



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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THE THUNDERBOLT

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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

Who Have Served Us Well

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CHARLES ALTOMARI 1971
HAROLD H. DOPP 1972
LOUIS J. VOLPI 1973
BERNARD O. RIDDLE 1974
ROBERT G. TAYLOR 1975

* Deceased

THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

Countdown to Reunion, Warren, Ohio, 1977 begins. In a few short weeks the 83rd will begin converging on Warren, Ohio for their 31st Annual Reunion and another round of fellowship and comraderie. By now you should have received a copy of my letter that was sent out to every person that now holds Membership in the Association. Three thousand of these letters were sent out with Thanks to the cooperation of Sam Klippa for the use of his address file and the ladies of the Warren Chapter for stuffing them. To date, the response has been terrific. Now you know it all; the Program, the Registration Cost, (\$60 per couple which includes Association Membership Dues for the men) the costs of your room accomodations, the dates, (August 18,19 and 20th . 1977) and the place, Warren, Ohio. Get your Room Reservations in along with the advance payment soon, as the Headquarters Motel (Holliday Warren Niles Inn) is rapidly filling up. Thanks to the hard work and wheeling and dealing of our two Reunion Co-Chairmen, Ray Voracek and Lee Titus along with the cooperation and enthusiasm of the entire Warren Chapter and ladies, the touch on your pocketbook will be lighter than it has been in recent years and hopefully the rewards greater.

One more item has to be mentioned about the Reunion yet, and that is in regards to ADS for the Program Book. Get as many as you can and get them in soon to the Program Book Chairman, John Caparanis. Deadline is July 1st.

There is not much that can be said to you people now about Membership Dues. Obviously, if your Dues weren't paid up in 1977 you would not be receiving a copy of the Thunderbolt. However, you might still have a few Buddies that haven't gotten around to sending in their Dues as yet, so get them on the BALL.

One sad note has to be mentioned at this time. In all probability you are all aware by now of the sudden passing of Executive Board Member, Harold Dopp. Always the hard worker and ever a fine gentleman, first in the Chicago Chapter, Association President and lastly as a Member of the Executive Board, Harold will be sadly missed and always remembered. The deepest sympathies and Prayers of the entire 83rd Infantry Division Association go out to Harold's wife Lois and their family at this time of their great loss and sorrow.

In closing, I am going to borrow a few lines from the Sept., Oct., Nov. Issue of the Thunderbolt that were written by our recently departed Buddy, Harold Dopp in his last Article in the Thunderbolt. Quote-'Remember, the success of the Reunion depends upon those that attend and support the Organization. One thought to keep in mind - we aren't getting any younger and time is flying by, so let's attend the

Reunions.' Unquote. Quite a thought, think about it. See you all in Warren, Ohio in 1977.

Respectfully Submitted
Mike Skovran, President
83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. Inc.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Hello Buddies:

Here we go starting the year 1977 and already the thoughts of many of us are about the coming Reunion.

We had our January Meeting at the Godfather's sister's home, and folks, this is one that I shall cherish and remember. Don and Ann Christopher hosted the affair with help from Dom's sisters Rosie and Pauline, and they really put out the goodies. We had a bit of slap-stick comedy that Dom's sister Rosie and Ted Gurgol were the only ones that knew anything about what ensued. First, Ted Gurgol came in looking like a real Godfather from the Roaring Twenties, all he needed was a horses head under his arm, and instantly became the subject for the photographers. Then Dom insisted on having his picture taken with Ted in his new ensemble, and Dom looking like a refuge from a Salvation Army Lodge. Shortly after, Dom asked for quiet and proceeded to read a list of things that he objected to at our Meetings, such as: too much drinking, swearing, kissing all the women, referring to him as the Godfather, telling dirty jokes, all our wives kissing him etc. At the bottom of his list, he said, for once can't you give me something to remember you by, something real nice. All of a sudden, Ted picked up a lemon cream pie and nailed Dom with the most perfectly direct hit on Doms face, right on target. Folks, it's absolutely needless to say we were all stunned. I took one look at Dom and mentally started to compose Ted's Eulogy. The butchers knife that was supposed to cut the pie, lay near Dom & Ted; did I grab that in a hurry. I told Rollie Warner to stand by as I figured the goop was about to hit the fan. Dom just stood there stunned at the suddenness of the pie in the face even though he was going to get it. He asked his wife if she was involved in this and poor Ann was just as shocked as the rest of us. Then Dom started to laugh and that's when the whole gang started; you've never witnessed such a display of hilarity.

Rollie Warner told me later that he was almost a Spoiler; he was going to nail Ted with the pie. Man these guys are something else. Rollie said that he looked at Ted in all his splendor and that big cigar thinking the pie would be a good substitute for the cigar. Folks, this pie incident was truly better than anything you've seen on T.V. or Movies or what have you. And like I said at the time, it just couldn't have happened to a nicer guy. No kidding,

Dom, you did a great job of containing yourself and playing the part like a great actor.

Now that that's over with, the Cleveland Chapter is very grateful to Rose Christopher for the use of her home and baking the pie, and a big Thanks to Dom's sister Pauline for her help in the kitchen, and of course, for cleaning up Dom, and her help with all the goodies. Nicer folks you'll never meet, believe me.

February Meeting at Ted and Emily Szymanski's residence. Once again the Szymanski's went all out and made our day an enjoyable one. Emily baked three cream pies and don't you think that Dom didn't keep away from them, and a lot of thoughts flashed through our minds, however, nothing happened. We had our Annual Election and our Slate of Officers for 1977 is as follows:

President.....Earl Lindsey
V.P. & Treas.....Walt Meczka
Secretary.....Casey Kowalec
Sgt. at Arms.....Rollie Warner

Another Picnic is planned for March, Lindsey and I plan on making a big pot of Chili instead of Deer Stew to go with the cold weather. I'll report on this later.

MARCH 1977

Who said the men and women of our outfit could not take it. We had just held our outdoor Picnic in below zero weather, with the wind it must have been 10 below zero. There were 15 hardy couples that attended. We took pictures but none came out good enough to reprint, it was much too dark for picture taking. We had our Meeting and our Chili along with the usual refreshments and from the looks of the women, they didn't enjoy freezing their butts off.

The Casey Szubski's enjoyed a Caribbean Cruise a couple of months ago and just raved about it, or maybe just rubbed it into us, how about it Casey?

Earl Lindsey spent about nine days golfing in Florida. Man, these guys of ours have the life.

Phylis Giersz and Julie Cox spent some time in the hospital. Phylis got out O.K. but Julie has to go back for more tests and we all hope Julie comes home well again. We're all on your side Julie and Praying for you.

The Bob Grobelny's are expecting grandchildren, both son Wally and daughter Peg doing the honors. Now if Bob Uher's kids get going, that would about complete the cycle.

My Old Buddy, 'Hammering Hank Fix' as we so dearly called him during the War donated a lot of work sewing 83rd Emblems on Golf Caps for us. All he wanted for his work was to let him know when he could be of more help. Can't beat those prices Hank, and We'll be sure to call on you again. incidently, Hank got the 83rd Patches from the National Guard outfit here at no cost, and may get more for the Association.

Can't forget to give Ronnie Lindsey a big Thank You for cooking up deer meat for the Chili we had for our Picnic. Ronnie did her usual good job and was the recipient of many Thank You's. Also, Earl for bringing all the deer meat. It was good. (Casey Kowalec said the Chili talked back to him all week, but it was very good.)

Enclosed are the pictures of the two Godfathers, hope they tickle your fancies as much as the real thing did us. Stay well, plan your Vacations for the '77 Reunion in Warren and God Bless.

See you in Warren, Ohio.

Al Uridel

Cn. Co. 329th. Inf.

P.S. All you Cannon Company men try to make it a big success. You all come, you hear!



WOW! WHAT A HIT!!



THAT IS DOM BEHIND THAT MESS!



UGH! BUT IT TASTE GOOD!



THE CULPRIT. THE GODFATHER.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

Here I just finished reading the Thunderbolt and I have to get in my Column for the next one. I sure wish there was some way that we could fix the dates so the material we read is not three months past.

I was sure sad to hear the news about Lou Volpi's father passing away and then the news about our Buddy Harold Dopp.

All of us from the Jersey Chapter would like to express our deepest sympathies to both families.

I just received a letter from my Buddy in Greenville, South Carolina who went through two serious operations and came out with flying colors. We knew he could do it. His name is Charles Waldrop - 104

Lynda Lane - Greenville, SC 29609. Dick Riddle, drop him a line. I know he would like to meet your gang down there in dear old South Carolina. I've told him what a great bunch you are.

Looking forward to the Reunion in Warren, Ohio and it looks like the Jersey Chapter will be there 100%. I promise you that.

We have a few couples going down to Myrtle Beach in May and then again in October. I sure like that place and don't be surprised if someday I don't move down there.

It's nice to find a place where people make you feel at home and that sure is one of the places.

Really don't have much to say at this time but am looking forward to seeing all of you in August.

Oh yes, did you guys read about the killer that killed six people in New Rochelle? Did you notice the Gunman Outfit he belonged to has a Magazine that comes out once a month, and the name, you guessed it, it's called the Thunderbolt. I think we should do something about it as it gives us a bad name. I didn't think anyone else could use our name.

Well gang, I'll sign off hoping you all stay in the best of health and that I see you all soon. Take care of yourselves and remember, it's later than we think.

Yours Truly

Jim Bowie

'B' 330th. Inf.

(I'm glad that Jim mentioned the fact that the gunmans group has a Magazine named Thunderbolt, just as ours. While attending the Funeral of Harold Dopp, I was talking to Bill Doty who mentioned this to me, and said that we should do something about it too. We'll come up with something at the next Reunion, but I'm sure there will be a discussion on it at the Board Meeting in May.) ED.

PHILADELPHIA SCRAPPLE

Hi Buddies:

Our January Meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. Our President Bill Chavanne felt that it was best for everyone. It was the worst Winter on record.

Our February 19th Meeting was our Valentine Night with coffee and cake following our Meeting.

Pictures and slides were shown of his European Tour, by John Nordbloom.

At our March Dinner of Spagetti's and meat balls served by our good Buddy Caterer Lou Volpi of 'A' 324 F.A. Bn., a good St. Patty's Day was had by all. We also held a good Meeting with a program set for the whole year. Glad to hear our Buddy Klippa is up and around again after his illness, also to hear Mrs. Klippa is getting along after her leg injury.

Elsie Hauck, wife of Lester - 'C' 308 Eng. - was also seriously ill in the hospital for three operations and radium treatments. We're happy that she is on the road to recovery again. Linda, daughter of Lou and Lucy Volpi gave birth to a baby girl. Congrats to Linda and Tommy Cappolo, & Gramps Lou and Lucy. Well Buddies, let's all keep in touch. Don't forget your Dues.

John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323 F.A. Bn.

CHAPLAINS STEEPLE

To our Deceased Comrades:

O'Lord, Father of us all, we extend tributes to our beloved comrades. Accept our Prayers for the souls of our servants departed. This we ask humbly in Thy name. Amen.

We Pray for our departed Buddies Harold Dopp of 'M' 331st. Infantry and John Hogdon of 'C' 323rd. F.A. Bn. May they always rest in peace. Amen.

Our Prayers go out to Lou Volpi on the passing of his mother.

To Art Federicci of 'H' 329th. Infantry on the passing of his sister.

