



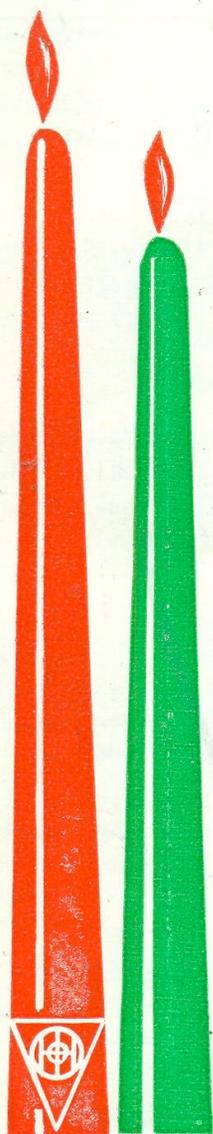
THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

VOLUME 25 — No. 2

Dec. 1969 - Jan. - Feb. 1970



Merry
Christmas



HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

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Cumberland, Rhode Island 02864

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Falmouth, Virginia 22401

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Pittsburgh, Pa. 15227

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS Who Have Served Us Well

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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
VITO C. PALAZZOLO	1968

THE THUNDERBOLT

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President's Corner

Dear Buddy:

I hope that this letter finds you and yours in the best of health.

Time is sure going by fast and before you know it, its re-union time.



Your host chapter is going all out to get a good program together for your enjoyment here in Boston, the Boston boys and girls are all very busy working for the 1970 re-union, and don't forget that you can help us make a successful reunion.

Gin and I wish to thank Frank and Mary McGrogan for a wonderful time last October. Sorry we couldn't visit with more of the Philadelphia Chapter, but our time was limited.

If you haven't sent in your dues or know of anyone who hasn't please correct this, because this is going to be the biggest year of all.

Many thanks to the boys of the Detroit Chapter for generously turning over the profits of their great reunion to the national. Congratulations on a great job well done.

"A special note to Ambrose Tynan",
Hdg. Battery 323rd F.A.:

"Sorry"

"Who have you contacted for membership?"

Gin and I wish all of you a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Pat DiGiammerino



"Chris" Catalfamo, daughter of Rocco Catalfamo, a former Secretary-Treasurer of our Association.

Re-Union Chairmans Corner

By Nick Francullo
Hg. Co. 3rd Bm. 330th Inf.

Well things are just going along fine as of this date. We are not leaving any stones unturned in making sure things are just as we want it.



We are looking forward to putting on a re-union that we hope will please most of those who attend.

We urge all to do everything in your power to attend the re-union and enjoy our great New England weather.

The hotel has co-operated with us to

the fullest.

A meeting was held with Mr. Gregori, and plans are now in the making for a famous New England clam bake and this should make you all attend the Boston re-union. Also plans have been made to take care of the children under 12 years of age at the banquet, so this will be good news for those who are wondering about the little ones.

Now a reminder again that the Boston re-union will be Aug. 20, 21, 22. Please put these dates down as your vacation time. We want every member in our great City of Boston.

And now on behalf of the Boston Chapter and the re-union committee we wish you all a very merry Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Your Buddy,
Nick Francullo

**Make Your
Plans
Now
For
The
1970**

Reunion

Aug. 20, 21, 22

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Hello Buddies:

Here it is time for another issue of the "THUNDERBOLT", it seems as if we just about get one mailed out and it is time to start in all over again.



Well Buddies, so far it looks as if we may have another good year in the history of our Association. Once again I call on each of you for your support. We have been going on year after year carrying on men who are more or less free loaders.

This happens in all organizations, but it becomes a hardship on the organization because they just can't carry the load forever. I think that we in the 83rd Infantry Division Association are a lucky group of men. We are far superior to other Veterans organizations such as American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and other such organizations, in as much as we are strictly a unit composed of men who served together and fought together and learned to live together as a big family. That is why we the Officers of this Association try so hard to keep this going. It can only be done with the help of you the members or potential members.

Here we are coming into the Christmas Season, a time to be generous, a time to remember our families and friends, a time to give gifts to those we love or those to whom we owe an extra measure of gratitude. Why not stop for a minute and think, am I a paid up member; if not, how about giving yourself a little gift of membership in the Association, or is there a particular Buddy, who during your tenure of service with the 83rd Division, was especially close to you, or maybe was the Buddy that was a hero to you at the time and maybe saved your life, or assisted you in helping someone else. Now is the time that you can show your gratitude to this Buddy by making him a member of our Association. I am sure that almost all of us can afford to give a little \$5.00 gift to some Buddy, let us show him that he isn't a forgotten man as far as we are concerned. Nothing makes me madder than when I go into a town and see no Veterans Memorial or see a service held on Veterans Day or Memorial Day, and a small group of people in attendance. This Veterans Day I attended a service in a nearby town and found no flags flying over the Bank

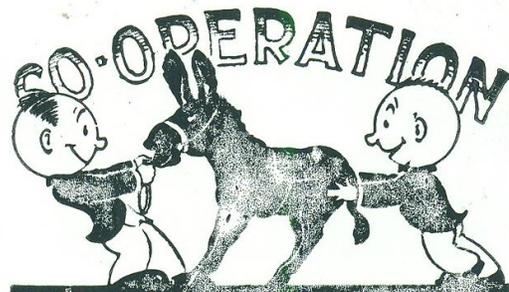
Building where the service was being held, nor was there a flag flying from the street light poles, where flag holders are attached. This to me leaves the Veteran the forgotten man. We as Veterans have to fight our own battle; we have got to keep these organizations going so that we can prove to the world that although we are the forgotten men to so many, we are still men who gave our all, for the good of this great country of ours, and are mightily proud that we did.

Well Buddies, I could go on and on and on. I get so mad when I see these draft card burners and anti-war radicals be allowed to do as they do, and see the news media carry on their stories in the papers, yet we as decent American citizens, who served our country, many of us coming back crippled for life, plus those of our men never came back, can't even get the proper coverage of our organizations, in the papers. We have but one alternative, that is to keep our Association growing, keep it strong by continued membership. Let us always remember the words that have been passed down to us, "In liberty there is strength". If we wish to continue with Liberty, we must continue with strength.

I would like to extend to each and everyone of you, in behalf of the Officers of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, our Best Wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and may the good Lord willing, that this becomes a most successful year in the history of our Association.

Yours truly,
Larry Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer

P.S. Gentlemen, when sending in your dues, would it be possible for you to attach a note with your check giving your full name and address as well as the unit that you served with. This saves me many man hours of work, as I have to take time out to look up the name and address as well as your unit. I would appreciate your co-operation on this matter.



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



The gang from Boston at Pat's house.



