



THUNDERBOLT

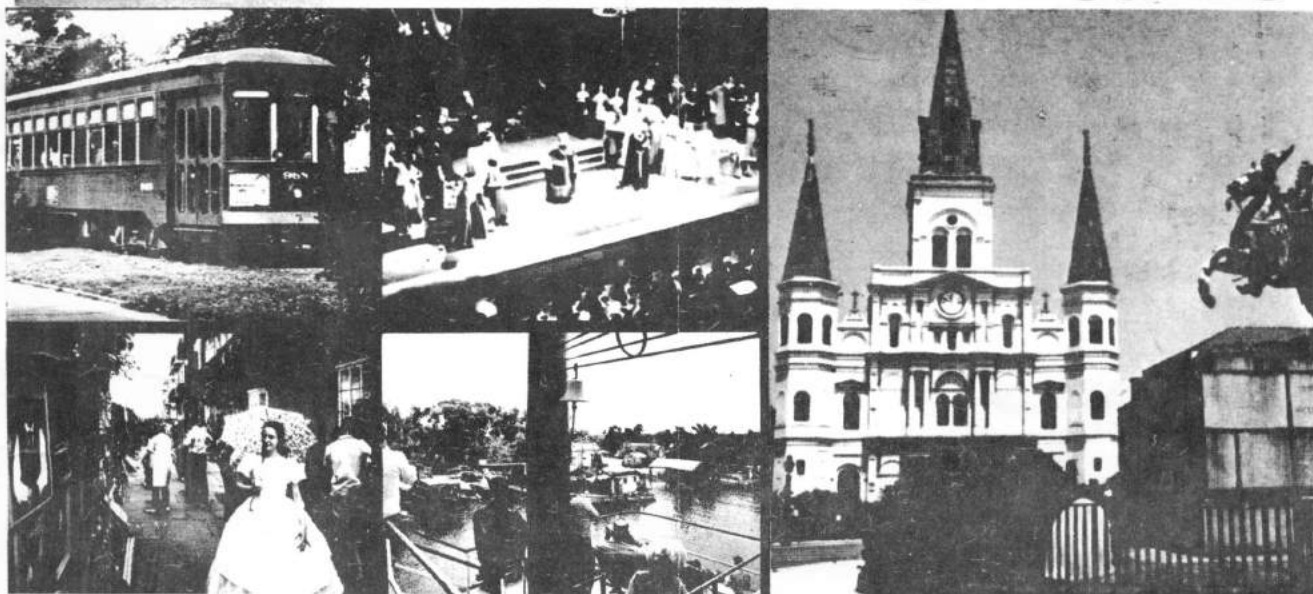
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 34 No. 1

Sept., Oct., Nov., 1978

You'll love New Orleans



At this time of the year it is a pleasure
to turn aside from everyday affairs and express
to our friends, old and new, sincere appreciation
for their friendship and patronage.
May we convey warm Season's Greetings and extend
our best wishes for Good Health,
Happiness and Prosperity in the coming year.

The Officers of the 83rd Infantry Division Assoc. Inc.

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

Editor SAM KLIPPA

— STAFF REPORTERS —

NICK BARBU 19041 Snow Road, Dearborn, Mi 48124
AMBROSE TYNAN .. 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Rox., Ma 02132
WILLIAM McCARTIN.....95 Alcott St., Lowell, Ma 01852
JOHN PISCITELLI 1903 Iseminger St., Phila., Pa 19148
JOE ADAM 1753 Columbia Ave., Chicago, Il 60626
JAMES BOWIE 306 Division Ave., Carlstadt, NJ 07072

RICHARD KELLY .. 214 Oregon St., NW, Warren, Oh 44485
AL URIDEL 3784 E. 53rd St., Cleveland, Oh 44105
LAWRENCE LEONARDI 1360 Preston St., Pittsburgh, Pa 15205
KEITH ECHERD Box 292, Taylorsville, NC 28681
ROBERT DERICKSON 3749 Stahleber Rd., Hamilton, Oh 45013
RICHARD M. SULLIVAN 2150 W. Buffalo Ave., Tampa, Fl 33607

— HONORARY PRESIDENTS —

RALPH G. NEPPLE, CMH

MAJ. GEN. ROBERT C. MACON

*LIEUT. GEN. CLAUDE FERENBAUGH

— LIFE MEMBERS —

*JAMES C. HANRAHAN
EDWARD J. MURPHY
LAWRENCE J. REDMOND

RALPH G. NEPPLE, CMH
*VICTOR E. LANDIS

*HARRY W. LOCKWOOD
WALTER H. EDWARDS, JR.

ROBERT T. FOSTER
*NORMAN CAMPBELL

ORGANIZATION — 1978 - 1979

President

JOSEPH A. MACALUSO
5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, La 70122

First Vice President

ALBERT SCHAEFER
2394 Antares Ct., Cincinnati, Oh 45231

Secretary - Treasurer

SAMUEL KLIPPA
1500 Mutual St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15204

Assistant Chaplain

CASEY KOWALEC
7719 Edgewood La., Seven Hills, Oh 44131

Service Officer

BEMIS V. MIKEL
29692 CR 16W, Elkhart, In 46514

JAKE L. GLENN, SR.

515 Farragut Ave., Knoxville, Tn 37917

Second Vice President

THEODORE RITCHIE
Route No. 2, Paris, Ky 40361

Judge Advocate

WILLIAM M. DOTY
53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Il 60604

Sergeant-at-Arms

CECIL WALTERS
Box 98, Stanton, Ky 40380

Third Vice President

JAMES R. PRENTICE
28 Mapleton St., Hartford, Ct 06114

Chaplain

JOHN PISCITELLI
1903 S. Iseminger St., Phila., Pa. 19148

Assistant Judge Advocate

ANDREW W. McKENNA
750 Kings Mountain Rd., Macon, Ga 31204

Historian

WILLIAM KENT O'CONNELL
183 Acre La., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801

ROBERT DERICKSON

3749 Stahleber Rd., Hamilton, Oh 45013

— EXECUTIVE BOARD —

PAT DI GIAMMERINO
36 E. Border Rd., Malden, Ma 02148

MIKE SKOVAN
2447 Reeves Rd., NE, Warren, Oh 44483

LOUIS VOLPI
245 Woodbine Ave., Narberth, Pa. 19072

BERNARD O. RIDDLE
Route 3, Saluda, SC 29138

MANLIUS GOODRIDGE
621 Oak Street, Ludlow, Ky 41016

A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS

Who Have Served Us Well

*JAMES C. HANRAHAN 1947
JACK M. STRAUS 1948
*SHELLY HUGHES 1949
*JULIUS ANSEL 1950
WALTER H. EDWARDS, JR. 1951
LEO SCHNEIDER 1952
FINLEY HEYL 1953
LAWRENCE J. REDMOND 1954-55
LT. GEN. ROBERT H. YORK . . . 1956
*HARRY W. LOCKWOOD 1957
RAYMOND J. VORACEK 1958
CHARLES ABDINOOR 1959
*JOSEPH F. MINOTTI 1960
FRANK J. McGROGAN 1961
JOHN W. ROBINETTE 1962

MANUEL C. MARTIN 1963
JULIUS C. BOYLES 1964
SAMUEL KLIPPA 1965
WILLIAM M. DOTY 1966
ALBERT A. BELVEDERE 1967
VITO C. PALAZZOLO 1968
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
MANLIUS GOODRIDGE 1977

*Deceased

THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

As I begin my term as President of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, I want to thank those members that were present at the 32nd Annual Reunion in Cincinnati, who had enough confidence in me, to elect me to this office. I realize with the job, there are responsibilities that must be fulfilled, and a considerable amount of planning and hard work that must be done. I accepted the position at the Reunion and now, I would like for all the members of the Association to know that I also accept the responsibilities, the planning and the hard work that goes with the position.

For many years I was a member of the Association, and only attended an occasional Reunion. In the past few years I have become more active in the Association, assuming some of the chores that go along with being a member. This Association has grown from a small one in the early 50's to a large and great Association in the late 70's. For those members who dedicated themselves to the Association and its activities through the years, I and all members owe a special thanks. They carried the torch through good and bad years. We have now reached a greatness in the Association to match the outstanding record achieved by the 83rd Division during World War II.

To Manny Goodridge and his "Kentucky Colonels" thanks for a wonderful Reunion in Cincinnati. I am hoping that he will pass on to me and the group in Louisiana some of his notes on the planning of his Reunion. We are hopeful that the turnout in New Orleans will be as large, if not larger, than in 1978.

In taking this office for the year 1979, I have set no goals but I will continually work with the Officers to try and increase the membership of the Association. I realize that we have over 1200 members, but I realize too, that there are more members of the Division we have not reached through the years. This was evident in Cincinnati when I was introduced to three former members of the Division in that area and they were surprised that the 83rd Division had a Reunion. There are too many of these former members that have no contact with their former Buddies. These are the men we want to reach. This is where we need the help of all members of the Association. Contact these former Buddies, get them interested, and I am sure that once they attend one Reunion, they will be with us every year.

It is hoped that the New Orleans Reunion will draw upon that group that have been members for years, but have been unable to attend a Reunion. Believe me, it is a great feeling just to sit down with your former Buddies of the 83rd. Some members have not attended a Reunion, because they felt that they would not recognize anyone. This is the time to find out just how many men you do know, and I'm quite sure that many of those members would recognize you.

On my drive back home after the Reunion, I stopped in Huntsville, Alabama to extend to Lt. General Robert York an invitation to be with us in New Orleans. He has accepted and promised to be in attendance. We are looking forward to a great Reunion in New Orleans.

Joseph Macaluso
President
83rd Inf. Div. Assoc.

**REMEMBER: August 16, 17 & 18 - 1979.
New Orleans, Louisiana - for a great Vacation.**

NEW ORLEANS YOUR HOST CITY FOR 33RD. REUNION

New Orleans is one of the largest cities in the United States with a population of over 600,000, and total metropolitan area population of 1.2 million people. In size it has a total area of 363 square miles, of which, 199.4 miles is land area. New Orleans has a unique and colorful background, it was founded in 1718 as a French Colony by Bienville. It was given to King Charles of Spain secretly by his cousin, Louis XV of France in 1762. In 1803 it was transferred back to France. That same year, New Orleans was sold by France to the United States for \$15,000,000 in the famous Louisiana Purchase, which included the entire Louisiana Territory, now all or part of seventeen states.

New Orleans with its well equipped facilities enables it to maintain its rank as the second U.S. Port in value of foreign commerce, and the third largest in the world. An average of more than one cargo liner docks or leaves the Port of New Orleans every hour of every 24 hour day, with exports and imports to all parts of the world.

Industrial activity in New Orleans is dominated by ship building, petroleum refining and primary metal production. The City is surrounded by a vast supply of raw materials. Louisiana rates second in production of natural gas, petroleum and sulphur, and first in salt and fur pelts. New Orleans is the Administrative and Financial Center of the rich petroleum and natural gas field of south Louisiana, including off-shore area in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Mississippi River is the source of the City's water supply. The river is the largest supply available in the United States. New Orleans receives its name as the "Crescent City" because it is located at that section of the Mississippi River that forms a crescent.

The river has a width of 2,200 feet at Canal Street, has a bankside depth of 30 to 60 feet with midstream depth of more than 100 to 180 feet. Levees at New Orleans are the finest in the world and protect the City from the river. The spillway, 33 miles above the City was built by the U.S. Army Engineers. It gave new life to New Orleans and an even greater margin of safety. If the water level in the river becomes dangerously high, the spillway may be opened to divert the floodwaters into Lake Ponchartrain and thence into the Gulf of Mexico.