To Helen Piantedosi (wife of Tony) of 'C' 323rd. F.A. Bn., on the passing of her sister.

To Clara Lima (wife of Emanuel) of 'K' 331st. Infantry on the passing of her mother.

In Memorium to our good Buddies Harold Dopp and John Hogdon, no two greater men can do anymore for their Buddies than they did in Combat and in Peace Time.

O'Lord may each of us, when our Battle of Life is over, find a Welcome with our Comrades in your Heavenly Hands. This we ask through your son Jesus Christ. Amen.

O'Lord, look with mercy upon the loved ones of our deceased Comrades and friends. These things we ask humbly in your name. Amen.

John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd. F.A. Bn.

TO ALL MEN OF COMPANY "D" 330TH.
Dear Buddies:

This is a reminder and a follow-up of a letter I sent to you a couple of weeks ago asking for a donation for an AD for 'D' Company 330th in the Banquet AD Book for the coming Reunion.

I will appreciate it very much if you would take the time right now and send me your donation as it is getting close to the deadline. I have received a couple of donations but not enough to take a full page which is our goal.

Buddies, I don't like to make a pest of myself

but as I stated in my letter, 'D' Company was always there when they were called on and I would like to carry on our reputation.

Sincerely Yours
Frank McGrogan

FROM HAWAII

On the eve of January 9, 1977, I received a phone call from Rufe M. Lamon, a Member of Company 'M' 331st. Regiment. We have known each other for 32 years while being a Member of Company 'L' 331st. He was Platoon Leader of the heavy weapons Machine Gun Platoon and I was the weapons Platoon Leader of Co. 'L' 331.

Rufe was on a business-pleasure trip to Hawaii. My wife Florence and I had a delicious luncheon with his wife, Frances, and his daughter, Susan, at the famous Rockefellows Mauna Kea Beach Hotel on the Island of Hawaii. Rufe and I reminisced about our days with the 331st. Regiment. I was amazed to find that the Thunderbolt 83rd. Infantry Division Assoc. is very active. After receiving the Thunderbolt Magazines dated from 1966 through 1976 from Rufe several days ago, I decided to write to you.

I read an article written by Elmer Carlson in the Sept., Oct., Nov. 1976 publication that Company 'L' of the 331st. had a Reunion in Erie, PA. I would appreciate it if I could have Carlsons home address.

Enclosed are my Dues so I can be placed on the Membership Roll. I will appreciate getting the Magazine.

During the Summer of 1973, I received a call from Captain Walter Ashmore, S-2 of the 3rd. Bn. 331 and I was able to have a quick breakfast with him. He and his family went to Honolulu afterwards. I will cherish the book 'We Saw It Through' which he sent me and will keep it with the collection of other books published from other Units that I have served with during my Army career. If I remember correctly, I was the first Hawaiian from Hawaii to join the 331st. Regiment at Camp Breckenridge, KY.

Throughout my career, I had the opportunity to meet Lt. Gen. Claude Ferenbaugh as Commander of Schofield Barracks in 1949 and again in 1951 in Korea as the 7th. Infantry Division Commander. I met Lt. Gen. Robert York, when he was Liaison Officer from Washington, at the 8th. Army Hq. in Seoul, Korea in 1951 and again when he visited me at home in 1963 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. I met Col. Harold W. Brown, S-2 of the 331st. in Yokohama Japan. He attended my Wedding celebration in Japan in 1951. I stayed in the same housing area with Col. Candler Wiselogle, S-2, 2nd. Bn., 331st. Inf. at Schofield Barracks in 1962. I also met other Members of the 83rd. Inf. Div. but am not able to recall at the present time.

Really enjoy reading Captain Mac's article about 'G' 331. His articles are a great contribution

to all the Members of Company 'G' and to the 83rd. Inf. Div. Assoc. Like Macaluso, I feel that a Unit or Organization is only as great as the men behind it and who are willing to make it. I have to say that all the Officers and men of Company 'L' 331st. was as great as any other Unit in the Division. Thanks to Captain Mac, I have to 'Toot My Horn', also, for Company 'L'. Aloha to all of you.

As a matter of introduction, I am Alexander Kahapea, better known as Lieht 'K' or in Hawaiian as 'OKOLE MALUNA' meaning 'BOTTOMS UP.'

I retired from the Military Service in 1965 and became Director of Hawaii Job Corps Center in 1965. I started the Alflo Ronco Development Inc. and served as Secretary/Treasurer while my wife Florence served as President. I was fortunate to be able to plan and design the Banyon Golf Center in 1971 and started construction in 1972.

(Mr. Kahapea sent a complete description of the Golf Course along with photos, and I'm sure all our Golfers would enjoy playing on this one. On my next trip to Hawaii, I plan on stopping on Hilo to see it; the Driving Range and other facilities.)

While being Manager/Owner of the Banyon Golf Center, I became disabled in 1973 and finally decided to sell the Golf Center in 1975. I am presently fully retired and hoping that I will be able to do some travelling in the near future. ALOHA.

Sincerely Yours

Alex Kahapea

Co. 'L' 331st. Inf.



!! OUR DEPARTED!!

Edward H. Nahf of 'B' 331st. Infantry passed away on January 31, 1977. Mrs. Nahf sent me an article, which I will condense for you. I hope the photo as seen in the News Paper is clear enough for the 'B' Company Members to recognize.

(AS TAKEN FROM A WAUKEGAN NEWSPAPER)

A soft spoken Waukegan policeman with an outstanding World War II record as an Infantry Sergeant died on Monday, January 31st after an illness of more than a month.

Sgt. Edward Harry Nahf, 55, died shortly after noon on Monday in Victory Memorial Hospital, Waukegan. He joined the Waukegan Police Department in August of 1947 after serving with the United States Army in the European Theater of Operations.

His outstanding service as a foot soldier won him numerous citations, including the Silver Star for bravery during the famous 'Battle of the Bulge.' He also compiled a outstanding record as a conscientious policeman, dedicated to duty, Chief George Pasenelli said.

Sgt. Nahf was described as a very quiet, shy man who performed his duties capably and without fanfare. He will be missed by all.

He is survived by his widow, Virginia, twin sons Edward Warren, and David Edward, and a daughter, Debra Lynn, all at home; a sister, Mrs. Ella Bried, of Waukegan.

(I'm sure his 83rd Buddies will miss him also.)

ED.

In my recent mailings for Membership, I learned that some of our people have been very ill, some have passed on and some are enjoying life to the fullest extent.

Mrs. Walter A. Goens filled out her husbands Application Form and then marked 'DECEASED' on it. Walter was a Member of 'F' 330th. Infantry. To my knowledge, he was not a Member in our Association.

To Ruby Goens, on behalf of the entire Association, we want to express our deepest condolences.

Andrew Kotch of the 308th. Engineers passed away also. This was learned through the Membership mailings also, but no details were available.

I am writing to inform you of the death of my husband William Carl Seman. He was in 1 Bn. Hq. 329 Infantry of the 83rd. Division.

William Carl Seman was born December 17, 1920. He died on March 6, 1977.

Mrs. Mary Seman
Versailles, OH

Bob Powers of 'A' 329th. Infantry, passed away on the 1st. of January 1977. He was buried with Military Honors in Fort Collins, Colorado.

This news was sent to me by R.W. Grobelny.

AMEN. To all of our deceased Buddies.
May they all rest in peace.

Our sincerest condolences to their families.

WARREN CHAPTER

Dick Kelly, saying 'Hi' to all you 83rd. Members and your wives.

We hope to see all of you in Warren in August for the Reunion. Come and see our great little town..

We have all been working real hard on the arrangements for the Reunion and I am very happy to say that things are working out and taking shape.

Our regular Meeting was held in Cleveland this month at the home of Ray Voracek. It was a lengthy and interesting one.

A few of our wives came with us and went Xmas Shopping at the new Mall-Randall Park. They came home with aching feet and quite a few packages.

Teddy and Jim Prentice were in town a few months ago. Mil and I met them at the Cafe 83 along with Babe and Theresa Gautschi. We had a good time and enjoyed seeing them. Most of the conversation was about the coming Reunion in Warren, and they are planning to be there.

The Annual Steak Fry was held at Mike and Liz Skovran's home. Chefs were John Teringo and Mike and they cook a mouth watering steak. Kate and Loyal Pangle and Casey and Eleanor Szubski were in attendance.

We were guests of the Women's Aux. on December the 11th. at the Luv Pub and then we treated them to an evening of Dancing at Avon Oaks Ball Room. Fine food, good booze and dancing feet put everyone in a Happy Holiday mood. The Band was terrific and kept most everyone on the dance floor.

The January Meeting will be held at the home of Babe Gautschi when Reunion plans for August will again be discussed.

Received a card from Art and June Reich of Springfield, IL. Jean has been ill but hopes to be in Warren. Pictured is their unusual Mail Box.

The Warren Chapter wishes a Happy Easter to all of you "Thunderbolts."

Dick Kelly
Hq. 908 F.A.

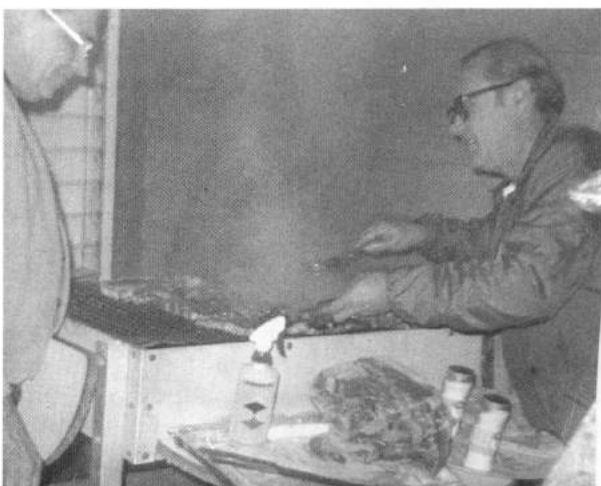
(The above Article and Photos were misplaced for the last Thunderbolt.) ED.



THE GANG



THE WHOLE GANG



READY FOR CHOW!





Dolores Halubka and Helen Caparanis

PUBLICITY REPORT

Enclosed is a copy of the news release that I sent to 450 different Newspapers throughout the country. I hope the results justify the costs. I increased the number to 450 this year in order to, better cover western PA, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Tennessee. All the states except Alaska are pretty well covered and those that I mentioned above, extremely well. I even sent a copy to Honolulu, HI.

I haven't heard anything from the American Legion or the V.F.W. as to when our Notice will appear in their publication, but I'm sure it will appear early enough for anyone that really wants to attend the Reunion.

I may not be doing this job next year as a conflict in my schedule has come up that may prevent me from attending the Reunion. I am scheduled to report to a Square Dance Callers Seminar up in New Hampshire on Sunday, 21st. of August, 1977, and it's a pretty long ride from Ohio to New Hampshire. I am trying to arrange things so I can attend both but it will be tight.

That about covers everything for now. Stay healthy, be happy, and keep up the good work.

Bill Appleby
Publicity Director
783rd. Ord.

Dear Sir:

Please include the following release in one or more publications before April 15, 1977.