Joe Petrucci



L to R: Larry Arrigo, Amby Tynan and Mike Caprio.

Boston Chapter

Hi Buddies:

On September 7, 1969 we had the first meeting of the quarter. The meeting was held at the President DiGiammerino and the First Lady's estate in Malden, Mass. Ginny and Pat showed us all a good time. It started out as a cookout, but, a little rain chased us inside to dine, leaving Pat outside cooking. As we dined inside we were served by a familiar face, Nicky Francullo. Mike Caprio and all the girls did most of the talking and his wife Vera did all the singing. We had a big group there. All who attended were: Tynans', Francullos, Bjorks, Caprios, Bilodeaus, Goodmans, Gundersons, Arrigos and old Jiggs Ellie. While the girls were talking, Mike managed to sneak away to count the money with Pat. As Mike and Pat counted, Nick watched every dime.

The next meeting was held at the lovely home of the Francullos. Mary served delicious food with the assistance of Nancy Tynan. Nick's mother and father attended this meeting, also, Gin's mother, Mrs. Gaetani. Mrs. Gaetani and Mrs. Francullo (Nick's mother) enjoyed themselves after meeting for the first time. All the gang was there and had a swell time.

This gathering was at the lovely home of Larry and Fran Arrigo on November 2, 1969. Fran really put out a spread. Larry and Cliff Woolridge had a real chat about the 308 Engineering besides looking at the pictures of fellows that served in the 308 Engineers. These fellows are certainly aging as I see it. Nick Francullo's daughter was here from Chicago, Illinois with her baby girl. Gram and Grandpa Francullo were really proud showing off both cute babies. Helene being one of the cute babies. Ha! Ha! Hy Goodman won the raffle we had at this meeting. Hy was very happy to be the winner. Ray and Florence Bjorks' daughter has given birth to a wonderful baby girl on October 24, 1969. This is the third grandchild for the Bjorks. Ray and Florence attend all the local meetings and the national reunions. They are real 83rders. Cliff Woolridge has been a big help to us here in the Boston Chapter and we certainly appreciate Cliff and his lovely wife for attending the meetings.

Now here it is November 8, 1969 and meeting time again. We went to Rhode Island for a night on the town.

Joe and Helen Petrucci sponsored this time at Dempsey's Lounge where Joe plays Friday and Saturdays. Joe sang his new recording. Congratulations Joe, it will be a smash. He's quite a guy and

we of the Boston Chapter are proud of him. Joe and Helen's daughter, Mrs. William Sullivan, was in from Washington, D.C. and also Joe's lovely sister was there too. It was Mr. and Mrs. Mike Caprio wedding anniversary and they enjoyed a waltz together. What a lovely couple. Mary Francullo is also talented as she got up and sang. Gerald Di Battista is also quite good at dancing as he put on quite a show with his wife for us. Mary Del Padre also came with Arthur and we were glad to see her once again after her illness. Harry Melikian also dropped by. On our trip down South to see our son, we saw Dallas Williams. He owns a nice restaurant called The Rancho. We had a great time with Dallas and his lovely wife and son. Our son John is now serving in Song Be, Viet Nam. Well buddies, more news next time.

Your correspondent,
Amby

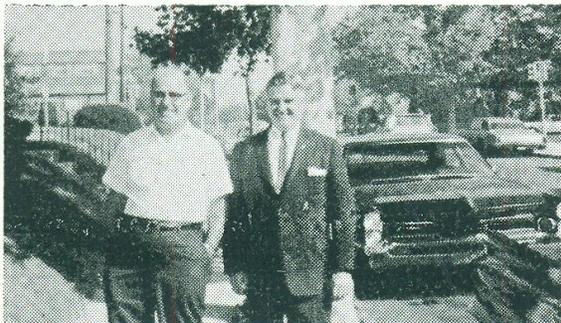
The 83rd Boston Chapter people had the honor of seeing President Pat DiGiammerino sworn in as President of the Malden, Mass. Italian American Club. This is Pat's second year in serving as president. Pat certainly must be doing a good job, for the Irish were over from Hiberian Hall. Believe it or not.

The band was very good with a real dancing crowd. Phil Pappa and Nick Francullo really gave it heck for the last few minutes of the evening.

The Boston Chapter learned a few things from this event: 1) Pat has learned to give a speech that can hold an audience. 2) He knows what everyone wants for food. The gang really enjoys eating the best. Pat, we want to thank you for the wonderful time we had and the best of luck to you in the year to come.

Oh yes, Nick Francullo received a letter from an old buddy, Raynor Burcham, of Proctorville, Ohio who is the postmaster out there and he tells him that he will be at the Boston Reunion. We will be glad to see you "Big Red" and Good Luck on your Postmaster's job. Oh yes, I have some great pictures of you and all the boys too.

NET/ALT



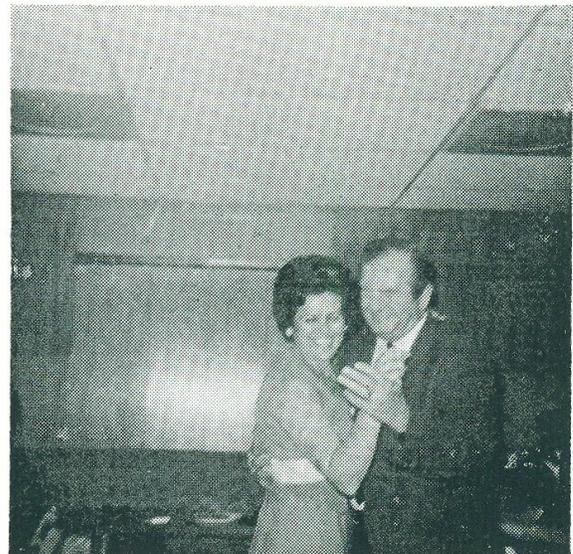
Frank McGrogan and Larry Redmond
at McGrogan's.



Mary McGrogan and twin sister Alice,
Mary Redmond and Ginny DiGiammerio
at Frank and Mary McGrogan's home in
Philly.



Some of the girls of the Boston Chapter.



Mary and Arthur Del Padre.

Chicago Chapter Report

November, 1969

William M. Doty, Reporter

The Chicago Chapter was most honored at its Annual Installation of Officers Dinner in October to have our meeting presided over by our good friend, LARRY REDMOND, our National Secretary and Treasurer. Larry brought his lovely wife, Mary, with him to Chicago and we hope they both enjoyed themselves. Unfortunately, for one reason or another, some of our members were unable to attend the meeting, but a good



crowd was on hand to welcome Larry and his wife to Chicago for the dinner.

Our out-going President, HENRY KUKULSKI, did a fine job during his term of office, and to him goes the thanks of the whole Chicago Chapter for a job well-done.