Some interesting facts about New Orleans - more in the next issue.

Joe Macaluso

LOUISIANA CHAPTER REPORT

First we would like to express our congratulations to Manny Goodridge and the men of the Kentucky Chapter for a most enjoyable Reunion. We were small in number, but I don't think any three people had more fun at the Reunion. We can assure you that at the 33rd Reunion in New Orleans we will be well represented. I have already contacted a number of the members of the Louisiana Chapter and notified them that our work for the Reunion will begin immediately.

Leonard Prelutsky and myself had a meeting with the sales Personnel at the Grand Hotel on July 25th. Once again, we wanted to check the sleeping rooms, the large rooms for the meetings, and the halls for the Banquet and Dancing. We were well pleased at what we saw. We will continue to give out additional information throughout the year. We were interested in getting one rate for each type of room. The rates will be:

Single Room	\$28.00	Double Room	\$34.00
Double-Double Room	\$40.00	(This was formerly two rooms, now it	

has a sleeping area and a sitting area with two baths.
One Bedroom Suite \$70.00 Two Bedroom Suite \$90.00

Pre-registration Cards will be mailed to all personnel with the January issue of the THUNDERBOLT. We are in the hope that many of you will take advantage of this and send the Cards to the Hotel as soon as possible. We will receive a report from the Hotel each week on registration. We urge you to take advantage of this and register early. There is a fifteen day cut off on all reservations. Make sure your reservations are sent in before August 1, 1979. The rates for the rooms will apply for those who arrive a few days prior to the opening of the Reunion, and also for those who depart after the close of the Reunion. We remind you that it is not possible to see New Orleans in Three days, so come early and stay late.

My thanks to those of you that took the time to fill out the Questionnaire that was given to you at the Reunion. We did manage to receive the majority of them that were given out. We know that we will have some 60 people who intend to arrive early, this is helpful because we have to make an adjustment on the number of rooms we have reserved for early arrivals. We also determine that we have a number of gamblers in the Association. The response to the Race Track was great. Also, we were pleased to note that many of you want to become Sailors for three hours, the boat ride seems to be a big attraction. However, we were somewhat disappointed at the number of golfers, but I am sure that by Tee-Off time we will have a sufficient number of participants.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year, one that will be full of hard work, but one that will be enjoyable, because we of the Louisiana Chapter know that you will enjoy yourselves at the 33rd Reunion in New Orleans. The dates - August 16, 17 and 18, 1979. We want you to see a great city.

Joe Macaluso
New Orleans Chapter

KENTUCKY CHAPTER

Greetings from the Kentucky Chapter:

We hope everyone arrived back home safely and are rested up. We all hope that all of you who attended, had as much fun and enjoyed the Reunion as all of us did in entertaining you.

We want to thank everyone who helped us in any way. We want to especially thank our wives and family for all the help and support they gave us. Our next Meeting will be October 28th at the Dorral Club House in Louisville and tentative plans for our Xmas Party to be December 16th at the same place. If any of you are in the area, we would like for you to be our guests. Contact one of the Kentucky Chapter members and we will give you directions as to how to get to the Club House.

Again, a great big thank you to all you members and guests for attending the Reunion. See you next year.

Robert E. Derickson
3 Bn Hq 329th. Inf.

CLEVELAND REPORT

Well, another Reunion has fallen by the wayside, and it was a goodie, except that the three old reliable Cannoneers were the only ones representing Cn. 329. Shame on the lot of you that live so near and still fail to attend. You missed a good time.

We had a great time in Earl and Mary Geislars room one day. Seems that Earl thought that he had seen Casey Kowalec at the pool. He stuck his head into the narrow space they leave for the windows to open and yelled like he was giving a fire mission at the top of his voice. "Hey Casey" he yelled from the ninth floor, and his teeth popped out onto the ledge and smiled back at him. No one had an arm long enough to reach the partial, so Earl proceeded to call for room service when he walked Casey, that's when Earl's eyes almost left his head as he could have sworn he had seen Casey at the pool. If you could have been present to hear Earl pleading with the person at the service desk over the phone, you'd have died. He kept telling her he had lost his teeth out the window

lisping all the while until she got the message and said, "You did what?" Man, did we laugh, and then two maintenance men came with a tool used to retrieve wayward nuts and bolts, looked at the teeth and Earl, and they busted out laughing. Meanwhile Earl went into singing "All I Want For Christmas is my Two Front Teeth" with a napkin stuck in the gap. Man, my gut really hurt.

Aside from all that, Earl and Mary, Joe and Julie Lanza used their food and drink to keep us well entertained. Wonderful people, as they always have been to us.

Our trip to Cincy was a real dinger, 12 of us went in Herhuth's Motor Home, and Alma proved to be a wonderful hostess. Bill is a skilled driver, we had a great time up and back.

It was good to see old Buddy from the 322nd Field (Warren Knicely) after 35 years. Man, it sure doesn't seem that long, but figures don't lie (both kinds.)

The Lindsey's went to Colorado to visit with their son Buck, that's why they didn't attend the Reunion. Maybe next year.

Casey Kowalec and Casey Szubski went to see an ailing Buddy John Guzik in Pittsburgh. (He was in "B" 331st.)

Forgot to mention that Henry Fix and his wife Ann also were at the Reunion. They got there on Friday, I believe, so that made 11 Cannoneers present.

My wife Eleanor was thrilled with the reception received from our 83rd friends. Everyone hugged and kissed her as though she were a long lost relative, which proves again that the 83rd is the best.

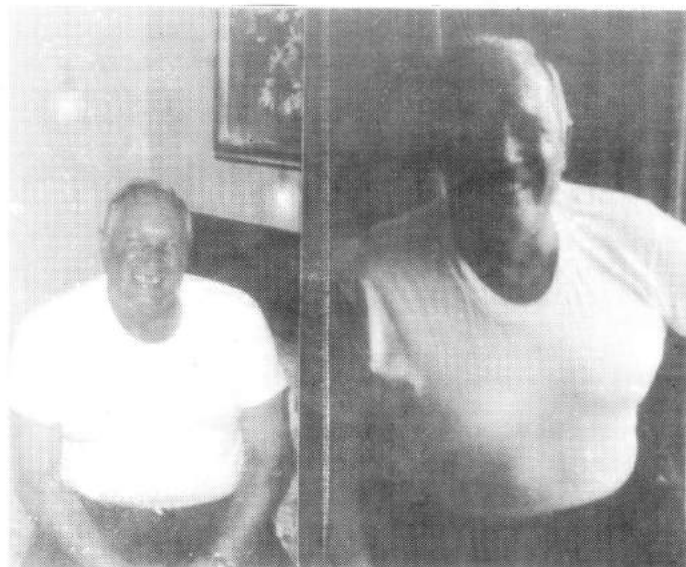
We are planning a steak roast for October at Chester Czech's daughters acres. Warren Chapter is to join us and this will be a first in about twenty years. We used to do this quite often, but kind of got off the track. Hope this gets us back on. Time is getting short and for those of you that did not attend, Casey Kowalec read the "Taps List" - 42 members passed on last year and for those that have never attended a Reunion, get with it if you want to see an Ole Buddy. Time waits for no one, that includes us.

I expected some Pics from Mary and Earl Geisler showing Earl's teeth etc., but can't wait as I must get this report in before the 10th of September. So until the next issue, which don't come out until next year, have the Happiest and Healthiest Holiday Season and God Bless all of you.

Al Uridel
Cn. Co. 329th. Inf.

LATE NEWS FLASH!!! Bob and Joanne Uher have finally made grand parents list, a 4 pound 9 ounce girl, congratulations are in order to the happy Uher's.

ANOTHER FLASH!!! The Pics from the Geisler's came - makes me laugh all over again.



The happy guy got his choppers back.

SECRETARY TREASURER REPORT

Another great 83rd Infantry Division Reunion has come and gone and we owe a lot of thanks to all the hard working people in the Kentucky Chapter and their wives and children who really put a lot of effort into making our stay there a most enjoyable one. It was said by some that a new Chapter such as Kentucky could not be successful. They proved otherwise and I'm sure everyone is happy about it. With the guidance of Manny Goodridge, they couldn't go wrong.

Al Schaefer got us a million dollars worth of publicity in the local News Papers and I understand that the story about us is going to be published in all of the fifty states. The T.V. coverage was fantastic, something we had very little of in previous years. Manny Goodridge's son was one of the very hard working people and you would have sworn that he was a true 83rder. His closed circuit T.V. film that was put on the T.V. set in the Hospitality Room was out of this world and allowed the late comers to see the fantastic Parade and the memorable Memorial Services at Fountain Square with the public in attendance. To Manny's son, many thanks from all of us old timers.

Bob Derickson did a great job in running the Registration desk efficiently. All the registration forms and applications were in order and easy to decipher. Thank you Bob, you made my after Reunion chore a bit easier.

The entire Reunion was well run and to my knowledge, all those in attendance were quite happy with the outcome. It is never 100% because you find a few complainers at all of them, but this time the complaints were just minor ones.

Speeches are always hard for me to make, so you might say, it is easier to write them in the THUNDERBOLT. Here is the one I had written for the Banquet:

To all of my Buddies, ladies and gentlemen:

Each year, atleast for me, this is the toughest part of my job. When I look out there at that beautiful crowd of people, and realize that I have to get up and say a few words, I get butterflies in my stomach. Someone once told me that this wears off after a few years, but it hasn't wore off yet. It's hard to believe that it ever wears off.

Anyway, there are many many Thank You's that should be dished out to all those that worked so hard during the year to make 1977-'78 the best year in our history. The betterment of our Association was uppermost in their minds and rather than mention all their names, they know who they are, I'll just say Thank You one and all: I appreciate all that you have done to improve the Association.

The Kentucky Chapter deserves a separate Thank You because they have done something that a lot of us have a difficult time believing, they are a brand new Chapter and look at the show they have presented us. These guys have to get our Special Thanks for a job well done.

We can't forget the Officers who during the year were on the job to handle all problems and complaints. They are devoted to the 83rd and to your well being always. It takes a special kind of man to devote so much of his time and money and give you the benefits of it. You just can't thank them enough.

To those of you that have been writing to your Buddies, I'd like to ask that you keep it up. That personal letter is the very best advertising we could ask for. I'd like also to ask Jim Prentice to get the word out earlier this year. He has done an excellent job for us and we hope he will keep it up.

This next gentleman, I just don't have the words to express the kind of thanks he deserves. He has done so much legal work for us without cost, and always makes the Board Meetings no matter where they are. He is a great friend of mine, and I only hope that all of you appreciate all that he has done.

One more thank you and then I'll step down. We have with us a really great guy that all of us would be proud to call an 83rder. He sure acts as though he was one of us, and yet he is just the brother of our own Spike McCartin. Father McCartin is that gentleman. He knows more about our history on the battlefields than any of us do. We all love him, I am sure.

This could go on and on, but thank you one and all from the bottom of my heart. My only regret is that, I can't spend more time with each and everyone of you individually.

Thanks again and God Love you all.

The above speech is what I had on paper and Couldn't get it out. I'm sorry about that.

We are into a new year in this great Association and it's time for all of us to put our noses to the grinding wheel and make this year even better than all those in the past. I'll be putting out the Membership letter next month and would appreciate very much if all this past year's members will be prompt and pay their Dues now to save us the additional cost of mailing. By the way, this is the last THUNDERBOLT you'll be reading if you don't pay up.