83RD. INFANTRY DIVISION
TO HOLD REUNION IN WARREN OHIO

The famed 83rd. Infantry Division will hold its

31st. Annual Reunion in Warren, Ohio on 18, 19 and 20 August 1977. This Division served with distinction in the European Theater of Operations during World War II and earned five major Battle Stars. Anyone who served with the 83rd. Infantry Division at any time, and their family and friends are invited to attend. Come and renew old friendships and, better yet, make many new ones. For information, write to: Samuel Klippa, 1500 Mutual St., Pittsburgh, PA 15204.

(The above is a copy of the letter Bill sent to all the Newspapers in the major areas around the country. Watch your Newspapers and the Vets Magazines for the releases and let me know on what dates the news was published. This will help to evaluate the Publicity Program and allow us to make any changes we deem necessary to better our Membership Drive each year. We need your help to do it right.) ED.

A REPLY

Enclosed is a letter that I received from a former 83rd man from down in Kentucky. I don't know how he got my name and address unless he works on the paper in Louisville since my name was not in the News

However, he seems very interested and may be a welcome addition to the Association. I wrote him a letter saying that I was forwarding his letter to you and that you would be in touch with him for the additional information regarding his Unit etc.

It is a nice feeling to know that somebody reads something about the 83rd. that they are interested enough to write a letter for more information which may lead to renewing an old friendship or seeing a real good Buddy from long ago.

Bill Appleby
Publicity Director

(To date, we have had in the neighborhood of 40 replies requesting information because of the ADS in the Newspapers around the country. Every request was answered and I'm hoping all will sign up, and possibly come to the Reunion.) ED.

REMEMBER:

YOU ARE THE ONES THAT CAN REALLY HELP TO BUILD OUR ASSOCIATION BY LETTING YOUR BUDDIES KNOW ABOUT US, OUR REUNIONS ETC. DO YOUR SHARE.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS FOR THE THUNDERBOLT AND WANT TO SEE IT PRINTED IN THE NEXT ISSUE... THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 10, 1977. THESE LAST DEADLINES ARE JUST TWO MONTHS APART. DON'T BE LATE.

ALL PUBLISHED NEWS IS GOOD NEWS.
DIG OUT THOSE STORIES AND PHOTOS.

SECRETARY REPORT

WOW! Where has the time gone since the Orlando Reunion? Seems that it was just a couple of months ago, and here we are, close to number 31 in Warren.

In a short time, the Board will be meeting in Warren for the Annual Meeting and to verify the Reunion Plans and Program. It won't be long after that, that we will all be together again for another joyous Reunion, and maybe the best one ever. If the work put out by the Warren boys and their wives is an indication of things to come, we are in for one, of the very best Reunions to date. Look out Warren, the 83rd is ready to invade you, full force.

The health problems here at home are nearing normal again, I hope. My wife and I wish to Thank all those of you that sent Get-Well Cards and letters wishing us well. Those Cards are a kind of medication; they make you feel well instantly. I'm back to normal at my desk again and the work load has been heavy lately because of the Membership letter and because of the Newspaper Advertising done by our Publicity Director - Bill Appleby. Both of the projects are paying off.

My wife is hopeful of being able to attend the Banquet in Warren this year because it is close to home and just a short car ride for her. It all depends on whether she gets rid of her crutches. We are not alone with health problems. In the letters sent to me since the last Thunderbolt, there was a rash of poor health among our Members and their families, many deaths as you will read in this issue and plenty of other problems.

There was a lot of good news too, because if my mail is an indication of the attendance for the Reunion, we are in for a RECORD. Many, never heard of us before and have signed up this year in the Association for the first time. All of them said that they plan to attend the Reunion if at all possible. Maybe this little town of Warren is just what a lot of our people have been waiting for. Well we'll just have to wait and see.

Three thousand Membership letters were sent out and brought in more than three hundred Members with their Dues. Many of last year's people still have not signed up and they will be without the Thunderbolt. I ran out of Thunderbolts for those signing up too late because there were too many of them. At this reading, we are over the THOUSAND MARK again, and I am very proud of that. With a little more help from YOU, we can keep climbing even higher.

The Warren Chapter put out a letter of their own and their total was three thousand also. Hope you are all paying attention to their message and sending your ADS, your Reservations and your Dues. Get those reservations in early so that you won't be left out. There is still plenty of time.

GOOD NEWS FROM KENTUCKY!

They got together and held their first Meeting in Lexington. They called to let me know about it and let me tell you; it was a real joy to get this news because I waited so long for this to happen. I want to congratulate all those that got together for this Meeting and wish you every success in the future, especially for the 1978 Reunion. On the 24th of May, I am scheduled to present them with their Charter and I assure you, it will be a great pleasure to do so.

Got a trickle of news from Florida but there is nothing definite on the new Chapter they are planning there. They are hopeful of forming the Chapter by Reunion time and said that they will keep me posted on the results as they occur.

According to Association rules, to form a Chapter, you must hold atleast three Meetings with ten Members present, send the Minutes to the Secretary and then get the Charter. Only those attending the first three Meetings are to be Chartered Members and have their names put on the Charter.

Captain 'Mac' has been in touch with me by phone several times, and let me tell you, he has been trying his darndest to get something going there, but his big problem stems from the distance our boys are scattered out down there. If those people knew how many miles our Dixie boys travel for their Meetings, I'm sure they would do the same. Mac is hopeful just the same and proceeding with his plans to get a Chapter started in New Orleans.

Mike Skovran and Vito Palazzolo, along with Ray Voracek and Lee Titus have asked me to invite the Kentucky boys to the Board Meeting in Warren for any help they could give them in the planning of their 1978 Reunion. This is the very best place to learn, as every man on the Board has been through this and will be able to provide sound advise. Hope many of them accept the Invitation.

As in all my previous articles, I want to ask all of you to continue writing to your Buddies, ask them to pay their Dues and keep them informed on our Association. Several of our people in various Units are writing and I can see the results in the Membership Rosters. You can build your Company, Battery or other; all it takes is a letter now and then.

How many more years do we have left to enjoy the company of our Wartime Buddies? Let's enjoy the time we have left to the fullest. You know, you don't get another chance to come back and try again.

In Orlando it was agreed and approved by the Membership to print all the names and addresses of the paid-up Members in the Thunderbolt, in order that you may keep your address list up-to-date. The last issue of this year will carry all of the names that were not in the first issue. It's going to be a lengthy list, and quite costly to print, and I still think that those wanting a personal list of their Unit, should write to me and I'd be glad to send it.

This would be more work for me but it sure would cut the cost. It's going to take about twelve pages to put out that list and will cost in the neighborhood of \$350.00 to publish it. You be the judge.

The last Thunderbolt was at the Printers for almost two months and you will find an apology from the Printer in this issue with the reason for the delay. For this issue, I asked that he get it out in two weeks and he agreed to do it because his work load has lightened and the weather will be no factor in getting the book out. No doubt, a lot of you have received a letter condemning me for the lateness of the Thunderbolt, but I assure you, it was no fault of mine. The Deadline was January 10, I mailed the copy out on the morning of the 12th, and when I got the book one afternoon, it was in the mail the next day. I can't push the Printer and I can't tell the Post Office to rush the books to you. There was no delay on my part even though that letter suggested it. I hope all of you are grown enough to understand what I am trying to convey to you.

The next DEADLINE for news is June 10, 1977 and this is the closest one of the year, just two months apart. If you have something to report, get it in as early as possible. It will be the busiest time of the year for me and I will not wait for anyone. The news should be in my Office by that time and not be mailed out that day. We need your cooperation to get this one out early as possible. If you have anything important at the last minute, call it in and it will be published if at all possible.

One last thing; it gave me a real feeling of proudness to see how well represented the 83rd was at the Funeral of our Executive Board Officer, Harold Dopp in Des Plaines, Illinois. We had Vito Palazzolo, Lou Volpi, Larry Redmond and Yours Truly along with many of the boys from the Chicago area. All of our Chapters responded with flowers, which proves that their hearts are in the right place. Many Thanks to all of you. We shall miss Harold very much because he was one of the hard workers in our Association and in the Chicago Chapter.

Wishing all of you the very best of luck, health and happiness, I'll say So Long for now. Let's all plan on meeting in Warren for another great Reunion.

Samuel Klippa
Secretary-Treasurer

(Hope all of you enjoyed your Easter very much, this year. Hope you are enjoying the weather for a change, after such a bad Winter.) ED.

IF YOU ARE NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND THE REUNION, THIS WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO GET YOUR DUES PAID.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON MOVING IN THE NEAR FUTURE PLEASE NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IN ADVANCE.

Dear Sam:

I would like to apologize to you and the Members of the 83rd for being so late with the delivery of the last Issue of the "Thunderbolt."

Due to unforeseen problems in my business, and the weather, it was impossible to get it delivered any sooner.

Usually I contact some of the Members by phone in the Winter months but have not had a chance to do so. I have been working day and night since last November.

Our work load has now lightened considerably and we have made some other adjustments so there should be no further problems with the "Thunderbolt."

Again, I Apologize
Cliff Wooldridge

DIXIE CHAPTER

Hope this news isn't too late for this Issue of the Thunderbolt, although it is bad news. We lost two more good 83rd. Members. I was at the Funeral of Robert (Bob) Hedger of M Company 330th. at Middletown Ohio on February 21, 1977. He was still trying to get the Miami Valley Chapter at Dayton, Ohio back Together. I sure will miss Bob.

We also lost a good Dixie Chapter Member, Ralph E. Moore of Cannon Company 330th Infantry of Reidsville, NC. I was pallbearer at this Funeral on March 28, 1977, along with nine other Chapter Members. The Dixie Chapter will sure miss Ralph for he was a Member who was always at the Meetings.

Sorry to hear about Harold Dopp, my best to his family.

Sam, we really enjoyed having you at our Christmas Party in Gatlinburg, in December. Sure hope you have learned your C.B. slang by now.

As Ever
Jake L. Glenn, Sr.
Co. 'L' 330th. Inf.

This was in our Knoxville News Sentinel:

The 83rd Infantry Division, famous since earning five major Battle Stars during World War II, will hold a Reunion in Warren, Ohio, August 18;20. Anyone who served with the 83rd at any time, their families and friends are invited to attend. For more information, call Jake L. Glenn, Sr., 687-4554.

Thanks Jake. This is what I have been asking others in the Association to do because the Papers have to devote so much space for articles of public interest. Hope you got a lot of phone calls.

I'd like to see others do the same as Jake.

This will surely make the Association grow.

Your ED.

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

'Hello' to all of you ladies and men of the great 83rd Infantry Division Association. We here in Warren have been very busy getting ready for the up and coming Reunion..

(Report on Xmas Party deleted because the Report which was omitted from the last Issue is in this one and the photos too.)

We still hold our Meetings once a month and each time at a different Members home.

January, Babe Gautschi was the Host and Sam Klippa came in from Pittsburgh to sit in. It was a good one, plenty of refreshments, Bull and food served by our capable Theresa.

February, Meeting was held at my home and R.J. Voracek and Lee Titus, our Reunion Chairmen, were really wound up and pushing. Very good job men. My wife, Millie, did her usual terrific job on the food and we Thank her. I was the Bartender and there is a bonus there, you can always get trimmed.

March Meeting was at Ray Minotti's house and it was a dilly. It seems to me as time winds down to August, they have become better. Fine job Ray, and to his wife, Mary, the food was just it.

As you all know it was a terrible Winter. I really expected some of the fellows to come in on a dog sled or maybe bring an Eskimo Squaw for some nose rubbing. But our attendance was almost 100% all Winter. These guys want to do the best job ever on this Reunion. And knowing them, I know they will.

