

* THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

CENTRAL EUROPE

VOL. 30 - No. 4

JUNE - JULY - AUGUST - 1975



THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division, World War II and is published at 1500 Mutual Street, Pittsburgh, Pa 15204

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS

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THUNDERBOLT, VOL. NO. 1 JULY 1947

"CHARTER MEMBERS TOP 800 MARK"

If you didn't already know, the 83rd. Infantry Division Association, was launched from Washington D.C. where a group of eleven former Thunderbolts, on or about March 1, 1947, christened and cheered it on.

From a mailing list of approximately 30,000, one of the largest the Infantry Journal has handled 814 Membership applications have been received this date (July 31st.) the day this paper went to press.

The 500th, person to become a postwar Thunderbolt was John D. Raikos of Indianapolis Indiana. He, a former Captain, was communications officer of the 329th. Infantry Regiment.

Many of the Members want to help out. Our Suggestion is that the help be in the form of a letter to all of their Buddies asking them to join and get behind the Association, and, if at all possible, to be in Cleveland for the Reunion on August 15 and 16.

First Thunderbolts to join of the different units of the 83rd. Division to become members of the Association are as follows: Adam F. Dormuth of 308 Med., Jack F. Dayhoff of 308 Eng., Major Harry Benion of the 329th., Col. Robert T. Foster of the 330th., Emanuel E. Lamb of the 331st., Anthony J. Adelizzi of the 322nd. F.A., Richard W. Taube of the 323rd. F.A., Donald A. Dey of the 324th. F.A., Thomas J. Anders of the 908th. F.A., Gen. Robert M. Montague of the Div. Arty., and Shelley G. Hughes of Division Headquarters.

GEN. DEVERS COMMENDS THUNDERBOLTS ON FORMING DIVISION ASSOCIATION

In a letter recently received by Brigadier Gen. C.B. Ferenbaugh, Gen. Jacob L. Devers of the Army Ground Forces, highly commended the 83rd. Infantry Division Association. Accompanying his letter of commendation was the treasured photograph below, showing an episode during the fight for the port of St. Malo, France. He wrote:



"I am happy to present it, matted for framing, with my personal compliments and those of the War Department."

I know that former members of the 83rd, are proud of their service, especially of the bitter fighting in the hedgerows and swamps during the battle for Carentan; smashing the defenses of Plesnil and Pleurtit and the capture of Dinard and Fortress Paula; the Division part in the reduction of Brest; patrolling for protection of the Third Army's flank for a distance of 175 miles from St. Nazaire to Auxerre during the drive to Luxembourg; notable achievement of the Division for arranging the surre ender of Brigadier General Both-Heming Elster's troops at Beaugency Bridge; spearheading of the VII Corps drive to the Roer River; Battle of the Bulge and bitter fighting near Bihain and Langlir; fighting through Newss to the Rhine River and the drive to the Elbe for the junction with the Russians.

It is gratifying to know that the 83rd. Infantry Division Association aims at perpetuating in peace the espirit de corps and the comraderie developed, in our citizen's Army under conditions of war. Men who served valiantly in war, will, I know, continue to serve their country in peace and to maintain their interest in military affairs and in the security of our Country."

Jacob L. Devers General, U.S.A.

PLEA FOR MEMBERSHIP (The Ad below was published in 1947 and can apply to this year also.)

The 83rd. Infantry Division Association is in great need of names and addresses of former officers and enlisted men of the Thunderbolt. Unfortunately, officers were omitted from all the rosters of the Division.

The Thunderbolt Newspaper can use any information concerning former members, especially news on births, weddings, social events, promotions, graduations and deaths.

FORWARD ALL INFORMATION TO YOUR EDITOR.

THE SIXTH CAMPAIGN

Remember Sainteny, St. Malo and Dinard? Remember Angers, Nantes and Beauency? Remember the Huertgen Forest, Ardennes, the Roer and the Rhine? Remember the wild chase to the Elbe and the celebrations that followed? Remember 'em all?

The 83rd. Infantry Division Association, now coming into being, will by the means by which we who remember those places only too well can remind our people again and again of the efforts we made for the individual freedom we enjoy and for the tranquility which, unfortunately, is not yet in the bag. Those five Campaigns across Europe must not be

wasted. We must carry on to success.

Our job is not yet finished, despite some wishful thinking. There is a sixth Campaign in progress. We are all of us in it. The mission is fixed. As veterans and as Thunderbolts we must capture and secure our way of life against all attackers; and, hold that line of departure from which we can foster and guarantee personal liberty to all men who have the guts to fight for it. We are ready again, in the future, to protect what so many served, fought and died for in the past.

The 83rd. Infantry Division Association will perform no miracles. But because some vital spirit which bound the Thunderbolts together in combat is again expressing itself, our Association will at the least by its existance be a reminder that there was a war. At best it can become an articulate voice of men who do not want another war but who, under no circumstances will stand by & see the gains we bought so dearly, be lost to any other set of fakirs, bluffers or butchers, whatever the source. ED.

DURING THE WAR THE MONTH OF JULY

1942: Fifteen thousand of us, somewhere throughout the 48 states, were fully aware of the pilfering going on in Europe and in Asia. We were aware, but still hesitant. However, in our communities, local Draft Board workers were feverishly thumbing Index Cards, and soon ours would be pulled. Yanked would be more appropriate, for we landed in the Infantry. Scared to death at first. Yet, to be called Infantrymen was something we grew to be proud of.

1943: We were expert Infantrymen now. Tennessee Maneuvers were next.. Remember....Horne Springs, Lebanon, Carthage, Rome, Murfreesboro.....the broiling sun crusting our dusty faces on 20 mile endurance marches....river crossings.l...defending road corners....attacking high ground.. Later we were praised by higher-ups. We were the youngest outfit there but we came out of it matured and well qualified for future action.

1944: The Fourth of July. Light your firecracker and get rid of it. In Normandy, France, we did but somehow the Germans were also celebrating. Hedgerows boxed us in temporarily. The most deadly feared foliage ever grown on earth denied us ground. We fought nature, and the German. We slapped him, pounded him, clawed him, but never frightened him. He was as determined as we were. We tore into him, slashed him, bled him, and slowly he weakened. He staggered and fell, so we advanced to another field and more hedgerows. By the end of the month he had been badly beaten, but we were too, we were just hanging on the ropes. We had returned to the French such shattered towns as Coulot, Hotot, Sainteny, and Auxais.

1945: With the war officially over in Europe we prepared to occupy Bavaria. The southern section of Germany had been greatly spared, and it was a novel sight to see buildings still standing untouched. A much prettier sight was the wide field unmarred by burnt out vehicles and pock.marked by artillery. We visited the Oberhaus, a historic Castle converted into a rest center, and rubbed elbows with Jack Benny, Ingrid Bergman, Bob Hope, and Martha Tilton. It was also time to worry about our ASR Scores. Somehow many of us pushed it over the '80-CRITICAL'. Soon we could leave the Thunderbolt for the United States.

THE ABOVE RUNDOWN, SHOULD BRING BACK A LOT OF THOSE MEMORIES.. ED.

HEADLINES

THE STARS AND STRIPES
AUGUST OF 1944

REDS CAPTURE PLOESTI OIL REFINERIES EISENHOWER SAYS WAR HERE''IN LAST STAGES'' NAZIS PREPARE GAS, SWISS SAY YANKS IN SOUTH PURSUING NAZIS CZECHS RISE, FIGHT OPENLY FRENCH FIGHTERS JOIN YANKS; NEAR SEINE

1945

SHAKEDOWN JAILS 80,000 GERMANS
AMERICANS CONFISCATE ARMS, AMMUNITION IN 2-DAY
SEARCH.

BIG THREE REPORTED EAGER TO FINISH BERLIN MEETING UNDER 85 SCORE IS DUE SHORTLY; "LEISURELY" DISCHARGE ASSAULED.

FIRST ETO TROOPS ARRIVE IN MANILA 2,500 PLANE, 106,000-MAN AIR FORCE TO POLICE SKIES OVER U.S. HELD REICH...