As you read this, I'll probably be in Europe setting up the arrangements for the group that will be going there next May. Keep the news coming for the THUNDERBOLT and don't forget to write a few lines to that Buddy of yours.

In closing, I would like, on behalf of all the Officers, wish all of you A HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

This being the last THUNDERBOLT before the Holiday Season:

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

TO EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND HAVE A GOOD DAY

Samuel Klippa
Secretary-Treasurer
83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. Inc.



PAY YOUR DUES!

MICHIGAN CHAPTER REPORT

(Too late for the last Thunderbolt)

Winter has come and gone. Another summer is upon us and we're all looking forward to enjoying a season of sunshine and comradeship.

In the way of news, our chapter has gone through the gamut of family events that every Thunderbolt experiences. We've had our share of illnesses, births and deaths. In the way of Good News we are pleased to relate that two of our Chapter members have decided to venture into the business world. Bob Taylor's wife, Rita, has opened a Dress Shop in Lapeer, Michigan and Nick Boyd is continuing in the Chemical products but now he's on his own rather than as an employee. Our Chapter wishes both of these modern day adventurers much success and good fortune.

Ed and Jean Zerucha are very proud of their son Tom and they have good reason. Tommy had been the recipient of numerous National Scholarship Awards and certificate of recognition citations. He is currently a student at the University of Michigan and he has made the Dean's list. Congratulations are proudly extended to Ed, Jean and Tommy.

Our Chapter get-togethers started up again in March. We still maintain our handfull of diehard Thunderbolts. We are occasionally pleasantly surprised for a meeting or two by an old familiar face that for one reason or another has been absent. We are pleased to have Lee and Dorothy Hetrick back in our midst on a regular basis. We did miss these fine people for the past year or so. We are so happy to see Lee again that we gave him back the duty of corresponding secretary.

We're all looking forward with eager anticipation to the Reunion in Cincinnati in August. We are planning on a good turnout from our Chapter and we wish the Kentucky Chapter much success and a great Reunion.

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

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

Well, it looks like the Kentucky Chapter outdid themselves and gave us another fine Reunion. I was sorry I had to leave on Saturday morning and miss the best time of all, our big Banquet which is always a fine time for everyone. Congratulations guys and gals, you did a great job.

On the subject of our Memorial Services which we discussed at our Friday Meeting, I still say it should be left up to the Chapter running the Reunion. They know when it is best for them to have it and get the most from it. I thought the Memorial Service we had on Thursday was one of the best and many of the Buddies I talked to, said the same. On the subject of when to hold the Reunions, I again think we should lean toward the off season. True I know there are men who have businesses that are at the prime time of that season, but think of the men who are already retired and those who expect to, soon. I'll bet the odds are atleast 15 to 1.

I think the men who do have these businesses can afford to take time off for a few days and have someone take over for them. It can't hurt that much and it does help the poor guy that has already started to scrape his pennies to make a go of it so he can see his Buddies once a year, and for how much

longer. We lost 38 this year again to our Dear Lord and who knows how many more this year. Remember guys, It's later than we think, so lets lean to the little guy and give him a break. While on the subject of losing our loved ones, our Buddy Joe DePeri lost his mother recently and we would all like to pay our respects to the DePeri family at this time.

My Buddy Charles Waldrop from Greenville, SC and my Buddy Ed Kirgan's wife Betty have both gone through very serious operations on the same day and we all wish them God speed to a quick recovery and I hope to see them at Myrtle Beach come October 1st.

My First Sergeant, Fred Lord lost his wife after a long illness in July and God knows how she suffered. It's funny how some of us have it so easy and others get all the hard luck. May God give Fred and his lovely children the strength to carry on in good health. Some day we'll know why these things happen.

Well gang, not much to say now but hope we all have good news in the next THUNDERBOLT.

By the time you read this, I'll be in my new home. My new address will be: 55 Castle Harbor Drive, Holiday City, Toms River, New Jersey 08753. Take care and remember, it's later than we think.

Jim Bowie
"B" Co. 330th. Inf.

WARREN CHAPTER LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

With the spring and summer club activities and a very enjoyable Reunion behind us - the Warren Ladies Auxiliary are almost set with our plans for fall and winter. The next "Gala" will be our annual Christmas Party where we entertain the men to a much deserved dinner and dance before then and after the Holidays we will meet monthly to carry on the business of the club.

Our past activities included golf and picnic outings in July and August, attending the wedding reception of David Nuzzi, son of Joe Nuzzi we were also invited enmasse to a graduation party honoring Nancy Caparanis daughter of John and Helen Caparanis speaking of John and Helen, THANK YOU both for the beautiful party tray sent to the Warren Chapter C.P. while we were "re-unioning" in Cincy. Also, while at the Reunion the Warren Chapter and ladies were the guests of Sandy and Andy Mann, and Andy's mother at the posh Cincinnati Club for an evening of fabulous dining and partying - words just cannot express our feelings for these lovely hospitable people Sandy is the daughter of George and Louise Bellay and now makes her home in Cincinnati with husband Andy (the host with the most!) might as well continue with reunion thoughts So far all the comments about the past reunion in Cincinnati are all high praise the Queen City Chapter are commended for a job well done. I think all in attendance enjoyed their stay and the program that was presented and look forward to maybe someday returning. I don't know about others, but I get a warm feeling when I walk into a hotel lobby and am greeted by friendly people that did make it to another reunion - we are all looking forward to seeing you all again soon - "Na'leens ya heah", In fact, Cap'n Mac sez "Y, all come" in 1979.

We who traveled together in Babe and Theresa Gautschi's Van were like kids on an outing This 'n that about Warren.

We are very proud of Mike Skovran, hard working member and Board Member of the 83rd Association, on his promotion to Kentucky Colonel - way to go Michael!!! you that were in Cincinnati saw Johnnie Teringo is coming along very nicely since his major surgery "Cheese" Bellay is scheduled for surgery this month and our thoughts and Prayers will be with the big guy also out of the hospital and doing well are Bob and Pearl Johnson Pat Shamrock and Louise Bellay both had a short stay and you also

saw them at the reunion looking good (maybe I meant good-looking huh) we also had sadness with the passing away of Ted Holubka's mother and Birdie Titus's sister ... our deepest sympathy to both families.

Biggie and I had the pleasure of twice in one year guesting at the summer retreat on Paradise Lake with the Titus, Voracek and Gautschi "booze, bugs and bee bash" seems the gals are the only ones getting the bee and bug stings, I guess all the booze 'n beer acts as a deterrent for the guys well, it was a lot of fun and we are looking forward to the corn roast in October .. oh yes - the grand steak fry at the Skovrans this month - September.

I don't know how the others feel, but I get what Georgie "C" calls a "gut feeling" about the reunion in 1979 in New Orleans. I think it will be a really big fun outing and I am again looking forward to seeing you all there.

This being my second try at reporting I thought I would go all the way and chance some photography too my critic here says to forget it but I won't and I hope that nice Editor Sam prints what I shot to go along with the article. See Y'all in the next issue.

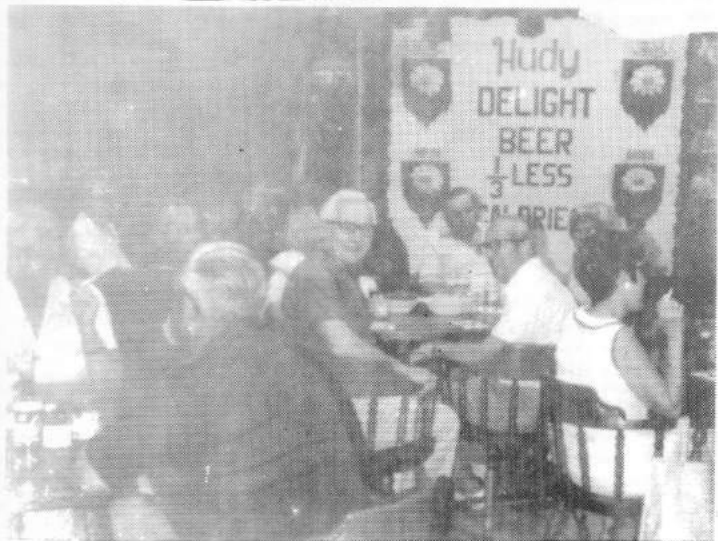
Mary Ann Cooley
Warren Ladies Auxiliary

(I never leave out photos unless they are blurred or the color not clear enough. Black and white photos are always the best

(Because of the amount of news and the amount of photos I received for this issue, the size of print and the spacing was reduced. This was necessary to get all the news in without more printing cost and especially postage. ED.



Babe Gautschi, J. Shamrock, G. Cooley, T. Gautschi (kneeling) M. Coolry, M. Kelly and P. Shamrock.



An afternoon at the Brewery in Cincy.



At the Cincinnati Club - George and Louise Bellay, Sandy Mann, Kassie Mann and Andy Mann.



The Warren ladies enjoying a Saturday evening Banquet.



Fun time at The Warren Chapter C.P.

BOSTON CHAPTER REPORT

The Boston Chapter had a marvelous time in Cincinnati, Ohio. A tip of the good "Irishman's Hat" to the Kentucky Chapter under the leadership of my good friend Manny Goodridge for an excellent Reunion.

Another year is on for the Boston Chapter. Our faithful and real dedicated membership will be meeting in a few weeks to discuss getting new members for the Chapter as well as the 83rd Association which is always our interest.

Larry Arrigo was recovering from major surgery at Reunion time and it was necessary for Larry and Fran to cancel their trip to Ohio. Larry, we are glad to see you back on your feet once again.

Our President, Romeo Maynard, also did not make it to Ohio because his wife Libby was operated on. Libby had us worried as she had a blood clot close to her heart. Nancy was talking to her yesterday and she is doing much better. Romie and Libby will be seeing us at the next meeting.

Jim Prentice's wife Teddy we just cannot keep down. Teddy with all her suffering made it out to Ohio, plus she was at our last Boston Chapter meeting. Jim, this only proves to us that 39 year old girl can keep right up with the National Officer. Ha! Ha! Teddy we hope you are getting along much better now.

Robert Hunnewell was doing a splendid job keeping the men from good old Company "I" 329 on the ball. Hunnewell always has a wonderful time with his Buddies.

Pat DiGiammerino, a present member of the Executive Board, had a good time along with his wife Ginny. Pat and Gin are still very active in the Boston Chapter. Pat is doing a fine job with our membership drive.

Paul Gundersen and his wife Dot seem to be having the time of their lives. Of course, I have never seen them when they did not have a good time. We had a lot of laughs with them in Cincinnati, as well as at the Boston meeting.

Buck Taylor, Ed McCouch and Bill Shaner are all new paid up members of the Boston Chapter. Ed McCouch along with John Piscitelli are having many of the Boston Chapter members going to the Philly Annual Banquet. Frank McGrogan makes me go so Nancy and I will be there. The last few years we have witnessed some of the best times in Philly. We just love to be at this party with these wonderful people.

Tom Papile's wife Flo is recovering from a back operation. She is coming along fine now. Of course, Tommy is doing all the housework and with his good cooking she will recover in no time. Ha! Ha!

Ray Bjork had himself a wonderful time in Ohio with his wife. He danced for three days. Ray, give Nancy back her cigarettes. Ha! Ha!

