



# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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# THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

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## A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS

### Who Have Served Us Well

\*JAMES C. HANRAHAN ..... 1947  
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\*JOSEPH F. MINOTTI ..... 1960  
FRANK J. McGROGAN ..... 1961  
JOHN W. ROBINETTE ..... 1962

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JULIUS C. BOYLES ..... 1964  
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WILLIAM M. DOTY ..... 1966  
ALBERT A. BELVEDERE ..... 1967  
VITO C. PALAZZOLO ..... 1968  
PAT DI GIAMMERINO ..... 1969  
CASEY SZUBSKI ..... 1970  
CHARLES ALTOMARI ..... 1971  
HAROLD H. DOPP ..... 1972  
LOUIS J. VOLPI ..... 1973  
BERNARD O. RIDDLE ..... 1974  
ROBERT G. TAYLOR ..... 1975  
MIKE SKOVAN ..... 1976

\*Deceased

THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

Gentlemen, as your new President, I accept this Challenging position with humility and a deep sense of gratitude for the confidence shown in me. God willing, and with your support, I hope to approach the accomplishments of all our former Presidents.

Over the years, we, in the Kentucky Chapter, have attended Reunions with two thoughts in mind, to rekindle old acquaintances and to have above all else an enjoyable three days. Due to the dedicated work of others, we have been able to accomplish this without a Chapter of our own. But now, our time has come. We hope to make up for the free ride we've been given over the past years. I can assure you - we are not lacking in enthusiasm and will try our utmost to satisfy you with a grand Reunion.

We're approaching the business at hand and have our first meeting scheduled for 17, September. Our Program Chairman, Al Schaefer and Ted Ritchie are organizing committees for all events and these assignments will be made at that time.

In behalf of the Kentucky Chapter, I want to thank all that have offered their help for the coming year.

This is all for now. I'll have additional information concerning the 1978 Reunion in the next Issue of the THUNDERBOLT. Remember, this Reunion will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio August 17, 18 and 19 and promises to be a fine affair.

Respectfully submitted

Manny Goodridge  
President

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**32nd. ANNUAL REUNION**

**CINCINNATI, OHIO**

**AUGUST 17, 18 AND 19, 1978**

**PLAN NOW TO BE WITH US**

## PAST PRESIDENTS REPORT

Another great year, maybe even the greatest, has come to a close for the 83rd Infantry Division Association. Our Paid-up Membership for the year reached 1117, which of course is a new high. For this we can be proud and also thankful for the efforts put forth by some people deeply interested in the promulgation and preservation of our Association. For fear of missing or slighting anyone, I will not mention any names but shall extend a sincere 'THANK YOU' to them. You all know who you are and how much and how hard you have worked, so let the fruits of your labor be your reward. Keep up the good work, don't let down, let's strive to top 1200 members this year.

The Warren 1977 Reunion has come and gone but the memory of it will linger long in the minds of the Warren Auxiliary and Warren Chapter members, it was a Reunion that really started two years ago when the hosting of Reunion 1977 was granted, perhaps with reservations, to Warren by the members of the Association. It was a Reunion that perhaps some people felt couldn't come to be because of many unique problems that could come up in a small city not ordinarily prevalent in a large city, such as room accommodations, banquet facilities, travel arrangements, etc. Those people however, were not aware of the intense desire and determination of the Warren Chapter members to prove to all that they could do it, would do it and when on August 20, 1977 approximately 700 people attended the 31st Annual Reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association Dinner Dance at Divieste's Banquet Hall, Warren, Ohio, they knew that they did indeed do it.

Many hours of planning, preparations and work were naturally required to host this Reunion, however, with two great guys like our Reunion Co-Chairmen, Ray Voracek and Lee Titus organizing and coordinating the work details, all problems were solved and overcome, hopefully to the satisfaction of all. Outstanding local leadership by Warren Auxiliary President Theresa Gautschi and Warren Chapter President John Caparanis along with the complete cooperation of all Warren members defies description. The words 'THANK YOU' are such small and insignificant words to express such great feelings to a great bunch of guys and gals for a great job well done, but this tribute must be paid to them. So to you Warren people, THANK YOU ALL very much.

A very special THANK YOU must go to the ladies of the Warren Auxiliary for without them and their work the success of the largest Reunion ever, would not have been possible.

Much Thanks also must go to so many people outside of Warren who were so helpful with their inspiration, solicitation of ADS for the Program

Book etc. and in particular to Casey Kowalec, Jim Burton who along with the fine Honor Guard of the Philadelphia Chapter provided us with the very inspiring and devotional Memorial Service. This had to be one of the highlights of the Reunion. Finally on behalf of the Warren Chapter, I want to Thank all of you who came to Warren for this Reunion, we hope you had a good time, and will want to come again. If perhaps something didn't quite go to your complete satisfaction and you were caused some inconvenience, we ask your forgiveness. To err is human, but to forgive is divine.

In closing, I want to extend my sincerest thanks to all of the members of the Warren Chapter and the Association for allowing me the greatest honor ever accorded to me, that of being your Association President for one year, I shall always remember it. My special thanks to Sam Klippa for all that he helped me and the Warren Chapter over the past year.

God Bless you all.

Mike Skovran

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## WARREN CHAPTER

Hello From Warren, Ohio:

I have often repeated over the years, that to me, it was a great honor to have served in the War with the great men of the 83rd. But now, after 31 years, almost 700 men and women of the 83rd descended on our little town in the Midwest and we really had a BALL. So, I would call this togetherness.

Our Reunion was a howling success and I would like to thank and also congratulate Ray Voracek and Lee Titus, Chairmen of the Reunion, for their leadership in this undertaking. Mike Skovran, our National President for 1977, who did a great job. John Caparanis, Warren Chapter President, head of the AD Book. Last but not least, the ladies of our Auxiliary and women of our Chapter who put in many hours of work. Without their help we could not have been such a success.

We would like to see, if possible, the next Reunions run as economical as possible. We are all getting older and we want to keep our attendance up no matter where we go in the future.

Our next Reunion will be in Cincinnati, Ohio and our next President is Manny Goodridge. Knowing him as I do, he will do a fine job.

Will write more in the next Issue and Thank all of you for coming.

Dick Kelly

908 F.A. Bn.

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MAKE PLANS FOR 1978 REUNION NOW!

CINCINNATI, OHIO.



Banner across W. Market St. in Warren.



Warren Chapter Women.



Warren Chapter men.



Olga and John Teringo with grand-daughter Rachel, youngest member of the 83rd.



Chairmen of Reunion - Ray Voracek and Lee Titus.



Mike Skovran and desk help in fatigues at Holiday Inn.





After Memorial Service on Friday.



Friday Evening in Holiday Inn Bar with Ralph Neppel.



Lola Keeler and friends. Poor Lola!



Chow line at Beer Party Friday night.



John and Helen Caparanis.. Son Bob and wife Debbie.



Charlie and Ann Tomazin. Daughter Karen. Grand-son Mark, next

## PAST EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Congratulations again for a real enjoyable Reunion. The Committee did a fine job and must be commended for it.

During my last year on the Executive Board several items have come up which I hope to pass on to the next Chairman of the Board. It was voted on, and passed, at the Myrtle Beach Reunion, by the Members of the Board, that after serving 6 years as an Officer in the Association, the Board Chairman receives a Complimentary Room for 3 days of the Reunion. The room will be furnished either by the Reunion Committee or by the Association, in appreciation for a job well done.

This year, since one of our Board Members passed on before his last year was up, and was to succeed me as Board Chairman, the Board decided at the Board Meeting in May that the next in line would be Chairman of the Board for two years and that a one year Member will be elected to fill the one year unexpired term of the Board Member who passed on.

I want to thank each and everyone of the Board Members for the cooperation I received during my last year on the Board. It was a pleasure working with a fine group of men who are dedicated and concerned men of our great Association. I hope the Members of the Board continue to work as they have in the past.

Congratulations to Mike Skovran on becoming a Five Year Board Member. I'm sure you will be a credit to the Association, as you have in the year you served as President. Anything I can help you with, please let me know, and I'll be ready to do it.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to serve. I remain:

Sincerely  
Vito C. Palazzolo  
Co. 'G' 329th. Inf.

## ATTENTION ALL MEN OF THE 83RD.

This past Reunion in Warren had a Memorial Service which I was proud to be a part of. The Parade, the Color Guard, Rifle Squad and Services were very impressive.

Those of you who had Uniforms made an impression that will last a long time. For those who attended a Memorial Service for the first time, know that this is one of the main features of our Reunions.

In the past years, I've made shirts and caps for the members to wear at the Reunions, (at their expense) so that we will all look good in the Cities which we reunite. I'm hoping that all the Chapters will have Uniforms and also anyone else who wishes to have them. Please contact me at my

home and I'll see that they are made up for you, just send me your shirt size and cap size. Thank You kindly.

Vito C. Palazzolo  
20000 Lancaster  
Harper Woods, MI 48236

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## SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

The best place to start this report is to bring out some of the things that should have been in the Issue before the Reunion. Space was limited because of the amount of names and addresses for the year's Paid-up Members and many reports were left out. The Post Office puts you in another bracket when you go over 28 pages and for that reason, some people were disappointed in not seeing their write-ups.

Information on the LIFETIME FEES for Memberships was to be in that Issue but it doesn't matter now because it was shelved for another year again, but it was suggested by Casey Szubski that if a Member wishes to pay far in advance, he can do so and this would probably be less than if we had set a Lifetime Rate. It's strictly up to you, the members.

At the request of many, the Issue should have carried the address to write to for your Service Medals and the Bronze Star Medal which all of the Infantry Badge Holders are entitled to. Write to:  
Military Personnel Record Center  
9700 Page Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63123

Send a photostatic copy of your Discharge Papers to prove that you are entitled to get the Medals in question. You will remember that there was a fire there some time ago and many records were burned.

Of the 247 Unpaid last year, nearly 190 were still unpaid at the end of the year, so you can see that we did pick up many new members to make up for the RECORD BREAKING 1,117 Members last year.

The last Issue should also have carried the Announcement of the new Chapter in New England. As it was though, we presented their Charter in Warren and everyone was happy about it. I want to wish them all the success possible in growing to one of the biggest in the Association. They have hundreds in their area to select from.