U.S. PRIVATE LOANS AIDED REICH TO REBUILD YANK CONTROL COUNCIL MOVES TO BERLIN SOON ETO WOUNDED ALL ON WAY HOME

> GERMAN FRAULEIN'S KISS IS A REGULAR FILMLAND PRODUCT

Paris, July 23,1945- This is a story for men only, and only for certain groups of men at that. Fellows back from prolonged duty in womanless parts would do well to leave the thing alone. It's abouthow the German Fraulein kisses.

An International News Service reporter stopped A GI just back from Germany in Paris today and asked him what goes with the German kissing situation. The INS man had a helluva nerve, but no matter. This is what the GI said:

"You see, the American girl, she's used to driving in a car with the boyfriend, and she sits on his right, so for kissing she turns her head to the left.

"But the British girl - I dunno why - turns her head to the right."

"Now the German Fraulein, she's different. She smiles and turns sideways, like she means to say no. But she throws her head back, with her chin up and she looks starry-eyed in the air. Then when you put your arm around her waist for a kiss, she bends from her knees and does a fade.

"That's when you close in and put your other hand behind her back. She'd fall if you didn't. Then she puts her arm around her shoulder and gets her balance.

''All of a sudden she goes into reverse,her head comes up and she steps out of it. It's a regular Hollywood job. I don't know where they learned it!'
WHEW....

WHO WON THE WAR?

Sorry, fellows, but that question will never be fully answered. However in recent poll of the Country conducted by the Psychological Corporation of New York, the question, "Who to your belief, held the toughest job in the war?" was asked. Assuming that the holder of the toughest job contributed greatly in winning the war, one can draw his own conclusions.

The Infantryman received 60.1 percent or almost two-thirds of the votes. The Air Corps pilot was 2nd with 13 percent. Probably the most pertinent fact emerging from this cross-analysis is that regardless of the branch of service of family members or individuals, the Doughboy got the highest number of votes. Air Corps and even Navy Personel cast many votes in favor of the Infantryman.

********** 'PURPLE HEART JOE''

IN BATTLE OF BULGE

Humor during the 'Battle of the Bulge' would have filled but a fraction of a page in any joke book. Still, the average American Soldier expressed himself, and perhaps the best quip of the war came from a Thunderbolt during the Campaign.

After a bitter day of fighting near Langlir, Belgium, Joe's company was told to consolidate its positions for the night. He knew that there would be very little sleep that night, yet, he mechanically dug his foxhole. It wasn't much of a hole, but Joe found enough room in it for his bed roll and himself. Minutes later his arm caught two small pieces of schrappel and he left for the Battalion Aid Station. The enemy artillery by now was earth-shaking.

Mike, a replacement from the rear, came up to the front that night and selected Joe's shallow foxhole. After all, a poor hole was better than no hole; and it revealed extra blankets. The enemy artillery increased, and schrapnel zipped and zinged all around. Mike decided it was time to dig, and in a hurry. His pick mattock headed for China through blankets and earth. Finally, the artillery ceased. The next morning, Mike discovered an object which looked more like a piece of OD cheesecloth than Joe's bedding roll. He did, however, reroll it and send it back to the company's train.

During the day, Joe returned to his company minus schrapnel and claimed his belongings. He knew that the sleeping bag would need airing so he flung it to the winds. The disorderly contents of the butchered flannel and chunky earth was too much for him. His eyes popped, his face whitened, and then he exploded, "'Holy God; Purple Heart, nothing, I'm dead..'"

HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON TAXES

This Newspaper Article was selected for the last Thunderbolt but there was no room for it. Better to publish it late than never because the benefits are still to be had with the next tax return. FD.

Thousands of workers who have been forced into retirement by a disabling illness are eligible fora tax windfall under a landmark decision of Internal Revenue Service.

The decision, a reversal of its former longstanding position by IRS, permits disabled retirees to claim as sick pay exclusion up to \$100.00 a week in the benefits they have been receiving.

Those receiving disability retirement benefits in excess of \$5,200 a year may exclude \$5,200 as sick pay on their 1974 tax returns.

Furthermore they will be permitted to revise their tax returns for 1971, 1972 and 1973 and claim exclusion of up to \$5,200 for each of those years in which they received disability pay. This could bring substantial refunds from the earlier three years. The deadline for making the claim for refunds on the 1971 tax is April 15, 1975, three years after the deadline for filing the return.

In the past the IRS took the position that if there was a provision for early retirement in the pension program, a sick pay exclusion could not be taken for any period after the early retirement date.

If the Pension Plan doesn't specify a mandatory retirement, IRS considers 65 tp be that date.

Take the case of an employe forced to retire at age 58, after 35 years of service because of a heart attack, emphysema, or some other crippling disease.

Until he is 65, he will be able to exclude from income up to \$5,200 a year, treating it as sick pay. At age 65 the retirement benefits will come under normal benefit rules.

If for the past three years, or any part of them the same retiree was receiving such benefits, he may now file an amended return for those years and get a full refund on the taxes he paid on the sick pay.

In filing amended returns use Form 1040X. This is the suggested language to be used on the form in stating your reason for the refund claim:

"Taxpayer, a disabled employe, is entitled to sick pay exclusion under section 105(d) for his disability retirement payments, even though he is also eligible for regular retirement."

"HOPE SOME OF YOU WILL BENEFIT FROM THIS."

DEDICATION "BATTLE OF THE BULGE MUSEUM"

As part of the 30th. Anniversary Celebration of V-E Day, the Mayor of Bastogne, Belgium, announced that their new Battle of the Bulge Museum was dedicated on May 22, 1975. Built by the government of Belgium and the citizens of Bastogne, the new Museum is the largest complete Museum to honor those who participated in this gigantic battle — the largest in United States history.

The new Museum was conceived a number of years ago as a way of telling the American people of Belgium's continuing gratitude toward the United States for its help in liberating their country from the Nazis. The Museum will stand perpetually as a reminder to all mankind of the magnitude of this battle and as testimony to the greatness and sacrifices of the United States when 76,580 American troops suffered casualties there.

It was planned to have all units that participated in this action honored individually. It was hoped that several representatives of each unit will have gone there to take part in the dedication of the Museum on May 22,1975.

(Yours Truly was notified about this trip to Belgium, but have learned that there were not of interested people to comprise a group. Maybe one day in the future, I'll be able to tell you more about the Ceremony. Also, the photographs of the museum were not good enough for this publication.) ED.

NOTE:

The Thunderbolt has always been a sorespot at our Annual Reunions and for that reason, I would like to ask that some of you go to your local Postmaster and ask him for the details about Third Class Mailings and why it takes so long for our Thunderbolts to reach you. I went there three times in recent months and what I learned, was really very discouraging. Third Class Mail is left to lay in a corner while other mail, (even Third Class which is sent out at a daily rate or weeklyL gets priority as we only send ours out four times a year. On the back cover of our book, we have 'Address Correction Requested' and would you believe that getting the address returned to me, takes more than two months in some instances.

Just for the sake of believing in the above note it would be good for some of you to find out for yourselves. I'm still hoping that you will come to the Reunion at Myrtle Beach this year prepared to vote 'YES' when it is brought up to mail the Thunderbolts First Class. I'm sure it can be done. ED.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sam:

Here is some information concerning a Member of ''A''Co. 331st. Inf., one of Chucks Buddies who has passed away on January 19, 1975. He always had good intentions of attending our Reunions, but the idea never materialized.

The man was Robert Harter - 4 Goodell Ave. - of Herkimer, N.Y. 13350. Those of you that knew him can send your Sympathy Cards to his wife.

Ruth Hopta

Dear Sam:

The Postal Department put on an extra Mule Team for we received our Thunderbolt on May 20th. Your card stated that it was mailed out on the 15th. The men on the west coast should have theirs by the end of this month unless the mules going west have to have a change of Iron shoes.

Michael Brick

Hello Sam:

Received the Thunderbolt on the 17th. Most of us here in Cleveland got the "TaBolt" the same day, but a couple of the guys are still complaining. It's just possible that they are still laying in the Post Office, or the Zip is screwed up.

Sam, I stated in the News Letters, the new book is beautiful, you're doing a great job and if anyone don't like it, tell them to duck into an "Outhouse."

Sorry that I can't congradulate you in person on the job you are doing as we'll not make Myrtle Beach this year, but you are doing a great job. Good Luck and God Bless.

