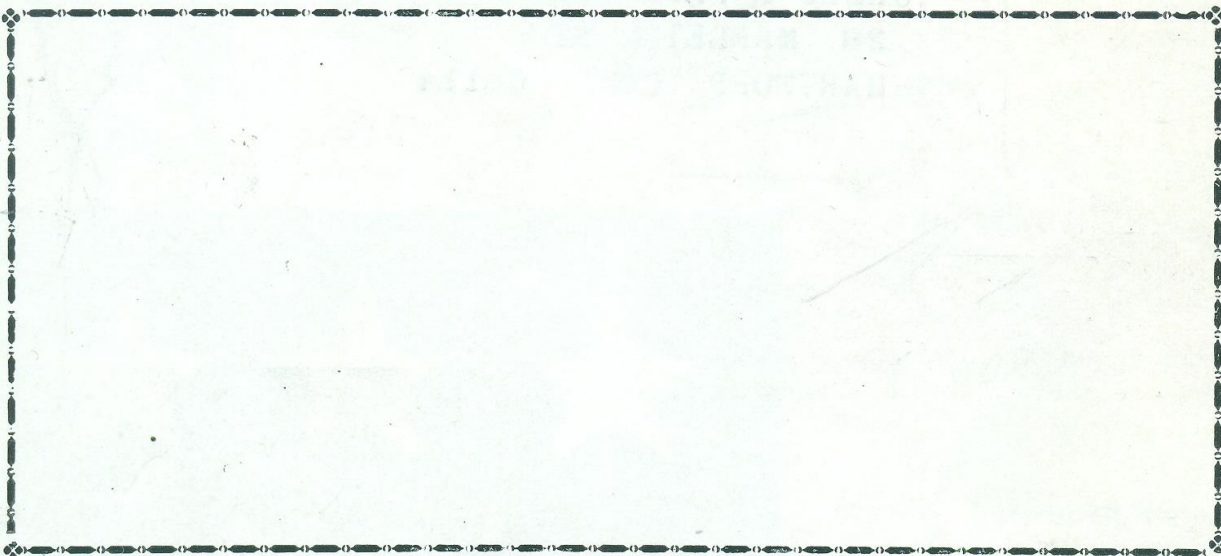
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AUGUST 14, 15, 16, 1969

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