I was talking to Victor Brauerman recently. He is going to make an effort to attend the Boston Meeting. He has been asking about everyone. His family is grown up and married now. He and his wife are living the life of Riley now.

Oscar Rutstein is going to be a new member of the Boston Chapter. Thanks to a good friend from New York who is Oscar's Buddy also.

That's about all for this issue as my pal Sam will put me on the spot if I don't send this tonight.

Amby Tynan

Hi 323rds:

After just celebrating the 32nd Reunion of our great Association in Cincinnati, this report starts off another year for us and believe me they are going fast. The sad thing about these Reunions is that the ranks get thinner every year. In fact, at the Memorial Services this year, three of the names read off were 323rd F.A. Bn. & there must be more that we do not have contact with.

At our Memorial Service that was held on Thursday afternoon this year, there was T.V. News coverage, the Air Force Band, and 100% of the 83rd membership. Chaplain John Piscitelli, along with his assistant Casey Kowalec, did a terrific job paying tribute to our departed Buddies. Jim Burton sang songs such as "My Buddy", which was very touching for all of us who attended. T.V. movies of this Service were shown continuously on closed circuit T.V. Friday and Saturday for the men who arrived late. The morning paper had Joe Gioia carrying the Colors on the front page of the Cincinnati Inquirer.

James (Buck) Taylor made his first Reunion. Buck treated us to dinner and drinks at the rotating restaurant viewing the city. He was telling me Jack Knight visited him in Modesto, CA. shortly before the Reunion, which was their first time together in 32 years. Jack is now from Portland, OR. According to Margaret Taylor, Jack's wife is a wonderful person. Margaret is a marvelous girl herself.

Ed and Joyce McCouch took us to the New Orleans restaurant to

dinner. A fine time was had by all. The McCouch's did not worry about my diet.

Al Schaefer of the 323rd Medics along with the rest of his committee, did a great job putting on this successful Reunion in Cincinnati. All the family of the Schaefer's attended. Betty Schaefer also did an excellent job doing more than her share for the 83rd Association. Thanks to both of you.

Willie Snodgrass was at the Reunion and really looked good. We have not seen him for a few years. Willie's daughter is engaged to be married, so he will be a busy man.

Walter Harding was up from Florida. He always keeps his High School figure. It was sure nice talking to Walt again.

Erwin Erhardt played a few tunes, the most famous one was at two o'clock in the morning in the hotel lobby. After the Reunion, Erwin and I went on the River Boat all Sunday afternoon. It was wonderful seeing Norma and the Children again.

George Connors and his wife Hilda had a real Blast in Cincy and George thanked me for talking him into going. George, if I could of got McCormack and Tom Donahue, Erwin would have had a full house. Huh!

Bill Shaner and Lois still look the same. I stayed with them on my way to Ohio. They took Nancy and me to their club after taking us to one of Altoona's finest restaurants. The head of the club was a Boston sailor in World War II, so he made me right at home. Don and Amy St. John joined us at the club for a wonderful evening. It went by too fast. Bill and Lois also went on to the Reunion.

Bob Scheumann and his wife Ruth attended the Reunion. Bob looked 20 years younger than us all. I wish he would give us the secret. Bob and Ruth, it was nice being with you.

Dave and Nancy Nellies always have a marvelous time with the 323rds at the Reunion. Nancy says someday she will make it to Boston and we hope she does.

John Centrullo and his wife grave came for Friday night and it was good to see John looking like a college student. John and Grace, we enjoyed your company.

Our famous chaplain John Piscitelli has Battery C well in line. He has straightened out Dom (the Godfather) Christopher. Dom now is in command of Charley Battery. Mary Candido and Tony Piantedosi really jump to attention when the Godfather speaks out. A man can still have a lot of power after 30 years. Dom always has the chaplain and that young Chicago Lawyer with him. Bill Doty is the Lawyer. Bill has given a lot of his time to us free of charge. Bill and Rita, I am sure we all appreciate everything you have done to make us a better outfit.

John Piscitelli, Joe Gioia, Bill Shaner, Ed McCouch, Pat DiGiammerino and I will be together again in November at the Philly Chapter Party.

John Turkett is out of the hospital. We all hope he is doing much better now. You fellows could drop him a card.

Norman Thornton has had a heart attack in recent months and was unable to make the Reunion this year. We hope he is doing much better now.

Nancy and I visited with Alice Ann Costello on our way home. She is doing fine. Alice Ann told us Gerry's sister Dorothy was visiting her daughter in Boston. When we arrived in Boston, I telephoned her. Nancy and I had a nice evening out with her at the Wayside Inn, Sudbury, MA.

In Wyoming, PA I found out George Mehalchick died last February. His wife Jenny told me he had suffered for 17 years. At the Reunion we were all saddened to hear about George.

Well men, I must cut it off now. If I forgot anything, I will have it in the next issue.

Amby Tynan

MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS

Once again we hail the Kentucky Chapter for a real good Reunion. Congratulations to Manny Goodridge and the gang from Kentucky, a real nice job since it was their first Reunion. We hope you get a chance to have another. I believe the Banquet was the largest ever and we had the highest paid membership. Again, a job well done.

We in Michigan had just arrived home when we had our Chapter Meeting on the 27th of August at the estate of our own, Jack and Hankie Daugherty. Our business meeting consisted of Election of Officers for the 1978-'79 year and Annual Dues.

The new Officers for '78 - '79 are as follows:

President	Marion Muoio
V. President	Bruce Winchell
Treasurer	Jack Daugherty
Secretary	Lee Hetrick
Reporter	Vito Palazzolo

Also present were Loyal Pangle, Frank Bellino, Bob Taylor and Ed Zerucha. A large crowd attended, including our wives and guests. During our business meeting Hankie was preparing the delicious food to be consumed by the hungry 83rders, and the women kept busy telling bad jokes to keep themselves entertained.

This Reporter was alerted to the fact that the Muoio's and Pangles were expecting two new grandchildren apiece. My, the time sure does fly. I'm a little envious you know, my boys are still single and no one to call me Grandpa or Virginia Grandma. Well it keeps us younger anyway.

The Barbu's couldn't make the Reunion this year because they had vacationed in Alaska just two weeks before the Reunion. Ah yes, it's good to have money to travel. Last year they went to Hawaii - nice if you can do it. Anyway, we missed you this year. See you in New Orleans.

The Hetrick's have come up with a grand idea, every month they take a picture of all who attend and print it in our Monthly Newsletter announcing what's coming up at our next meeting, and where it will be and how to get there by map.

Our next meeting will be in September and our President Muoio and Josey will host the Social.

The October meeting will be at Bruce and Jean Winchell's in the beautiful north country of Midland, MI. Anyone in and around the area should call and let them know you'll be there.

We are all looking forward to New Orleans in 1979 and we wish the new President, Joseph Macaluso, real success and to the New Orleans gang a lot of luck. We are behind you 100%.

Well, this is it for now. Since this will be the Holiday Season issue of the THUNDERBOLT - let us wish you and your families: A HAPPY THANKSGIVING and don't eat too much.

Sincerely
Vito Palazzolo
"G" Co, 329th. Inf.

"G" CO. 329 REPORT

This Reporter has taken it upon himself to let "G" 329 be heard through the THUNDERBOLT.

We had a fine turnout this year and I'm sure that we could do much better. It sure was good to see Buzz Bizzini after such a long time. Anyway, he came all the way from California. We also had the good luck of seeing for the first time since 1945 a fellow "G" 329 Sergeant Zeczeki. Real good to see you and we hope to see you again in the near future. Of course, those who attended this year were: Mr. and Mrs. Chester Morgan, John Cupina, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brinkman, Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Rubright, Filmore Kohler, Francis Murphy and Vito and Virginia Palazzolo.

I would like to mention that this past Reunion we had quite a few "G" Company men that have attended Reunions. I'm going to try to name all of them and if I miss a name or so, let me hear from you.

Keith Echard of Taylorsville, NC, Florentine Casile of Bronx, NY, Dale Divens of Springfield, Ohio, Paul Buckman of Plant City, FL, Harold Wohleber of Lorain, Ohio, Rev. Dick Dunham of Quarryville, PA, Robert Stine of N. Royalton, Ohio, James Griffin of Cumberland, MD, Arthur J. Ledoux of Worcester, MA, Maurice Christoforo of E. Braintree, MA, Tony Boucher of Oxford, MA, John Askey of Frenchville, PA, William Conley of Jamaica Plains, MA, James Ransdell of Northbrook, IL, Granville A. Sharpe of Altamonte Springs, FL, Hugh Westbrook of Greenville, SC, Henry Reynolds of Richmond, VA, E. Westfield of Indianapolis, IN, Robert Hruska of Luxembourg, WI.

These are just a few that I have met at one of the past Reunions. Too bad we couldn't get together more often. All you men of "G" 329, please send me some info to write into the THUNDERBOLT about yourselves or "G" Company history and pictures we can print for all to see. Ha! Ha!

Vito Palazzolo
"G" Co. 329th. Inf.

"G" CO. 331ST REPORT

What a great Reunion we had in Cincinnati last month. "G" Company, as usual, was well represented. However, Beau and the other members that were present, including myself, was somewhat disappointed that some of the members that lived only a few hours drive away, could not be there with us. Thirteen members were there: Bill Bogacz, Bob Piette, Leroy Titus, O.D. Baird, Joe Phillipone, Gene Costanzo, Carl Wheeler, Vance B. Tuttle, Al Suess,

Loyal Pangle, Joe Macaluso and John Teringo.

It was the first time I had seen Carl Wheeler since the Hedge-row days in Normandy. He and his wife drove in from Ashland, KY. It was good to see him, he looks great. And our good Buddy Don Schwartz was a welcome sight indeed. Don looks good after his long illness and we hope to see both of these fellows at future Reunions. It is always good to see the fellows from "G" Company. It is one happy family when we get together. We seem to be getting older, but we are still at that age when we enjoy each others - company.

In going through the last THUNDERBOLT I noticed that we have 35 paid up members, this is good and I hope that we can continue to keep in touch with each other in the coming years.

I want to thank those members of the company that gave me the confidence I needed to present myself to the general membership of the Division, to serve as the President of the Association for the coming year. All the members have pledged their support to me and the group from New Orleans that will host the 1979 Reunion.

I sincerely hope that my group here in New Orleans can have everything planned so that we will need no help. We want all of you to come to New Orleans and enjoy yourselves.

Mort Gaynor called me on the phone last week and said he will arrive early to assist. Mort has had his troubles this year and I sincerely hope the best for him.

I would like the help of all from "G" Company, we want to round up additional members for the Division. We went over 1200 this year, but I know there are thousands more that are available. I have pledged to try and get as many new members as possible, not only to sign up as members, but to be present at the 1979 Reunion in New Orleans. We can handle many people here in this city and we are looking forward to a great Reunion.

I stopped in to see Lt. General Robert York on my way back to New Orleans and we spent about an hour together. He has promised me that he will be in New Orleans next year. This is in itself a treat because believe me, this is one of the finest soldiers that ever served in the Army.

Beau has promised to help me round up the fellows this year. I will write to each of the members of the Company during the year and each THUNDERBOLT. I promise to have an article for the great Company of ours.

Joe Macaluso
"G" Co. 331st. Inf.

FLORIDA NEWS

Can't let this opportunity go by without commending the Kentucky Chapter for the great Reunion they hosted.

Geri and I stayed in the Cincy area for awhile, since it was our home, and didn't return here until September 1st.