April 17th, we will hold a Joint Meeting between the ladies and the men. We are going to the Holiday Inn where Headquarters will be. We will have Dinner and then back to the briefing.

About May 7th we will hold our Anniversary Party and that will be at the same time as the Executive Board Meeting here in Warren.

We hope to see all of you in Warren, the greatest little town in the Midwest, in August.

Dick Kelly
Hq. 908 F.A.

WARREN CHAPTER LADIES AUXILIARY

Hi Everybody:

Right now the weather in Warren is windy, rainy and cold. We had a heat wave last week.

Ten of us met at the home of Liz Skovran on March 20th and had a folding and stuffing party. Folded letters and Maps and stuffed them in envelopes. Had a good time chit-chatting also. Most of us are grandparents, so you know how the conversation went.

Louise Bellay was hospitalized for a short time to have a cyst removed from her leg. She is up and around again and feeling fine.

Angie and Joe Phillipone have been touring the

South for about six weeks now and are due back for Easter. She missed the party.

On April 27th, the women are going to the CAROUSEL in Ravenna to see Oklahoma. The dinner is Smorgasbord style; and after you eat, the stage show begins. They perform in the center of the room and you are seated around them on different levels. The food is terrific.

Our Officers for 1977 are as follows:

President Theresa Gautschi
V. President Millie Kelly
Secretary Liz Skovran
Treasurer Angie Phillipone
Sunshine Lady Mary Nuzzi

(What in the heck is a Sunshine Lady?) ED.

Starting in May, we will hold our Meetings the same Sunday as the men but in different homes. There are too many, to conduct two separate Meetings. If any of you are in town at the time, you are WELCOME to join us.

We are looking forward to seeing some of you on May 7th for the Executive Board Meeting. Hope the weather is nice by then.

The Auxiliary extends their sympathy to the Harold Dopp family in the loss of Father and Husband. Hope you all had a nice Easter Holiday.

So Long For Now
Millie Kelly
214 Oregon Ave. NW
Warren, OH 44485

MICHIGAN REPORT

Michigan is saddened to learn our Buddy Harold Dopp passed away. Our sincerest sympathies and condolences go out to Mrs. Dopp and family. Harold will be missed - but well remembered by the Army of friends within the 83rd.

Looking over the last Issue of the Thunderbolt - my Michigan friends observed a lack of news from the Winter Wonderland State. The guilty one, of course is none other than me. The dyed-in-the-skin members I might add, reminded me of this in no uncertain terms. Some even threatened to deport me back to Pennsylvania if I didn't atleast say HELLO from Michigan in the next Issue.

This shook me up no end. Being deported in not my cup of tea. In order to satisfy their vociferous complaint and get back in their good graces, let me say 'HELLO FROM MICHIGAN' before going any further. I assure you we're alive and kicking, we're still around and will be for a long time.

Having fulfilled that obligation to my dear friends, let me bring you up to date on what's been happening in Michigan since Orlando.

Jack Daugherty walked down the isle for the last time in October giving daughter Gail away in marriage. Member attendance for the Reception was very very good, the food plentiful and mostly Polish. Gail looked lovely, the bridegroom nervous. The weather was ideal. The Reception served two purposes. To convey our blessing on the newly-weds and conduct an impromptu meeting.

We ended our Chapter year in December with our Annual Christmas Party. The site this year was a dive called the Royal Ascot. The club is just what the name implies, ROYAL. Fact is, the Queen of England had dinner here on one of her tours of the Colonies. As she was being escorted out the main entrance, the story goes, she got her Royal as-cot in the door. Oh well, the food was delicious, the entertainment superb. Attendance could have been better but we did have fun.

I suppose the fact the attendance was not as great as it could have been, we must blame the weather for. When it comes to miserable weather, Michigan is second to none. There's an old saying - here, that when the rest of the nation sneezes, Michigan catches the cold and Detroit comes down with pneumonia.

I'm sure I'll be challenged for making this statement. Am I right, Mr. Brick? But believe me if I say 'IF NOT MORE MISERABLE THAN BUFFALO, SURELY, JUST AS MISERABLE.'

January and February, the interim year end and new year beginning, we hibernated. For excitement we watched our gas and electric meters go around and around at double time cadence. We busted out of hibernation in March with our first meeting of the new year.

Our pleasures for this first meeting were attended by our own Exec. Board Chairman, Mr. Vito Palazzolo and Virg. Once again, the food was super and mostly Italian. Reunion plans were discussed and the following tid-bits pried loose from the members in attendance.

1. Marion and Josy Muoio became grandparents again March 5, 1977. Their number one son Joseph and wife Karen presented them with a bouncing baby boy. Naturally good looking and----mostly Italian.

2. Jack Daugherty got himself elected President of the Capper Cutters Square Dance Club. He and Hanky had to leave the meeting early to chair a meeting for the group.

3. Ed Zerucha's son Tommy is busy preparing for entrance to the University of Michigan. He will be entering this Fall and will major in chemistry and physics. Ed and Jean are as proud as punch and well they should be. You have some hint of how gifted, when you consider that at sixteen he has enough credits to enter a University. I suspect we'll be hearing a lot of good and wonderful things happening to Tommy.

4. Jack and Hanky Daugherty (what again) disclosed that they will be grandparents again later this year. Gail will be presenting this time. (Advantages of hibernation.)

5. Kate and Loyal Pangle are still the lovely vagabonds. Going and coming as they please. No time clocks to punch, no schedules to regiment to. How sweet that is. They have the cutest and most personable four year old grandson. He told me he was not afraid of anything. Of course he was speaking of the plastic wicked old witch on Vito's driftwood tree as he said that. I suspect he fears losing Grandpas and Grandma's favor if he doesn't listen, however for when the grandparents said NO Todd, Todd listened so attentively.

6. I would not pry any information from Vito our Host, but then again I could not get him to make me a drink either.

While all these members in attendance were so busy sweating out these little anxieties, what do you think some of our other members were doing?

The Barbu's, the Taylor's and the Winchell's were funning and sunning on Hawaii.

Nick and Sylvia swear they came back beautifully tanned. They made the mistake of showering before coming to the meeting. Consequently the tan was all washed away they say. (Michigan's water will do that sometimes.) I suspect the reason they were beige instead of brown was that they concentrated on the funning and forgot about the sunning. In either case the rest of us was GREEN with envy as they recounted their trip. The Taylor's and Winchell's didn't get to the meeting. No doubt they too will report more of the same.

Thunderbolt reports indicate the Warren crew have come up with great plans for a Reunion. I personally read into the planned Program a reversal of the time worn myth that you go to the big cities to be successful. We may just have as great a time in the sticks as we had in the biggies.

Michigan wishes Warren success. All other supposedly small towns represented in the Association no doubt should be close-circuiting your results and perhaps be motivated to come forth and offer their home territory for future Reunions. If anyone can puncture this myth, Warren can do it.

So Long - Hope to see all of you in Warren.

Marion E. Muoio

"C" 308 Eng.

THE HISTORIAN'S CORNER

It is time for another Reunion and we are looking forward to seeing all of our friends again. Where did the year go?????

Co-incidentally the 'After Action' reports in this issue are from another August-Thirty-Two-Years-Ago.

Where did all the years go?????

The sights and sounds of THIS August are a WELCOME change from that August.
TO REMIND YOU:

The destruction done by one '88' on the road to Pontorson, Jeeps, Half-Tracks, Ambulances, 6x6's....

That great Bailey Bridge high over the Rance between Dinan and Dinard built by the Engineers.

The oily black smoke from ships burning in the Harbor at St. Malo.

The 'Lightning' and 'Black Widows' bombing the 'Citadel' with jellied gasoline.

The warehouse in Parame filled with all those 'goodies and liquor.'

The Naval shells from the 'Isle of Cezembre' going through house after house and not exploding.

More about St. Malo in the next Thunderbolt.

ENJOY THE REUNION

Wm. Kent O'Connell

M.P. Platoon

After Action Cont.

10 AUGUST 1944

VIII Corps gave Division the additional mission of clearing the peninsula between St. Malo and Cancale of pockets of enemy resistance.

At this time the Division was disposed as follows:

The western portion of St. Servan was occupied and policed by the 329th Infantry. The 329th Infantry also contained the enemy in the Citadel of St. Servan, a very famous and strong fortress whose defenses had been modernized by the Germans.

The eastern portion of St. Servan and the town of Parame were occupied and policed by the 330th Infantry. The 330th Infantry was assaulting the old town of St. Malo across the causeway from Parame.

The 331st Infantry (3rd Battalion) contained the enemy in St. Ideuc Pte De La Varde area.

The attack on Dinard by Combat Team 121 was making slow progress and the capture of Dinard was imperative, to prevent the enemy from withdrawing toward Brest.

The Division regrouped as follows:

The 331st Infantry (2nd Battalion and Company C) moved via Dinan to the Dinard area the night of 9-10 August to strengthen the attack of Dinard. The 1st Battalion of the 331st Infantry, attacked from positions west of the 121st Infantry at 2000. The 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop patrolled and protected the left flank of the Dinard forces.

The Division Commander assumed direct command of the Dinard attack.

The Assistant Division Commander was placed in direct command of the forces in the St. Malo area.

The 329th Infantry continued to police the towns of St. Servan and Parame and prepared to

attack the Citadel.

The 330th Infantry (3rd Battalion with Task 'A') and with 2nd Battalion 331st Infantry attached, attacked the strong points of St. Ideuc and Pte De La Varde. Strong resistance was encountered and progress was slow due to pillboxes and strong points in the area. Patrols were sent to the north peninsula which met slight resistance.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry with Company L of the 331st Infantry attached, continued the attack across the causeway leading to St. Malo. Progress was slow due to strong positions in buildings on the narrow causeway. Movement was possible only by dynamiting passageways from building to building.

11 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area the attack by the 331st Infantry on the strong defenses of St. Ideuc continued at 1000. The strong point consisted of several connected centers of resistance which were strongly defended by machine gun, small arms and by artillery and coastal guns firing from LaVarde Peninsula. Progress continued slow with some strong points being captured.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, with Company L, 331st Infantry, continued the attack across the causeway toward old St. Malo. Progress was slow. Several pillboxes were knocked out and the Casino, which was heavily defended, was captured.

The 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 329th Inf. launched a coordinated attack on the Citadel of St. Malo at 2030 following a medium level and artillery bombardment. Smoke was used. The attack was repulsed by enemy artillery fire from the Dinard area, also from the batteries on the Isle De Cezembre and by machine gun and mortar fire from within the fort.

In the Dinard area, extensive patrolling was made to determine the enemy positions. A coordinated attack with the 121st Infantry and the 331st Infantry abreast, supported by artillery, was launched at 0830. Advance was slow due to anti-tank obstacles, wire, mines and the fire of small arms and artillery. The enemy launched a counter-attack against the 331st Infantry at 2145 which was repulsed by small arms fire and artillery fire. The 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry, continued to be isolated but was intact. The 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop had the mission of patrolling and protecting the left flank of the Dinard forces.

The 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, was detached from the Regiment at St. Malo, moved during the afternoon to the Dinard area, and placed in Division Reserve.

12 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area the 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, continued the assault on the strong points of St. Ideuc. A number were captured at 1800 follow-

ing a strong attack supported by artillery, the entire position was captured. A patrol of 160 prisoners were captured.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, with Company L, 331st Infantry, attached, continued the attack across the causeway toward St. Malo. The Chateau was attacked, supported by tank destroyer and 57MM, anti-tank fire. The position still held out.