We extend our best wishes to our new President, HERMAN KOENEMAN, who is accompanied in office by HAROLD DOPP, Vice-President and Secretary, ANTHONY NOVAK, Treasurer, WILLIAM BOGACZ, Chaplain, and JOSEPH GALLANTY and FRANK PHILLIPS, Sergeants-at-Arms.

We will hold our November meeting at FRED'S PATIO LOUNGE, owned and operated by FRED COLLECHIA, a member of the Chicago Chapter and the National Association.



L to R: Anthony Novak, Larry Redmond, Herman Koeneman and Joe Gallantry.



L to R: Walter Marks, Mae Marks, Rita and Bill Doty, Lauerne Susong, Don Susong and Lottie Kukulski.



L to R: Harold Dopp, Anthony Novak, Larry Redmond and Herman Koeneman.



L. to r.: Lee Koeneman, Adeline Novak, Mary Redmond, Harold Dopp, Lois Dopp, Joe Szszech and Irene Szszech.

Our Annual Christmas party will be at the Ivanhoe Restaurant and Theatre. This is always our largest and most joyous meeting of the year. Following a little "Christmas Cheer", we will have a sumptuous dinner, after which we will attend the production offered. This year we will see "The King of Hearts". Then down to the "Catacombs" for a few more drinks and dancing. At this affair, the tickets for the theatre are paid for by the Chapter for all paid-up members and their wives or friends. It is a meeting we all look forward to.

The Chicago Chapter is growing and I think a good indication of the strength of the Chicago Chapter was the turn-out of our members at the Reunion in Detroit. Of course, we cannot match Philly or Pittsburgh when we count the number of members, but there were about 15 of our members who attended the Reunion. We hope to have more present in Boston in 1970 and are making a conscious effort to have all our members at the Silver Anniversary in Cleveland in 1971.

In closing, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking each and every member of the 83rd who participated in his election as National Judge Advocate. I can only say I will try my best to serve your association both well and faithfully in the ensuing year, and hope I can do a job as well as my good friend, "Reggie" Rugienius, did on your behalf.

To The Members Of The Chicago Chapter

Gentlemen:

And I do mean Gentlemen. I owe you a great apology, and I can think of no better time to apologize than right now, so that everyone can know what I am apologizing for.

On October 17, I had the great pleasure of going to Chicago along with my wife, Mary, on the invitation of the Chicago Chapter to attend their installation of officers, and serve as the installing officer. I deem this a great honor to be invited by any Chapter, and sincerely wish that working conditions would permit me to attend any such invitations.

Upon my arrival in Chicago, I contacted our past president William Doty, and got myself straightened out in regards to my reservation. That evening, Mary and I were taken to the dinner-meeting where the installation of officers took place. We really had the red carpet laid out for us. We were served cocktails before the dinner, followed by a tremendous dinner and after that the installation of officers for the coming year.

Upon the completion of the affair, I was approached by the Treasurer of the Chapter who asked me what my expenses were for the flight and the hotel room. I told him that I didn't have any bill for them, that I was very happy with having been invited, and on top of this I had brought my wife along. The members of the Chicago Chapter would not go for this and demanded to know the cost of the plane fare for us both as well as the hotel room cost. They then presented me with a check to cover the expense.

Gentlemen, I do appreciate your hospitality and generosity, and wish to thank you the members of the Chicago Chapter for what you did. I also wish to apologize for not having sent a letter of thanks to you sooner, but I thought that this would be a better way of expressing my sincere appreciation and thanks to you for what you did. It would be almost impossible for me to sit down and write a letter to each and every one of you, as it is always possible that I may miss a man or two.

I sincerely hope that I can have the pleasure of working with you for many years to come, and that our friendship can last a life time. I am proud to have served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, and proud to have had the honor and pleasure of knowing and serving with such great men as you. On behalf of my wife, Mary, and myself, I wish to extend our sincere thanks to all of you in the Chicago Chapter, and sincerely hope that some day in the near future that I can be able to repay you for what you did for us. I wish to make it known to you and to all members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, that we have an open door policy in our house; there are no locks on our doors to an 83rd man. We welcome any of you at any time.

Sincerely,
Larry Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer



HURRY

**SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY**

Late News

Hello Buddies:

I am just getting over one of the greatest weekends that I have had for some time. On Saturday evening, November 29, I had the pleasure of going to the Valley Forge Interchange of the Turnpike to meet a busload of men and women from Warren, Ohio. On this bus was some of our great 83rd men and wives. Among them were Joe and Dimps Minotti, Ray and Marge Voracek, Dick and Millie Kelly, and Charlie Tomazin and his lovely wife (please forgive me, I can't think of her name at this time). Along with these 83rd men and women, were several more of the tremendous folks from Warren, people who, although they are not members, take an active part in Association affairs.

After meeting this busload, I led them to a motel outside of Media, Pa. which is a suburb of Philadelphia. They got checked in and together with my wife and myself, we left the motel to attend the Army and Navy game. We had tremendous seats for the game and enjoyed it very much. To Mary and I, this was a big thrill, as neither of us had never seen an Army and Navy game, nor had we ever seen a college or professional game. After the game, we boarded the bus for our ride back to the motel, where everyone freshened up for the continuance of our grand time. From the motel we went to Lou Volpi's Restaurant which was about a mile from the motel, where a delicious dinner was served. Following dinner, we saw a great show and there was dancing, which added to making this a great day and an enjoyable evening. I am sure that all of the group had a very fine time.

On Sunday morning, Mary and I drove to the motel where we rounded up the group, got them aboard their bus, and escorted them to Lou's other establishment, where breakfast was served. After breakfast, the group boarded their bus for the long ride home. We here in Philadelphia sincerely hope that this very wonderful group from Warren enjoyed themselves. On behalf of the men of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, I wish to say to the Warren group and also to all of you members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, the red carpet is always out, and we sincerely hope that we can always advertise to you that we are the men from "THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE".

I wish to extend my personal thanks to Joe Minotti for obtaining the tickets for Mary and I to attend the game with this group. We are both looking forward to being able to be with this group again in the near future, be it here in Philadel-

phia, there in Warren or anywhere else that we can meet.

Sincerely,
Larry Redmond

Warren Chapter Auxiliary

Warren, Ohio
November 23, 1969

Hi Everybody,

We are having on-again off-again weather here in Warren. One week you freeze and the next week you can wear a Spring coat. I prefer the second week.

Dick and I became the proud grandparents of a baby boy born to our daughter, Kathleen. Robert is his name and he has black hair and weighed in at seven pounds and two ounces.