We are still trying to get the Florida Chapter going so that we can present them their Charter. In Pennsylvania, there will possibly be another Chapter in the near future, and this one will be in the Scranton Wilkes Barre area. I neglected to write down the name of the member who is going to get the BALL rolling there. West Virginia, in the Charleston area is also thinking about getting a Chapter of their own. The more the merrier, and the better chance there is of picking up those that will not travel any distance to join another Chapter.

John Robinette mentioned at the Reunion that he

will start getting the Indianapolis group together one day soon to reorganize that Chapter. Lot's of luck to you too John. How about Washington, DC again and the Miami of Ohio Chapter?

All of you are aware by now that the past year was the most successful in our History with all of our past records broken. It was our biggest year in Paidup Members, biggest Registration at the Reunion and as of this writing, the biggest Banquet ever. We certainly owe a lot of Thank You's to a lot of our devoted people. My personal Thanks go out to all the ones who took it upon themselves to write to the men in their own Companies and Batteries, to build up their Membership....and in so doing, helping the Association grow. The Warren Chapter cannot be Thanked enough for all that they have done to more interest in the Reunion and in the Association, thus doing their share to help the Association grow even more. All this is happening at a time when it was being said that our numbers are depleting and the Membership will continue to fall. Let's just keep the advertising going and we will continue to grow for a long time to come. There are still many thousands who don't know that the Association is in existance.

ACCIDENTS! Each year we see where one or two of our attendees at the Reunions are getting into some sort of accident. I felt like an Ambulance Service in Warren when I drove two of our wonderful ladies to the hospital. Lola Keeler tripped on one of the steps at the Inn and broke a bone in her foot that required her to wear a cast for the Banquet. Janet Nolte had a bad fall outside the Banquet Hall and after treatment, did not return to the Banquet. I'm sorry this had to happen, was glad to have been able to assist them, and hope they are both in top shape again. I'm sure that everyone Prayed for both.

Lou Volpi came up with a punctured ear drum on his first night there. This is unusual for a guy we are all accustomed to seeing in happy spirits all the time. Hope all is well with him now.

Again this year Father McCartin was kind enough to come to our Reunion to hold the Saturday Mass for the Catholics (and others) so that they can get an early start for home on Sunday without attending a Service before leaving. He ran into a health problem that sent him to the hospital on Thursday and he had to return to Boston on Friday where he was hospitalized for a prostrate problem. We are all Praying for you Father and hope you are in top condition again so that you can get out and keep helping others.

I brought home about fifty AD Books of the Reunion and they are available to those of you that placed ADS in it. A Post Card to me will bring you one of them. First come and first served. By the way this was a Record Breaking AD Book too. Another feather in the hats of the Warren boys and John Caparanis who was the AD Book Chairman.

The Registration slips received from Warren had several of our people with new addresses and yet I was never notified. This is probably one of the reasons why some do not get their THUNDERBOLTS. The Post Office provides Change-of-address cards (as many as you need) and it is very simple to keep your address up to date.

Many people who had prepaid Dues had them paid, again in Warren and this requires that I send them a check returning the \$6.00. Always look at the date of expiration and eliminate that problem. It is very possible to miss that for me unless I check back to last years files.

I am very happy to announce that Bob Taylor is going to have good news for all those that were asking about getting one of our History Books. If he doesn't make this Issue with the announcement, he will surely make the next one. All the details will be given to you by Bob Taylor, when ready.

Again, many THANKS to all of you that were helping to make the past year the greatest in our History. It is impossible to Thank each and everyone separately. Keep up the good work and let's make 1977-'78 even greater than the last.

The next THUNDERBOLT DEADLINE IS JANUARY 10, 1978 AND YOU SHOULD TRY TO GET ALL THE NEWS IN ABOUT A WEEK EARLY. LET'S NOT BE LATE AND KEEP YOUR BUDDIES FROM GETTING THE THUNDERBOLT EARLY ENOUGH TO GET THE NEWS WHILE IT IS NEW. I'm sure the Printer will be cooperative and once I get the book, it only takes six hours to get it off to the Post Office.

WE HAVE ALMOST 600 MEMBERS IN FOR NEXT YEAR!  
ANOTHER GOOD YEAR IS IN THE MAKING!

Samuel Klippa  
Secretary-Treasurer

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To Ginny DiGiammerino:

Hope you are on your way to better healthier.... happier days....you certainly deserve them after all those years after your mishap.

WE ARE ALL PULLING FOR YOU AND SAYING OUR OWN... PRAYERS FOR YOU. WE WISH YOU A SPEEDY RECOVERY.

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!!!  
CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR CARDS!!!!

**achtung!**  
PAY YOUR 1978 DUES  
OL' BUDDY...thanks



## DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS

June 19th, the Dixie Chapter Meeting and Outing was held in Clemson, SC. Buck and Mary Muldrow making the arrangements. Boat riding was enjoyed by many with Skipper McManaway at the Helm! After the meal at Coneross Fish Lodge, the Election of Officers was held.

After serving faithfully and diligently since 1972, Dick Riddle asked for a rest. We all agree it is a well deserved one for both, he and his wife Lessie. New Officers are: Jake Glenn, President - Buck Muldrow, 1st. V.P. - Leroy McManaway, 2nd. V.P. - W.A. (Bill) Laughter, Treasurer - Meadows Minick, Chaplain.

Jesse Pirkle is our Chairman of Fund (or fun) Raising Committee with all Dixie Chapter Ladies. Toy Belcher and wife were guests. At that time, Guy Myers was hospitalized! Since that time, Guy has passed away. He will be missed by the Dixie Chapter and the Association. We send our sympathy to his wonderful family. We also welcome them to any and all of our future Dixie Meetings.

David E. Dillard from Seneca, SC formerly with the 308th Medics, joined our Chapter. He followed Bucks road signs from the Holiday Inn in Clemson to Buck and Mary's summer home on Lake Hartwell. He didn't know the 83rd had an Association until he saw the 83rd signs.

The Dixie Chapter gives a big 'THANK YOU' to the Warren Chapter for hosting such a wonderful Reunion. Heard lots of good comments on the self serving at the Saturday Night Banquet.

Dixie gained the following new members at the Reunion: Karl Sauer, Bemis V. Mikel, Arthur R. Wagner, Richard Rynkowski, Joe Lavinski, Ernest Hamlin, Bernie R. Jones, Chester Echerd, John Gruss, and Richard Greene.

Al Starling and the Dixie Chapter Reporter toured part of the Tennessee Maneuver area and Camp Breckenridge on the way to Warren. All but 40 acres of the 46,000 have been sold. The Singer Company is operating a Job Corps for the Government, where the main Headquarters are left standing! Most Infantry Barracks are torn down. There are three coal mines operating six hundred feet below Camp Breckenridge, with two more soon to be opened. According to the authorities, they have the longest belt line in the world conveying coal from Breckenridge to Uniontown on the Ohio River to be loaded onto barges.

Jack Patterson, who was a Newspaper boy for Camp Breckenridge during the War, showed us the Generals home in Morganfield! The home is now owned by Dr. and Mrs. Ferris Larsen. Must have been a lonely place to live, with no guards etc., or maybe there were guards!!!

Furman Epps of the Dixie Chapter drew number 83 on Registration ticket at the Reunion. How lucky was

it, Furman?

Our Christmas Party will be December 10th in Gatlinburg, TN at the Riverside Motor Lodge. Any and all 83rd Members are invited to attend. Anymore information needed, contact: W.A. Laughter at 115 Grace Street - Rutherfordton, NC 28139.

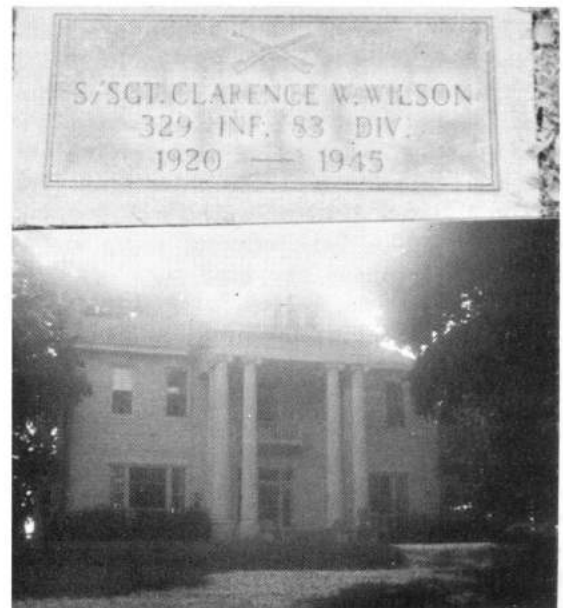
Next Meeting will be in Richmond, VA with John and Virginia Cox making arrangements which are not known at this time.

Sincerely  
Keith Echerd  
Box 292  
Taylorsville, NC 28681

All of the men standing at the Tomb Stone were present at the Reunion and there were two others not in the picture.



L.to R. Keith Echerd, Filmore Kohler, Robert Brinkman, Francis Murphy, Chet Morgan, John Cupina and Sterling Rubright.



The above, is General Macon's home in Morganfield.

## CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Those of you who were unfortunate to not get to the Warren Reunion, don't know what you missed. I can sum it up in a few words like: WOW, GREAT, COLOSSAL, OUT OF THIS WORLD and more. The gang from Warren let it all hang out for this one, believe me, I still am amazed at the huge turnout, everything was fine, real fine, thanks a million Warren Chapter.

My Buddies from my old outfit enjoyed themselves no end, and it was a pleasure to see them once again after all these years.

Ralph Neppel, I know, had a good time in the circle near the pool where all of us were telling each other our favorite jokes, some pretty good ones to key Ralph. (Want a monkey for a pet?)

Henry Fix dishing out fancy watches to our members of our group, something new, anyway, they beat the old sun dials, believe me.

Casey Kowalec took over for our Chaplain, John Piscitelli, and did a super job, as we all must admit the Memorial Service was as usual, in one word BEAUTIFUL. I'd say it was one of the highlights of the Reunion, a real tear jerker.

Now we must get back to the old grind, work for another year and plan on the Cincinnati Reunion which will be put on by the Kentucky Chapter.