Al Uridel

1942 - KOWALEC, URIDEL, MATHEWS



IN THE
GOOD 'OLE
ATTERBURY
DAYS.

Dear Sir:

Have enclosed a news item from a Buffalo paper which I think should merit some space in a future Edition of the 83rd. Thunderbolt.

The Communist hordes (Armies) are poised on the borders of Thailand and it is only a matter of time when these bandits will attack this freedom seeking country and butcher thousands of innocent people.

> Submitted by: Michael Brick 'A' 908 F.A.

COMPARES NAZI, COMMUNIST TACTICS

The destruction of South Vietnam by the Communist hordes of the north, together with the simplistic policies of Dr. Kissinger in the Middle East, spell grave dangers not only for those nations who once had faith in us, but also for the United States itself.

It is astonishing that Dr. Kissinger, who was once himself a victim of Nazi terror is so blind to reality as not to recognize that there is no difference between the Communist tactics of today and the Nazi tactics of yesteryear.

Just as the Nazi War Machine destroyed Republican Spain in 1936 and then went on to ruin Europe from one end to the other, while finally slaughtering 6 million Jews in the gas ovens at Auschwitz, so the Communists today run unhampered all over Asia and establish themselves in Portugal, while their Arab Allies lust for the blood of the three million Jews of Israel.

We have lost South Vietnam and all of Asia when we could have easily won the War 10 years ago.. If present policies continue, the Middle East willbecome a Russian Playground and the Mediterranian a Communist swimming pool.

Let those who pretend that everything is wrong with this country while Communists are never wrong move to North Vietnam if they so desire. Let those of us who love freedom, take heed from the past and stand up to our enemies now before the Third World War begins with an attack, not on Pearl Harbor, but on ANYPLACE U.S.A.

(Name of Reporter was not included.) ED

I have been writing letters to Buddies of the 83rd. who to my knowledge, have good stories to tell about World War II. Not just personal stories, but maybe about another Buddy or Buddies experience in Combat. I'm sure that this would make interesting reading. One letter in reply was received to date. It was from John (Reb) Folsom. Everyone has a good story to tell, I'm sure, so let's put it in writing for all your Buddies to read.

Dear Sam:

I am a little in the dark regarding your letter. Father McCartin and I have talked many times and several stories have been told. I will have to see Father McCartin and find just which he was referring to.

However, I am known as a story teller and am also a frustrated writer so I may oblige you with some reading material. I have written to Gen. John McLaughlin, former commander of TASCOM in Germany. I met him in Germany last year through a friend of mine who was a Colonel on his staff---- he is now retired but when he saw my 83rd. Tie, he flipped. He was supply Officer of the 83rd. during the War and has many interesting stories. He did not know we had an Association and has now joined. I think it will be interesting. I also had lunch with the 4th. Division in Luxembourg last year and had a very interesting time with them. In fact, I wanted to tell this at the Convention last year but there was not time.

I was wounded badly in Grosshau in December 1944 and very slightly at Stromberg in November 1944 and "A" Company ceased to exist within three days near Grosshau. I never got back to Active Dutyl. However, I'll wait until after I see Father Mac. It may have to do with me staying all night with an ex-German Soldier friend of mine in his Guest House which is built right on the Battlefield where we got it. It might be interesting. Will contact you as soon as I hear from the General.

(P.S. Al Faedi's father died..)

(Since the above letter was written, John and I had a lengthy discussion over the telephone where I learned that he did hear from the General and he is writing the promised story.) ED.

A PLEA FOR YOUR HELP

Dear Mr. Klippa:

I had written to Lou Volpi of Narberth, Pa. a letter, which was passed on to you. I had written to you, but I guess the letter had gone astray. I have enclosed your response to help explain what I am seeking.

I collect distinctive Unit (not shouldier sleeve) Insignias (dui), sometimes called Unit Crests or Badges. I have been working on Units from World War II and earlier. Some of these Units may have had such Insignias and, if so, published some sort of a drawing or sketch or photo of the dui with a description and explanation of its symbolism. I am seeking such a drawing, and explanation of the 83rd Infantry Division and its subordinate elements Unit Insignia. You, as the Historian, may have such information available - the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry is of no help.

If there is any way you can help me, I would appreciate it very much. Thank You.

(I had sent the drawings from the Regimental books to this gentleman many months ago, but they may not have been what he wanted. While I search further in my records, maybe one of you can come up with his needs.)

Send your information to;

Richard R. Julio G2 Section, Hq V Corps APO New York, N.Y. 09079

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

On April 19, Saturday, the Philadelphia Chapter enjoyed a Luau Hawaiian Night served up by Lou Volpi and the great women, our wives, whose jobs are never done. A great time was had by all. We also had our Meeting and Dance followed by more goodies.

On April 26, Saturday, the Philadelphia Chapter sent a Square Dance group to Lehigh Valley Community College. Our Dancers gave a good account of themselves. The dancers were; Al and Ann Belvedere "K" 331, John and Josie Piscitelli, "C"323 F.A., Bill and Bea Chavanne, "308" Eng., Joe and Olive Ponzio 'L'330. We may not win prizes but we've got CHUZPAH.

Monday, May 26, Memorial Day. The Philadelphia Chapter motored to Narberth, Pa. to serve as Honor Guard, Rifle Squad, and our Chaplain. We served as Firing Squad in honor of the dead of the Italian American Club of Narberth. The Prayers were read by the Philadelphia Chaplain, Yours Truly.

A Parade was then led by the American Legion of Narberth, again, our Philadelphia 83rd. Division Chapter honored the dead with our Rifle Squad doing the honors. This is our seventh year of Memorial Services in Narberth, Pa.

We Thank the Mayor of Narberth, the American Legion, especially Mr. Nick D'Alono Sr.. for helping to make us feel at home. We Thank all our wonderful wives of our Chapter for all the work and War Stories they put up with. We Thank Lou and Lucy Volpi for having Open House for everyone. God Bless them both. Joe Ponzio, "L''Co. 330th. Infantry won our 50-50 Drawing. Belvedere-Ponzio-Piscitelli and Volpi bested Chavanne-McGrogan-Gioia and Bobby in an Italian Lawn Bocce Game. The former four won two out of three games.

John T. Piscitelli ''C'' 323 F.A. Bn.

CHAPLAINS STEEPLE

The way we came to understand love was that they laid down their lives for us. During World War II, the way we came to understand love, of the ones that have gone to God every year since, we who are still

alive on earth, Pray for us men ---- we Pray for; Ray Graser: Cn. 329 Inf. - Died 9/8/74 Charles Kabler - 83rd. M.P. - Died 8/21/74 Lt.Col.. Geo. Berlet: ''G'' 331 Eveard Brown - ''G'' 329 Inf. Monte Anderson - ''G'' 331 - Died 2/1/75 Albert Supra - Died 2/20/75

Our Prayers to Mary Redmond on the passing away of her brother Thomas Kennedy. A good friend of our Chapter, Thomas attended our Chicago and other Reunions and Banquets of our Association.

May his soul, and the souls of our faithful departed Comrades Rest in Peace. AMEN.

Our Prayers to Louise Gioia on her Operation. We're all happy to see her as good as new again. Also, Louise and Joe''C''323 F.A. Bn. are the proud Grandparents of a baby girl Lisa Ann. May she be the first of many.

John T. Piscitelli ''C'' 323 F.A. Bn.

A WORD

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Have just returned from the Executive Board Meeting in Myrtle Beach. Am so happy to say everything seems to be working out fine.

My good Buddies, it just makes you feel like pushing out your chest to see a bunch of men get together and discuss their thoughts in a peaceful attitude and come out friends. Men sharing and loving each other.

Let's all get together and discuss and settle our differences ---- we can and must do this.

We are disappointed that we are unable to do anything about Room Rates. This is too high, but there is no other Motel that can take care of our group. We ask for your understanding. Other Motels are available if you so desire.

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE IN AUGUST.

Dick Riddle 3 Bn &Hq 329

LAST CALL
FOR
ONE OF THE GREATEST REUNIONS
OF
THE 83RD. INF. DIV. ASSOC. INC.