The men's club had their annual steak fry at the home of Charlie and Ann Tomazin. We had a delicious meal and plenty of refreshments. Our men are very good cooks. We had the pleasure of meeting Mary and Norm Glaze and are looking forward to seeing them at the Xmas Dinner.

The Auxiliary has been very busy selling Xmas cards. It is our Xmas project every year and helps to increase our funds so we can donate to our pet charity. We usually make a donation to the hard of hearing class at one of our schools here in Warren. Angie Phillipone is the Chairman and she is doing a very good job.

Angie and Liz Skovran are chairmen of the Xmas Party and I know we are going to have a fine one. I mentioned before that it will be held at the Chateau Supper Club and everyone is welcome. If you are in our area, it will be held on December 13th at 6:30 p.m.

On November 29th we will be in Philadelphia for the Army-Navy game. I am looking forward to it but I sure hope it will not be too cold. Joe Minotti is running a busload from his club so I know we will enjoy ourselves. Everyone who is going is very congenial. Let you know about it in the next issue.

We were all very depressed here as Sophie Russ lost her daughter, Ann Marie. Charlie, her husband, had died a few months earlier. Our deepest sympathy to Sophie.

Also to Joe Phillipone whose father died.

I have to sign off now as it is time for me to get ready for work. Hope everyone has a

Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year

Millie Kelly
Warren Chapter
Auxiliary

Michigan Chapter Reporting

Hello, You All

Perhaps the "Great American" novel may have it's humble origin beginning with the authorship of this column reporting the wild antics arising from the social events and life of the Michigan Chapter. But, only a dream.

If the social activities of any particular organization denote the success story of that group, then it can be said, published and circulated in the Thunderbolt that the Michigan Chapter is well on it's way in becoming a very successful unit within this association.

Without slowing the reunion momentum, our amiable host for the September get-together was our newly elected chapter president, Ed Zerucha, at his Lake Cottage. This pleasant place has been open to us for the past ten years or more and, as usual, the food, booze and water can be described in one word — great. I will mention that the day's hi-light was an exhibition given on water ski's (a wonderful thing to behold) by Jerry Zing—in a ladies bathing suit. Few of us can recall the business meeting but will always remember the exhibition. The donor of the suit, Jean Winchell, will swear to this day that the suit looked better on Jerry than on her. Very few of us will agree on her statement and I would estimate there were at least thirty one others present.

Should anyone be deceived in thinking this chapter is composed of members and friends from the Detroit area only, then it must be mentioned some of our group do, can and will travel 200 miles for a single business meeting or any social event . . . and love every mile.

Our October get-together was hosted by Bob and Rita Taylor of Columbiaville. We who live in the city can be envious of this gracious fun-loving couple who own a piece of a river. Another wonderful place to be in the summer.

It was here, at this meeting, we elected our "69-70" chapter officers. As usual, our business meetings are conducted in the shortest possible time in order to get to the main reason of our assembly, to enjoy the occasion. As in any group, there are at least two or more camera bugs. We have the normal quota; Loyal and Katie Pangle, Jack and Hankie Daugherty. Where and when some of those films and slides were taken should be investigated. Some of those slides projected by Rita covered at least a 27 year span and, I suspect, involved a great amount of collusion with certain un-named wives. Returning home in a blinding rain failed to dampen the memory of a very pleasant and enjoyable day.

Not all of our social events involve a business meeting. In appreciation for the co-operation and unlimited amount of work our wives expended during the days and nights of our past reunion, it was resolved at the last meeting to do something constructive . . . like a night out on the town. The Detroit area isn't really a show business town but is blessed with several fine dinner clubs who feature the finest talent of stage, screen and T.V. The Moon, located in Hazel Park, was the choice and our wives the happy guests, the evening of Nov. 8. Of course we came along only to keep them out of trouble. It can be noted, also, the Moon isn't the place for a jealous wife.

Our December business meeting and happy get-together will be hosted by Marion Muoio and his wonderful wife, Josie, at his home located at 6217 Jonathon in Dearborn on the 14th of December. Our New Years Eve party is being held at "Liberati" on Miller Road in Dearborn, only a few weeks from this date. It would be our pleasure should any of you fine people appear at either or both events or any future event or occasion.

Best regards,
Nick Boyd, "E & H" Co., 331

330th Infantry Unit

Hello Buddies:

At the present time I do not have too much to report about the 330th Unit. All I really can say is that they are holding their own as far as membership is concerned. I think that they are giving the 329th and 331st a good run for their money.

I would like to appeal to all of you 330th men to check your membership cards and see if you are delinquent in your dues. If so get it sent off to me at once. Let us keep these other units on the run. We did in combat, and we can continue to do so here at home. I can't help but say the 330th was the best damned Regiment in the 83rd, and now they are the best Regimental Unit in the Association. Come on 330th men, stand behind me, prove to the Association that what I am saying is right.

Well Buddies, here we are approaching the Christmas season. On behalf of the members of the 330th Regimental Unit, I wish to express our sincere best wish for a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of you. May we continue to see the 83rd Infantry Division Association one of the outstanding Associations in the country.

Yours truly,
Larry Redmond
Co. H, 330th

Greater Pittsburgh Chapter

Hello Buddies:

Now, that the past reunion is history, we must once again look forward to our everyday happenings, and with these, I am sure every 83rd member of the Association is going to strive for a bigger and better organization. Here in the Pittsburgh area the chapter still meets the first Sunday of every month, at the Brentwood V.F.W. Post, on Saw Mill Run Boulevard, so the invitation goes to all that is not a member of our chapter, to join as soon as he can. We have many activities throughout the year and our next will be a Christmas party, held at the Post, on Saturday, December 6. Steak and ham dinners will be served along with refreshments and dancing will follow. I am sure all that attend will have a grand time.

The Pittsburgh Chapter recently sent clothing to the orphan children of Vietnam, and Christmas toys will be sent also. Your other Pittsburgh reporter, Greer Thompson is handling this worthy project. Greer was formerly with Div-Arty.

Hank Golembeski, G-329, had a very serious heart artery operation and is recuperating at home and we understand he is coming along well, so a speedy recovery to Hank from all the boys.

Al Gruber, Co. M-331, recently spent a few weeks in Florida, on a business trip, and we missed him at our last meeting. Al Suess Jr., son of Al Sr., G-331, recently joined the Pa. National Guard and is now in service. Yolanda Costanza, wife of our active member Gene, recently had a plastic artery put in her leg, and is now again a full 96 pound darling. We all hope to see her at the Christmas party.

The president of California State College is a former 322nd F.A. man, by the name of Dr. Roadmen, and we are in hopes of having him as a member shortly.

Paul Dietrich, Cannon 330, informs us that his son has fully recovered from plastic surgery.