I heard through the grapevine that Casey and Eleanor Szubski had a house full after the Reunion, a carry over from Warren, man - don't you guys ever quit?

Bill Herhuth is getting along real fine now, he had a tumor removed from his colon, and finally feels up to snuff. I told Bill that his Doc should install a zipper in his gut, he's been up so many times, it would make it easier on him. Ha!

Just read a note from my Buddy H. Hochman and his wife Sylvia, explaining their hasty departure, too bad they had to miss the Grand Finale, but first things first, and their business requires them to be home when it necessitates.

We have a Picnic coming up (and meeting) at the Chet Czech's daughters home in September and anyone in the area is more than welcome to be our guests, September 18, 1977 - Call anyone.

Joe Lanza tying up the mens room one night, signing up new members, Roland Warner had to bust in to see what was creating the problem, and there was Joe explaining to the new prospects all the benefits of joining a Chapter, nice going Joe. Joe also said that he never danced so much in his life, he had a BALL. It was disheartening to see only 11 Cn. Co. 329 men out of a possible 100 letters sent out, answer the call and attend the Reunion. A good many of the No Shows live within a 100 mile or so, and could have at least answered Mort Goldman's plea for an answer.

Oh well, we'll just have to work on them a little

harder next year, and get them in the fold.

That's about it for now, those of you that have not paid your Dues, do so at once, and plan on the Cincinnati Reunion next year.

Good Luck and Good Health  
God Bless all you THUNDERBOLTS  
And your Families  
Al Uridel  
Cn. Co. 329th. Inf.

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I've wondered why so few of the 83rd Signal Co. members have joined the 83rd Infantry Division Association? I ran across this photo of the Signal Company and the only one on your Membership list is Steve P. Chicos of Gary, IN.

If you print this, we may come away with a few more members.

Anthony Slives  
83rd. Signal Co.  
(Hope you're right, Anthony.) ED.



The Nation's foremost Infantryman, General Omar Bradley, cut through a ribbon and gave in to some nostalgia as he opened the new home of the National Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning, GA. 'For an Infantryman, coming to Fort Benning is coming home,' Bradley, 84, a five star General, said at the dedication. 'Memories I've had here are indelibly etched as some of the best of my 65 years in Uniform.' Fort Benning has been the Army's principal Infantry Training Ground since it opened in 1919.

Sent in by:  
Michael Brick  
'A' 908 F.A.

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IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES FOR THE COMING YEAR,  
YOU ARE NOW READING YOUR LAST THUNDERBOLT.  
SEND IN YOUR DUES RIGHT AWAY.

## NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

Here we are back home again after another fine Reunion. What can we say about the Warren Chapter who really outdid themselves. I think the word 'FANTASTIC' sez it all. It was a Reunion we will remember for a long time to come. I know everyone had a good time and if they didn't it was their own fault.

For the first timers it was a good one to start off with and I know they will be back again. The Warren women were something else...always working and not one gripe from them. If you needed help, they went out of their way to help you. I think the men and women from Warren deserve a big hand for a job well done.

I was glad to see a lot of my old friends, but did miss my Buddy Ed Glinka and his wife. I hope everything is okay with them.

Now we have to wait another year for the Reunion in Cincinnati. I know the bunch of guys from Louisville, Kentucky will do just as good a job. They seem eager to get started.

Was glad to see Mrs. Klippa at the Reunion and hope she can make the next one also. Hope all the ones that got hurt are back on the beam again. It's funny but every year someone seems to trip or fall and thank God the injuries are small. When you think of the large groups we have, I think we're lucky, of course, the ones that got hurt can't say that.

I was glad the Jersey Chapter was well represented and I know they all had a good time.

On October 1st. we have four couples going to Myrtle Beach, SC for a week so you can see we are, in for another good time. Then on November 5th. we are going to Philly for their Banquet which is always a good time and then in December the Army and Navy football game, so you can see the rest of the year is really filled up.

Was glad to see Leo and Shirley at the Reunion, they have had a little trouble and it always seems to happen in August. We hope this ends as of now and that we see them at the Reunions to come.

With this being the last THUNDERBOLT this year, I would like on behalf of the Jersey Chapter to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving, A Merry Christmas and one of the healthiest and Happiest of New Years. I would like to say again to the Warren Chapter, CONGRADULATIONS.

Hope we all get together again soon.

Yours Truly

Jim Bowie

Co. 'B' 330th. Inf.

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NEXT REUNION - CINCINNATI, OHIO  
JOT THAT DOWN ON YOUR CALENDERS.

## CHICAGO CHAPTER

Back from Warren and a great time was had by all. Those guys and gals made a memorable Reunion and a mark for those following, that will be hard to equal, let alone surpass. (Good luck Cincinnati)

Our record National Membership and granting of New Charters inspired me to dig out some old addresses for new members. The old 83rd. ain't dead yet.

Chicago had a good turnout and picked up a new member, Tony Novak and Frank Phillips, our Polka Specialists did themselves proud on the floor. Bill and Rita did a number I never saw before. My wife and I never danced so much (drank so much) for a long time. The 20th was our 39th Anniversary.

The 1976 European Tour Group had a separate Reunion. Thirty nine out of our Bus of 54 showed up and we relived our trip.

Sure was glad to meet Mrs. Klippa and daughter Diane, and this time Sam wasn't alone.

Joe Adam

Co. 'A' 330th. Inf.

P.S. FIND A NEW MAN TO SIGN UP FOR MEMBERSHIP.

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## 'D' COMPANY 331ST. INFANTRY

I'M very proud to say that Dog Company had the most Paid-up Members for the year 1976-'77. This is nine years in a row that I know of. Attendance at the Reunions wasn't all that I expected, especially the one in Warren, Ohio because we have a slew of men that could have easily attended. There were just thirteen in attendance that I knew of, namely: Nolte, Odenweller, Hamilton, Gunderson, McKee, Klippa, Komlos, Churpak, Campbell, Barbu, Kovak, Nagel, and Pflieger. I might have missed someone because I hadn't much time to spend with them.

Harry Adkins of Northeast, PA could have easily made it as could Henry Trzeciak who promised to be there. How about all of you planning to be in the great City of Cincinnati next August? You'll enjoy it more than you'll ever know, being with old Buddies again after so many years and some of you for the first time. Drop me a line soon and let me know if you plan to be with us next year.

How about Ted Bednarski? It would be a FIRST.

How about Lt. Clements? Long time no see.

How about Harry Gravelyn? Always good to see you.

There are many others too. Get on the ball.

Samuel Klippa

Co. 'D' 331st. Inf.

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## THE GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Before I begin to write this column, I want to say to all the fine people of the Warren, Ohio Chapter, thank you for a wonderful time, and that comes from all of us in the Pittsburgh Chapter. You really put on a good show in every way; again, thank you. (This includes Ray Voracek with his Mike Fright.) I have never heard so much ----- in all my life, but I enjoyed it. Nice going Ray.

Here is news I don't like to Report. Pat Caruccio of McKeesport, PA passed away September 2, 1977. Pat was at the Reunion. Our deepest sympathy to the family. We will miss a great guy.

As most of you know, we of the Pittsburgh Chapter have a monthly ticket, some of the tickets were sold to some members of Warren and I promised to give you the number. It was 071.

Most of you asked about our number one man Charlie Altomari who was in the hospital, had an operation and is now at home recuperating and doing fine. We miss you Charlie, so get your A-- back here and get these tickets moving. We need the money.

Captain Mac of 'G' Company had their Annual Reunion and as usual a fine turnout. There should be more of the Company Reunions.

I met another Captain Mac, this one a female. We danced a few and I said to her - 'Say you're pretty good' and she said - 'Yes I know, I'm dancing with my G.I. shoes.' I looked and sure enough there they were. Had a lot of fun.

The Pittsburgh Chapter held their meeting on Sunday and it was a fine turnout. We talked about the Reunion and what a time was had by all. The last Reunion is going to be hard to beat, they say.

Good Luck Manny and the Kentucky Chapter.

Gene Costanzo

'G' Co. 331st. Inf.

P.S. See you at the Super Bowl, Mac, with the Steelers and remember 'Pittsburgh is Someplace Special.' You too, Beau.

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## 83RD SIGNAL

We will be in the publication put out by the Retired Affairs Division, Adjutant General, U.S. Army. Guess that I have written to 75 or 80 members and sent each a stamped addressed envelope, my budget is really taking a beating, but the response, phone calls and letters, have made it worth the time and expense. Just as soon as the time is available, I will get my address file typed up and sent to you. All the addresses should be good ones or they will be so noted.

Richard W. Dudley

83rd. Signal

Sam, at this time I would like to let you know for the THUNDERBOLT that I was elected State Commander of the Disabled American Veterans of Indiana. Also, a coincidence, John Walker, Jr. was elected State Commander of the V.F.W. of Indiana. We were both with 'D' Company of the 330th Infantry. Same section, just two squads apart, so I guess the 83rd is honored by having two State Commanders in the same year of 1977-'78 from the same Company and Unit of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Bemis V. Mikel

Co. 'D' 330th. Inf.

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## CONGRADULATIONS TO BOTH OF OUR MEMBERS.

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Your kind letter offering help is greatly appreciated. The name of the medic I am trying to locate is Doc Sigrud Persson of 1950 Grey St. in Boston, MA. Your offer of sending the list of 'C' 331st names and addresses will be greatly appreciated, as I would like to write all of them and promote the Association. It's a great thing and we must do everything to promote it. It is one of the few active ones left & deserves much promotion by every former member. I'm sorry to be more-or-less incapacitated, disabled and unable to travel much at all. I was very active for 16 years.

I'm terribly proud to be part founder of the Association plus a voted 'LIFE MEMBER'. It's a tremendous honor and I shall always be proud of the 83rd Infantry. Thanks again and the worlds best to ALL of the Members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, especially the workers.

With Great Sincerity

Walter H. Edwards

Former Captain 'C' 331

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NOTICE! Walt Edwards is trying to locate Dr. Ernest Geever who was the Battalion Surgeon, for the 331st Infantry.

He would appreciate your help.

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It was great hearing from you with such a newsy letter. My wife, Lenore, really enjoyed it more than I can tell you. I certainly would be most appreciative for any back Issues of the Thunderbolt.

Lou Damiani

'E' 331st Inf.