The 329th Infantry (2nd Battalion attached to 330th Infantry) continued to police St. Servan and Parame. Plans were prepared for a second attack on the Citadel.

Assault on the strong fort at Pte De La Varde was continued by the 339th Infantry (2nd Battalion 329th Infantry, and 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry attached. Concentrated artillery fire was placed on the position but it continued to hold out.

In the Dinard area the attack was resumed at 0900. The 121st Infantry was held up by machine gun fire from pillboxes to the front. The 331st Infantry (2nd Battalion) with 2nd Battalion, 330th Infantry, attached, advanced into Pleurtuit and made contact with the 3rd Battalion, 121st Infantry at 1745, which had been isolated since 9 August. Ammunition, food, water and medical supplies were delivered to the Battalion.

In the afternoon the attack was coordinated & five bunkers southwest of Pleurtuit were captured. These bunkers were complete with running water, light system, and stocks of food. The 331st Infantry captured the town of Rogerais and La Tremereuc at 1800. An enemy Engineer Dump located along the Dinan-Jugon road was captured.

13 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, with Company L, 331st Infantry attached, continued the attack on the Chateau. The Chateau was bombed at 1315 and heavily shelled by the artillery but the enemy continued to resist.

The 330th Infantry (3rd Battalion) with 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, and 2nd Battalion, 331st Infantry, attached, continued the attack on the strong point at Pte De La Varde which was assaulted and finally captured at 2145. The seacoast fort was of heavy concrete underground construction complete with steel doors on the bunkers and ventilating system.

The 329th Infantry (2nd Battalion) continued the policing of St. Servan and Parame. Planning continued for capture of the Citadel. Firing by 3" TD guns was continued on steel mushroom-type pillboxes and the walls of the fort.

In the Dinard area a coordinated attack was launched at 0900. Resistance from isolated pillboxes was heavy. Resistance was systematically reduced. The 331st Infantry and 121st Infantry advanced against heavy enemy opposition about 300 yards during

the day. Many prisoners were taken during the day's fighting as well as considerable motor transportation, bicycles and several field pieces.

14 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry with Company L, 331st Infantry, attached, continued the attack on old St. Malo. Progress was slow. The Chateau, last strong point on the causeway was captured early in the afternoon. Troops then entered the old city and after house to house fighting completed its capture at 1810. A supply depot containing a great amount of German equipment was found in the old city.

The 329th Infantry relieved the 331st Infantry (2nd and 3rd Battalions) in the St. Malo area at 1700 that day.

The 330th Infantry with Company L, 331st Infantry was ordered to the Dinard area. The march started at 2130 and the Regiment closed into an assembly area in the vicinity of a German airfield at Le Bourgreuf at 0520, the following morning. Company L, 331st Infantry, reverted to the Regiment.

In the Dinard area a Coordinated attack was launched at 0930 preceded by a twenty minute preparation by the artillery. Progress continued against resistance throughout the day. The 331st Infantry captured a strong point during the early afternoon. The attack continued with both Regiments who engaged in street fighting in the city of Dinard by late afternoon. After house to house fighting, the entire city was captured. During the day's fighting, over 1200 prisoners were captured.

15 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area all organized resistance had ceased except in the Citadel, Le Fort National and Le Grand Bay. The latter two strong points were connected to old St. Malo by a narrow neck of land at low tide.

The 329th Infantry patrolled and policed the town. A coordinated attack preceded by air bombardment and a 15 minute artillery preparation was launched at 1420 on the Citadel. The attack was repulsed by heavy machine gun and mortar fire from the interior of the Citadel, as well as heavy artillery fire from the Isle of Cezembre, an island 4000 yards offshore which commanded the channel entrance to the port.

In the Dinard area, the 331st Infantry continued the attack to the west. St. Lunaire was captured. The Regiment under heavy mortar fire captured Hill 42 and then moved on to capture Hill 48. This small fort was completely equipped with running water, air conditioning, food supplies and all facilities necessary to withstand a long siege. Prisoners captured included the Division Command and the entire staff of remnants of the 77th Infantry

Orders from VIII Corps stated upon completion of present mission, station one Infantry Battalion Combat Team at St. Malo and one Infantry Battalion Combat Team at Dinard. 83rd Infantry Division (less 2 Battalion Combat Teams) will concentrate in the vicinity of Dinan prepared to move to Brest on Corps Order.

16 AUGUST 1944

In the St. Malo area the 329th Infantry assaulted and captured National and LaGrande Bay at 1600. 154 prisoners were captured. Police and defense of the area continued.

In the Dinard area the 331st Infantry continued defende of the area from Dinard west to St. Jacut De Lamer both inclusive. A defense was prepared to prevent infiltration of the enemy from the channel islands.

The remainder of the Division began training and general rehabilitation of personnel, clothing and equipment.

The Division established an advanced Command Post in St. Servan for the final assault on the Citadel scheduled for the 17th of August. Detailed reconnaissance was made for 155 MM guns in Dinard and in the old city of St. Malo, and for 8" gun positions on the peninsula extending southwest from St. Servan. These positions were occupied during the night 16-17 August and gave all-around coverage by fire on the fortress at ranges not exceeding 2000 yards. 3" Tank Destroyers guns were employed to supplement the fire of the larger guns. A fighter bomber mission using jellied gasoline was scheduled for 1400 on the 17th, following an all day bombardment of the defenses by heavy guns. Following the attack of the fighter bombers, the Citadel was to be smoked and again assaulted by Infantry.

17 AUGUST 1944

The attack on the CITADEL FORTRESS began at daylight by direct fire from the 3", 155 MM and 8" guns. Fire was continued throughout the morning without any visible reaction on the part of the enemy. The mushroom type turrets containing machine guns and small mortars were systematically attacked and many penetrated and rendered useless. The larger caliber guns concentrated on the reinforced concrete blockhouses which were built inside the ancient wall

of the fort and which served as camouflage. Once the old wall was torn down by shellfire the concrete blockhouses were exposed to view and the flat trajectory fire of the 155MM and 8'' guns at such short ranges resulted in a high terminal velocity at the point of impact. This high terminal velocity coupled with the weight of the projectile (MV2) using the concrete bursting fuse T105, penetrated the walls of the blockhouses and made them untenable as well as shearing off the weapons. A white flag was raised and the evacuation of prisoners began. The surrender of Colonel Von Aulock and the garrison of 571 Officers and men was accepted by the Commanding General at 1510. Just prior to the surrender, the fighter-bombers arrived over the target, but were quickly diverted to drop their loads on the Isle De Cezembre. The fighter-bombers dropped their loads on Cezembre with good effect.

With the surrender of the Citadel, the mission of the Division was completed. A total of 12,393 prisoners as well as a great variety and quantity of military equipment were captured during the campaign.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER?

Are you an Active Member
The kind that would be missed
Or are you contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the Meetings
And mingle with the flock
Or do you stay at home
To criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part
To help the work along
Or are you satisfied
To only just belong?

Do you ever go to visit
A member that is sick
Or leave the work to just a few
And talk about the clique?

Think this over, Member
You know right from wrong
Are you an Active Member
Or do you just belong?

The above Poem is from a V.F.W. Magazine (I believe) and it sure has a lot of down to earth meaning. Those that complain in the background always, and never say anything where it means something, should pay heed.

Speak up and let us know what is on your mind.

FROM THE NEWSPAPER ADS

Here is \$12.00 for two years Dues. I'm glad we are having the Reunion in Ohio this year. I sure am planning on being there.

Paul Hanna
"I" 329

Sorry about being late with my Dues. Years ago I sent in the Dues for seven or eight men from 'M' 331 and I believe Frank Sarver is the only one who belongs to the Association. I'll send you some new addresses in a couple of days. Hope you have better luck than I did.

Dennis Lamos
"M" 331

(We haven't seen Dennis since Myrtle Beach.)

I was a Member of the 308 Combat Engineers. Please send information about 31st. Annual Reunion.
Kermit Ramsey
308 Eng.

My Service Record does not show any connection with the 83rd, but we were told that we were under them for further Front Line Training. When the War ended, we were building a Rifle Range - and we did not go to the front because our records were lost. If there is any connection, I may want to attend the Warren Reunion.

W.H. Bomgaars
World War I

(Mr. Bomgaars sent me a photo-copy of his World War I Discharge and I wrote and told him that we are strictly a World War II outfit. It felt good just the same to hear from him. Our Newspaper Advertising should have read that we were a World War II outfit.

ED.

Would like some information on the 31st. Annual Reunion. I served with 2 Bn. Hq. 331st. Inf.

Leonard Amatangelo

I just read a note in the Leavenworth Times about the 83rd. Infantry Division Reunion. I'm interested in the information you might send. I had served with 'B' 331. It appears that you and your Committee are doing a good job. Thanks in advance for any information.

Norman L. Kruse
"B" 331

My wife and I would certainly like to go to the Reunion this year because we finally have or make more time for such occasions. Kindly send details.

Claude W. Nitch
"C" 330

My husband was in the 83rd. Infantry, so we

would like to attend the Warren Reunion..

Mrs. M. Slivenski

Found your information in the Louisville Courier Journal.. Would like more information. Is it possible to get a History of the Division? I served with the 83rd. in Europe.

James Murray
Manchester, KY

I saw your AD in the Denver Post. In fact, I work for the Denver Post. For years I have been wondering if the 83rd. ever had a Reunion. Please send me any information you may have..

Charlie Scarpone

I was in the second Platoon of 'M' 329. It would certainly be good to see some of the old Buddies after these many years. I come from a family of eleven children. My mother was widowed before the War and she saw six of her sons serve around the world all at the same time.

Hope to see you next year and Good Luck to all.

Leo Varley
"M" 329

I note with interest an item in our local News Paper regarding the 31st. Annual Reunion of the 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. and ask that you send information. Thank you in advance.

Clark W. Johnson
"H" 329

I would like very much to attend the 31st. Annual Reunion. I have never received the Thunderbolt and would like very much to.

Scott Dawson, Sr.
Cn. 329

Just received the Announcement of the 83rd. Inf. Reunion from the Courier of Findlay, Ohio and would like more information. I served with the 83rd. from November 1942 until my transfer to the 4th. Division in 1943.

Darel C. Parker
Leipsic, Ohio

The Louisville Courier-Journal, in the Point of View Column, carried the Announcement of the 31st. Annual Reunion. I am very much interested in any materials you can send me, since I was a Member from October 1942 to November 1945..

J.E. Hennies
"B" 329

I just read in the Denver Post that the 83rd. is having a Reunion in Warren, Ohio this summer. Please put me on your mailing list and I'll try to attend.

I am also sending names and addresses of others who would like to attend. Would appreciate the info.

Herbert E. Berner
Hq. 329

The preceding are just a few of the letters that came into this Office after the Article sent out by Bill Appleby was printed in the News Papers around the country. Between the Membership letter that was sent out and the response to the News Paper Notices, I have been kept very busy these days. We received many names, that to my knowledge were never in the Association Files. This is very good and I'd like to see the mail keep pouring in like this always. All those that sent inquiries already received their information letters and applications for Membership. It would be great if they all signed up. ED.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

In the latest Issue of the Thunderbolt it shows me to have written that 'Biel' had passed away and that he was not in the files. Somehow the signals got crossed and it was Bill Carriere of Woonsocket, RI who died. I hope this can be straightened out..