Elmer Palm, B-331st, has a son attending Indiana State College, so you can see our children will soon be on their own.

Your Pittsburgh reporter recently had a reunion with former Co. B 308th Engr. men at the races in Charlestown, Virginia, and he met with Emil Diubaldo, Bill Coffey, George Cox and Clyde Portersfield, along with all the wives and a good time was had by the group. It seems as though Coffey was a winner,

and had to buy steak dinners for all. Your reporter learned that Bill Coffey, upon returning from the reunion found that his home and farm was completely washed away by the disastrous hurricane Camille. Bill's wife and mother-in-law, managed to get to safety, by only a few minutes, as the hamlet of Massies, Mills, Virginia, was completely destroyed, so the boys from the Pittsburgh Chapter would like to extend their sympathy to Bill on his great loss, as we all know what the farm meant to him.

George Cox Jr. will be getting married this coming March at Chesapeake Bay, and the boys from Co. B, 308th Engr. Bn. will do their utmost to attend the affair and make it a memorable event, so we all wish George Jr., along with his intended bride, and his parents, our very best wishes.

Well, this is all for now, so here is wishing you all a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Your Pittsburgh Reporter,
Charlie Altomari

Jersey Chapter

Hi Buddies:

Well, that time of the year is coming when everyone should be happy and I hope you all find it that way.

Things in Jersey haven't changed much with everyone working twice as hard as usual trying to make that extra buck for Santa Claus.

We were all happy to hear that Mary Sihlanick is doing well after a major operation. You see, Mary, we told you it would be a simple thing for you to do. May you always continue in the best of health.

Al Rinaldi has given up his scouting job to take a head coaching job at St. Mary's High in New Brunswick, New Jersey. We wish you all the best of luck and if you ever need any help when the chips are down, just call Stan Bielen or myself and we'll call the play from the stands.

Still haven't heard from quite a few of my buddies, but I guess they are all busy too. It seems we just keep working and forget about the time.

Our meetings are still the same old faces, but we always have a good night of fun. It's just too bad the rest of the fellows can't make the meetings.

Well Buddies, I guess I'll have to sign off now and hope this finds you all in the best of health.

At this time, I would like to wish you and your families the Merriest of Christmases and the Best New Year yet.

Yours truly,
Jim Bowie
Co. B-330th

Warren Chapter News

Hello Fellows:

Having just returned from California and, sunshine to the cold and snow. Had intended to look up Ed Paulino while there, but forgot to take his address.

The Warren Chapter just had an election of Officers for the coming year. The slate is as follows:

Joseph Minotti, President
Joseph Nuzzi, Secretary-Treasurer
C. Whitman, Vice President

I had to be away the night of election, and as a result, was unaware of being elected, so let this be a warning to any who miss a Chapter meeting.

The Warren Chapter held a steak fry at the Charles Tomazin's new home, and a great affair it was. The Tomazin's make great hosts. C. Whitman took care of the refreshments and Joe Minotti was the assistant Chef. The steaks were superb and big.

After dinner, the Warren Chapter held its monthly meeting and set up its program for December activities. The ladies Auxiliary will host the men's club to a steak dinner at the Chateau Dinner Club, and the men in return will pick up the tab for the refreshments. All interested in this affair are welcome to attend. It will be on Saturday, December 13th. Then on December 21st, the annual Christmas Party for the children will be held at the Cafe "83", with Santa there passing our gifts to the young and old. Again we say, anyone in the area at the time are more than welcome to attend either affair.

Have a few letters from the Detroit and Pittsburgh Chapters, telling of their coming events, and think that they have very nice affairs also coming up. We here have been discussing the four Chapters get together and probably will have to wait until spring before it could be possible to get together. If any of you Chapters have an idea of some affair, let us hear from you. I think that we missed the boat this fall, with the football season. With Cleveland and Detroit having Pro teams, we could have made one of them.

The Warren Chapter extends its deepest sympathy to Joe Philipone and his family, at the passing away of his father in November. He was in his 70's, and did not have a grey hair in his head. We know that Joe will miss him. Also our sympathies go to Sophie Russ, at the passing of her daughter, Anna Marie, age 21 years, just when she was beginning to learn what life was. Anna Marie was the daughter of Charlie Russ, who passed away in June.

We in Warren are really looking forward to being in Philly for the Army-Navy game. We have a bus going there, and maybe to the people in Philly, this

don't mean much, but I personally think this to be a great thrill, to be able to attend one of these games. We intend to have dinner at Lou Volpi's Restaurant in Wawa and breakfast at his Hoagie Shop and Restaurant in Narberth on Sunday morning. We hope that some of the Philly crew are there.

As I am sitting here writing this article, the phone rings, and receive the news that the Kelly's have just become grandparents again. Daughter, Cathy, just presented them with a grandson. Number two grandchild.

Hope all are in good health for the coming holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. So, I hope one and all have a very happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

Joe Minotti
324th F.A.

From The Editor

TO ALL CHAPTERS:

Here I am once again with an appeal to all Chapters to help me get straightened out. At the Reunion we asked all Chapters to send a list of their News Reporters as well as an Assistant Reporter, so that we could contact them for news. I just ran into a case where there is a new reporter and I sent a letter to the man who was on my Editorial Staff list. There is no way possible that I can guess who I can contact and who I can't. I usually try checking the issues of "THUNDERBOLT" and obtaining from it the names of men who send in news and keep them informed of the deadline date for news. When I don't hear from them, I try sending a form letter to all that I haven't heard from. If your news passes my letter in the mail, then it is not my fault, and I can do nothing but apologize.

One more thing I would like published in this issue, and that is, I have asked each Chapter to send me a list of their Officers, as well as an alternate name or two who can be contacted in the event we have something happen in our Association such as death of one of our Buddies and we wish to pass the word along. Your cooperation on both of these matters will be greatly appreciated. I have received a couple of notices of the change of slate of Officers for the year, but would appreciate if all Chapters would send it to me again, that way there will be no slip up. Maybe in the next issue we could publish the list of Officers for all Chapters; this may help to bring more men into the Association.

Yours truly
Larry Redmond
Editor

Fall River Chapter Chatter

By Manny Martin F-329

As Chairman of your Executive Board, I want to commence this column by publicly acknowledging, and thanking Vito



Pallazullo, Mario Muirio and the rest of that fine Detroit gang for the wonderful job that was done with this year's reunion. The reports are all in, and I just want all of you to know that this was one of the finest jobs ever done financially, and a debt of gratitude is owed the Detroit Chapter by every member of this association. Though, I had written Vito earlier, to thank him and the boys, but I just felt, that all of you should know of the terrific effort put forth by the Detroit Chapter. On behalf of your board, and the members, thank you very much for a job well done fellows. While we are in a thanking mood, I feel that we should publicly thank Vito, not only for the great year he enjoyed as President, but also for making and presenting to all past presidents, the fine hats, denoting their year of years of service. Thank you Vito.