We enjoy receiving the THUNDERBOLT very much but are disappointed not seeing more members from the 322 F.A. Service Battery.

Mrs. Michael Hovanec

Stratford, CT.

(Nice to hear from the women once in awhile.)



## PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

Hello Buddies:

Here we are back home after another wonderful Reunion, the Warren Chapter deserves a great round of applause for putting on one of the greatest Reunions ever. Please don't get me wrong, we have had some great Reunions put on by other Chapters as well, but this one was both different and exceptional.

Over the years we have talked about having Reunions in small Cities and it has always been frowned upon, because we felt that we had to have it in Cities that had large beautiful Hotels to offer, we also thought of what we could offer in the way of a program suitable to all, men and women. After all, fellows, let's not sell the women short, were it not for them, I can assure you that many of you men would not be at a Reunion.

This year, we did not have a large Hotel for the Reunion, it was broken down into having accommodations in four or five motels and believe me, it worked out great. The Holiday Inn, where the headquarters was set up, went out of their way to offer us the finest that they possibly could. I am sure that all who attended enjoyed themselves very much. Every year we have people attending who are dissatisfied with either their accommodations or the program or some other thing. This year I heard less complaining than I have ever heard at a Reunion. All we can say is, 'A good job well done by the boys and girls of Warren.'

We had a fine Memorial Service at the Motel, it was an outdoor Memorial very well conducted by our Chaplain, Casey Kowalec. The Greater Philadelphia Chapter had their Honor Guard which conducted the firing of rifles, then Jim Burton rendered a wonderful rendition of 'My Buddy', which brought tears to many eyes, followed by Taps by a very nice young man that was obtained by the Warren Chapter.

Following the Memorial Service at the Motel, the Philadelphia Chapter Color Guard and Rifle Squad, along with several others, went to the grave of Joe Minotti where another Memorial Service was conducted. Both Services were attended by Mrs. Minotti and her daughter. The graveside service was out of this world, and again was well conducted by our Chaplain, who gave a wonderful graveside Eulogy.

I am happy to say that the Philadelphia Chapter was well represented, the men in attendance were as follows, (pardon me if I have missed anyone, if I did, it was strictly by accident) Lou Volpi, Al Belvedere, Bill Chavanne, Frank McGrogan, Ed Paulino, Larry Redmond, Anthony Theodore, Bernie Mendelsohn, Emanuel Lima, Art Federicci, Lester Hauck, Earl Geissler, Joe Zenz, Phil Derecola, Michael Brick, George Tysiak, John Sullivan, Robert (Nosey) Nordbloom and I am sure that there were a few more that

I am unable to think of at this time. Wives were also with us.

We of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter take our hats off to the Warren Chapter for the job they did. We wish their Chapter the best of luck and hope that we can have many more Reunions in the Warren area. Next year we are looking forward to another great Reunion in the great city of Cincinnati, Ohio. To the boys from Cincinnati, please don't be afraid, we are not bringing the Phillies with us, just our members from the Greater Philadelphia area.

Larry Redmond  
Co. 'H' 330th.

Hello Buddies:

Here I am once again with my own personal letter extending my congratulations to the Warren Chapter for their good job well done.

I have attended many Reunions over the years, and have enjoyed all of them. I for one have worked with many Reunion Committees and know only too well the hard work and effort it takes to put on a Reunion. No matter how hard you work or what you do to try to make it a success, there are always that certain few that complain. Those men who do the complaining are usually men who never done one thing to help put on a Reunion, all they can do is find fault.

I would like to say personally to the Warren Chapter, you men along with your wives deserve a world of credit for the fine job that you did. You proved to some of us old timers who thought that it was impossible to put on a good Reunion in a small city or town where there weren't large Hotels to accommodate us. Your planning was well worked out you booked us at a variety of Motels and it still was great.

The real great part of attending Reunions is the possibility of meeting a Buddy that you haven't seen since you left Europe, and also the possibility of meeting a Buddy who hasn't attended a Reunion for years. This year I was blessed with such a meeting. I had the pleasure of meeting two men who had been Officers of our Association many years ago, and both have not attended for years. Believe me, it was almost like meeting a brother you haven't seen for years. This year we had the opportunity of meeting George Cooley and his lovely wife Mary. We also met Leo Schneider and his very lovely wife, Shirley. Believe me, as much as I enjoyed meeting all the men and their wives who were there, it was a special pleasure to meet this foursome. I sincerely hope that we can meet at many more Reunions. It was also wonderful meeting Dimps Minotti, wife of the late Joe Minotti and also great to see their two lovely

daughters. It made me feel old seeing these two lovely young girls who only a few years ago were just little girls.

Well Buddies, to those of you who were unable to attend this Reunion, all I can say is that you missed a very wonderful time and I sincerely hope that you will be able to be with us in Cincinnati next year.

Larry Redmond  
Co. 'H' 330th.

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#### ANOTHER DECEASED

Some months ago you sent a letter to my Frank suggesting that he attend the Reunion to be held honoring the boys who were in Camp Atterbury in 1942 and 1943. I just wasn't up to acknowledging the letter at that time. My dear brother Frank (Francis R. Doherty) died last November. Cause of death was cancer of the pancreas and kidneys.

Frank would love to have been with all of you at the Warren Reunion. He was in 908 F.A.

Mary Doherty  
Dorchester, MA.

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#### 908 F.A. Bn. News

Attending a great 83rd Division Reunion in Warren, Ohio were these members and wives from 'A' 908 F.A. Battalion.

Ann and Walter Bernhardt, of Quakertown, PA - Sue and Warren Boucher of Westerly, RI - Dolores and Leland Boyers of Wauseon, Ohio - Grace and Michael Brick of Buffalo, NY - Clarice and Howard Carlbon of Stockton, CA. - Amelia and John Clevenger of Ellen-ton, FL. - Marion and Charles Dailey of Claysville, PA. - Dorothy and G.L. Hayes of Newcomerstown, Ohio - Henry Hudson of Trenton, Ohio - Ann and Robert Hughes of Wilkes Barre, PA. - Mr. and Mrs. William Laughter of Rutherfordton, NC. - Virginia and Eddy Marquard of Willoughby, Ohio - Jean and Charles Morgason of Waldron, IN.

Due to personal problems, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mangum of Modesto, CA had to postpone their trip to Warren, Ohio.

Michael Brick  
'A' 908 F.A.

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I would like to have the book 'I Saw It Through' if you can send me one.

George Crittenden  
Co. 'B' 331 Inf.

(We are happy to report that something is finally going to be done about getting reprints. You will be notified in a future THUNDERBOLT.) ED.

#### MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Our Chapter sends sincere congratulations to the Warren Chapter for a job well done. It took 31 years to get to Warren but it was well worth the wait. The program was tremendous, the attendance was great and it was a joy to see so many happy faces. CONGRADULATIONS WARREN, we look forward to a return trip to your wonderful town.

We had our Post Reunion meeting at Jack Daugherty's home on August 28th. This is our Annual Election meeting and our new slate of Officers follows:

Edward Zerucha----President.  
Loyal Pangle-----Vice President.  
Marion Muoio-----Secretary.  
Jack Daugherty----Treasurer.  
Nick Barbu-----Chapter Reporter.

Jean Winchell entered the hospital shortly after returning from the Reunion. She had surgery on August 30th and is recovering at home. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her at our next Chapter meeting.

Our Chapter was saddened by the death of Mary Daugherty. Mary was Jack Daugherty's sister in law and from time to time was in attendance at our Chapter doings. Our sympathy goes to her husband, Jim, and their children.

Dorothy and Lee Hetrick are grandparents again and Jack and Hankie Daugherty expect to be grandparents again very soon. Seems like the years are catching up to all of us.

We are especially happy for Ed Zerucha's family. Their son, Tommy, was accepted at the University of Michigan and will be starting there soon. Tommy has been doing exceptionally on National Academic Tests. His test scores have been in the top 5% nationally.

We take this early opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous and Healthy New Year.

Nick Barbu  
'D' Co. 331st. Inf.

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#### SOME REMINDERS

NEXT THUNDERBOLT DEADLINE - JANUARY 10, 1978.

DUES FOR 1977-'78 ARE DUE NOW.

THIS IS YOUR LAST THUNDERBOLT UNLESS YOUR DUES ARE PAID BEFORE THE NEXT ISSUE.

THE NEXT ANNUAL REUNION WILL BE HELD IN THE CITY OF CINCINNATI, OHIO ON 17, 18 AND 19, 1978.

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE NEXT GREAT REUNION.

Enclosed you will find four pictures which I would like to see in the next Issur of the THUNDER-BOLT. It was certainly nice spending five days with you and the rest of the gang this year as we had a real Old Fashioned Reunion. I sure hope the Kentucky Chapter will be able to give us half of what the Warren Chapter gave us. It is up to you and the Executive Board to keep on their tail.

Thanks for your cooperation in the past and the present. Will be in touch with you later.

Sam, Larry Redmond will send in the Philadelphia Chapter Article, as John was not at the Reunion. Put the pictures with his Article.



Front row: Lima, McGrogan, Belvedere, and Palazzolo.  
Back: Chavanne, Paulino, Redmond, Volpi and Hauck.



L.toR. R.J. Voracek & his troops, McGrogan, Redmond and Hauck.

VERY IMPRESSIVE!  
A SIGHT TO SEE!



Front row: Paulino, McGrogan, Palazzolo, Volpi and Belvedere.  
Back: Klippa, Redmond, Chavanne, Bugle Boy and Lima.



Front: A. Belvedere, V. Palazzolo, R. Doty, C. Lima and B. Chavanne.  
Back: M. McGrogan, R. Paulino and L. Volpi.

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#### 'FRANKLY SPEAKING'

To all men of Company 'D' 330th, we are all aware we just held our 31st Annual Reunion at Warren Ohio and as usual it was a grand time had by all who attended. We must take our hats off to the Warren Chapter for all their Hospitality, especially, our Past President, Mike Skovran and his lovely wife, Elizabeth, and also our past two Reunion Chairmen -- R.J. Voracek and his lovely wife, Marge and Leroy Titus and his lovely wife, Birdie and all the other members and their wives, they certainly worked hard to show us a good time.