I AM THE FATHER OF THE BRIDE

Nobody's paying much attention to me today,

But I can assure you, that I am getting my share Of attention, for the Banks and several Business Firms Are watching me very closely.

WARREN CHAPTER LADIES REPORT

We had our Annual Elections of Officers this year and it was voted to retain the past Officers for another year. Mary Nuzzi - President, Theresa Gautchi : Vice President, Liz Skovran - Secretary, and Angie Phillipone - Treasurer. Plans for the coming Summer are being formulated and a busy one we hope to have. We sold Ladies Purses as our money making project, and so far it is going very well----with Millie Kelly and Pat Shamrock as the two great Salesladies. We are thinking ahead to our Annual Christmas Party too.

Soon the good ole Summertime will be upon us and the Picnics and Outings will be enjoyed by all. It will be a good change from the cold Winter months. We hope to have our Picnics start in June although the fellows will have their Golf Outing in May.

We congradulate Rebecca Teringo on her coming marriage in July. She is the daughter of John and Olga Teringo. Our congradulations to Kathy Gautchi on her engagement. She will also be a High School graduate in June. She is the daughter of Babe and Theresa Gautchi.

We all join in wishing the best to Norman and Marion Glaze, who have left Warren to live in New Jersey. A party for the couple was held at the 83rd. Club before they left. I'm sure they will be greatly missed by everyone who knew them.

Since this will be the last Column before Summer we all wish everyone a happy and safe Summer. So, till next time, take care.

Submitted by:
Mary Nuzzi
Warren 83rd. Auxiliary

453RD. A.A.A. AW BN.
MERGER WITH 83RD. DIVISION????

A letter was received from a Peter Severhof, Secretary-Treasurer of the 453rd. A.A.A. AW Bn. to find out if their Unit could merge with the 83rd because of their dwindling Membership. The 453rd. was attached to the 83rd. from Normandy to the end of the war.

I thought it would be best to send a copy of the gentlemans letter to the Board Members and to our Judge Advocate for consideration. Also, I sent along Section 2 and Section 3 of Article IV - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES - from our By-Laws.

I asked Mr. Severhof to wait until I hear from the Board Members and told him that we would discuss this at the Reunion. We had previous discussions on this sort of thing. Let's wait and see.

The letter was first sent to Lowell E. Claxton of "E" 329th.. He forwarded it to me to take care of.

Samuel Klippa

DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS

Hi Buddies:

Everything is GO for Myrtle Beach on August 14, 15th and 16th. We are all looking forward to a nice Reunion crowd at Myrtle Beach as there are plenty of Things to do, plus the beach for the young ones.

The Dixie Chapter had a meeting on May 3rd. at the Landmark Motor Inn. We presented our plans to the Executive Board and they gave us their 0.K. We really enjoyed having Larry and Mary Redmond, Al and Ann Belvedere, Casey and Eleanor Szubski and Harold Dopp with us.

It was a nice meeting but our Dixie crowd sure didn't turn out as good as I was expecting. Having meetings each month or six weeks has made it so rough to make all of them, but the Reunion has made this necessary.

Our big meeting will be in Winston-Salem, N.C., and sure hope to have a big crowd at this one. Looksing forward to seeing all of you at the Reunion.

(Mrs. Dopp, I tried to watch Harold.)

Till Reunion Time Jake L. Glenn Sr. 'L'' Co. 330th.

CLEVELAND REPORT

Hello Buddies:

Things are all O.K. here with the Cleveland Chapter. Our May Meeting and steak roast was well attended, the men roasted steaks, the women took care of the rest. This was 'Bring your own'steak affair, that's why the men roasted (and watched with poised forks) their own steaks.

The Godfather (Christopher) and wife Ann made enough Pizza to go around, very generous on their part. The women also baked goodies; the Szymanski's made the salad, all in all, it was a nice affair.

Myrtle Beach was the main topic, a lot of things were discussed about a C.P. etc. The folks here are getting more anxious with each passing day, all are sort of champing at the bit so to speak.

MEMORIAL DAY.. There were seven Members attending the Parade and Ceremonies, more made a promise to show, but didn't. Those attending were: Szymanski, Szubski Kowalec, Uher, Lindsey, Warner and myself. We noticed that the Parades are becoming smaller each year.

Don and Betty Clark are back with us again, good to see them back again.

Read about Warren Knicely in the last Issue. I remember him well from the 322nd. "C" Btry., when I was with them. This proves that you can coax them out if we keep trying like our guys are doing in the Publicity Department.

Laura Kowalec is going on a trip to Poland with her Mother. We wish her and her Mom 'Bon Voyage.'' Bill Herhuth is out of the Hospital and on the mend. Bill had a Double Hernia and a growth removed from his thumb that was literally getting out of hand.

Ted Szymanski has a bad back. He made the Memorial Day Parade with the aid of Emily's girdle to keep his back together. THAT'S SPIRIT.

One member of the Parade, a World War II man collapsed with a Heart Attack. We managed to get him breathing again, however, to no avail, he died about 20 minutes later in the Hospital. We joked with the guy and drank with him just before. He showed no signs of being ill, so you see, no one knows when his number is up.

Will send my Dues to Larry Redmond, or have one of our members pay them at the Reunion.

Good Luck and God Bless Al Uridel Cn. Co. 329 Inf.

PROUD MEN OF THE 83RD.



7 STALWARTS 1975



THEY SURE LOOK GREAT

CLEVELAND MUST BE PROUD OF THEM TOO

I'M SURE ALL OF US 83RDERS ARE PROUD OF THEM

SHORT + BUT GOOD

The following short Articles are the sort of News Items that I am looking for. Dig down in your Memory File and send me your tales of the war.

ED.

During the 'Mopping Up' operations around Dinard, Bill McCartin and I, pushing our two German bicycles, decided to explore the beach. We were in the center of a cove, backs to the sea, when we discovered for the first time, a well-camouflaged Pill Box inland, business-end facing us.

"Hey Bill, do you suppose that bunker is still occupied?" I asked.

Being able to speak German, I called out, "Deutsche Soldaten Kommt Raus. Der Kampf ist zuende." (German soldiers, come out. The battle is ended.)

For a few moments nothing happened. Then a helmeted head appeared, and again disappeared. Shortly thereafter, a white handkerchief appeared, and six other helmets between six pairs of upheld hands. Bill and I, still pushing our bikes, took our captives. As we approached our Company Headquarters, chatting away, with me translating for Bill, the German Non-com interupted, "Please, wouldn't it be better if WE pushed your bikes and YOU held a gun on us?"

Karl F. Burkhard

THAT COULD HAVE BEEN

Following the battle for St. Malo, on the advance into Parame', I came upon a young Wehrmacht corpse. His extended arm, on which rested his head and helmut, revealed a good looking watch. Since his time had run out, I figured I had more use for this timepiece than he. I started to remove the watch from his stiff arm when his helmut fell off his head. It rolled over in an upturned position. On the adhesive tape inside was neatly printed, in large letters, BURKHARD. I quickly replaced the helmut and left, well shaken up - without the watch.

Karl F. Burkhard ''H'' 330 Inf.

NOTICE

THE MAN THAT PUTS OFF FOR TOMORROW, WHAT COULD BE DONE TODAY, IS SOMETIMES LEFT BEHIND. PAY YOUR YEARLY

DUES NOW. DON'T MISS OUT. SEND THEM TO: LARRY REDMOND, 132 ROCKWOOD DRIVE, HAVERTOWN, PA. 19083.

THANK YOU

29TH. ANNUAL REUNION 83RD. INF. DIV. ASSOC. INC. MYRTLE BEACH, S. C.

Association President "Dick" Riddle and myself, along with our wives, attended the Executive Board Meeting at Myrtle Beach May 3,1975 and plans for the Gala Event are complete. Many members of the DIXIE CHAPTER were also present to assist in any way that they could.

The approved Plans and Schedule for the 29th. Annual Reunion will assure you a good time with 83rd Buddies and their families. Our Schedule allows you plenty of free time during daylight hours to pursue the type recreation you desire without having to meet a specific timetable. I feel that this plan will be pleasantly accepted by the wives and other family members.

A copy of the Reunion Schedule has been put on this page for your convenience.