I want to remind you that the Florida Chapter is having their next meeting on November 11th in the Ft. Lauderdale area. I hope you are able to attend and if any of the other 83rd members are interested, they are welcome. Anyone wishing reservations, should write to me in advance and I'll set them up. The Motel is \$15.00 for a Single and \$20.00 for a Double. Dinner will be on Saturday evening November 11th at about 7 P.M.

Hope to see you and any other Dixie and northern members interested in our November meeting.

Ralph Gunderson
"D" 331st. Inf.

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY - KENTUCKY STYLE

Thank you Manny Goodridge for a wonderful tour of Greater Cincinnati and nearby Northern Kentucky, upon our arrival at Stouffers Hotel on the 11th of August to attend the 32nd Annual 83rd Infantry Division Reunion.

It was deeply appreciated.

Sincerely
Michael Brick
Buffalo, NY

REMINDERS:

Dues for 1978-'79 are due now.

If not paid, this is your last THUNDERBOLT.

The next News Deadline is January 10, 1979.

Next Reunion - New Orleans - August 16, 17, 18, 1979.

History Books are available from this Office now.

I forgot to send these three pictures with my report and am sorry about that. Hope the reports are O.K. I was not feeling good when I wrote them. However, good Buddy, I think I got them to you on time.

I picked up the bug when I came home and I don't feel that tip top shape yet. I am now at work so I thought I had better get this off to you. Take care of yourself.

Amby Tynan



Nellies, Taylor, McCouch, Shaner and wives.



Erhardt playing a few notes.



Charlie Battery of the 323rd F.A.

CORMIER NAMED COUNTY COMMANDER

Edgar 'Chico' Cormier became the very first County Commander in the history of Shirley, MA. which will be celebrating their 60th year in 1979.

Cormier joined the George J. Morin Post No. 183 in 1946 after serving with the 83rd Infantry Division in WW II, & the 8th Golden Arrow Division. (He is a member of "A" 331.) He received the Presidential Citation, the Purple Heart with two clusters, the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, the ETO Ribbon with four Combat Stars and the Victory Medal. His wife June, is the present President of the Shirley Unit 183, and also 3rd Vice President for the State of Massachusetts Auxiliary.



SHENANDOAH COUPLE GUESTS AT EMBASSY PARTY

Mr. and Mrs. Usewicz of Shenandoah, PA were taken by surprise when they received an engraved invitation to visit Emile Meisch, the Luxembourg Ambassador and his wife to at the Embassy in Washington, in honor of Luxembourg's National Holiday which is the birthday of the grand duchess.

The affair brought back many memories. Mr. Usewicz served with the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II at Mondorf, where he met Maya who was fleeing the Nazis.

Tony Usewicz and his wife Maya got a full page write-up in the Evening Herald of Shenandoah.



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Dear Buddies:

My good friend James Schimmenti passed away this May. He never joined our Association but served with the 330th as a Combat Medic. A warm and gentle man. I'll miss him very much.

SOME MEMORIES

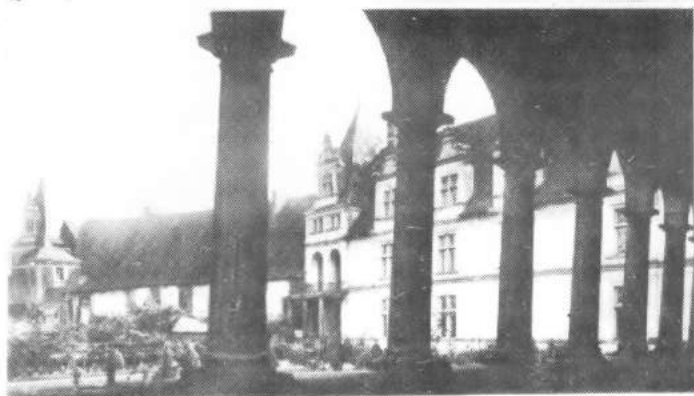
Angers - where the Calvados in the Jeeps Jerry can run out and we had to replace it with gasoline - one of the worst moments of the War!

On the road to Angers I rode in the back seat of an open Command car and was taking and returning salutes 'till the Officer in the front seat caught me - I was only saving him the trouble!

Chateaubriant - where they (F.F.I.) showed us what they did to a Collaborator they caught - what a mess!

The pictures are of the Chateau and the town of Chateaubriant. See you at the Reunion.

Wm. Kent O'Connell
83rd M.P.



10 SEPTEMBER 1944

The 83rd Infantry Division (less 3rd Bn, 330th Inf, and Btry C, 323rd F.A. Bn, executing a mission on the Brittany Peninsula) was detached from the VIII Corps to operate under control of Ninth Army from 1200, 10 September 1944. The Ninth Army confirmed mission of the 83rd Infantry Division to protect the south flank of the Army from Redon to the east. The Third Army in cooperation with the Ninth Army ordered Combat Command "B" of the 6th Armored Division to patrol the area from Meung-Sur-Loire east to Auxierre. The Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon of the 329th Infantry established liaison with the 6th Armored Division at Meung.

11 SEPTEMBER 1944

The Division received instructions from the Ninth United States Army to extend patrol activities to Auxierre, relieving Combat Command "B", 6th Armored Division in that zone. Division Field Order No 30 was issued and patrols were organized and observation posts were established to protect the south flank of the Ninth and Third Armies by preventing the enemy from entering area from Redon to Nantes and north of the Loire River from Nantes to Auxierre.

Thirty-one Prisoners of War were captured during patrol activities.

The Commanding General, 83rd Infantry Division, went to Issoudun and there met General Elster, Commander of the German forces, who wanted to surrender. In accordance with instructions of the Commanding General of the Ninth Army, terms were presented for the surrender and were accepted by General Elster. Details for the movement of the German force north to the Loire were arranged, and a liaison officer from Division Headquarters was left with General Elster to coordinate the movement of the Germans with the plans for their reception north of the Loire.

Combat Command "B" of the 6th Armored Division had reported that the area from Meung-Sur-Loire to Auxierre was clear of the enemy.

12 SEPTEMBER 1944

The 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry made reconnaissance to new positions on the left flank of the Division from Tours to Auxierre. Liaison was established with the 2nd French Armored Division on the left flank.

The 330th Infantry relieved the 1st and 3rd Battalions of the 329th Infantry in area of Saumur to Tours. Patrolling continued along the Loire River line. Patrol of "A" Company 331st Infantry had a minor skirmish with enemy patrol, resulting in 5 enemy casualties.

13 SEPTEMBER 1944

Units of the 83rd Infantry Division patrolled from Redon along the north bank of the Loire River to Bonny-Sur-Loire then east to Auxierre. The 331st Infantry took 102 prisoners during the day.

14 SEPTEMBER 1944

The 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, under control of the 329th Infantry, organized motorized patrols on the left flank of the Division area and maintained liaison with the 2nd French Motorized Division.

15 SEPTEMBER 1944

The 83rd Division Command Post was closed at Chateaubriant and opened at Vendôme.

The 329th Infantry completed occupation of the Blois-Auxierre sector and began patrolling operations in that area.

Preparations were made to receive General Elster's forces at Beaugency.

The 2nd Battalion of the 329th Infantry contacted headquarters of a French Parachute Battalion in Briare, on a report that 8000 of the enemy desired to surrender. An investigation disclosed these Germans formed one column of General Elster's troops marching north to the Loire River to surrender. Other reports of marching enemy columns involved the town of Jargeau and area east of Orleans. A check revealed these reports to be false.

16 SEPTEMBER 1944

The Commanding General, 83rd Infantry Division, accepted the formal surrender of the Commanding General, German forces south of the Loire, at Beaugency in behalf of the Army of the United States.

General Elster, Commanding General of the conglomerate group of troops from south France, presented his pistol as a token of surrender to General Macon.

General Elster, realizing the hopelessness of ever breaking through the Allied lines at the Belfort Gap with the troops under his command, having his columns constantly harassed by FFI attacks and American Air Force bombing, and having lost his confidence in the present German high command, decided to surrender to American forces. Having made this decision, and taking advantage of contact with the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, 329th Infantry on 9 September he conferred with American Army representatives on details for the surrender. General Elster then marched his troops toward river crossing sites at Orleans and Beaugency, and surrendered.

17 SEPTEMBER 1944

By order of Ninth United States Army official time was changed from "B" time to "A" time at 0300, 17 Sept., 1944.

Plans were made with the Ninth Army for the relief of the 83rd Infantry Division by the 94th Infantry Division. The 83rd Division was alerted to assemble in the vicinity of Montargis in preparation for movement to the east and assignment to the Third United States Army.

The 331st Infantry was relieved by elements of the 94th Infantry Division at 0900 and assembled by use of motors in the vicinity of Montargis.

The 329th and 330th Inf. continued patrolling their area.

General Elster's forces laid down their arms and completed surrender at Orleans and Beaugency, after the formal surrender of the 16th. The enemy columns crossed the river and were confined to prisoner of war enclosures by dark. A total of 754 Officers and 18,851 enlisted men were taken prisoner.

18 SEPTEMBER 1944

The 331st Infantry closed in assembly area vicinity of Montargis, 18 September 1944.

The 329th and 330th continued patrolling the Loire River without incident.

Large quantities of supplies and equipment captured from the Germans were turned over to the Ninth U.S. Army.

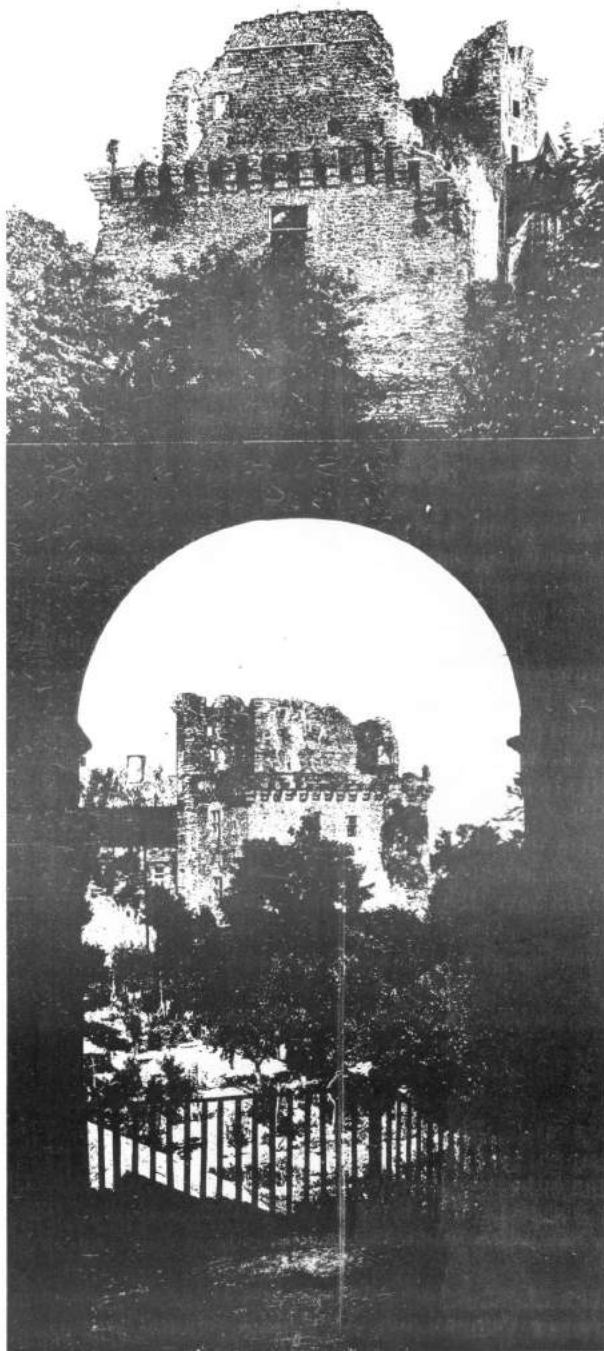
Training continued and maintenance of equipment was carried on.