'Dog' Company had a very good attendance this year, the men who attended were --- Bob Snyder, Arthur DelPadre, Bob Harrell, Felix Marra, Ted Gurgol, Paul Schick, Bemis Mikel, Johnnie Ball and Lewis Jones --- there were also three members there that I did not know but the other men knew them, they did not go overseas with the 83rd, sorry, I did not get their names.

I thought for sure I would see more men from the Ohio and West Virginia areas --- men like Kalgreen, Ferko, DiAntania, Fulaytor, Juskey, Schreiner, Vitantonio. By the way, men, I received a letter from Vitantonio's wife, Gloria, telling me Paul was not too good, he was in the hospital for a month, she said, 'I thought for awhile he wouldn't make it, but Thank God he is feeling much better', drop him a line at 29203 Ridge Road - Wickliffe, Ohio 44092.

Well, men, this is about all I have for this time around. I will try to give you more news in the next Issue and if you have not sent in your Dues as yet, please make sure you do or otherwise you will not receive your THUNDERBOLT which comes out four (4) times a year with good news in it.

Since this is the last Issue before the Holidays we here at our house, wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. Let me hear from you real soon!!!

Frank McGrogan  
Co. 'D' 330th. Inf.

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#### PHILADELPHIA SCRAPPLE

Well Buddies and wives, here we are, all starting our new fiscal year 1977-'78. Let's all back up our new Officers 100% and starting by all getting our Buddies to send in their Dues.

I'm sorry my wife and I couldn't make Warren, we promise to make Cincinnati next year. Sorry to hear that our good friend Father McCartin was taken ill at the Reunion. Our Prayers are with him for a speedy recovery.

Also a speedy recovery to Mrs. Doc Keeler from her ankle injury.

We of the Philadelphia Chapter had a wonderful year for events and get-to-gethers. In June we had our Annual Picnic, at the Y.M.C.A. Camp in Berlin, N.J. All activities and games were taken care of by our good friends Bill (308 Eng.) and Bea Chavanne.

Prior to the Reunion, our August Meeting was a Coffee and Cake Affair - and discussions for preparations for the Reunion.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter is running their Annual Banquet Saturday, November the 5th at the U.S. Supply Depot here in Philadelphia. Anyone wishing to attend, contact any of our Officers or members. We promise a great time for all. Hope to hear from a few of our Buddies.

P.S. WE ALSO HAVE 50-50 CHANCES.

Chapter Reporter  
John T. Piscitelli

#### CHAPLAINS STEEPLE

O'Lord

Watch over our 83rd Infantry Association - our wives - our children and our Friends. We know we cannot exist without you. Inspire us to think and act rightly that we may live as you would have us live, through Christ our God. Amen.

To all my Comrades of the best Division in the World, I wish to Thank each and everyone of you for, electing me Chaplain again. Even though that I couldn't make the Reunion, I appreciate your faith in me. I Thank you and I won't let the 83rd down. I Thank Casey Kowalec and the Rifle Squad. I know that they all did a wonderful job.

Your Buddy  
John T. Piscitelli

In the past, prior to Reunion time, a few of our members and wives lost loved ones. Our Prayers are with them.

Clare Lima, wife of Emanuel, 'K' 331, lost her mother

Lucy Volpi, wife of Louie 'A' 324 F.A., lost her sister.

Olive Ponzio, wife of Joe 'L' 330, lost her father.

Sam Aiello, 'C' 908 F.A., lost his mother.

May Eternal Light shine upon them O'Lord. Grant them everlasting rest O'Lord. May their souls and all the souls of our faithful departed, through Your mercy, rest in peace. Amen

Again, I would like to stress on behalf of myself and all Officers - and mainly Secretary-Treasurer - that any Buddies sending news of illness or death, or information, to put in the mail the Units and Addresses.

Thank You  
John T. Piscitelli  
Chaplain

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John Braz, Cn. 339th., sends this Obituary.

Carl Lewis Katzung, 60, of Honolulu, a retired supervisor of the Stock Records Department of the Army, died on Tuesday (date unknown). He is survived by brother, Robert and sister Dorothea Carrier.

Carl was in the Personnel section of the 329th. Infantry Regiment.

Joseph Phillipone reported that Mike Sitnic of 'H' 331st Infantry passed away this year.

He also reported that Robert Brown of 'E' 331 passed away in 1975.

Clifford Unbekant of Trevi Travel up in New York



passed away recently, cause unknown. This was learned at the Reunion in Warren. Cliff was a General in the Army Reserve, and Al Gruber and I had the pleasure of meeting him in 1973 when we were planning our last ETO Tour.

Some of your readers might be interested to know that Paul Koskosky of 'A' 308 Engineers died on November 7, 1975 of a heart attack. He resided in Minooks, PA.

Also, Nick Nykaza of Service Company 329 died from natural causes on December 24, 1975. He was from Taylor, PA.

James St. John  
Co. 'I' 329th. Inf.

Lt. Col. George N. Berlet, Jr., USAR (Ret.), long time active in the ROA, died April 3, 1977 after a lengthy illness. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal three times for Valor. He served in the Army Reserves until 1964 when he transferred to the Retired Reserve. He served as State Treasurer of ROA's New Jersey Department for twenty years and was membership Chairmen of the Bergen-Passaic Chapter.

Col. George Irvine  
Hq. 324 F.A.

From Keith Echerd of the Dixie Chapter comes the news that Guy Myers passed away on the 6th of August and he was laid to rest on the 8th of August. Guy was a Member of Company 'E' 329th Infantry.

It is with great sadness that I must tell you that my father, Ronald E. Surbaugh, Sr., passed away after a short illness on Good Friday, April 8, 1977. I know that my dad was fiercely proud of his role in the second World War and especially his service in the 'THUNDERBOLT' Division; although he rarely boasted of his own accomplishments; frequently he told of the men he trained, fought and died with - always with love and admiration.

Our family would like to be sure that my father's death is noted in the Association's records and publications, so that any of his former comrades-in-arms might be informed. I know that my father would be very happy to be remembered by one of the finest fighting forces this country has ever known, the 83rd Infantry Division.

Sincerely Yours  
Roger D. Surbaugh

The Pittsburgh Chapter was jolted with the news that our very own Patsy Caruccio, a fairly new but regular member, died suddenly on September 2nd 1977 of a heart attack while having tea with his wife. He is survived by his wife Mary and a daughter Donna, two brothers and two sisters.

Patsy was with 'K' Company of the 330th Infantry

and will certainly be missed by all of us here and in the Association. He and his wife were already making plans for Cincinnati and New Orleans. They enjoyed being with their friends at the Reunions.

Pat and his brother were at the Warren Reunion.

Samuel Klippa

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### ON THE SICK LIST!!

John D. Marsh, Sr., has been in the hospital since 1945 and is an Outpatient now. Sure would like to be with all of you at a Reunion someday.

3 Bn Hq 329

Had my sixth Pacemaker installed a month ago. Buck Muldrow stopped in a month ago on his return from the Dixie Chapter meeting in Winston-Salem, NC. I'd sure like to hear from the men in 1 Bn Hq 331.

Leland E. Thornton  
306 W. Second Ave.  
Lexington, NC 27292

Travelling is difficult due to my heart. It was something that happened five years ago in August. My last Reunion was in Pittsburgh.

Frank Todd  
Service 329

Am going to the hospital the first two weeks in January for a new hip. I need both of them and they are going to do the first one at that time. Give my regards to everyone at the Reunion. Have a good time and my very best to all of you.

Norman Schuster  
Co. 'D' 331st. Inf.

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### MISSED THE REUNION!!

Leonard Hoskins - 2 Bn Hq 329.  
Louis W. Comparone - 'B' 330.  
John J. Hirko - 'B' 329.  
John B. Krebs - Hq. 330.  
William M. Schroder - 908 F.A.  
Lowell E. Claxton - 'E' 330.  
Franklin E. Meyers - 'D' 331.  
Don Hinz - 83rd. Signal.  
Richard E. Fletcher - 308 Eng.  
Frank Mangum - 'A' 908 F.A.

All said they hated to miss the Reunion, but for one reason or another could not make definite plans.

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SEND SYMPATHY CARDS TO SHOW THAT YOU CARE.

SEND GET-WELL CARDS TO YOUR BUDDIES. THEY CERTAINLY ARE GOOD MEDICINE ALWAYS.

\*\*\*\*\*

“MAMA’S BOY”

You say he can't stand the Army  
The life is too rough for him,  
Do you think he is any better  
Than some other mothers boy Jim?  
You brought him up like a baby,  
He won't smoke or drink, is your brag,  
If all the others were like him,  
Well, what would become of our Flag?  
You say, let the roughnecks do the fighting,  
They are used to the beans and stew,  
I am glad I am classed with the roughnecks,  
Who fought, for the Red, White and Blue.  
You say his girl couldn't stand it,  
To send him out there with the rest,  
Do you think she will be glad he enlisted?  
When she feels the Huns breath on her breast.  
You can thank God the Stars in OLD GLORY  
Are not blurred with any such stains,  
Because there are ten million roughnecks,  
That carry red blood in their veins.  
They go to drill in bad weather,  
Come in with a grin on their face,  
While your darling sits down in the parlor  
And let's a man fight in his place.  
You are right, we do smoke and gamble,  
But we fight as our forefathers did,  
So go warm the milk in his bottle,  
Thank God we don't need your kid.

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“A SOLDIER - HIS PRAYER ”

Stay with me God, the night is dark,  
The night is cold; my little spark  
Of courage dies. The night is long;  
Be with me God, and make me strong.  
  
I love a game, I love a fight,  
I hate the dark; I love the night.  
I love my child; I love my wife,  
I am no coward; I love my life.  
  
Life with it's change of mood and shade,  
I want to live, I'm not afraid.  
But me and mine are hard to part,  
Oh, unknown God, lift up my heart.  
  
We were alone, and hope had fled;  
We loved our Country and our dead  
And could not shame them; so we stayed  
The course, and were not much afraid.

Dear God, that nightmare road! and then  
That sea! we got there - we were men.  
My eyes were blind, my feet were torn,  
My soul sang like a bird at dawn.

I knew that death is but a door.

I knew what we were fighting for.  
Peace for the kids, our brothers freed,  
A kinder world, a cleaner breed.