Now to chapter news, or what little news there is, most of you have no doubt surmised, that the Fall River Chapter is not as active as it was; there seems to be a couple of reasons for this, one, apathy and other interests on the part of the members, two, the members that did work just got tired of carrying the load by themselves, the most that was ever asked of any chapter member was that they sell a few tickets to our affairs, at the end they were not even doing this. I grant that life and circumstances change for all of us, I know that with two children now, mine has drastically, however I am as ready now to do as much as I ever have, when the members, show me a desire to carry their fair share of the workload. This is not to say that we have stopped completely, a few dedicated people are still available, and we will have a Christmas and New Year's Eve party, if not in the magnitude of the past, at least, it will be two evenings spent together, by the members and their lives.

We were all very sorry to hear that Pierre Barthelemy's dear mother had passed away, for all of your friends Pete, I extend to you and your's, sincerest sympathies.

I wish to close this column, by extending from all of us here, from Ade-

line and I, the most joyous holiday season ever, and a happy, healthy New Year to all Thunderbolts and their families.

Greater Indianapolis Chapter

Hello Buddies and your Families,

The first snow has come and gone in Naptown. Wasn't a big one but enough. Most people were saying they wished it could have waited until Christmas to snow. Well that can still happen in Indiana.

Our Chapter held a business meeting on November 14 at the 40 and 8 Chateau, on North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis. The following members were present: Wilfred Zander, John Soroko, Ned B. Smith, John Robinette, Matt Brumbach. There is No Change in our Chapters Officers, (everyone did such a fine job we didn't make any changes, Ha!)

Our Annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 6, at the residence of Ned and Geni Smith, the location is 3432 Sycamore Lane, Indianapolis.

As far as can be determined all our Chapter members are all well and healthy. One member I haven't heard from in some time is Frank Pope. Frank we have missed you, hope you can be with us in the future. Was hoping our other members could be with us at our last meeting. Guess I will get on My Hot Line to "Ol" Joe Lowry and see how he is doing. Haven't heard from him in some time. The Clarence Hockensmiths now have residence in Indianapolis. Had a report on Young John (Doug) Soroko, and we are happy to learn that he recovered from his illness and is back on his job.

Again I would like to say that we are real proud to have Old Buddie Jim Burton in our midst. Jim came to our last meeting and Jim, the Indianapolis Chapter welcomes you to all our functions. You and your family.

This is the time of year where everybody is trying to select that Christmas gift to give to someone dear. And hoping they chose the correct size. Hope all you Thunderbolts can be with your families and friends during the holiday season; that's what makes Christmas wonderful and to remember the occasion and why we celebrate Christmas.

We from the Indianapolis Chapter would like at this time to wish all of you and your families a Very Merry Christmas and A Happy and Joyous New Year.

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

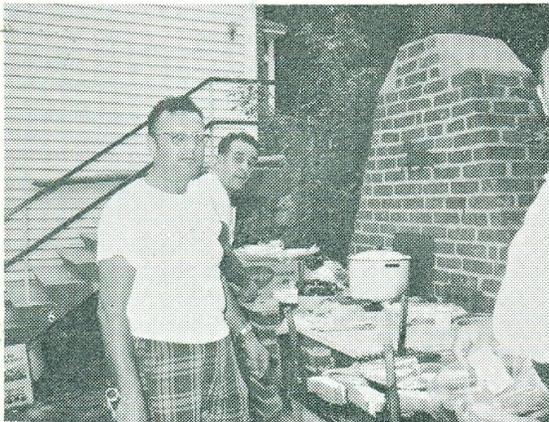
More From Boston



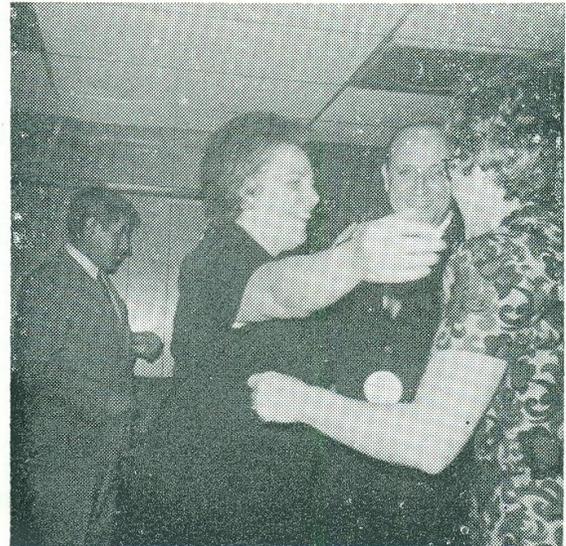
L to R: Larry Arrigo, Ginny DeGrammerio, Nick Francullo and Hy Goodman.



Amby Tynan and Mike Caprio. A couple of financial wizards!



The Big Guns—Nick Francullo and Pat DiGrammerio.



Left to right: G. DiBatistta, Vera and Mike Caprio and Gin DiGiammerino.



Mary and Arthur Del Padre.

— Just A Reminder —
SEND YOUR DUES TO
THE SECRETARY
NOW !!

Publicity Director

Dear Buddies:

There isn't much to report at this time because I am just about getting off the ground as far as the publicity department goes. My requests in the last issue were answered by only one interested person and you can hardly say that is considered a success. I've been sending letters to radio stations lately and I'm hoping that Larry will soon start receiving requests for information and our membership drive for this year will get on it's way.

As always, no one or two men can get all the advertising needed to build up our association, so I'll have to ask each and everyone of you to pitch in with every little bit of help you can give us, and make the task so much easier. I'd like especially to ask all the former officers and interested parties to pitch in and write to as many members as you can.

I'm still trying to get a master list of the daily newspapers but find it kind of tough because I don't have the necessary leads. Again, if any of you can help in this department, please contact me as soon as you can.

Here in Pittsburgh we're hoping to see some of our members from Cleveland and Warren Chapters at our Christmas party on December 6, 1969. We're hoping to join them also when we are notified of the proper date. This will make for closer relations and better parties for all of us.

In closing: send in your dues early and don't forget the dates of August 20, 21 and 22 in 1970 for the reunion in Boston. Thank you.

Samuel Klippa
Co. D 331st. Inf.
Publicity Director

A Friendly Howdy from Texas

Lawrence J. Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Pa. 19083 -88

Dear Larry:

Sorry we couldn't be with you for another reunion but it is just too hard for me to get my vacation any time I wish. I work for Uncle Sam in the Airport Traffic Control Tower in Houston and scheduling is a problem. My wife, Cleo, and I attended the Indianapolis and the Pittsburgh reunions. We met many fine people and have been trying to get to another. Maybe next year will be different.