PLEASE send your PROGRAM ADS in immediately. If your AD is received too late for publication, your money will be refunded either by Mail or at the Reunion. REMEMBER, THE DEADLINE IS JULY 1,1975.

I assume that all Hotel Reservations are made by this time, however, if your reservations are not made at this late date, please contact me and I will assist you in any way that I can.

Since this will be my last Reunion Progress Report, I wish to take this opportunity to Thank you for your cooperation, and for the honor of serving you. It has been a real pleasure to serve as your Reunion Chairman for 1975. Many hours have gone into the planning of this Reunion, and I wish to extend my Thanks to the DIXIE CHAPTER for their unselfish support.

Make every effort to be present at Myrtle Beach. If I can help you in any way, please afford me the opportunity. Ya'll come now.

Wishing you a SUN FUN good time at the beach, I am:

Respectfully Yours W.M. Minick Reunion Chairman R-2

Kinards, S.C. 29355 Tel. 803-276-1633

Because the Landmark Hotel was very late in getting the Reservation Cards to me, I am asking Mr. Minick to contact the Hotel and request that the late reservations be honored even though there was a definite deadline set. I requested these cards in November or December of 1974. Instead of putting them in the 2nd. Issue, they were put in the 3rd.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1975

9:00 A.M. TO

4:00 P.M. - REGISTRATION IN LOBBY.

9:00 A.M. TO

8:00 P.M. - LEISURE TIME FOR MEMBERS & GUESTS.

2:00 P.M. TO

4:00 P.M. - HOSPITALITY ROOM.

6:00 P.M. TO

9:00 P.M. - Dine with your FRIENDS.

9:00 P.M. TO

1:00 A.M. - DANCE TO MUSIC OF THE 1940'S.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1975

9:00 A.M. TO

4:00 P.M. - REGISTRATION IN LOBBY.

9:00 A.M. TO

6:00 P.M. - LEISURE TIME FOR LADIES AND GUESTS.

10:00 A.M. TO

12:00 NOON - BUSINESS MEETING - MEMBERS ONLY.

2:00 P.M. TO

4:00 P.M. - HOSPITALITY ROOM.

7:00 P.M. TO

1:00 A.M. - BUFFET AND SQUARE DANCE.

CASH BAR.

DRESS: CASUAL OR COUNTRY-WESTERN.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1975

9:00 A.M. TO

4:00 P.M. - REGISTRATION IN LOBBY.

9:00 A.M. TO

12:00 NOON - LEISURE TIME FOR LADIES AND GUESTS.

10:00 A.M. TO

12:00 NOON - BUSINESS MEETING - MEMBERS ONLY.

12:00 NOON TO

1:30 P.M. UNIT LUNCHEONS IF DESIRED.

COORDINATE WITH REUNION CHAIRMAN.

2:00 P.M. TO

3:00 P.M. - MEMORIAL SERVICE IN BALLROOM.

3:00 P.M. TO

5:00 P.M. - HOSPITALITY ROOM.

7:00 P.M. TO

???????? - BANQUET, DANCING AND GRAND FINALE.

ENJOY YOURSELVES THINK ABOUT ORLANDO 1976

ED.

SOUTH-CAROLINA

At times, you get the very best out of South Carolina's 192 Golf Courses. But then, maybe just maybe, the links get the best out of you.

But that's South Carolina golf. It's big.. It's exciting. It's fun. It's beautiful and it's relaxing.

Myrtle Beach and the Grand Stand, a beautiful 57 mile stretch of beaches, is the most popular golf Vacation area in South Carolina.. In the Myrtle Beach Grand Stand area, there are 24 Golf Courses, all of them within 30 minutes driving distance of downtown.

South Carolina has some of the most beautiful gardens in the world. Those of you that will be driving to Myrtle Beach will see road signs that will direct you to these places. There are 55 of them in the state, too many to list in this Issue. I'm sure you will enjoy all of them.

If you are traveling with the kids, and they are getting restless after such a long trip, it's time to get off the beaten path for awhile! The scenery will change to old homes that were in South Carolina when it was still a British Colony. There is much more to see such as: Amusement Parks, all sorts of State Fairs, the forests, older towns, Zoos and many other sites that will keep the kids from getting restless.

Those of you that drove to Myrtle Beach in 1965 from the North will remember "South of the Border;" a Complex located at the intersection of I-95 and U.S. 301. This place is fantastic, with a playground for children, Amusement Park, Swimming Pool, Motel and Restaurant. There is a Gift Shop, Golf, Health Club and Gardens. It's open the year round.

There are five Amusement Parks in Myrtle Beach alone and everyone should enjoy them, children and grown-ups. Admission to all of them is free but fees are charged for rides and games.

In the book of Special Events for the month of August, there are none for the area we will be in. If you plan on staying over for another week, there will be Circus Performances at the 'Holiday Hippodrome'' in Myrtle Beach Convention Center.

South Carolina is a Paradise for Campers. There are 16,000 Camp Sites in Federal, Commercial and State camping areas, ranging from the very primitive to the very plush. Some 1,154 of the Camp Sites are in the Myrtle Beach area. "Camping Capital of the World''is the title that Myrtle Beach claims. There are many fresh water lakes where you 'Anglers' will enjoy Fishing.

A good description of South Carolina would go something like this:

SOUTH CAROLINA LOOKS A LITTLE LIKE A LOT OF THE FOREIGN COUNTRIES. THE BEACHES ARE A LOT LIKE THE CARIBBEAN, WITH THE LONGEST STRETCHES OF SMOOTH WHITE SAND YOU'LL EVER SEE. THE SUBTROPICAL ISLANDS ARE A LOT LIKE THE SOUTH SEAS ISLANDS, WITH THEIR EXOTIC FLOWERS, TROPICAL VEGETATION AND WILDLIFE. THE MOUNTAINS ARE A LOT LIKE THOSE IN SCOTLAND, WITH

WATER FALLS THAT FORM 250 MILES OF TROUT STREAMS. THE 400,000 ACRES OF PRIME FISHING LAKES SEEM TO HAVE NO END. CHARLESTON LOOKS SOMETHING LIKE THE WEST INDIES, WITH A LOT OF CHARM EVERYWHERE. ALL IN ALL, THERE IS PLENTY TO SEE AND DO IN SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO ALL OF YOU, IF--YOU WILL STOP IN AT THE INFORMATION CENTERS ON THE HIGHWAYS LEADING TO MYRTLE BEACH.

Everyone should enjoy their stay at Myrtle Beach and the trip down can be very interesting and very exciting. It all depends on your likes and dislikes, and the planning you do before departure. HOPE YOU ALL ENJOY THE 29TH. ANNUAL REUNION. REMEMBER TO EXTEND YOUR THANKS TO THE DIXIE BOYS FOR THE HARD WORK THAT WENT INTO THE PLANNING OF OUR REUNION.

83RD. INF. DIV. ASSOC. INC. THIRTIETH ANNUAL REUNION ORLANDO, FLORIDA

AUG. 19, 20 AND 21,1976

I feel that this is the proper time to say something about next year's Reunion in Orlando, Florida, to sort of get the idea implanted with all of you that are reading this Article and with those of you attending the Reunion. It's never too early, and during the coming year, everything possible will be written about the Orlando area and Florida in general. I'll be writing to the Convention Bureau in the Orlando area and to anyone who can supply me with good information for your reading pleasure.

It is very important that all of you start your letter writing to your Buddies now (especially those Southern boys who never or seldom attend any 83rd. Reunions) and help to advertise, not only Orlando, but tell them about our Membership Drive. Let's all do our share to get the 83rd. Infantry Division Association Incorporated back over the THOUSAND MARK IN MEMBERSHIP. This task should be shared by all the Members, not just a few.

If you're not planning to be in South Carolina for the 29th. Annual Reunion, then please send in your '75 - '76 Dues to Larry now so that you will not miss out on any of the Thunderbolts with the latest news. It's never too early. SEND NOW.

ED.

We are not the only Association that is having trouble getting our books out with great speed. In some of the books and News Letters I get from theother Associations, there are notes that denote the same problems we are having. This is just a reminder to let you know we are not alone in the slow mail delivery. Others have the same problem.