19 SEPTEMBER 1944

Routine patrolling continued in the Division sector. The 94th Infantry Division was on the right flank, the 2nd French Armored Division was on the left flank. Training and care of equipment was stressed. Much progress in training the Infantry-Tank team was being accomplished.

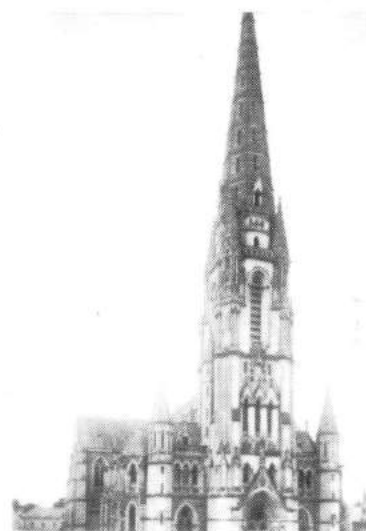
The Division Command Post remained in Vendôme.

54 CHATEAUBRIANT (Loire-Inf.)
Donjon du vieux Château, extérieur





Chateaubriant - View of the ruins of the Chateau Fort.



Eglise St. Nicolas

ONE OF OUR RETIRED

(The following is a condensed version of a story that appeared in a New Orleans News Paper on Sept. 30, 1976.)

Brig. General Karl N. Smith of the Louisiana National Guard will take off his uniform for the last time today after 35 years of Military Service, but, unlike many old soldiers, he has absolutely no intention of just fading away.

Refusing to embrace a fishing pole instead, General Smith is mulling over a number of job offers in the civilian community and will help in making arrangements for next year's National Guard Association Conference to be held in New Orleans.

Taking a break for cleaning out his desk at Jackson Barracks, the trim, 60 year old Officer attempted to put into words his feelings on leaving the Guard he has served since 1947.

"Emotionally, I would say that I am a little bit sad and also happy - sad in the fact that I am leaving some friends who have been real loyal employees," said General Smith who has served as Army National Guard Chief since June of 1970. "These are people with whom I've worked rather than people who have worked under me," he said.

The road to the National Guard career for General Smith began in 1941 when he was commissioned a 2nd Lt. of Infantry after graduating from the Reserve Officers Training Corps program at Louisiana State University.

The young shavetail landed in Normandy on "D" Day plus 7 with the 83rd Infantry Division, fought in the Huertgen Forest and, during the Battle of the Bulge, helped relieve the pressure on Bastogne when his unit severed the St. Vith-Houffalize road.

I've had three sons in the Guard, two of them are still active," says General Smith.

Major General O.J. Daigle, Jr., State Adjutant General, says, "General Smith's contribution to the National Guard

and his community have been many during his 35 years of Military Service and his capable leadership and organizational ability will be sorely missed.

(CONGRADULATIONS are in order for General Smith from all us 83rders. We are sorry to be so late with this news. I am sorry also that I have not noted the name of the member that sent in the News Paper clipping.) ED.

ARTILLERY NEWS

The Historical Evaluation and Research Organization (HERO) is engaged in a study of World War II and later personnel casualties associated with the loss of artillery pieces. Surprising as it may seem there is no readily available record which shows how many crew members were killed or wounded incident to the loss of an artillery piece in combat. The Department of the Army is concerned with this question and has contracted us (HERO) to prepare statistical data relating to personnel and artillery losses. Accordingly we have prepared a short questionnaire which we believe can be easily answered by individuals having personal recollections of casualties and artillery losses in their units.

If you have knowledge of such incidents, it would be greatly appreciated if you would answer the questionnaire enclosed. In addition, could you send me the names of other individuals from as many different units within your organization as possible, who you believe would be able to provide such information from their own personal experience. All participants in this study will be given credit for their assistance.

Sincerely
T.N. Dupuy
Executive Director

(The above letter should be of great concern to our many artillery Buddies and T.N. Dupuy will be very happy to hear

from you. Send your letters to: T.N. Dupuy - Historical Evaluation and Research Organization - P.O. Box 157 - Dunn Loring, VA 22027.)

(The questionnaire was filled out by yours truly but I forgot to make a copy for this writing in the THUNDERBOLT and am sorry about that. Make your story as complete as is possible, with names, dates, places etc.) ED.

MORE ABOUT WEST VIRGINIA

(Eugene Persinger of "A" 329th Infantry, is trying very hard to get the West Virginia Chapter organized and has had some difficulty. He can't understand why they can't get together, especially since there are so many of our members in West Virginia and nearby areas. The article below was placed by Eugene in one of the local News Papers.) ED.

WWII VETERAN SEEKS GIs FOR REUNION

(The above heading pertains to Eugene Persinger who is trying to get the West Virginia Chapter started.)

Although it wasn't the happiest time of his life, Eugene Persinger of Nitro, West Virginia likes to reminisce about the time he spent in the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II.

Persinger, 56, is trying to gather West Virginians who served in the 83rd together for the same purpose.

"It was a big part of our life," he explained. "You get really close to people during something like that, and you should stay in touch."

He has attended National Reunions of the Infantry Division and now hopes to organize a State Chapter. Ten members are necessary to start a Chapter, he said. To date he has located only half that number.

"Most of the States have got them - Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio and others," he reported. "West Virginia is the only State around here that doesn't. It seems like no one is interested."

Part of his problem, he explained, is simply locating the soldiers. "We've got a lot from the 83rd in West Virginia, but I can't get in touch with them. I've tried for the last four or five years."

Persinger, a Corporal during the War, served in the Army from 1942 to 1944. He was wounded while fighting in France and won the Bronze Star.

After the War, he worked for the U.S. Postal Service, and is now retired.

Persinger plans to attend the National Reunion and says, "It's a wonderful thing to see all those boys get together and march."

Members of the 83rd can contact Persinger at his home, 3013 30th St., Nitro, WV 25143 or phone 755-4428.

C'MON YOU WEST VIRGINIAN'S! GET TOGETHER!!!!

REMINDER: If you have not paid your Dues for 1978-'79, I want you to know that this will be your last THUNDERBOLT. Do it now (send your \$6.00 right away, before you forget again) and get it off your mind. It's better to be early always.

Your Editor
Samuel Klippa

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I sincerely regret missing the Reunion as long laid plans are for Jackson Hole, Wyoming at that time.

Martin L. Kuhlman
1 Bn Hq 331

I am interested in Company "A" 331st Infantry. I would appreciate all the names and addresses you can supply me. I would do most anything to see and hear from these men.

Charles J. Hoffman
"A" Co. 331st. Inf.

Due to illness for almost six years, travelling and the Reunion are out of the question.

Frank Todd
Serv. 329th. Inf.

I received your address from a Buddy who said that you might be able to help me. I served in Company "F" of the 331st Infantry and am trying to find these men: Pvt. S.W. Rynkus, Pvt. Robert LaPar, Pvt. Robert Ryan and Pvt. Phelps. If you can find any of these men, I would appreciate it very much.

Frank Silva
P.O. Box 534
Truth or Consequences, NM
87901

We will attend our very first Reunion in Cincinnati. I was assigned to the 83rd as a 2nd Lt. in July 1942 with A.T. 329. I remained with the Division until it disbanded in Austria.

Daniel G. Gust (Col. Ret.)

There is a chance that we will miss the Reunion this year. Best regards to all and hope you had a fine Reunion.

Carlos A. Crouse
3 Bn Hq 331st. Inf.

Had a socket replaced in one hip in January, and was to have the other one replaced next January. Had to rush things a bit and get the second operation done earlier than we had expected.

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

Saw the 83rd Infantry Notice in the American Legion Magazine. Would like information, time and place.

William G. Sihock
"B" 329th. Inf.

I am sorry that we had to miss the Reunion this year in Cincinnati, Ohio.

George Irvine
Hq. 324 F.A.

We couldn't make Cincinnati. We are planning on New Orleans next year.

Jim VanTassell
Serv. 329th. Inf.

AUGUST 1979 - NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA!!!!
(Now is the time to plan ahead for this one.)

Since you published my article about keeping in touch by "Ham Radio" a couple of issues ago, I have met another Ham. Thanks to you. His name is Jay Kosik of "I" 329. Was out that way during vacation and spent a couple of hours talking about old times with the 83rd. It was just great.

John Aller
"F" & "H" 331

Hope all of you had a good time at the Reunion.
George Trebonyak
"F" 329th Inf.

Enclosed are my Dues and also for my Buddy: Dale Divens of Springfield, Ohio. He is a new man.
Keith Echerd
"G" 329th Inf.

Here is a check for \$20.00 to pay for my Dues and to help out with the widows share. I am having gall bladder trouble and surgery is possible. Hope all of you had a successful Reunion.

Edward L. Racketta
"F" 331st Inf.

Here are some names and addresses for "I" 330th. Since 1945 I've been trying to get addresses for two of my C.O.'s. A friend found an address for one but I can't find the town on a map and I've had no answer from a note. Maybe you can find the address for me. Lt. Col. Arthur B. Calhoun, Jr. and Arthur H. Rasper are the two Officers. I'm hoping to see more of our men at the Reunion this year.

Don Thiebolt
"I" Co. 330th Inf.

Trust the Reunion was a howling success. Due to Edwards heavy work load, we couldn't make it.

Mrs. Edward Patch
"F" 331st Inf.

Due to uncertain working conditions, I couldn't make it.
Harry J. Kirby, Jr.
"C" 308 Eng.

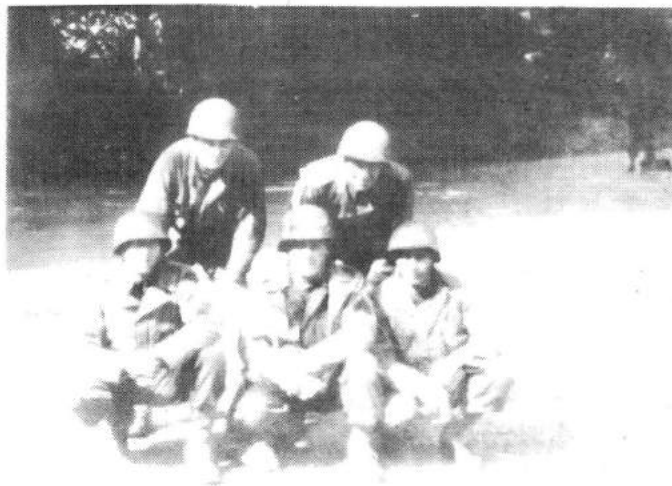
Would like to have attended the Reunion, but my health does not permit same. Have been disabled for 4½ years.
LaVern J. Forthofer
Hq. 324 F.A.

Enjoy reading the THUNDERBOLT and look forward to receiving each issue. Thank you for a job well done.
Joe H. Fogleman
322nd F.A.