I am originally from Hamilton, Ohio, and my mother still lives there. I moved to Houston, Texas in 1947 and married a native Texas gal in 1948.

I would like to invite anyone who might be coming through Houston to call me. It would be nice to hear from someone with whom I have something in common (especially having served in the best Division ever formed). My address and phone number is below.

Enclosed find my check for dues. Good luck to all and I hope to see you in Boston in 1970.

James L. (Larry) Amiot
6623 Reed Road
Houston, Texas 77017
Mission 3-5229
Rgmtl Hdq. Co. 329th Inf.
from Oct. 1942 to Nov. 1945

Cleveland Chapter Report

The holiday season is once again upon us and I take this opportunity to wish one and all a very merry Xmas and a happy New Year from all the people of our Cleveland Chapter.

Our October meeting was held at Walt Meczka's home and I am happy to report that we had a good turnout which made for a very lively meeting. Most of our discussion was about our plans for the '71 reunion. Walt Meczka is setting up meetings with several hotels. Our committee will then determine which one will suit our purposes best. We will have a definite selection at our meeting next week.

I regret to report that Joanne's Uher's father passed away last week and I extended our sympathy to her from all the members of the Cleveland Chapter.

At the September meeting (which I was unable to attend), Walt Demko volunteered as assistant reporter. His address is 5192 Center Road, Brunswick, Ohio 44212, phone 225-2579. If you are unable to reach me, you can contact Walt and he will forward any message to me.

Tickets for our yearly spirits raffle are moving well and we are anticipating another successful venture. We are hoping to hold the drawing at the hotel selected for the reunion.

This year we are going to continue our meetings throughout the summer. We hope to once again draw the large turnout that we have had in the past.

Once again another year is coming to an end and we are all getting a little older, a little wiser, and reminiscing a little more, and what better way to do this than with the fold old 83rd. Happy holidays.

Casey Szubski.

Philadelphia Chapter Meetings Become Social Extravaganzas

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

There is no stopping the Philly Chapter now. We have launched into a series of monthly meetings that have become



the envy of all. Our leadership has proven to be of a superlative quality. Our new headquarters has become a boon, leading to meetings that have produced conviviality that can not be surpassed. Our President Joe Goia has imbued a bit of his enthusiasm to such fine members like Lou Volpi and Bill Chavanne, and of course to their lovely and charming wives, Lucy and Bea, so that each monthly meeting has become a veritable banquet, with the most luscious of foods, the finest of drinks, and of equal importance business meetings that have produced concrete results.

Each monthly meeting has had a theme. First we had a spaghetti dinner, then a smorgasbord dinner, and then an evening full of fancy tid bits and hearty dishes that lasted all evening. We have had a swinging orchestra at our November meeting that was out of this world. We ate, we drank and made merry all evening and night.

It takes a lot of arranging and plenty of hard work. And so when it comes to that chore we have to thank that unselfish pair Lou and Lucy Volpi, who provided the wonderful food and desserts, and as real chipperinners, the hard working pair of Bill and Bea Chavanne. This quartette defies all comparison, every evening before the meeting they assembled, and took care of all the details. Its very easy for the rest of us to come and partake of all the refreshments, but to this great foursome—Lou, Lucy, Bill and Bea — we doff our hats and say, bless you and many, many thanx for your hard work.

To take care of the liquid refreshments, our own top sergeant, Bill Hoolan, has taken on himself to provide the "good cheer". Before each meeting comes up he goes to the commissary and brings in the "booze". Our house chairman, Bill Latrenta, takes care of the bookkeeping and provides us with the greatest of friendly barkeeps, namely, Bill Murray,

Frank McGovern, Les Hauck, Larry Redmond, Joe Goia, Bill Holan, Bill Latrenta. We have had the finest of friendly hosts.

Our meetings have become very well attended and among the newcomers we want to welcome Al and Mary Siverio, and John and Evelyn Devinney. They have aded to our get-togethers with their excellent humor and pleasant company.

We are endeavoring to swell our chapter treasury and are running a 120 Club. We have enrolled many to this club and our donations have swelled the treasury and have also have paid out prizes to the members.

The Christmas spirit has come to the Philadelphia Chapter and our Christmas party will be one we are looking forward to. Each member will provide a Polly Anna gift for each other. The good women of course are included. There will be food and drinks and all the trimmings a party should have.

At our last meeting in November, the swinging combo engaged by Bea Chavanne provided us with music that was great. It brought out that charming couple of Bill and Virginia Pugh, whose dancing and cavorting makes us all stop and watch. Another wonderful pair to watch dancing is Al and Ann Belvedere. To witness Al and Ann dancing the South American dances is wonderful. If you haven't witnessed Bill Hoolan and Ginny Pugh doing the latest swing dances, you have missed an eyeful. Speaking of dancers you haven't seen anything until you have seen my beautiful wife Ann (now 40 pounds slimmer) doing the Alley Cat with only one easy lesson from Evelyn Devinney. My slim wife Ann can prance and shake with the best. But alas poor me, I can't keep up with her yet.

Thanksgiving Day is on us and for the Philly Chapter we offer thanks to the Good Lord sparing us for another year and thank him worshiply for providing us with the good cheer the wonderful spirit of friendship that permeates throughout our membership. May we continually be blessed with the spirit of friendship and good cheer to our fellow man. Amen.

**PLEASE PAY DUES
IMMEDIATELY.**

Obituaries

JOHN J. WALSH JR.

Prayers for John J. Walsh Jr., 19 of 21 West Kidder St., who died when his gun discharged accidentally Saturday while he was rabbit hunting in Raymond, will be said at the Conroy Funeral Home, 172 State St. at 8:15 a.m. today followed by a High Mass of Requiem in St. Pius Church at 9 a.m. Interment will be in Calvary Cemetery.

He was born in Portland Nov. 15, 1949, the son of John J. (Wally) and Petronilla (Priscilla) DiPietrantio Walsh. He attended local elementary schools and was a 1969 Cheverus High School graduate. While at Cheverus he was a member of the basketball and baseball teams and of the glee club.