LAST MINUTE ITEM FROM THE REUNION CHAIRMAN

Dear Sam:

My sincere Thanks to you and the Pittsburgh Chapter for your fine support of the 29th. Annual Reunion. Ads are coming in but we have a long way to go. Please note in the Thunderbolt that all 83rd. Chapter Ads will only receive ¼ Page for the \$50. This is in compliance with the By-Laws of the Association. I have detected this in the By-Laws and have been reminded by the Executive Board. Last year, a full page was granted in error. I hope this will in no way cause adverse reaction.

Everything is under control and I see no reason why we can't have a SUCCESSFUL REUNION.

Yours Very Truly W.M. Minick ********

Dear Sam:

Was just thinking to myself and thought I'd type a few lines as every year around this time of year, June 6, I get to thinking of all the years gone by since D-Day. I imagine most of us start reminiscing a little, as what we lived through will never be forgotten. Therefore, I'd appreciate very much if you'd consider this Article for publication in the Thunderbolt. As one Infantryman to another, I'm sure you'll agree with me on the Article I typed.

James E. Schneider

BURDEN OF THE DAY

Rain! Mud! Snow! and Sleet Boys! These are the members of the U.S. Army Infantry. No matter how much the enemy has been bombed or shelled, these are the men who have to go in and dig the enemy out.

They are the Die-Hards. Casualties are always high, for they are not only confronted with firearms from the enemy, but they have other enemies, such as inclement weather and on some occasions are even bombed and shelled by their own supporting troops. Statistics have shown that they are the most vulnerable and yet, the toughest fighters in the world. They go days on days with little rest. Their mainstay is K-Rations and cleanliness is completely forgotten. Many of the most fighting and ablest Infantry Divisions of World War II have had and lived the so-called "Living Hell". Yet, to these men that have survived the trials and tribulations of war, little is ever mentioned of them and little honor is ever forthcoming. Nevertheless, these individuals know in their hearts that they did a job "Well Done", and without them, wars could not have been won.

Some American Infantry Division's casualty lists

are overwhelming and staggering to the average man and woman in the street and even to our Military Leaders. Yet, they push on. Victory at any price. For, they are the backbone of the nation and come from all walks of life --- from shoeshine boys to College Graduates. They seek no special considerations, for they are immune to hardships on many counts.

If ever one recognizes a soldier bearing the Cross:Rifles, he can say to himself "There passes a man." These are men known only to God as only God understands this calibre of men.

After an Infantrymans "Baptism of Fire", he is awarded the "Combat Infantrymans Badge" for, he has proven himself on the field of battle and this decoration is presented by the Army as a sign of his "Badge of Courage" to other individuals, Military & Civilian alike. Yes, the members of his family are justly proud of their Kin in the Infantry, for they realize that God watches over them in a special way, for human endurance could not sustain itself under those conditions if God was not present with; those fine fighting men of the U.S. Infantry.

ALL TOO SOON OUR HEROES ARE FORGOTTEN.

LETTER FROM LUXEMBOURG MARCH 8, 1975

Nearly 2 years ago, on July 1 and 2, 1973, group of your Association had come to Luxembourg and was hosted by CEBA, the Circle of Studies on the Battle of the Bulge. They were the first to be Welcomed by our newly founded Circle. Meanwhile, however, we have got some practice in receiving ExGIs. The participants will remember that each of the Veterans wanted to be driven to his very special place and one Bus had even missed the reception at the Grevenmacher Wine-Cellar. Some of them wrote to us later and sent different GI belongings for our Museum.

I need not tell you that Mr. Sam Klippa and myself have kept in contact ever since and so we have learnt that you plan to bring over another group, which also includes Luxembourg in its Tour.

All we can say: WELCOME IN LUXEMBOURG, dear Thunderbolts. We'll receive you as our Liberators and friends. You were guarding the Luxembourg and German Border for three months, clearing the border towns of remaining enemies. We owe you gratitude and Friendship forever.

Today, I would like to draw your attention to the Bulge Museum, arranged by our Circle in Clervaux Castle in the Luxembourg Ardennes area. It may be much smaller than the one in Bastogne, which by the way, has not yet opened at this very moment. It contains, nevertheless, a complete show of GI material, as well as German Articles. We were donated a collection of pictures of the Generals that were involved in the Bulge. We ourselves searched and discovered rusty items in the foxholes of the Ardennes Forests, 30 years after battle. All weapons used on both sides are displayed. The souvenirs and Uniforms sent us by U.S. Veterans are preciously treasured in a glass case we are especially proud of.

Dear Thunderbolts, you just can't miss our tiny Museum, you'll be our Guests of Honor. We'll, of course, organize for you a nice ceremony at Hamm Cemetery as well as an Official Reception in some Border Town along the Moselle River. We look forward yery much to meeting you in Luxembourg.

BEST WISHES TO ALL AND SO LONG.

Mrs. Tillie Kimmes Secretary of CEBA Mersch, Luxembourg.

(The above letter was written by a very hard working woman in Luxembourg, who really and sincerely loves all Americans, as do all the people of Luxembourg. This calibre of people is hard to find anywhere in Foreign Countries today. Those of you that made the first ETO Tour will remember her as the one who spoke at our Banquet and made us feel so proud. I'm glad she will be working for us again next June. Hope all of you are keeping in touch.) ED.

YOUR EDITOR WRITES

This has got to be one of the fastest years of my life because it seems that we just got back from the Philly Reunion and here it is, time to start preparing for the one in Myrtle Beach. This is the last Issue for this year. Anyway, it has been a really good year for me, healthwise and otherwise, which is a real change from the past few years and I'm hoping for many more good years to come.

First of all, I would like to Thank all the Association Reporters for being so prompt all year with their News Letters, allowing me to get the book out so much faster. Thanks to those of you that sent me those small articles of special interest to the reading pleasure of everyone.

The previous Issue was delivered to the Pitts; burgh Members the very next day after Posting and I found this hard to believe because of the previous delays in the Post Office. Maybe this was the slow part of the year for the Postal Service, or maybe the Resession is cutting back on the amount of Mail being put out by the Business people. Of all the areas around the country that I have been checking that Issue was the fastest in delivery.

When a person moves, he is always reminded to make a CHANGE OF ADDRESS for all of his important matters and the same should apply to this Association because I think we are important too. In order to keep on receiving the Thunderbolt and theother important bulletins, keep us up to date too. PLEASE, notify us in advance of your new address. WE ARE JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE OTHERS THAT REQUIRE YOUR ADDRESS CHANGE.

About the time that I get this Thunderbolt in the mail, I'll be preparing to leave for Myrtle Beach, for another in the long list of wonderful Reunions. Vacation Resorts are what you wanted for future Reunions and Myrtle Beach is one of the very best. In my Article on SOUTH CAROLINA, you will get some idea of the places to see on your way there.

Because the Reservation Cards were sent to me so late by the Landmark Motel, I requested that our Reunion Chairman, Mr. Minick, contact the Management and ask them to honor the late reservations because the blame is theirs, not ours. Hope none of you are refused your reservations.

There were 899 Thunderbolts put in the mail in May, the next morning after they were delivered here and 706 of them went to the Paid-up Members, as the list in this Issue will show. The remainder went to Veterans Hospitals all over the country and to the other Associations that sent me their books. After reading the books of the other Outfits, I found that they are having the same mail problems as our own Association. As you can see fellows, the figures above show our Membership is down and if each one of you would get on the ball and write to just your old Buddies, we can easily bring this Total back up over that THOUSAND MARK. That personal letter is more important than all the routine notices we can send out. Let's get with it.

Our 1976 ETO Tour is still "GO" for next June but right now the delay is in getting final figures from the Travel Agencies. As soon as all the information is available, a letter will be sent to all of you with the tentative Itinerary, and you will be requested to make Deposits to assure your reservation. Three Agencies are being considered to handle our Tour and the one that comes up with the best Itinerary will represent us. Most of you, I am sure, realize that this Tour will cost much more than the first one because of the inflated prices all over the world, not only in the U.S.A. There are 115 on my list for the Tour, most of them repeaters, and my plan is to keep the group down to 100 to avoid all the congestion and problems of the first Tour. Over that amount, we will go in sections, to all the same places at different times.