I'm but the son my mother bore,  
A simle man, and nothing more.  
But - God of strength and gentleness,  
Be pleased to make me nothing less.

Help me Oh God when death is near,  
To mock the haggard, face of fear,  
That when I fall - if fall I must,  
My soul may triumph in the dust.

( I forgot to jot down the name of the kind man  
that sent the above poems . Thank You.)

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I'M FINE

*There is nothing whatever the matter with me,  
I'm just as healthy as I can be.  
I have arthritis in both knees, and when  
I talk I speak with a wheeze.  
My pulse is weak, my blood is thin,  
But I'm awfully good for the shape I'm in.  
I think my liver is out of whack,  
And I have a terrible pain in my back.  
My hearing is poor, my sight is dim;  
'Most everything seems to be out of trim.  
The way I stagger sure is a crime;  
I'm likely to fall most anytime.  
But all the things considered, I'm feeling fine,  
Arch supports for both my feet, or I  
Wouldn't be able to walk down the street.*

*Complexion is bad, due to dry skin,  
But I'm awfully good for the shape I'm in.  
Dentures drive me crazy---I'm restless at night,  
And in the morning, I'm a sight.  
Memory's failing---Heads in a spin,  
I'm practically living on Aspirin---  
But I'm awful well for the shape I'm in.*

*The moral is as this tale I unfold  
That for you and me who are growing old,  
It's better to say, I'm fine, with a grin  
Than to tell everyone the shape I'm in.*

Sent in by:  
Mrs. Eugene Nolte  
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HAVE YOU WRITTEN TO A BUDDY LATELY?  
DO YOU HAVE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF YOUR BUDDIES  
THAT SHOULD BE RECORDED WITH THE ASSOCIATION?  
HELP TO BUILD A GREATER ASSOCIATION.  
DO YOUR SHARE, IT PAYS GREAT DIVIDENDS.

\*\*\*\*\*

ONE MANS CAMPAIGN FOR COMPANY MEMBERS.  
'ATTENTION - ALL 329TH. INFANTRY - CN. CO.'

OUR MISSION THIS YEAR WAS TO PLAN A BANG-UP REAL  
COMPANY REUNION IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DIVISION  
REUNION HELD IN AUGUST - INFO ENCLOSED.

The following letter was sent to all Cn. 329 men.  
It's been a long time since our last get-together  
so let us really put aside the time and make it  
THIS year. Al Uridel, who has been active in the  
Association all these years, and I, want to show the  
rest of the Association that the spirit of Cannon  
Company, 329th. Infantry is going to turn out the  
biggest contingent at the Reunion.

I will bring with me photographs of our Company  
from the beginning to the end and we will project  
them on a large screen - this will bring back many  
memories I'm sure.

So, for old times sake, let's do three things  
right away:

1. Join the Association - Form enclosed.
2. Make plans to attend the Reunion.
3. Drop me a note letting me know how you are ,  
where you are, and whether you'll be coming.

I do hope this letter finds you in good health  
and I'm looking forward to hearing from you and more  
important, to seeing you in August.

Yours For A Great Reunion  
Mort Goldman  
Cn. Co. 329th. Inf.

\*\*\*\*\*

(The Reunion will tell the tale. Some of you  
others that want to see your Companies grow, can  
learn from the above letter just how to do it. It  
really works and the results always give you the  
real feeling of accomplishment. Try it and see for  
yourself. Warren proved it for Cannon 329.) ED.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### FROM THE FLORIDA ORGANIZER

We had a meeting on June 19, 1977 at the Holiday  
Inn in Punta Gorda. We sure didn't have a very good  
turnout there. There were five men besides myself.  
We just had a nice visit and talked about organizing  
a Chapter. If you think it would be possible, we  
thought maybe we could get all the Florida fellows  
together at Warren and have a short meeting and  
call it our first meeting. None of the fellows that  
were here plan to be in Warren. I can't understand  
their lack of interest.

They all seemed to want to get a Florida Chapter  
started, so if we have any interest there, we will  
not have any trouble organizing a Florida Chapter. I  
know it takes a lot of work to keep the thing going  
and I don't know how many workers we will have.

Well, take care and we will see you in Warren

in August.

Bill Nickell  
Co. 'F' 329th. Inf.

(Since the letter above was written, I under-  
stand that Ralph Gunderson of Ft. Lauderdale is going  
to try from his end of Florida to get the Chapter  
going, and I want to wish him a lot of success. More  
and more of our people are moving to Florida each  
year and it seems to me that they should get  
together more easily in their retirement.

The feeling of Comradeship in your retired years,  
is most gratifying. C'mon you guys and gals, let's get  
on the BALL. Answer the plea from Ralph Gunderson and  
Bill Nickell. Let them know your feelings.

The Association is with you all the way.  
GET YOUR CHARTER THIS YEAR.) ED.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### NEWS FOR VETERANS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION FOR VETERANS EMPLOYMENT

The law requires affirmative action to hire  
disabled Veterans and Vietnam Era Veterans, and you  
should know what your rights are.

##### WHAT IS THE LAW?

The Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974 and 1976  
(38 U.S.C. Section 2012)

##### WHAT VETERANS ARE COVERED?

(1) Veterans who have 30% or more Service-  
connected disability or who were discharged from  
active duty for service-connected disability.

(2) Vietnam Era Veterans with other than dis-  
honorable discharges who served on active duty more  
than 180 days, any part of which was between August  
5, 1964 and May 7, 1975, and who were discharged or  
released within the 48 month period preceding their  
application for employment.

##### WHAT DOES THE LAW REQUIRE?

(1) Must take affirmative action to employ and  
advance in employment qualified veterans; this  
includes making reasonable accommodations to the  
Veterans disability.

(2) MUST list job openings with the local Office  
of the State Employment Office. The employment  
service will give Veteran priority in job referrals.

(3) MAY NOT discriminate against qualified  
Veterans in hiring, upgrading, promotions or any  
other aspect of employment.

##### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

To look for a job, contact your local Office of  
State Employment Service.

To file a discrimination complaint, contact the  
Veterans Employment Representative at a local Office  
of the State Employment Service.

To get more information; write: Associate Director - Veterans Handicapped Program - Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs - U.S. Dep't. of Labor - Washington, DC 20210.

(The above was copied from form 27-8781m (NR), June 1977.

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INFANTRY MUSEUM NEWS!!!!  
VERY GOOD NEWS!!!!

This is one Article that I am very happy to be able to write so quickly after the announcement I had made at the Reunion concerning the fact that I had been so disappointed at not seeing a Display for the 83rd Infantry Division Association World War II. Somebody really went to work after the letter I had written them and our Display is there now for all to see. The only change I will make is to have it shown as strictly World War II, not both World Wars.

The letters below will explain it all.

Your Editor

August 15, 1977

Mr. Samuel Klippa  
Secretary-Treasurer  
83rd Infantry Division Assoc. Inc.

Dear Mr. Klippa:

Reading your letter of 22, July was very distressing for me. The support of your Association in helping to create the National Infantry Museum has been outstanding and our support of the 83rd Infantry Division and your visit should have been no less so.

The explanation below is offered, not in any way as an excuse, but to tell you how such an unfortunate train of events can take place.

When Jim Woodruff was killed in an auto accident last year in October, he was running the Museum Association affairs single handedly, because Col. Guthrie had left the Association several months before. A part-time secretary helped him with the filing and some of the letter writing but most all of the plans for the dedication and the commemorative ideas for the Displays in the Museum was lost with Jim's passing.

I stepped in the breach after Jim's death to help reorganize the Association's business. The Association owed more than \$302,000 for the renovation of the building which was almost completed in October. As you know, it took until July to finally raise the money and open the Museum.

Nowhere in Jim Woodruff's records could we find any reference to what he had in mind to commemorate your Association's generous contribution. I and the Curator of the Infantry Museum have no excuse for not clarifying the matter with you, well before the

dedication. Frankly, the Displays for the dedication were done on a crash basis because the Contractor did not clear the building until 12 May. Therefore, the displays were incomplete and do not represent the final version by no means. Mr. Dick Grube, the Curator, and I have discussed a suitable display for your Division and he is developing it now, hopefully to send you pictures before your Reunion this month.

Your reception and treatment as a guest of Ft. Benning bothers me considerably because this should never have happened and may not have, had I been able to coordinate the arrival of visitors more closely with the Protocol Office at Ft. Benning. Unfortunately, I had been confined in the hospital with a blood clot for two weeks and was only released for the day to attend the dedication and the dinner that evening. Again, we can offer no excuse, but we do apologize most sincerely.

I know there is very little I can say really that would make you think more kindly of your dealings with the Infantry Museum Association, but I do want you to know how sincerely sorry I am for the failures. We will do the best we can to rectify the display situation and ensure the 83rd Infantry Division receives the recognition it properly deserves.

Thomas M. Tarpley  
Major General (Ret'd.)  
Vice President

August 19, 1977

Dear Mr. Klippa:

As Curator of the National Infantry Museum I am pleased to inform you that we have established an exhibit honoring the "THUNDERBOLT."

The display is in a modern glass and aluminum case approximately 7-0''x4-2'' and is well lighted. The case features an Ohio State Flag and in World War I vintage patch of the 83rd which is quite rare. We also show authentic battle streamers from both World War I and World War II for major battles in which the THUNDERBOLT participated. Other items of military equipment round out the display.

We need help in locating specific items which relate to the 83rd and its former members. If your associates can locate these types of items they will add greatly to the interest and authenticity of the THUNDERBOLT display.

I regret as does MG Tarpley that the Museum was unaware of the commitment apparently made by Mr. Woodruff concerning the display and your generous contribution.

Sincerely  
Dick D. Grube  
Curator

\*\*\*\*\*

(I'm just sorry that the above two letters did not reach me until after the Reunion. I feel much



more at ease now and hope all of our members who had donated so generously feel the same. If you have any items that you would like to donate to the Museum, (as I have asked at the Reunion) please send them to me or directly to the Museum if you so desire. I am going to drop them a line and tell them that all is well now and ask that the display be strictly for World War II because we are registered that way in our By-Laws.) ED.

\*\*\*\*\*

(This came by coincidence from Mr. Young.)