I was a replacement in "F" 329th Infantry. Was with them for about three months before being wounded. Would like to get in touch with Connors, Lukemur, Robinson or Schoad of that Company. Hope to make the Reunion.
V.B. Atchison
Route -R Box 71
Decatur, TX 76234

"WRITE A LETTER TO A BUDDY TODAY"

Along with my Dues, I am sending along a photo which you may be able to use in the THUNDERBOLT. Thanking you for your time and effort you put into this Association.
Harry A. Humphreys
"B" 308 Eng.



Front row: Humphreys, Wilson and List.
Back row: Walter F. Davis, Jr. and Don Snell.

I am enclosing \$5.00 for a Patron or Booster AD in honor of my husband, P.F.C. Stanley J. Kryven of "M" Company 330th Infantry who died on December 4, 1969. I have attended a Reunion since and do keep in touch with many of our friends in "M" 330th, also many others that we met since coming to the Reunions year after year. Had many happy days and memories. Will try to be in Cincinnati this year.

I will always be an 83rd widow and would like to know if it would be possible to get on the mailing list. I miss reading the THUNDERBOLT and seeing pictures of the other Chapters. I'll even pay Dues to the Association. Can I get a Decal for my car?

God Bless the 83rd Infantry Division.
Mrs. Stanley Kryven

It will be impossible for us to attend the coming Reunion in Cincinnati. I rushed my wife to the hospital on June 2nd and she is still where I am writing this letter from, while she sleeps and rests. She had a gall bladder operation which developed into a series of complications that everyone says is unbelievable. It will be a long convalescence.

In the meantime - please, all of you have a good time.
Romeo C. Maynard
Hq. 323 F.A.

Sorry I had to miss the Reunion this year.
Paul E. Smith
"D" 330th Inf.

Will not be with you this year.
Arthur A. Riech
83rd M.P.

Here are my Dues on time this year. I cannot make Reunion.
Clark W. Johnson
"H" 329th Inf.

Enjoyed the booklet that we received very much. Thanks for the good information.

W.H. Ayers
"A" 329th Inf.

My husband and I are interested in the 83rd Division Reunion and would appreciate a speedy reply with the necessary information. We want to make reservations.
Mrs. Frances O. Barham

Mahony's Memos

THREE DAY CONCLAVE: The 83rd Infantry Association stages it's 32nd Reunion August 17-19 at Stouffers Cincinnati Towers. Albert Schaefer, first vice president of the Kentucky Chapter, said the Kentucky unit will host the gathering. The reservations are being handled by Samuel Klippa, secretary-treasurer, 1500 Mutual St., Pittsburgh, PA 15204.

Jim Mahony

(Jim writes for The Journal in Lorain, Ohio.)

You fellows are doing a splendid job with the THUNDERBOLT and everything else in connection with our fine Association, and I want to express my appreciation to you for the fine work which all of you are doing.

A.D. Folger, Jr.
"C" 323 F.A.

How is the Europe Trip coming along? Ann and I would like to hear from you. Hope all of you enjoyed Cincinnati.

Frank J. Albano
Cn. 329th Inf.

I am looking for a History book of the 331st Infantry. Be on the lookout for one and find out if someone in the 83rd might have an extra one. Best of luck to all.

Leland Thornton
Hq. 331st Inf.

Sorry I couldn't make the Reunion. I'm sure it was a good one because they always are. Best of luck to all.

John Sullivan
1 Bn Hq 329th Inf.

Couldn't make the Reunion. Went to California to visit our two sons. On the way, we visited with Lee Dillon and Johnny "Reb" Folsom and Ernie Hamlin who I haven't seen since the War. It was just great.

Al Faedi
"I" Co. 331st Inf.

Saw your address in one of the magazines. Didn't know the 83rd had an Association. Would like to know if some of my old Buddies are still around.

Bedford F. Foster

Would like to know how I can acquire a History of the 83rd Division. I lost mine. Also, any information concerning us.

Dom Basile
"B" Co. 330th Inf.

Had my reservation in for Cincinnati but my wife had to have emergency surgery for kidney stones. She is doing fine.

Elwood E. Kreger
"F" Co. 331st Inf.

Had to miss the Reunion due to my wife having an operation two weeks before. She is just now starting to get around, so I thank God for that.

Hope you all had a good time at the Reunion.

Anthony Krukowski
Cn. 331st Inf.

I know that the 83rd had another fine Reunion. Sorry that I could not make it. Sure hope to be at the one next year so I can be with my Buddies again.

Raymond C. Richter
Cn. 331st Inf.

To all of the ETO Travelers, both trips, Tillie Kimmes, the young lady that set up our Banquets in Luxembourg, was in my City of Pittsburgh recently to attend the Reunion of the 80th Infantry Division Association and I had the Pleasure of taking her to lunch and a short visit with my wife and kids. It was a thrill to see her and be able to return some of the hospitality that she showered on us.

She will spend two months in the U.S. visiting several of our Associations and the Rotary in Maryland. Her schedule was so hectic that she could not take time out to party with the ETOers in the Pittsburgh area. I hope to visit her in October if all goes well, and if not then, maybe next year at the end of our third ETO Tour. is one of the very best and loves all American G.I.'s.

The photo below was taken at my home.



Ted Szymanski handed me the photo below and wanted me to guard it with my life. It was taken on the 1st of July 1944. Some of you guys in the 3rd Platoon of A.T. 329 will have a tough time recognizing those faces of 34 years ago. Test your memory!



Betty and I are interested in your England Tour. This year I am scheduled for major surgery and we hope and Pray that all will come out in our favor. Hope all of you had a grand time in Cincinnati. We had planned to be there too.

W.C. Means
Hq. 329th. Inf.

Am going to Europe in October. Couldn't make Cincy too. I am sure all of you enjoyed the Reunion.

E.M. Brewer
Hq. 324 F.A.

Thank you so much for sending me the books. Didn't make the Reunion this year but am looking forward to New Orleans in 1979. Would like to be with my friends in "M" 330th again.

Mrs. Stanley Kryven

Sorry I had to miss the Cincinnati Reunion. I'm sure it was as great as all the others.

Clarence E. West
"G" Co. 330th. Inf.



Seated: Phil Poso, Lambert, Childress and Shelly.
Standing: Luther, Lockhart, Seaman, Cody and Killen.



Luther, "Pop", Childress, Seaman, Shell, Lockhart and Lambert.

It is unknown who gave me the above photos at the Cincy Reunion. I thought it was Captain "Mac" of "G" 331, but, all the guys are in "B" 331.

Whoever owns them, drop me a line so they will be sent to the rightful owner. Photos should be marked on back.

Who is Robert Marling?

Robert was registered at the Reunion in name only.

"D" Company of the 331st Infantry, to my knowledge, was tops in attendance again, just as it has been for many years. Those personal letters to your Buddies are the biggest reason. After many, many years of being absent, Captain Gravelyn showed up in Cincy to everyone's surprise. It was a letter from Ralph Gunderson that did it. It sure made a difference when you get the stories from the top man. Jimmy Lynch was there too for the very first time and he is now an Association member. Both are planning to be with us again next year in New Orleans.

Present from "D" 331 were: Odenweller, Gunderson, Nagel, Campbell, Gravelyn, Lynch, Klippa, Churpak, Miklos, Meyers, McKee, Hamilton, Komlos and Nolte. Two names are missing as there were 16 members in attendance. It was just great.

Samuel Klippa
"D" Co. 331st. Inf.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE !!!

When you move, or plan to move and know your new address in advance, please notify this office. The Post Office has Change of Address kits that are free for the asking. This is a sure way of keeping informed. Do this in advance and avoid a lot of problems. We will not have the "Address Change Requested" on our THUNDERBOLTS or Stationery anymore as it turned out to be very costly to us.

It's up to you to keep us informed and to keep our address files up to date. Notify your Post Office to forward your mail to your new address.

Your Editor
Samuel Klippa

A group of active and retired Army Officers have organized a group in an effort to construct a Memorial to the Combat Medics to be located in Fort Sam Houston in Texas. We would appreciate any support your 83rd Infantry Division Association could provide in helping us meet our goal. Your members may be interested in learning about this worthy project. Many of them have heard or can give testimony to the efforts of our brave medical personnel in combat. It would be most helpful if you could disseminate this information to your Association members and afford them the opportunity to contribute to this effort.

If any additional information is required, please contact me at: Combat Medic Memorial Fund - P.O. Box 34 - Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

Sincerely
Richard J. Berchin
Chairman

I spent most of the past three years in the hospital and have been home since June. Hope all of you had a great time in Cincinnati. Don't guess I will ever be able to see one again. I have a bad heart and lung. Am 70 years old now.

John H. Turkett
Hq. 323 F.A.

If you haven't paid your Dues for 1978-'79, please do it now. This is the last THUNDERBOLT for you.

908 F.A. SPECIAL

The following members and their wives attended another great 83rd Infantry Division Reunion in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Aeillo, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ammon, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bacha, Mr. Richard Barbee, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bernhardt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bonfiglia, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Boucher, Mr. and Mrs. Leland Boyers, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Brick, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Carlom, Mr. and Mrs. John Clevenger, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Danylo, Mr. and Mrs. Frank DeStefani, Mr. and Mrs. Manlius Goodridge, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Jarmoska, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morgason, Mr. and Mrs. James Prentice, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rissmiller, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Renninger, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Reisinger, Mr. Francis Rood, Mr. Michael Rudy, Mr. and Mrs. John Ruprecht, Mr. Paul Sadlon, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Schmittel, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Williams.

Because of personal commitments, these members stopped by just to visit their 908th Friends: Henry Hudson & Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wessel.

Michael Brick
"A" 908 F.A.

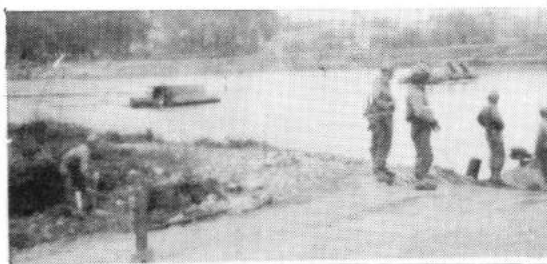
We had planned to be at the Reunion but had to cancel our reservations because I was hospitalized for a week with kidney stones. I know that we missed a good time, but we are already planning for next year.

George and Sara DeFilippis
"E" Co. 329th. Inf.

My name is John Marsh and I started out with the 83rd in Camp Atterbury Indiana. The photo below is of Dick Riddle on the left and me on the right. (Is that really Dick?)

The other photo is when we captured 20,000 prisoners on September 18, 1944 in Beaugency, France.

John Marsh
3 Bn Hq 329th. Inf.



"FRANKLY SPEAKING"

To all men of Company "D" 330th, you are all aware we just held our 32nd Annual Reunion in Cincinnati, Ohio held by the Kentucky Chapter. As usual it was a grand time had by all who attended. We must take our hats off to them for all their hospitality, especially, our Past President, Manlius Goodridge and his lovely wife 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 again - the men who attended were -- George Tangelos, Felix Marra, Harold Felton, Johnnie Ball, John Walker, our good mailman Paul Schick, Bemis Mikel and Frank McGrogan and of course all their lovely wives.

I was looking for the ones who wrote to me and said they were coming but who did not show up --- Jim DiAntonio, Al Custeau, Steve Ferko, Mal O'Malley, Howard Schriener -- I also missed Art DelPadre, Bob Snyder, Bob Harrell, Ted Gurgol this year. Men, make sure you don't miss next year at New Orleans, Louisiana in August 1979. I will send you more information on this later.