I'm still looking for more ways to improve this Thunderbolt for your reading pleasure, so, send me your ideas and especially your favorite War Stories. Some of the promised Stories for this Issue have not arrived as yet and will have to be in the next Issue because this Issue must not be delayed. If your

Article is not in this one, look for it in the Fall Issue, after the Reunion.

REMEMBER! Pay your Dues now, if you're not planning on attending the Reunion. Only Paid-up Members get the Thunderbolt.

REMEMBER! Change your address with us when you move, just as you would for others.

REMEMBER! The Reunion next year will be in the deep South, Orlando, Florida. Future Issues of the Thunderbolt will keep you up-to-date on that area.

REMEMBER! Wonder if I remembered everything that was on my mind to put into this book. Well, atlest I tried. Hope you will remember all the things you are supposed to do.

Thank You one and all for a wonderful year. Hope we have many more of them in the future.

> Samuel Klippa - Editor "D" Co. 331st. Inf.

THE MEN OF THE THUNDERBOLT DIVISION

Continuing my article from the last Issue, there are a few other positions that should be given consideration, because even though they seemed small, they contributed to the success of the unit.

Runners: The runners, as we called them, at higher headquarters the title became, Laison Officers. These men were the personal contact between the Platoons, Companies, and Battalion. Many times the news they brought was extremely good. At other times not too pleasant. I remember the expression on Joe Ruberto's face when he brought the news that those Germans had counter-attacked in the Ardennes. Joe didn't know where the Ardennes were, but he felt somehow that "G" Company would be involved. Joe Phillipone, one of the few men in the outfit that I could look down to, always did a tremendous job for the unit. Most of the time he wasn't too pleased with the way things were going.

Of course, there was always the C.O.'s personal Runner or Body Guard, or Valet, or Cook. In these capacities Pop Cunningham and Sexton were always by my side and took care of me like a pampered child. Pop was at his best in preparing a variety of Chicken dishes. In France, Luxembourg and Belgium he had a different name depending on the country. He promoted tomatoes from the French farmers in our ride through the French countryside.

Pop was very close to me and one of the few men in the unit who knew that each night I prayed for the men of the unit. I knew that all of us Prayed on many occasions; but each night, no matter where I said my Prayers with the Rasary, which I carried, and I realized that many times due to fatigue I would fall asleep and the Rosary would fall in the foxhole or in the bedroll. The next morning at first light, Pop in gathering up my belongings would find the Rosary and give it to me and say 'You better hold on to these, because we will need all the Prayers we can get.'

The Company Clerk was one individual that few of the men knew, also one of the names that seems to be lost. I feel certain his name was Charles - the old heads in 'G''Co. can recall his name. He was part of Karl N. Smith's crew. The job itself was demanding. They prepared the morning reports and kept the records on personnel in the unit. They saw the horrors of war not only in the shelling, but in the casualties reports that continued to increase by the day.

The Mail Clerk ; is listed near the end, but this one man carried the joys and the sorrows of the unit. Lee Jones, Bless his soul was a God sent for "G"Co.Lee had a few years on the majority of us. He performed in an outstanding manner. Each Christmas, I still receive a card from Truth or Consequences, New Mexico where Lee resides. It is good to hear from him each year.

Communications Personnel - One of the true Daddies of 'G''Co. was Phil Wiggenhauer. Wiggy was old (38) to most of us, we were in our young (20's). He had a few years on us, but he was always near the front to make sure that our radios were working. Each time we had a lull in the fighting, he was busy with his schooling of the communication personnel.

In the states, when the units participated in sports programs, Wiggenhauer was on the team, soft ball and basketball. I was told that he was quite an athlete in his College days.

On the drive to the Rhine, one morning a German came riding down the road. It surprised the hell out of some of the new replacements, but Wiggy stood his ground and with a good hard butt stroke, sent the Kraut sailing across the road. Wiggy has recently retired from his civilian job and enjoying life with his wife, Margaret.

I think one of the most amusing radio operators had to be Bob Goldstein from New Jersey. You could always analyze the situation by the way Bob came thru with his radio message. One in particular, in the Bulge. His message, 'Lt. the Germans are between you and me.'

Farling and Graff were the others, but I can assure you that the number of radio operators are plentiful. It seems that the radio on the backs of these individuals acted as magnets, because they always semed to be hit by schrapnel.

Graff was the youngster of the Company and as the expression goes, we believed that he was still wet behind the ears. He was always willing to assist in the units activities. In the rest area, one of Graff's jobs was writing up the citation for awards for the members of the unit who had performed heroic in the past operation.

As I check back over the pages of notes for this article, I realize that many of these men have now passed away. Anderson, Widener, Trautman, Cunningham. These men played a great part in the History of the 83rd. Division. This Division of ours was made up of thousands of men like these mentioned in the article. They will always be remembered by those that are 13 still around to celebrate each year at our Reunions.

This will be the last article before we meet for our Reunion at Myrtle Beach, S.C. I sincerely hope that a large number will see fit to attend the Reunion, so we can renew our friendship. Most of us realize that we are now getting up in age with a number of the men reaching the Senior Citizen age. See you in August.

Captain ''Mac'' ''G''Co. 331st. Inf. WARREN CHAPTER

The Warren Reporter, being a little remiss, missed the last issue of the Thunderbolt; and it's time to get on the ball. The Thunderbolt has beenmost enjoyable, so will hope to contribute a little from this corner.

The meetings in Warren are held monthly, each member taking a turn hosting in his home --- the Socials following the business meeting are most enjoyable, especially since they vary from house to house.

The first of May we had another get-to-gether to say farewell to Norm and Marian Glaze, who returned back east to Pine Hill, New Jersey. Norm was one of our most active members, having served the Chapter in numerous capacities. Although we will miss him, we feel that he will be part of the Warren Chapter always.

May 18 was the First Golf Field Day played at Ash Hills, which is a nine hole course. The first thing most everyone did was get the kinks out, but Phillipone had to show off. On the 9th the first time around he chipped one in from about 35 feet., and then, didn't he do it again the second time around -- must be Blessed or lucky; can't give him credit for being a Pro! Bob Johnson was Chairman of the affair. Job well done.

The Annual Anniversary Celebration was held May 24, Chaired by George Bellay and Joe Phillipone. Dinner was held at the Players in Warren; and after a tremendous meal and a few drinks, we headed to Kuzman's; in nearby Girard for an evening of Dancing. Can only say whoever here in Warren is responsible for a job, he sure does handle his chores in fine fashion. Thanks George and Joe.

At the March meeting it was solemnly noted that a year had passed since our dear friend, Joe Minotti was taken from us. We are fortunate that he left us with a treasury of many happy memories; not only here in Warren, but throughout the country because of his devotion and dedication to the Organization; he is sorely missed by all of us.

Suppose plans are being formulated by all to attend the Reunion in Myrtle Beach. My plans are still indefinite but hope things fall in place so I can "Y'all come."

Better sign off. Enough chatter for the time being. If not in Myrtle Beach, see you in the next issue.

> C.J. Tomazin ''B'' 322 F.A.

PITTS BURGH CHAPTER REPORT

Our Chapter was invited to attend the Wedding of Bill DeMarino's daughter May 3rd. at the Ascention-Hall in Clairton, Pa. and we had quite a turnout. Bill was displeased with the frills they had him wear but had to grin and bear it and I think he enjoyed every bit of it.

His daughter Diane certainly looked lovely and we wish them every happiness. It certainly was a grand affair and everyone enjoyed themselves.

We Welcome a new member to our Chapter, Lou Kanes who was in Company 'B' of the 329th. Infantry and is presently Manager of Roy Rogers Restaurants in the Pittsburgh area. Welcome aboard, Lou. I'm sure you will enjoy being part of one of the most active Chapters in the 83rd.

Our Picnic will be held at Adam Hassick's home on June 29th. Another event we look forward to every year. Adam goes all out for this event. Speaking for myself and the members, we do appreciate it.

It seems a little early, but plans are also in progress for the Christmas Party which will be held again at the Elks in Etna, Pa. We couldn't pick a finer place and we have Al Gruber to Thank for making the arrangements and the success it is. More of this to come, but as you see, these events are carefully planned and a lot of work goes into it. The date will be December 20th. at 6:00 P.M.