Mort Gaynor
"G" 331

Missed the last two Reunions and I sure hope to make the next one. I've missed a lot at not seeing a lot of my Old Friends.

John J. Donahue
1 Bn. Hq. 329

I hope the Reunion this year is a resounding success. Best Regards to all.

Ted DeMasse (Lt. Col.)
Div. Hq.

Bob fell on the ice and broke his hip in two places, however, we plan to attend the Reunion in Warren this August.

Martha Mormon
(Wife of Bob)
"H" 329

By the sounds of things in the Thunderbolt, we are going to have a real blast in Warren this year.

John (Ike) Shaner
"C" 308 Eng.

Will you send me the information on the Meeting in Warren, Ohio in August? I am now the Veterans Service Officer here. Anyone need help or information from this area?

Reserve Headquarters in Columbus has no data on the 83rd, so they tell me. Are there any other 83rd.. Veterans in Caldwell, Ohio or southeastern Ohio area that you could put me in touch with?

Gerald A. Willey

(You people in southeastern Ohio can drop Mr. Willey a line. He can do you a lot of good when you need help in Veterans Affairs..) ED.

It comes to mind that it is peculiar that after thirty some years, I get a notification of the upcoming Reunion. I have not been a Wanderer - in fact, I have been at the present address for ten years. Why have I not been informed before now of an Association such as exists.

Clark Brown
83rd. Sig.

(Every year new names appear in our files. I can't say why anyone has never been informed before, although every effort has been made to see that all 83rd people get the news. We surely advertise all around the country. A lot of people just never get to read the right papers or Magazines, I guess.)

ED.

Can you send me all the information about the Medals and Awards our outfit won overseas. I haven't the faintest idea what I am entitled to wear. I was through all five Campaigns in Europe.

A.E. Miceli
"C" 330

(You people of 'C' 330th ought to be able to help Mr. Miceli better than I.) ED.

Am writing in regards to the second Thunderbolt, as I haven't received it as yet.

Miles J. Brtna
Cn. 330

My Thunderbolt seems to be going astray. Haven't received the second Issue after Florida. I would appreciate knowing what is happening.

Francis C. Murphy
"G" 329

(Many letters such as the ones above concerning the Thunderbolt have been received, along with phone calls from places like Connecticut, New Jersey, Missouri, Ohio and many from Pennsylvanians. Our Printer said he would write me a letter for his reasons for being so late.

His message will be in another part of this Issue if he doesn't forget. The deadline was the 10th. of January, the copy was sent to him on 12 January and it took almost two months to print..

It was mailed out the day after receiving.

Cliff tells me that his work load was terrific during this period.

To those of you that complained; I'm sorry.)

Your Editor
Samuel Klippa

Can the Association send me a Bill for current Dues? I don't seem to be getting the Division News Paper anymore.

Emanuel E. Lamb
"H" 331

(Mr. Lamb last paid his Dues for 1971-72. He was in my Lost File and I just got his new address recently. He was accustomed to getting the book whether he paid or not. This is why I stress that everyone pay their Dues as soon as possible and to keep me informed of their address changes.) ED.

David was extremely happy to hear from you and read the letter with much joy. We look forward to seeing you perhaps at the coming Reunion. We appreciate your taking time to write to us.

Mrs. David Chin
(Div. Hq.)

Enclosed you will find \$24.00 to pay the Dues for Mr. Oscar J. Hart. I really don't know if he is behind and I can't remember. He lost his wallet last year including the 83rd Card. If Dues have gone up, let me know. Thank You.

Rachel M. Hart
("H" 330)

(Oscar was Paid-Up and now is paid four years in advance.)

It seems the years and Dues are rolling around faster than they did. Of course, that's a sign of old age. Although I do not attend the Reunions, I enjoyed seeing the names of Comrades of "B" Battery 324 F.A. in the Thunderbolt.

Joe Harrington

My condition did not warrant me to travel, which made it impossible for me to attend the Reunion in Orlando. Hope by next year, I'll be able to see all of my old friends again.

Philip Derecola
"F" 331

(We all missed William Bogacz of "G" 331 this past Reunion. He wrote me a short note with his Dues Check and said he wasn't much for writing because he has been ill. DROP HIM A LINE "G" COMPANY.) ED.

Norman Roy of the 908th. F.A. is having a rough time physically and with some personal problems. We visited him for a day up at Niagara Falls, NY. Send him his Thunderbolt soon.

Am keeping in contact with many 908th. people again this year and sure hope we can stay over the THOUSAND MARK again. We are looking forward to a capacity turnout in Warren, Ohio this year.

Michael Brick
908 F.A.

FROM BOSTON

Please find a good spot for these photos.

Pat DiGiammerino



Pat DiGiammerino, Nick Francullo, Lucien Eli, Amby Tynan and Mike Caprio.



Jim Prentice, Nick Francullo and Jim Brennan.



Gin DiGiammerino, Larry Arrigo and Lucien Eli.



Jim Emanouil, Dot Brennan and John Donahue.

The letter from Leo Schneider in the Thunderbolt tells about Louis Gaybrant, the cab driver. I met Louis on my return from the ETO with the 8th. Armored Division. When Louis was 19 years old, he had the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts.

Sometime during the Korean War, I was watching T.V. one evening, where the M.C. on 'Broadway to Hollywood' was interviewing guests and Louis was being interviewed. He talked about re-enlisting in the Army and going to Korea where he earned another Silver Star and two Purple Hearts.

Jim Griffin
"G" 329

P.S. Louis must have been quite a soldier.

I enjoy your Thunderbolt very much because it brings back memories of my Buddies in the areas of St. Malo, Tours, Luxembourg and the green hell of the Huertgen Forest where I was wounded in 1944.

I retired in 1973 after serving 27 years in the shadow of the Flag. I have never attended a Reunion but hope to be able to see you in Warren.

Fred H. Lawson
"C" 329

After fifteen years in Viet Nam with the U.S. Government as a businessman, I am back in the U.S.A. now. The final days were an experience I am really ashamed of as we left a great number of friends over there. I look forward to seeing a lot of Comrades next year from 'L' 329 and I & R 329. The THUNDERBOLT looks great, but our Members are really beginning to thin out.

Robert J. Burns

James Schneider of N.Y.C., the brother of our Charles W. Schneider K.I.A. 7/24/44 in Normandy, called and in our discussion, gave me this bit of news concerning something new for New York City.

N.Y.C. has committed itself to using Hover-Craft to handle passengers from Whitehall & Staten Island, Manhattan to Kennedy Airport and from the Bronx to Whitehall. This will be experimental starting in July of 1978. The same type of Hover-Craft are being used from Calais to Dover across the English Channel over very rough waters.

They are feasible, he says and will cut the time in half. A full load will be 84 passengers. Right now, New York must get rid of some of the hazards such as piers, pilings and the debris floating in the waters, and has to consider the ice in Winter. The Canadiens put on a demonstration recently and showed that the craft are suitable for use there.

Jim is hoping to operate these craft for the city and says that he has just 1½ to 2 years to go for retirement. Lots of luck, Jim.

Hope we get to use them someday.

Richard and LaVerne Ammon (who enjoyed the ETO Tour so much the past year) asked that I say HELLO to all those on the Tour and they would like to hear from you. They wanted to know how many miles we travelled by Bus in Europe. The Guide told me that it was 2,600 miles, more miles than we travelled on our first tour. ED.

It sure is good to see the Association doing so well. The success of the Organization can certainly be credited to the outstanding efforts of the Elective Officers through the years. Keep up the good work.

Sure would like to see more Members from 'C' Co. of the 330th. Infantry.

Cliff Snyder
"C" 330

I guess you know an Old Buddy of mine will be living in the White House next year. When he was the Governor of Georgia, I was on his staff. I don't guess I will be on his staff on THE HILL but I hope to be able to go up and collect a Steak he promised me when he was Governor.

Wish the very best to all of you in the coming year. I'm sure we have the greatest Assoc. in all of the U.S.A.

Lt. Col. Geo. P. Lamar
"G" 330

NOTE my change of address. Just gave up practice and am working full time Emergency Room work both at Appleton and Oshkosh, WI.

George A. French MD
Med. 331

GRIN AND BEAR IT

I just got out of the Hospital, and it was a lot like being in the Army: I had a major operation under a general anesthetic, I was in a private room, every meal was a MESS, and they kept giving me shots.

Michael Brick
908 F.A.

DOES ANYONE OUT THERE HAVE THE POEM: 'THE HILLS OF TENNESSEE?' If you do, please send it to Phil Cohen - 5909 Rae Drive - Las Vegas, NV 89108. This is the second time for this NOTICE and Yours Truly would also like to have a copy because he can't locate the one he had.

Your Editor

We had our Monthly Meeting last night and one of our Buddies wrote out a check for his National Dues. It was a Coffee and cake night, plus the Bar. Being with our Old Comrades is an evening we all look forward to. That one night goes by fast.

John Piscitelli

ARMY REPORTS PFC. GEORGE A. YON
MISSING JULY 8, 1944

Well known musician was with Invasion Forces in France. George was a member of the 83rd. Division Band and below is the story and photo he sent to me, for publication.. ED.

FIFTEEN BAND MEMBERS MISSING

When the shelling stopped, the stillness was like death. I looked out the door with a numb feeling as I saw three German Tiger Tanks facing the doorway, a couple soldiers holding Burp Guns, one waving a potato masher, and one who seemed to be the Officer in charge waving a Luger. I felt sick. I scrambled back and mentioned the fact to one of our Doctors in charge that there was an enemy patrol out in the courtyard ready to blow us all to kingdom-come. After about five minutes he came back in and told us that we had to go out with our hands in the air. Just before this incident happened, I was holding a bottle of blood plasma for one of our wounded.

It seemed like I was having some kind of a bad dream. This happens in the movies. The farm building we were in at the time was set up as an Aid Station by the Medical Company. I was there only as a temporary employee. Fourteen other members of our Infantry Division Band and myself were there as temporary replacements. We had put Red Crosses on our helmet by using adhesive tape and mercurochrome. They gave us a Red Cross Arm Band to wear on our sleeve - no weapons were allowed to be carried. The Band had some Medical training back in the States.

The Aid Station was probably zeroed in by the enemy artillery; which their shells couldn't miss. They began shelling the area from the time we had arrived. Those of us who could walk went out with our hands in the air. The wounded who could not walk were left behind. They took our Medical supplies and Jeeps, lined us up, and marched us down the road single file. I tried to hum to myself; it didn't help. Maybe they would let us go because our job was to pick up the wounded and the dead, friend or foe. Such was not the case.

As we were led down the road with guards on all sides, their Tanks drumming in the back, I noticed German Infantrymen in the fields. It is my belief that our Aid Station was set up too close to their lines, perhaps even in back of their lines. The German Patrol had the SS on their collars which meant they were Hitler's Shock Troops. Our first stop was at one of their Aid Stations. Even though they had Red Cross markings on top of their buildings, they kept their Tanks hidden in them - a good place to hide from our planes. This was in violation of International Red Cross Regulations. That night we were locked in a small building with standing room only. One can sleep standing up, believe it or

not, if he is tired enough. But alas, we were under American artillery fire now; the shells were close but luckily there were no direct hits.