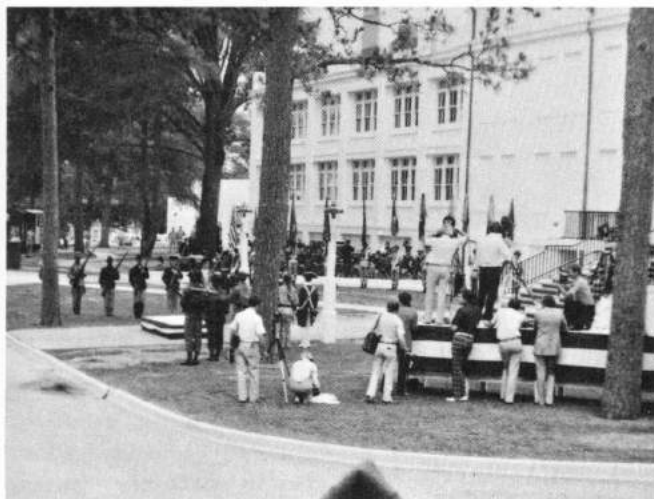
Dear Sam:

I am enclosing a photo I had taken at the Opening of the Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning. You will notice that General Omar Bradley was there and also LTG Robert York.

I was very impressed with the Old Man of the Army.....65 years in Uniform, in a wheel chair..... but got up to salute the Colors.

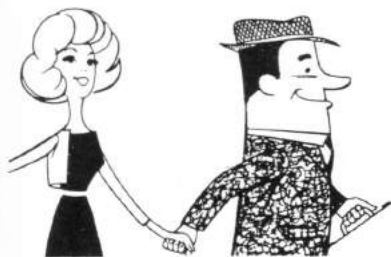
James H. Young

A.T. Co. 329th. Inf.



Opening of the Infantry Museum on July 1, 1977 at Ft. Benning, Georgia. Uniforms and Soldiers of Wars, including the Spanish American, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

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**WE'RE  
MOVING**

**OUR NEW**

**ADDRESS IS..**

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## LETTERS

### 'HAMS DO THE JOB'

It took him quite a few years, but Clarence McBride of Lynchburg, VA., finally got in touch with his wartime buddy in Greenville County. A couple of ham radio operators in Greenville - Gene Davis and Charlie Yates - did the trick.

Davis and Yates are both operators in the MARS network. The initials MARS stand for Military Affiliate Radio System. These fellows assist the Military radio stations. 'Since funds for the Military Radio stations have been cut back we take most of the load,' said Gene Davis who is attached to the Air Force MARS.

The fellow up in Virginia was one happy man after they got him in touch with Bill (Pot) Cleveland in Travelers Rest. 'He made you forget the trouble and fear you have in War,' said McBride. He said Cleveland was his Sergeant when he joined the 83rd Armored Reconnaissance Battalion just after St. Lo in August 1944. The First Sergeant was Thomas Massie of Walhalla, SC.

'I would like to see Pot Cleveland again, as well as Thomas Massie, but it looks like now that I won't be able to drive that far again,' McBride continued.

He says he's been a ham radio operator since 1958 and has spent a lot of time trying to find Pot Cleveland and other Army Buddies. 'I just never had any luck with ham operators around Greenville until I got in touch with these two ham operators of MARS. Boy, was I glad. It was almost like finding some lost kin people! I have exchanged letters with Pot and found that he's building a new home. McBride says it's a dream come true. He was beginning to think he would never talk to old Pot again.

Given to me at Reunion

By Dick Riddle

(Isn't it amazing! We have just signed up a man by the name of Robert Cleveland in the Association, for the first time, and I wonder if this is the same man in the Article.) ED.

\*\*\*\*\*

Sorry I couldn't make the Reunion. The day before I was to leave, I took sick and had to cancel my Airline reservations. We were very disappointed as we were looking forward to meeting all the friends we made on the trip to Europe in 1976.

If there are plans of returning to Europe in 1978, I sure am interested regardless if it is two or fifty two going.

Joseph P. Mulligan

Serv. 324 F.A.

(Plans will start being formulated for 1979. This is for England, Wales, Scotland and Normandy.) ED.

After several phone calls to Indianapolis from Bemis V. Mikel (letters also) they got me into the V.A. Hospital there and I'm home now and feeling just fine.

James E. Doering  
3 Bn. Hq. 331

The D.A.V. Notice mentioned a Reunion of the 329 Infantry and it should have been the 328 Infantry which was a Unit of the 26th Division. I received inquiries about the 329th from many people and the list is enclosed. (Five names and addresses of our members from the 329 were enclosed with a promise of more to come. None were in my files previously.)

All of the men were very interested in a Reunion and indicated they knew others who would like to attend. I will forward their names to you.

Bob Clapp, Sec.  
328th Infantry C.T.

Thank you very much for your letter of July 6, 1977. I am sorry it took me so long to respond, but I was away. My mother would like very much to continue receiving the THUNDERBOLT.

I have recently contacted the Office of the Adjutant General regarding the replacement of my fathers decorations.

My mother and my brother are now receiving their full benefits from the V.A. and Social Security. On behalf of my entire family I would like to Thank, you and all the members of the 83rd. Association for your help and consideration.

Roger D. Surbaugh  
Son of Ronald E., Sr.

Mr. Dick Riddle:

Please be advised that I received the THUNDERBOLT that you mailed to Tom Massey, from Walhalla, SC. I am not the person you are seeking to contact. I was born and reared in Walhalla and have an Office in the Court House is the reason I received your mail.

The Tom Massey you are seeking is my first cousin. He departed from Walhalla about 25 or 30 years ago and has not been heard of since. His own mother recently stated that she still has not heard from him. I hope you have luck in locating him. He was in the Army and I was in the Navy.

Thomas A. Massey  
Walhalla, SC.

I don't expect to go to Warren this year but would like some information.

1. Is the Reunion a yearly occurrence?
2. Is it always in Ohio?

3. I served as an enlisted man in the 83rd Signal Company from 1944 until the end of the War in Europe. Do you have a list of the 83rd Signalmen in

the New York area and adjacent areas?

Thank you for your consideration.

Harold J. O'Neill  
Major (Ret.) USAR  
Signal Corps.

Joseph Lanza of Ohio showed me the photo below at the Warren Reunion and was very reluctant in letting me have it for the THUNDERBOLT because he treasured it so dearly. It was only after I had promised to guard it with my life that he agreed to let me bring it home. The men are of 'A' 331.



Top row, L. to R.

Joe Hovancik of PA., Joseph Lanza of Canton, OH, John Hoover of VA., Ray Heinly of Ohio.

Bottom row, L. to R.

Don Minnick of Hagerstown, MD., Vince Ianello of Rye, NY and Victor C. Louis of Chicago, IL.

The Dixie Chapter has voted to pay Dues in honor of Ralph Moore, recently deceased. We have also voted to pay the Dues of Guy Myers. Guy is now in the Hospital.

William A. Laughter

(Dues for Ralph Moore were returned because the widow of a deceased member is entitled to receive the THUNDERBOLT free for as long as she cares to.

Your Editor

If I don't get to Warren in August, hope to see you at one of our Dixie meetings. By the way, I would like to hear from any of my Buddies in the 322 F.A. Medical Detachment.

Best Regards  
Joe H. Fogleman

## CIVIL WAR STYLE WEDDING

Catherine Cristine Catalfamo and Robert A. Serio were married in the Officers Quarters of old Fort Scott Historical Park, Fort Scott, KN., 30 July 1977.

The date could well have been July 30, 1861. Chris and Bob, history majors at Kansas State University, chose clothes, music and wedding service close to one a couple might have had during the Civil War.

The historians are writing regimental histories. Chris is doing the Union side and Bob the Confederate side.

When the Catalfamo's held the reception for the couple, it was planned with as much attention to the details as the 1861 wedding style.

Rocky Catalfamo was once a very active member in the 83rd Infantry Division Association and is again a member of our Association. We are hoping to get him back into the Pittsburgh Chapter one day soon. I understand he is quite busy with many irons in the fire. This info was passed on to the THUNDERBOLT by John Guzik of our Chapter.

Rocky is the proud father of the bride.

The wedding was really something different.



## HISTORIANS CORNER

Dear Buddies:

Here are more personal observations from the St. Malo Dinard area.

The captured Citadel with 'Old Glory' flying high over the smoking debris, and the Prisoner of War German Commander riding alone, and stiff as a board in the back of a U.S. Command Car.

My finding enough explosives in the German Naval Warehouse to blow up the city - and the German Commander wanting some whiskey from his Office there.

Our dead in the streets rolled over on their stomachs and covered with blankets by french civilians. The dead German soldier with his 'Potato Masher' shoved down his throat as he died.

On the fighters side:

Those pretty French girls in the larger towns who all loved their American 'Ami's.' The delightful way they had of mounting their bicycles.

Passing the farm houses with their manure piles in front of their homes - a sign of wealth.

The calvados in the Jerry cans starting to get low. And where did that French money come from???

Wm. Kent O'Connell  
M.P. Platoon

(There will be more G.I. Pictures when Sam Klippa has the room to print them.)

Now to continue from the April 10 Issue.  
We skipped the last one.

Only the Isle De Cezemore 4000 yards off shore still remained in enemy hands. This Island was equipped with heavy coast defense guns and commanded the entrance to the port of the Dinard area.

The 329th Infantry continued defense and police of the St. Malo area and the 331st Infantry of the Dinard area.

Training was conducted stressing lessons learned in combat to date; Assault of fortified positions, and technical training. Rehabilitation of men and equipment was continued.

An inspection of the Citadel Fortress after the capture revealed a system of tunnels complete with tracks, lighting and refrigeration system 60 feet under ground. Leading from the tunnels were living quarters with passageways leading to the fighting compartments. When in the tunnel or living quarters personnel were safe from the effects of bombing or shell fire.

18 August 1944

At 100 the Corps Commander issued orders as follows: the Division minus two Battalion Combat Teams and 1 Regimental Combat Team will concentrate in the vicinity of Rennes. One regimental Combat Team will concentrate in Angers, guarding the city of Angers and prevent enemy infiltration from the south across the Loire River. One Battalion Combat Team will defend and police the St. Malo sector and one Battalion Combat Team the Dinard sector. The Division will support the 2nd Cavalry group operat-



Two men of the 329th. Infantry Regiment, 83rd. Infantry Division, U.S. Army, crouch cautiously in the shadow of two bomb-damaged houses in Gurzenich, Germany, on the alert for snipers. (U.S. Army Photograph)

(This Photo was omitted in last Issue)



ing along the Loire River..