Our Dinner-Dance was held at the Alpine Club in Monesson on May 17 and as usual, our Monesson boys took over and sure did a good job. Dinner was excellent and a good time was had by all.

This should be the last word before the Myrtle Beach Reunion. I'm sure everyone will have a good time and are all looking forward to it. I'm going to be spending most of my spare time in the mountains this year in our Trailer Home away from home. It looks like the house in the Prairie, but before long the trees should be shaping up. It's most relaxing to me and something I've been looking forward to.

Our Congradulations to Grandparents Marge and Vic Premro whose son and daughter-in-law presented them with a Grandson. Don't have the exact arrival and weight but we wish them all the good luck with their new baby.

Hank and Elena Golembiewski are headed west soon for their Vacation. Hope you have a great time. We'll be looking forward to hearing all about it on your return.

Lee and I will be celebrating our Silver Anniversary on August 26thl. Where does the time go? Looking forward to seeing you at the Picnic. Have a beautiful Summer. Will join you next Fall with the latest news.

Ed Reuss
''I'' Co. 331st. Inf.

PAY UP NOW! OR BE WITHOUT YOUR THUNDERBOLT

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

I received my Thunderbolt last week, June 4th., and trying to get out my next column with not too much news

much news.

We have had a few very good meetings with most of the boys showing up with some of their wives. It sure makes you feel good when this happens.

Stan Bielen showed us Slides on his trip to Europe and Hawaii and everyone enjoyed them. Our new member, Al Bensimon also has Slides of his trip which he is going to show some night soon. This makes it an interesting night and everyone has a good time.

The Dave Benicks are very proud of their Daughter, who has finished her College courses with flying colors, and was one of the top in her class. She has her life well planned and we of the Jersey Chapter want to wish her all the best to a happy

future.

This will be the last issue till after the Reunion in Myrtle Beach, one we are all looking forward to. I sure hope you all can make it as we who were there before know you will have one Hell-of-a-time as that gang down there go all out to make it so. Good luck to them and let's all get behind them and make it the best Reunion ever. Take care and we'll see you in South Carolina. Ya All Come-hear.

Yours Truly Jim Bowie 330th. Co. B.

HISTORIANS CORNER

Dear Buddies:

I have always admired the way our Divisional Association Honor Guard handles themselves.

They look and act like Soldiers they were and the Veterans they are.

the Veterans they are.
Yet, there was something I missed which I thought would make it more complete.
These two letters accompanying this report will explain what I would like to have to compliment the Honor Guard and its Organizational Flags.
I hope to see''Y'all''again at Myrtle Beach.
Till then, Good Luck and Good Health.

Wm. Kent O'Connell M.P. Plt. Div. Ha.

P.S. The next report will be about the day we met the Ruskys at Calbe. Pictures included.

Dept. of the Army Center of Military History Washington, D. C. 20315

Linda L. Nunley, Chief, Army Reference Branch The 83rd Infantry Division Association, of which I am Assistant Historian is an Organization of Vet-erans of World War II who fought with distinction

in the E_T.O.

We are a large, active organization with a yearly Reunion and also we participate in Parades and
Patriotic rallys etc.

The 83rd. Division has been deactivated by the

The 83rd. Division has been deactivated by the U.S. Army even as an Ohio National Guard Unit.

We have our own''Color Guard''with the Divisional Flag. I would like to request a set of Battle Streamers from World War II for that flag. If we cannot obtain the''Originals''which is understandable, would it be possible to have a duplicate set from the U.S. Army? If they cannot be sent to me for the Association, could they be presented to the Division at the yearly Reunion which is being held, August 14th. to August 16th. at Myrtle Beach, S.C.

We are all very proud of our service during the War and as Veterans of the 83rdl Infantry Division.

Thank You for any assistance you give me concerning this matter.

Sincerely Wm. Kent O'Connell Assistant Historian Mr. Wm. Kent O'Connell 183 Acre Lane Hicksville, New York 11801

Dear Mr. O'Connell

Dear Mr. O'Connell
Your letter was addressed to the U.S. Army Center of Military History regarding the purchase of Battle Streamers to accompany the replica of the 83rd Infantry Division distinguishing flag was referred to this Institute for reply..

Streamers for other than the original organizational flags are not authorized and their manufacture and sale are specifically prohibited. At the time the Department of the Army decided to authorized display of replicas of Division Distinguishing Flags by National Headquarters of Division Associations, the desireability of issuing battle streamers was given through consideration and study. It was determined that campaign streamers presented in recognition of a unit's combat achievements should be displayed only on official Organizational flags.

We fully recognize the desire of the Association members to display the Division distinguishing flag with streamers. However, with the realization that only the original organizational flag is authorized to be adorned with the battle streamers, we hope that you can fully appreciate the reason your request cannot be considered favorably.

Sincerel Charles R. Spittler Colonel, AGC Director

FROM BOSTON

Dear Sam:

I hope that this letter finds you and yours in the best of health. For the 'Man of the Moment' please find a good

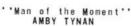
spot in the Thunderbolt.

In the last printing of the Thunderbolt, the Captions under the pictures were left out. Thank you and hope to see you soon.

Best to all Pat DiGiammerino

(Leaving out the Captions was my fault because there was a last minute rush. I'm sorry, Boston.) ED.







Mike Caprio. Arrigo. Pat DiGiammerino, Francullo & Amby. Tynan.

Pat Says: The ''Man of the Moment'' is ''One of the heavi-est workers of the Boston Chapter, and the 323rd.

Kent O'Connell says: The new Thunderbolt has grown on me and I like it better than the old one.

(Kent was one of those that worried when the announcement was made that the Thunderbolt was to be changed. I'm glad that he likes this one.) ED.

\$500.00

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\$100.00

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\$75 00

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Edward Zerucha - F-329
Andrew Zonkoski - F-329

I have been waiting for the Official Receipt from the Museum Fund office in Georgia, but as of this date, it has not arrived. Hope to have it for the Reunion.

Please check the lists carefully before saying you are not on them.

All complaints in the past were checked out and found that my file was correct.

Dear Sam:

Hope you'll find some space in the next Issue of the Thunderbolt for the following news item which gives tips on traveling before leaving home.

Arrange to have your mail picked up, or held at the Post Office.

Stop delivery of milk and News Papers.

Make reservations for Hotel in advance.

Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on things, feed the dog and water the plants.

Leave an Itinerary and the License number of your car with a neighbor in case you have to be located in an Emergency.

Securely lock all windows and doors.

Remove all perishables from the Refrigerator.

Turn down the heat or Air Conditioner.

Advise Local Police of your absence. They'll make regular checks of your home.

Leave a few lights on - or install a Night-light with a Timer.

REMEMBER TO BRING

A FIRST AID KIT.

NECESSARY MAPS AND DIRECTIONS.
TRAVELERS CHECKS AND CREDIT CARDS.

YOUR CAMERA, FLASH CUBES AND FILM.

A ROAD SERVICE CARD.

A LITTER BAG.

YOUR MEDICAL PLAN CARD.

AN ADDRESS BOOK FOR ALL THOSE "WISH YOU WERE HERE" POSTCARDS.

A FLASHLIGHT.

SENT YOUR WAY BY MICHAEL BRICK - 908 F.A..

PAID UP 74-75 ROSTER

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Francis Smallwood - A-331

Paul F. Steele - F-330

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Francis Smallwood - A-331

Paul F. Steele - F-330

Carlos A. Crouse - 3 Bn Hq 331

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Jack Drapkin - 2 Bn Hq 331

Allison R. Shrawder - D-331

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Pohal F. Steele - F-330

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Jack Drapkin - 2 Bn Hq 331

Allison R. Shrawder - D-331

Robert G. Marrin - Serv. 39

Leoyal Pangle : G-331

George A. McRell - D-330

Robert G. Marrin - Serv. 39

Leoyal Pangle : G-331

George A. McRell - D-330

Robert G. Marrin - Serv. 39

Robert G. Marrin - E-320

Leo Res Stemplewski - A-308 Eng.

Raymond A. Cote - A.T. 330

Robert G. Marrin - E-320

Dale R. Lewis - K-329

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