Early the next morning we started the long miserable trip to Stalag 7-A near Munich. It took us three months to get there by walking, riding in trucks, and riding in box cars. I didn't know which method of travel was worse. We had no belts or any shoe strings. Try walking sometime without them and see what happens. Food was a scarcity; sometimes we blacked out due to weakness. When I say food, I am using the term loosely. It consisted of Ersatz bread which was sour; it made us sick and gave us diarrhea. One day I had the diarrhea while marching; we weren't allowed to stop for a rest. I was miserable. We went without food. We thought the War would soon be over. We had been captured in Normandy.

When we were being marched down the street in Paris, the French spat on us. There is nothing like a friend in need. Sometimes we would stop at temporary prison camps. Washing facilities were practically non-existent; no beds - just old straw to lie upon; a shave was a rare luxury.

The train rides were a delight - some box cars had Red Cross markings on and some didn't. They crowded as many of us in one car that could possibly fit. Of course the doors were always locked; and because it was July and August the cars were stifling hot. Our own planes would come down in day time and strafe the cars that were not marked. There was no place to turn. One group had broken out during the strafing and had been machine gunned down. Horse meat was the ration for these trips.

After three months the long trip ended in Mooseburg, a little town outside of Munich; they make cheese in Mooseburg. Everyone, of course, lost weight in those three months - perhaps twenty or thirty pounds. Starving is a fast way to lose weight although not the best. Our favorite pastime was talking about food; it became a game. We would take turns planning a menu for the day. We also thought of home and our families.

Stalag 7-A was located in Mooseburg; it might be called a camp. The Barracks were wooden with no foundation; so, the floors were very cold. One little stove in the middle was the central heating system. One or two dim lights hung overhead. I can't remember if there were any windows. The bunks were of the wooden variety - three layers deep. These luxurious apartments were jammed to capacity. We were not in a 'High Rent' area. There was one water spigot from which water trickled. This was the bathing facility; the water couldn't be used for drinking. There were outside bathroom facilities with the latest plumbing, of course. Mattresses and pillows were forgotten luxuries. We had a total of one shower in ten months; there was one shower building in the camp. They did use it for giving showers and

not for gas. The thought of gassing us had entered our minds; but as we stood in line waiting, there were groups coming out who actually had a shower. That was somewhat of a relief.

The daily menu went something like this: Breakfast - hot chicory (with very little chicory); Dinner - rutabaga soup; Supper - one baked potato usually cold and rotten, and a piece of cheese, also, some sour bread. We were slowly starving; our insides took quite a beating. Once in awhile a Red Cross package would come through; these probably saved us. Each parcel would be divided among eight of us. Rumor had it that Germans kept most of the parcels for themselves, and I believe this to be true. We were allowed to write one letter a week and should have received one a week. I received one letter in all. The rest of the mail that had been sent was probably burned or destroyed in some manner. The people in the towns and villages knew of our own plight but did nothing whatsoever. During the Battle of the Bulge they really got mean. They thought they were still going to win the War.

If you were not an Officer, you were required to work. Reveille for the work details was at four in the morning, followed by a drink of hot water, or should I say chicory. We traveled into Munich by box car on a 15 mile train ride which took about 2 hrs. Work usually consisted of the pick and shovel variety. Perhaps it was better to work than to sit around; it kept us a little warmer and relieved some of the monotony. I wished I had a pair of shoes without holes in the bottom; the Winter was long and very cold.

Our planes came over Munich every day at eleven; they were a welcome sight, but it got somewhat nerve racking trying to outmaneuver the bombs that came tumbling down. Most of the center of the city was in ruins from the pounding it got from the air. It was somewhat of a consolation to see that the German people were receiving some of the misery that they had been giving to others. Their War cry was (and still is) that they didn't know what was going on, or that they didn't have anything to do with what was happening. They were only too eager to reap the harvest when the fortunes of War were going their way.

The vaunted Luftwaffe didn't seem to put up much of a defense; in fact, the only time that we saw them was when the skies were clear of Allied planes. We learned to identify the planes by sight or sound. To our surprise the engines of the Messerschmitts sounded like Outboard Motors. However, it was at this time that we saw our first Jets (German). I believe there was an underground Jet Plane Factory in Munich.

Dachau, a Concentration Camp, was located outside of Munich. There are no words in the Dictionary to describe the conditions that existed in this

type of camp. These prisoners also worked in Munich. They wore tattered Black and White striped Uniforms and were always chained to each other or had a ball and chain on their leg. Some of them spoke English and were very intelligent; some spoke several different languages. Their bodies were emaciated; their cheeks were hollow, and their eyes bulged out. Their wrists were not much bigger than a round clothes pole. They talked like human beings but didn't look human. They were shown no mercy.

Everyone wore some sort of uniform. The Gestapo wore black; the Nazis wore brown; the Army wore gray; and the Luftwaffe wore blue. Much of their clothing was made from wood pulp. Most of the people walked or rode bicycles; there were few vehicles to be seen.

Once the Gestapo searched our barracks; it seems they were looking for a hidden radio. They found none in our building, although there could have been one hidden in the camp somewhere. One day we refused to go to Munich to work, so they sent in their - Police Dogs; the dogs, of course, were German Police Dogs. They were trained to do their jobs well.

On November 1, I was sent out on a farm detail. A boy from Poland and a girl from Russia were the slave labor on the farm where I was assigned. These two were teen agers; they always lived and worked on a farm. They worked very hard and very strong. Nothing was mechanized except perhaps the Threshing Machine.

Franz, the Polish lad, did the plowing with the help of oxen. These animals were very slow but very strong. We picked potatoes by hand, put them in a basket, and unloaded the baskets in an old wooden wagon. The wagon was drawn by an ox. Sometimes when our planes flew over they 'Buzzed' the fields; I waved to them, hoping they would land and pick me up. I would gladly have hung onto a wing or a wheel, just to get away. Kristine, the Russian girl from Kievgrad, took care of the cows. There was not an enclosed pasture for grazing, just open fields. One day I drove the cows out to pasture. Everything was going along fine until they decided to join their neighbors in an adjoining field. I didn't know what cows belonged to whom. We 'gold-bricked' as much as we could and got caught sitting down on the job. We got fired from that job and were sent back to camp. Conditions in camp were slowly deteriorating and becoming more crowded. When Spring came, we had no building to stay in; the skies became our roof. Life became hopeless. The only thing that kept us going was the fact that the War would be over soon.

Early in April, I was sent on another farm detail south of Munich. I didn't want to go. The Americans weren't too far away. I had no choice. This farm was located near Salzburg. You could see the Bavarian Alps at a distance. Hermann Goering was living in the town nearby. Berchtesgarden was not

too far away. German Soldiers were everywhere. Sometimes they would stop at the farm house to rest. They all seemed to have relatives living in this country.

One day everyone in the farm house became very excited and told me to hide in the hay loft. Adolph Hitler was coming for a visit. He didn't stay very long, and no one had told me why he had come or where he had come from. Maybe I had misunderstood what they had said. I didn't speak German but managed to understand some of it with gestures.

In the beginning of May we could hear artillery in the distance. I had made it for ten months. Would anything happen now? Would I be killed by our artillery or planes? On May 3, our guards took us (there were about a half-dozen Americans on this farm detail) to work a camp nearby and told us that we could stay there until the Americans picked us up. The Germans were retreating down the road. Our planes strafed them, and naturally they strafed the building we were in. When it got calm, I ran out the back and found a potato cellar which offered better protection. One of the guards told us that we were sitting on top of a ammunition dump. If any of the bunkers would be hit, there would be nothing left within a 20 mile radius. Such luck!

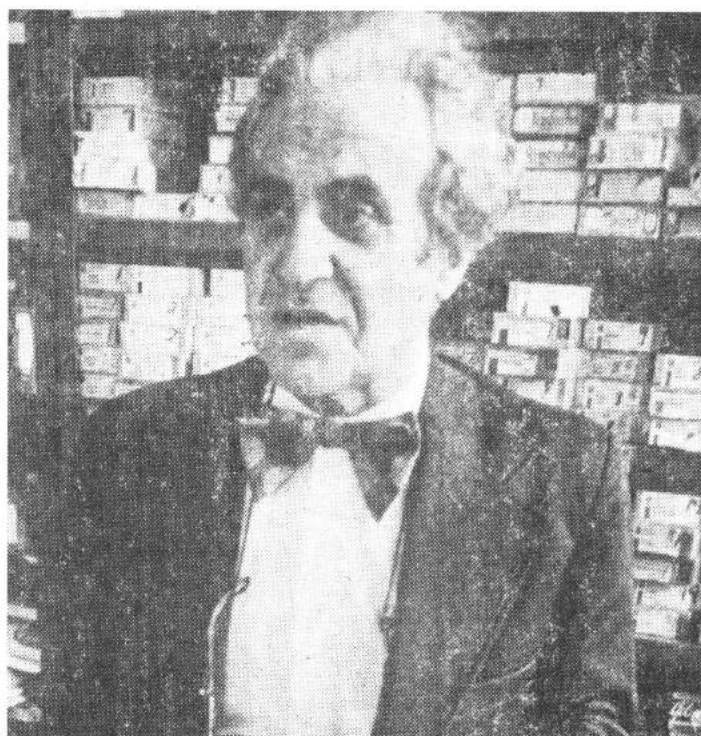
About an hour later, which seemed like an eternity, an American Patrol came down the road and picked us up. We were hysterical with joy. We felt alive again and most of all we were free again after ten months of starvation and misery. Because of the fact that we live in a free nation, we do not realize the importance of freedom. There are those who would gladly take it away from us if they could; and so we have to fight to keep it - and perhaps die for it. I sincerely hope that those who have died for this cause have not done so in vain. In different parts of the world men are dying so that we may live (not just exist).

God was my refuge and strength during this experience. There are no Atheists in the fox holes nor are there any in the Prisoner of War camps.

SUBMITTED BY: George Arthur Yon
912 Edgar Street
Hollidaysburg, PA
16648



Ron, Arthur and Steve Yon



Joseph Zinni of 83rd. Signal.

CHEAP CALCULATORS MAKE SLIDE RULE A VANISHING SPECIES

Joseph M. Zinni of the 83rd. Signal, a Retired Colonel, made the news in the Philadelphia Inquirer recently concerning his business and the vanishing Slide Rule.

For the people who sell them, the Slide Rules have become a White Elephant. They can hardly be given away anymore. The Slide Rule was once a status symbol of students and technical people. Now, it had to give way to the inexpensive Calculators which cost as little as \$10.00 compared to \$35.00 and \$45.00 for a good Slide Rule. Even the manufacturers are having trouble getting rid of the ones they have in stock, no matter how great the discount might be.

'We haven't sold one in six months, and I see the things going out of existence entirely unless people want to collect them as antiques,' said Joseph M. Zinni, owner of Zinni Artists Materials of Philadelphia. 'I've had a closeout sale on these for years said Mr. Zinni....I've still got about twenty in stock and I'm waiting for some new group to form, maybe 'Slide Rule Collectors of the World' and then I'll say - 'Here, take them.'

Just like many other things of the past, and many more in the future, they will have to give way to better and faster methods.

(The above, was condensed from the Inquirer.)

My husband Edsel Giffin passed away October 28, 1974. He was so devoted to the 83rd. Division and the 329th. Infantry. My wishes are that the 329th. will have a Prayer for him at the Next Reunion.