The Division began plans to accomplish the above mission. In general, the 330th Combat Team (3rd Bn with Task Force 'A') was to defend St. Malo and Dinard sectors. The 329th Combat Team was to assume the Division mission at Angers, while the remainder of the Division was to concentrate in the vicinity of Rennes. Orders were issued at 1800 to place these plans in effect.

19 August 1944

The 330th Infantry (3rd. Bn which was with Task Force 'A') had the mission of defending the St. Malo Dinard areas after relieving the 329th Infantry and the 331st Infantry. The relief of the 329th was completed in the St. Malo sector by 0900 and of the 331st Infantry in the Dinard sector by 2100.

The 329th Combat Team departed from the St. Malo area at 0900 to assume the Division mission in the vicinity of Angers.

One Battalion of the 331st Infantry departed at 1200 for the concentration area in the vicinity of Rennes.

The remaining elements of the Division continued training, rehabilitation and preparation for movement to the concentration area south of Rennes the following day. A Division march order was issued for the motor movement.

An order from VIII Corps was received at 2330 ordering the relief of the 319th Infantry (80th Infantry Division) at Angers, and stating that one Rifle Company be sent to Nantes for attachment to the 2nd Cavalry Group which was operating in that area.

20 August 1944

The 330th Infantry in the St. Malo - Dinard sectors organized patrols and observation posts in the area from Cancale to St. Briuc to the towns of St. Malo and Dinard were policed.

The 329th Combat Team began organization for the defense of Angers and to prevent enemy infiltration from south of the Loire River.

The 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop departed at 0800 followed by the Division Artillery at 0827, followed by the 331st Infantry for the concentration area south of Rennes. All Units had closed by 1930.

The 83rd Division Command Post near Dinan closed at 1200 and opened east of Rennes at 1430.

21 August 1944

Corps order was received, directing the Division to move I Regimental Combat Team and Reconnaissance Troop to Nantes to relieve the 2nd Cavalry Group. The 374th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion was to be attached to the Combat Team upon arrival at Nantes. The remainder of the Division was to remain in the vicinity of Rennes.

The 329th Infantry informed the Division that relief of the 319 Infantry near Angers was affected at 2100, 19 August. A Division order was issued for relief of the 2nd Cavalry Group by the 331st Regimental Combat Team which prepared to move to the vicinity of Nantes.

The waterworks of Angers on Les Pones De Ce was attacked and captured by the 329th Infantry. The City of Angers was policed.

The 330th Infantry continued its mission in the St. Malo - Dinard area. Propaganda leaflets were fired on the Isle of Cezembre after which a party went to the Island under a white flag to see if the garrison would surrender. The commander of the Island refused to surrender.

(To be continued)

MORE FROM DIXIE  
(OMITTED FROM APRIL ISSUE)

Paul Edwards, visitor of Colonel White is writing a documentary to be shown on T.V. - this will be about the 83rd Division Association.

We are glad to learn that James Johnson of Rutherfordton, NC is home doing nicely after having had open-heart surgery. Hope to see him at our meeting again real soon.

Keith Echerd  
'G' 329th Inf.

During the War I was Company Clerk of Hq. Co. 1st. Bn. 329th. Regiment. Before leaving the E.T.O. I prepared an address roster of the Company as well as of the 329th Personnel Section which consisted of about 35 boys from throughout the Regiment. I, of course was acquainted with many others within the Division, therefore, I enjoy scanning the lists in the THUNDERBOLT for names and addresses of old friends. I feel that many others get this same enjoyment.

I have kept in touch with many over the years by correspondence and personal contact. I receive 40 to 50 Christmas Cards from these old friends every year and some I don't remember. In recent months I have seen William Heffren (CoA), Harlan Phillips (Co D), Santo Russo (Serv Co), James Ewing, Harold Lipscomb, and John Sullivan, all of Hq. Co. 1st. Bn. 329th.

Enclosed pictures are for publication.



Charles G. Dyer & Harlan Phillips

## MEMORIES

November 1944:

He's I-A in the Army and 4-A in the records of his Army Draft Board.

Sgt. Clare P. Lynn of the 783rd. Ordinance is a Veteran of the Normandy hedgerow fighting, the siege of St. Malo and the Campaign of the Brittany Peninsula.

This week the mail clerk brought Sgt. Lynn a notice from his Draft Board back in Detroit, MI, listing him as 'Too old to fight for his Country'. He was placed in a deferred classification.

The notice Sgt. Lynn received last week was postmarked November 4, giving him until November 14, to appeal his classification. The card did not arrive in Luxembourg until November 18, hence there will have to be a slight delay in his answer.

September 25, 1944:

G.I.'s have been ordered to stop drinking non-alcoholic beverages. The reason is that Typhoid and Dysentery germs are easily spread in drinks which do not contain in some form that well known disinfectant - ALCOHOL.

March 24, 1945:

In the 331st drive from the Roer, Company 'G', unheralded, virtually sneaked into the twin-city of Holzheim, in a pre-dawn attack that caught the enemy completely by surprise.

Lead by Captain Joseph Macaluso of New Orleans, George Company made an approach march of over 5000 yards in a surprise maneuver that was executed with such speed and stealth that one German machine gun nest was captured intact, complete with occupants. Moving in a column of platoons, with the first platoon under Sgt. Arthur Spaulding of Vermont, leading off, the doughsloggers smashed into Holzheim in a frontal assault.

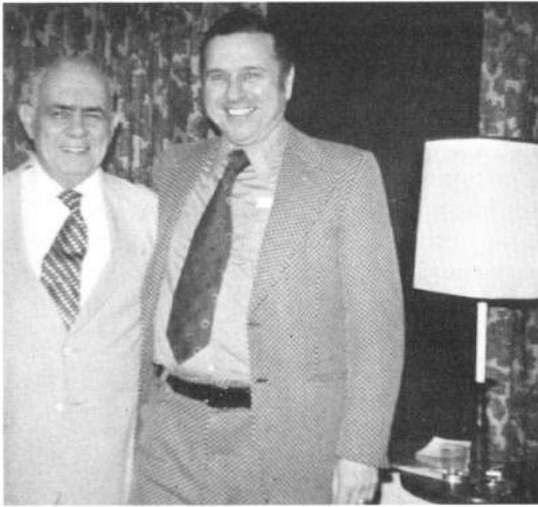
Reaching a point in the center of town, the three platoons branched out. Although resistance was bitter in violent street fighting, Holzheim fell to 'G' Company men by 0800 of the same morning.

Later commenting on the attack, T/Sgt. Victor J. Krull, platoon Sgt. said: This is one time that our training served us in good stead. We once had the identical problem of an approach march, followed by an attack of a fortified city, across open terrain. We did alright considering that it was a wet run!

### 83RD. MEETS RUSSIANS WEST OF BERLIN

DIVISION COMMANDERS CELEBRATE FIRST NORMAL  
NINTH ARMY LINK-UP EAST OF ELBE WITH MAY DAY FETE.

The much heralded and long awaited link-up of the THUNDERBOLT Division with the Russians took place officially Tuesday morning when the 83rd's Major General Robert C. Macon stepped briskly from his Jeep in the tiny town of Cobblestone to meet Colonel Alexis Ivanov, Commander of the elite Sixth Guards Division. (A proud day in our History.)



Charles Dyer and Santo Russo



Charles Dyer and Harold Lipscomb



Charles Dyer and John Sullivan

## LOVE YOUR BUDDY

Enclosed please find a small donation to the THUNDERBOLT coming in the forth coming year. Needless to say, I was almost an 83rd man but when many men from the 63rd 'Blood and Fire' Division joined you fellows, some of us were sent to the 90th Div. Incidentally, the 83rd was next to the 90th Division in Normandy back in 1944. Stanley Bielen, from New Jersey, and I have been lifelong friends; having grown up together, drafted together, went to the 63rd together and were then separated when he went to the THUNDERBOLTS and I was transferred to the tough Ombres. We still, to this day maintain our friendship.

By the way, it took me nine years of trying, but I located a chap from 'L' 331st. Inf. and felt you might want to send him some literature concerning the 83rd Association. We were friends at Van Dorn in Mississippi while in the 63rd, but he too is an ex-Thunderbolt.

Here's hoping your Reunion is as great to all of you as my Ninetieth is to me.

Frank C. Fultz  
Hq. 357th. Inf.  
90th. Inf. Div. Assoc.

(I really enjoy the above type of letter.) ED.

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(JUST IN TIME)

## DIVISION HISTORY BOOK

For the first time since 1946 our 83rd Division History Book 'THUNDERBOLT ACROSS EUROPE' will once again be available to those who may want to purchase a copy. This action was decided upon by the Association Executive Board at a meeting held in Warren, Ohio during our recent Annual Reunion.

Although many requests for the book have been received in the past, the cost of reproducing it was always prohibitive. It has only been recently that a Printer has come forward with what is considered a reasonable price. Therefore it has been decided that the Association will order a quantity of the books to be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The book will be re-printed in it's entirety, including pictures and maps, but the maps will not be in color as they were originally. It will be a soft cover, spiral or plastic bound book of the same size as the original, with the same quality paper, and will sell for between \$7.00 and \$8.00. This is an exceptionally good price for no other Printer has ever priced it at less than \$12.00 per copy.

The books will be completed and ready for

delivery sometime late in November and we will try to have an order form in the next Issue of the THUNDERBOLT. We already have several orders for the books so don't delay in ordering yours.

Robert G. Taylor  
231 Indian Trail Drive  
Columbiaville, MI 48421

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It wouldn't be such a bad idea for all of our Chapters to ask their members about ordering the books as a group and thus saving much work and postage along with the handling. Please send all your requests to Bob Taylor, so that he will have a better idea of how many are ordered and he can keep track on the first come, first served basis.) ED.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Merry Christmas....  
And A Very Happy  
And Prosperous  
New Year To All.**



**PAY YOUR DUES!**

Thanks

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.**

1500 Mutual Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15204

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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 .....