He was enrolled as sophomore at Niagara University.
Dear Mr. Raymond:

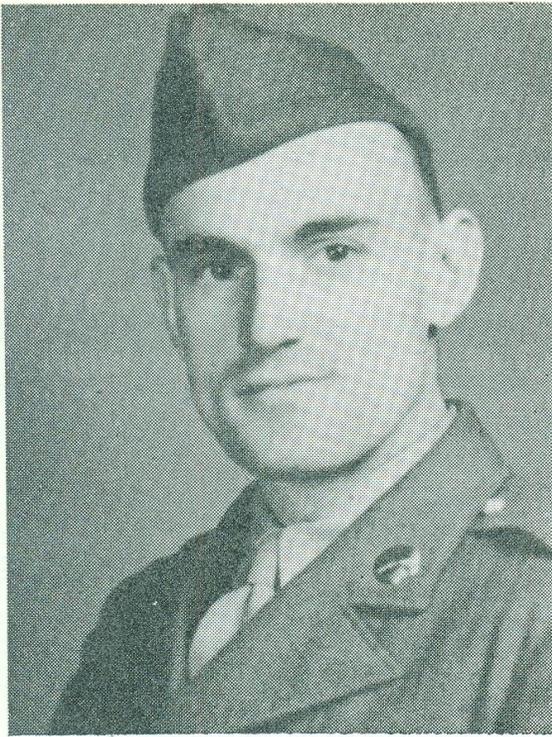
It is with deep regret and sorrow we are writing to you of the death of our son, John J. Walsh Jr., who has attended many Reunions with us in the past. I would appreciate it if you would post it in the THUNDERBOLT, in order that our many friends may know.

Sincerely
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Walsh
21 W. Kidder Street
Portland, Maine
Btry C, 324th F.A.

Received word of the death of John Romans, Co. H, 330th. John served in the Mortar Platoon. He was very well liked by the men in the Company. John was a very fine boy. He died in February 1969 at the age of 47 years.

* * * *

In a recent letter from Joe Sloan of Omaha, Nebraska, I learned of the death of Lewis N. Gasteier. Lewis died on July 4, 1969. He was formerly a Company Clerk in Co. E, 331st. Lewis had been suffering with a heart condition for the past eight years.



Dear Buddies:

Just a short note to you about a dear buddy of Co. M. 330th. Inf. who is very ill. Stanley Kryven of 53 Hardy Rd. in Levittown, Pa. 19056 is now recuperating at his home after a very serious lung operation at the Hohnemann Hospital in Philadelphia. He was hospitalized for twelve weeks, including six weeks of therapy before going home.

Bob Hedger learned of this from Charles Balmer, both members of Co. M. 330th and both from Ohio and Stanley Kryven's daughter sent Bob a letter explaining her father's condition to him. Kathy (his daughter) goes on to say in her letter that all their friends are praying for Stanley's complete recovery and I think that all of us should do the same and it wouldn't be a bad idea to send him get well cards, each and everyone of us.

Samuel Klippa
Co. D. 331st Inf.

ATTENTION ALL MEN

Look at the expiration date on your Membership Card —

If it does not read Aug. 1970 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.

Camp Robinson 25 Years Later

Many of the men who served in the 83rd were, like myself, among the thousands who went through Camp Joseph T. Robinson in Arkansas. And, again like myself, they must sometimes wonder what became of that camp in the Ozark foothills. Well, on a recent trip to that part of the country I had a brief opportunity to revisit the old camp and here is what I found:

Briefly, I found that Camp Robinson, de-activated shortly after the end of World War II, is now being used on a limited basis by the Arkansas National Guard. Also, some of the outlying areas are under the jurisdiction of the Arkansas Wildlife and Conservation Department.

But the main areas of the camp, as most of us knew it, just is not there. It's gone, swallowed up by the dense growth of some 20 years of bushes and trees. The rifle ranges are still intact, being used by the National Guard on occasion, but aside from that I could find little that resembled Camp Robinson, 1944.

What we knew as the main gate is now deserted, once busy guard houses now standing alone and unused, greeting few, stopping none. I felt a little disappointed. But a short distance inside the gate I found myself stopped by a fence across the drive so I went looking for another way into the area.

After inquiring around I finally found that there was another entrance, so after much driving around North Little Rock I eventually drove through another unguarded gate into the old headquarters area.

This area is still fairly well maintained by the National Guard, although many of the buildings are now gone. Low stone walls still line many of the streets much as before. One permanent type stucco finish building stands by itself, away from the other typical army base frame buildings. Letters on the front of it proclaims this building to be Lloyd England Hall. I don't recall seeing it before, although it has obviously been there for many years.

Driving on into the former barracks area of the camp I found virtually nothing that I could recognize. As I said before, trees and underbrush had replaced the barracks building, mess halls, and 5-man huts that once stood everywhere. Streets that once were tramped daily by thousands of G.I.'s are now merely asphalt paths winding into the dense underbush.

After much searching I finally located the company area of Co. B, 113th Infantry Training Bn., my old home. By this time I had become used to the sight of nothing but woods where buildings had once stood, but I must admit that I was little hurt that this had been allowed to happen to this area. After all, at one period of time in 1944 this was the most important area in the world. I lived there! Oh well, at least they hadn't built a subdivision here.

Traveling on I found the P.T. area where I had sweated and cursed and griped for days on end. More woods! And there was the triangular area of land where we ran ourselves to death after each P.T. session. For a change it was barren, much as it was then. And the sawdust pit area, where we learned how to break a man's neck over a piece of stick that was always placed close to the opponents' side of the pit—there was no trace of the pits themselves.

The rifle ranges are much as before but they somehow seem closer to our company area than they did in 1944. I recalled firing the 500 yard range for record in a downpour of rain. Funny, I hadn't thought about that in years.

The service club and theatre areas are like every place else; no buildings, just trees. The only indication of former settlement is an occasional concrete slab where once there stood a majestic khaki colored frame building.

Upon leaving the area, headed for the camp gate, I noticed a flat area of ground that was partially plowed up. A Ford tractor stood alone in the field. Suddenly I realized that here I was looking upon the former drill field and parade ground, the sweatbox of Camp Robinson. It was good to think that someone was finally realizing something good from that patch of scorched earth, although what could be grown in that field of rock is beyond me.

So this is Camp Joseph T. Robinson, 1969. A little disappointing as far as nostalgia goes, but I found comfort in the thought that at least this former army installation is no longer needed to prepare men for war. Perhaps the day will come when we no longer have a need for any of the Camp Robinsons that still must exist in this world.

Impossible, you say?

Perhaps, but remember the old saying we had — **THE IMPOSSIBLE JUST TAKES A LITTLE LONGER!**

Bob Taylor
Co. B - 329

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

132 ROCKWOOD DRIVE
HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 310
Upper Darby, Pa.

Return Requested

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY, OR TOWN, AND STATE ZIP CODE

CO. REGT OR BN.

I have been honorably discharged from Army Service..... or I am still on active duty..... Enclosed check or money order (\$5.00) payable to:

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

132 Rockwood Drive

Havertown, Pa. 19083

DATE SIGNATURE