Thanks So Much
Mrs. Edsel F. Giffin

(Edsel was in Regimental Hq. of 329th.)

INFORMATION INFANTRY MUSEUM

Last month, on our way to Florida, we made a side trip to Columbus, Georgia to visit the Infantry Museum. We arrived there at 4:00 P.M. on Sunday, only to discover that we were too late for Sunday's hours and there were no visiting hours on Monday. We were unable to delay our trip till then, so we had to miss seeing the Museum.

Would you please inform other 83rders of the hours of the Museum so they are not discouraged as we were. The hours are Tuesday Thru Friday from 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Saturday and Sunday from 12:30 to 4:30 P.M. If the hours were published in the Thunderbolt previously, we missed it.

Mrs. Chester C. Morgan

(In reference to the Infantry Museum, I don't know as yet whether they held the Official Opening Ceremonies, because I was to get an Invitation to attend. My Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Chester Morgan for the information they sent. This will be of great help to all of you that plan to see it someday.) ED.

Dear Sam:

After getting the September, October & November Issue of the Thunderbolt, and reading Captain Mac's letter about 'G' Co. 331st., I dug through some of my things and came up with some pictures that I had enlarged. I think they will make Captain Mac and Gene Costanzo happy. As I wrote on the back they were taken of the same Parade as the picture of 'G' Co. in the last Issue of the Thunderbolt.

Also, as I put on the back, is a picture of me being unloaded from a Half-Track Ambulance after the Armor was able to break through to the 3rd. Bn. 330 on the 10th. of December 1944. The truck driver who took the pictures, gave me a number of them when I rejoined the Division. They were very small pictures and I just had them enlarged.

Would you put a correction in the Thunderbolt for me? I live in RICHLANDS, NC not HIGHLANDS.

Bill White
330th. Infantry

(Sorry about the error, Bill.)

(Sorry also that your article is one Issue late.)

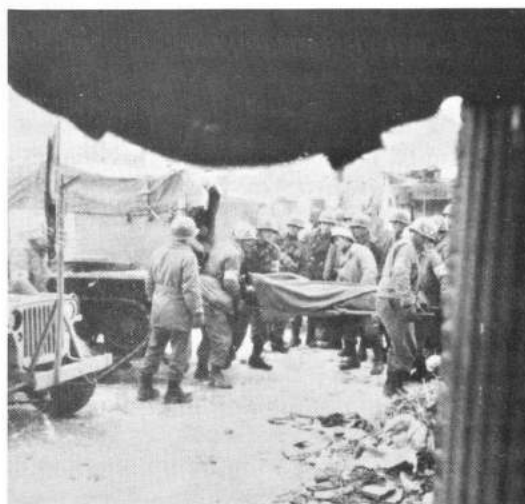
Would appreciate you writing more for us.



Major White watching the Memorial Day Parade.



Captain Macaluso leading 'G' Co. on Parade in the town of Gandersheim, Germany.



Major 'Bill' White being unloaded from half-track.

ATTENTION "D" CO. 331!

Come on "D" Company, let's make this the largest turnout ever. At the first Reunion in Pittsburgh, we had 56 Members present and no other Unit has ever come close to that figure. We can do it again, in Warren, Ohio this year.

How about some sort of prize for the Company with the largest turnout of men. I suggest as a prize, the choice of tables at the Saturday Banquet.

I noted that Ted Ritchie and Manny Goodridge are inaugurating a Northern Kentucky Chapter and want to wish them GOOD LUCK. They should do real well as we had a number of boys from there.

Best of LUCK to the Warren Chapter on their Reunion. It should be a big one this time.

Haven't heard anything on the Florida Chapter as yet. Thought it would be well on it's way to become another Chartered Chapter.

Best wishes to everyone for the coming year.

Ralph Gunderson

"D" Co. 331st. Inf.

I am an old cadre man from the 2nd Cavalry Div. I tried to find some old pictures of Camp Atterbury when it was first started but nothing I have could be printed or reproduced. The Division Association is doing an outstanding job. Often wonder what has happened to Major Calhoun who was Colonel Whites Executive Officer.

I made the New York reunion 20 years ago and the one in Philly 3 years ago, and God willing, I'll be at the next one in Warren, Ohio..

Joseph "Les" Volkmer

"K" Co. 330th. Inf.

Now that it is snowing outside, I have time to write to some of the fellows that were on the list of the 83rd. Signal men that you sent me. Will try to get some of the information they send me to make up a Column for the Thunderbolt.

Thank you for taking care of the address changes as the one for Bob Stotzer gave me the opportunity to visit with him.

I finally had a chance to go through all my old junk which I have kept for many years. If you would be interested in some of it for the Thunderbolt, I'd be glad to send it to you! (I could use any or all of it as long as I find the time to put it into copy for printing.) ED.

Richard W. Dudley

83rd. Signal

(Richard is doing a great job with the men of the Signal Company. Many Thanks.)

There are a couple hundred of last year's good Members unpaid this year. Maybe you should remind

them that DUES ARE DUE..

NO DUES, NO THUNDERBOLT.

Am enclosing a shot of the first Platoon of "A" 330th., taken in Luxembourg after Stromberg Hill and before we went into the Huertgen Forest. Vic Immasche sent it to me. All these guys were killed or wounded between Grosshaus and Strass in early December. He also sent me the Roster of "A" Co.

"Reb Folsom"

"A" 330th. Inf.



Rippee, Pritchard, Proetti, Gundy, Gray, Gratcar
O'Neal, Sollinger, Immasche, Hickerson and Maker.

A GOOD WAY TO GET MEMBERS

I was at work today, giving a haircut when another guy came in and picked up one of my T'Bolts and said: 'This is what I wanted..' I asked if he was an 83rd. man and he said yes; so we got to gabbing and he said he just left Bill George our long lost Buddy. (We lost out on the new address of Bill George and were unable to locate him.) Well, I didn't get to find out his present address, but this is only because he moves so much. However, this guy said to use his address as he does see Bill George quite often. I tried also to get this guy into the fold, he's a friend of Amby Tynan of Hq. 323rd. F.A. Maybe if you send him the T'Bolt you can work on him from the other side.

I had my wife in the hospital again for her heart. Stay healthy.

Al Uridel

Cn. 329th. Inf.

(The man that got the haircut was Walter A. Gutt. I sent him the information on the Association and to this date have not heard from him.) ED.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR REUNION RESERVATION YET?
DON'T GET CLOSED OUT AND SAY WE DIDN'T REMIND YOU!
DO IT NOW AND BE GLAD THAT YOU DID.

REUNION BULLETIN

This is the Issue of the Thunderbolt that you have been waiting for. Complete information on our coming Reunion in Warren, Ohio, August 18-19-20. On separate pages you will find our Program and a Map of the area you are most interested in, 'The Reunion Area.' As we mentioned in the Reunion Bulletin insert in your Dec., Jan. and Feb. issue of the Thunderbolt, we have taken over four Motels all within 1.8 miles of each other. The Holiday Inn which will be the 83rd Association Headquarters has 110 rooms at our disposal, including the Pickwick Room which is our Hospitality Room, Business Meeting Room and Friday Night Party Room. Also, space has been allocated for Registration. The other Motels are: Town and Country, which is the most expensive; because of recent additions to each room of Sauna Baths and Cable T.V. The Best Western and Travel-Lodge Motel.

We have already received many requests for reservations for the Reunion and we can't stress enough the importance of your sending your request in early. Rooms will be allocated on a first come, first served basis with three and four day reservations having preference at the Holiday Inn. All of the Motels are good Motels, however, there are a lot of people who like to be at the Headquarters Motel.

Our National President, Mike Skovran, with the help of the Warren Chapter wives and Sam Klippa, have sent out 3,000 letters to all 83rd Members - asking for Membership Dues, Program ADS and included in each letter, a Reservation Card for you to use and a Map of the Warren area, so this article will

be repetitious.

We have also set our Registration Fees. As you look over the Program and observe that unless you are a non-drinker - we will send you to bed each night in a happy frame of mind. Free booze throughout for three days and special attractions for the ladies, including two free Breakfasts and a Kenley Theater Production which usually features a well known Hollywood or Television Personality. Registration for three days will be \$54.00 per couple plus \$6.00 Dues. Single Registrations and one and two day Registrations will be proportionately less.

Once again, we ask for your cooperation to help us make this the best Reunion ever. You can do this simply by sending in an AD for our Program Book. We will gladly accept anything from a Full Page \$50.00 AD to a \$2.00 Booster AD. Make all checks payable to Reunion Fund - 83rd Infantry Division and send to John Caparanis, 1611 Estabrook NW, Warren, OH 44485.

The Members of the Warren Chapter are anxiously looking forward to greeting you all in Warren, so make plans early to leave your line of departure for a three day blast - point your cars in the direction of Ohio - Tomazin, Kelly and Gautschi, has the artillery set up and Caparanis, Phillipone, Nuzzi, Bellay and Teringo has instructed the Infantry to capture all 83rd Members entering the Warren area and hold them prisoners for the duration of the Reunion.

Yours

Ray Voracek - Hq., 324 F.A.

Leroy Titus - 'G' 331st. Inf.

Reunion Chairmen

YOUR REUNION PROGRAM

THURSDAY - AUGUST 18, 1977

9:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M. - Registration at the Holiday Inn.

10:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M. - Informal meeting of men and women. Question and answer session. Hospitality Room with free open bar.

8:00 P.M. To 1:00 A.M. - Cocktail Party and Dance at Divieste's Hall. Free open bar and late Buffet lunch. (Casual Dress) Busses will be provided.

FRIDAY - AUGUST 19, 1977

9:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M. - Registration at Holiday Inn.

9:00 A.M. To 11:00 A.M. - Free Breakfast for the ladies - if registered.

10:00 A.M. To Noon - Mens Business Meeting. (Members Only) Holiday Inn.

2:00 P.M. To 5:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room with free open bar.

6:30 P.M. - Kenley Players live theater for ladies. Busses provided - pickup at Motels and return.

7:00 P.M. To 1:00 A.M. - Party for men in the Pickwick Room at the Holiday Inn. Ladies to join after Theater. Free open bar. (Casual Dress) Late evening snack

SATURDAY - AUGUST 20, 1977

9:00 A.M. To Noon - Registration at the Holiday Inn.

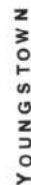
9:00 A.M. To 11:00 A.M. - Free Breakfast for the ladies - if registered.

10:00 A.M. To Noon - Mens Business Meeting. (Members Only) Holiday Inn.

Noon To 5:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room with free open bar.

6:30 P.M. To 1:00 A.M. - Banquet and Dance at Divieste's Hall. Free open bar. (Formal Dress) Busses will be provided.

COMPLETE PROGRAM - \$60.00 PER COUPLE



MAP NOT TO SCALE

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

1500 Mutual Street
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15204

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID
PERMIT NO. 1759
PITTSBURGH, PA.

Charles Sihlanick
2 Elizabeth Ct.
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

A-322 F.A.

Address Correction Requested

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY, or TOWN & STATE ZIP

COMPANY or BATTALION REG'T

OCCUPATION or BUSINESS

BUSINESS ADDRESS

I have been Honorably Discharged from Army Service or I am still on
Active Duty Enclosed, Check or Money Order.

DUES \$6.00 PAYABLE TO: SAMUEL KLIPPA

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

1500 Mutual Street

Pittsburgh, Pa. 15204

DATE SIGNATURE