I don't know how much longer I will be able to do this type of mailing as I am retired now living on a fixed income and don't have access to a Copy Machine or Mailing Machine. I will do it as long as possible but maybe somebody will be able to take my place as "D" Co. Reporter.

Well, this is 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 times a year with good news for all.

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.

P.S. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all you men who sent me your donation for the Banquet AD Book. It was very kind of you and I hope we can do it again in the future.

Please don't request any AD Books from this Office as they were all given away at the Reunion. Some of the Members took more than they needed and left others without them. I'm sorry this had to happen. I usually brought enough home to satisfy all those requesting them because they placed ADS.
Your Editor

Sorry I couldn't afford to be with you all. I am a former 83rd Division man who served in the 331st Infantry. Prior to that, I was in the 736th T.D. Battalion. On one occasion, between Julich and Duren, Germany - we were counter-attacked. Tanks hit several of our guys and I had my spine hurt and was shell shocked. I'm looking for anyone who can help me with my claim with the V.A. I need written statements to prove my injury was the cause of my problem.

I have Degenerative arthritis of the spine, was research Guinea Pig for Malaria experiments, have scerosis of the liver, Glaucoma, hypertension and they won't call any of these the cause of my illness today. I'd appreciate it very much if the guys, medics or Officers of the 331st would contact me.

Hope all of you had a good time in Cincinnati. God Bless all of you and the Red, White and Blue. Write to me at:

Henry A. Trujillo
153 LaVega SW Apt. No. 2
Albuquerque, NM 87105

I was sure glad to see that a Reunion was to be held this year. I was trying to learn something about the 83rd Division since I was discharged in 1945. Served in "F" 329 under Col. Crabill. Received the Presidential Citation, Bronze Star, but I can't recall how. Was sent home while still a patient. Would like to hear from George A. Santo, Vincent Baradi and Sgt. Langencamp. Please keep me informed from now on.

William M. Lay, Sr.
113 E. Henry St.
Belmont, NC 28012

(All "F" 329 guys - drop William Lay a line and get a long lost Buddy to join our Association. You can do it easily.) ED.

I lived in the hopes that I could attend the Reunion in Cincinnati this year. I'll have to wait and adjust for next year we hope. I just want to thank you and all that are responsible for our THUNDERBOLT. I think it is wonderful and get a lot of comfort and joy from it.

We had a short visit with Arthur Haught and his wife last year. Agreed to have another this year but things cannot always fall in place, I guess. I might not be with you in person, but I'm with you in my heart. Say Hello to Bill Nagel and Nick Barbu for me.

Also, I have read many things in our THUNDERBOLT that I would like to ask you about, but can't for the life of me think what they are now. The THUNDERBOLT sure is nice and my grandson devours it.

Merle Akam
"D" Co. 331st. Inf.

Thank you for the many kindnesses you showed me.
Ed Weed
3 Bn. Hq. 331st. Inf.

Sorry I couldn't make the Reunion this year. Say Hello to all the guys in the 908, "A" Battery.

Frank L. Mangum

One of these fine years, I will make it to the east coast in time for a Reunion.

Hans M. Bielski
Hq. 324 F.A.

Leonard had lung cancer three years ago and was cured from but two brain tumors showed up a year ago last March and after treatments, they became active again. He is worse now and is bedfast. He has been on disability since March and would appreciate getting cards from his Buddies of the 83rd Signal. I had kidney stones removed in April and things have been pretty rough. With God's help, we'll make it.

Mrs. Leonard Hottel

Couldn't make the Reunion but hope all of you had a great time. I do enjoy reading the THUNDERBOLT. There are two other 83rds here in Nebraska and I get to see them once in awhile.

Robert Dale Beavers
"C" 329th. Inf.

Wish I could have made the Reunion. Was with the 83rd when it was formed at Camp Atterbury. Would like to hear from any of my Buddies in "A" 331st Infantry.

Gottlieb H. Reyer
Route No. 2 Box 143
Ardmore, TN 38449

A nice little old lady who attended an exhibition of modern art recently, was seen squinting at an abstract painting. Finally, she called a passing spectator who looked as though he may be knowledgeable in such matters.

"Tell me young man, what is that supposed to represent?"

"That my dear lady, is supposed to be a mother & child."

"Well then," snapped the lady, "why isn't it?"

"The buffalo is making a comeback. Who can say as much for the nickel?"

"Psychiatrists don't have to worry -- so long as others do."

SEND ME YOUR FAVORITE JOKES !!!

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER REPORT

What a great Reunion ! And what a fine turnout ! If you were unable to be there, you missed one of the best Reunions yet. We, to the man in Pittsburgh extend accolades to Manny Goodridge and to his Reunion Committee, for putting together a well organized, successful program - enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Now we have all returned home with a unforgettable memory or two; like seeing the guys from Company "A" again; or meeting Henry Whelan (Co. "E" 331) from Louisville for the first time since the war; or a stirring memory, marching together to the music of the band to the Memorial Service remembering with a Prayer, our Buddies who have passed on.

Also, we won't forget the wonderful get togethers in each others rooms, the Brewery tour and the big Banquet on Saturday.

These are memories that will linger until next year when we all hope to do it all over again in New Orleans.

At our last regular monthly meeting there were thirty men there and all voices were heard. We think this is a sure indication of a healthy Chapter. Happy to report again this year as in the past, all members attending the Reunion had their \$6.00 Dues paid in the Association and were reimbursed also \$20.00 of the Reunion registration fee from our Chapter funds. Dues were paid also for those who were not at the Reunion.

We discussed going to New Orleans by Charter Flight and possibly joining forces with the Cleveland and Warren Chapters to do this. We find that the prices can be very reasonable.

Our Christmas Party and Dinner Dance was also on the agenda. This is planned for early December and that's not far off.

News from here and there: Our sympathy to Charlie Altomari and Josephine upon the sudden death of Josephine's mother. Ezio Alicandri "D" 329th tells us he's going to have two Thanksgivings Day Dinners this year when he and wife Fran are visiting an uncle in Ontario, Canada in October for their National Holiday and then again in November at home Italian Style. Gene Costanzo "G" 331 received a nice letter from Perry Bobo of "K" 331 who attended the Reunion with his younger brother. He thanked all in the Pittsburgh Chapter for the fine hospitality they received. Was nice to see Chuck Navish of "I" 329 at the Reunion since he had some close close calls with the ol' ticker recently.

Well, that's about all for now. It may still be early but now is the time to start planning to attend the next Reunion in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Respectfully Submitted
Larry Leonardi
"A" Co. 331st. Inf.

"A" Company of the 331st was well represented at the 32nd Annual Reunion. Those present were:

Charles Hopta	Richard Ammon
William Rajotte	Charles Caven
Dave Benick	David Feig
William Bullard	Larry Leonardi
Joe Lanza	Olney Villareal
John Alley	John Stewart
Thomas Rothchild	

Do you suffer from Triskaidekaphobia? Many people do. It is a fear of the No. 13 because it is considered unlucky.

If you want a youthful figure, ask a woman her age.

Write that letter to your Buddy today, he'll appreciate it.

**32nd. ANNUAL REUNION
MEMORIAL SERVICES
83rd. INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION - WORLD WAR II**

O'Lord, on this day of our 32nd Annual Memorial Reunion Services, we Pray and remember with reverence our comrades who suffered disability and finally death, in their willingness to keep our American Flag flying. The price they paid down through the years so that decency, morality and freedom should serve as an inspiration for future generations, especially during these days when respect for our Flag and our Country is at such a low ebb. Should we openly demonstrate our gratitude in their memory, and above all, must we remember that it is the providence of God that has been the pillar and the cloud by which this great Country has been led.

(At this point, the Mayor of Cincinnati, Gerald Springer, and Ohio State Representative Fox made brief statements which are not available for this THUNDERBOLT. The Wright Patterson Air Force Band played for this occasion.)

Yes, O'Lord, we pray to you on this day, a day that we should never forget, of days that we think back, even as we grow older, of our lost comrades whom we loved as our own brothers. Yes O'Lord, we shall always remember them, who gave their lives without question, that the rest of us could live and remain free.

We Pray with bowed heads for our comrades who have gone to You O'Lord, since our last Reunion who you have summoned to Yourself. May they and we, all rise on the day of judgement to to Eternal life and rest in your Kingdom. Amen. (The names of our comrades that have gone from us in the past year were read.)

(The Band played "My Buddy.")

(The Band played "Taps" followed by the Honor Guard firing a salute to our deceased members.)

May the Lord, who is a light to lighten all men, let us depart in peace according to His word. May we be newly born in us this day, that His light may shine in us, unto all the world. Amen.

(The National President said a few words before the ceremony was ended. It was a really beautiful ceremony.)

I'm sure that everyone will agree that the Cincinnati Reunion was one of the very best ever. The Memorial Services, with the Air Force Band leading the way, was a site that none of us will ever forget. I'm sure also, that the public that attended with us at Fountain Square, were just as pleased. Many of them could not believe that the 83rd would show up in such great numbers and put on such a great show. It was strictly the pride of the 83rd that made the services such a success.

THANK YOU "KENTUCKY CHAPTER" FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK AND THE EFFORT PUT INTO THE MAKING OF THE SUCCESSFUL 32ND ANNUAL REUNION. ALL OF US APPRECIATE WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TO MAKE OUR STAY IN CINCINNATI A MOST ENJOYABLE ONE.

WE THANK YOU ONE AND ALL.

REMEMBER.....

Next year it will be our 33rd Annual Reunion and now is the time to plan on attending. August 16, 17 and 18 are the dates remember. Mark them down on your cleandar now.

SEE YOU THEN.

Dear Buddies:

Here we are into a new fiscal year 1978-'79. I slipped in not calling a deceased comrades name in our roll call. Donald V. Roth of "M" 331st Infantry was the man and I have him on our ceremony list for next year in Louisiana. We Pray as always for our deceased comrades - may their souls through the Lord's mercy always rest in peace. Amen.

We wish to thank all our Buddies and their lovely wives that helped to make our Memorial Services a success. Our thanks to Manny's son and Al Schaefer for all the T.V. and News coverage, and for all the photographs taken of all the THUNDERBOLTS. To Manny's son, thanks for all the time and effort he gave to our organization.

Jim Burton is still the greatest. He brings a tear to everyone's eye with his rendition of "My Buddy."

On Saturday evening, prior to our Banquet, Casey Kowalec of "C" 322 F.A. and Paul Hann of "I" 329 assisted Father McCartin at our Catholic Mass. Both are permitted to serve Communion as extraordinary Priests. Both are good men and we're proud of them.

Until the next issue, God Bless everyone and hope to see all of you in New Orleans.

Chaplain

John T. Piscitelli

"C" 323 F.A. Bn.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

We of the Philadelphia Chapter, once again wish to thank Manny Goodridge and Al Schaefer, Ted Ritchie and all the men and women on the Kentucky Chapter Committee, that made our 1978 Reunion such a great success. Our salutations to all of them.

We of the Phillie gang couldn't all get down to Cincinnati the same day. Aiello, Gioia, Bonafiglia, and myself, and our wives, all drove to Cincinnati on Sunday. Lou Volpi, the Belevedere's, Frederici's, Hauck and their wives all flew down during the week. Manny and Claire Lima and Bill and Bea Chavanne drove down alone due to their wives previous illnesses.

Happy to see Claire Lima and Bea Chavanne both in good spirits after their illness. We all enjoyed Cincinnati. Mike Finks, The New Orleans, The Top of the Crown and the great Sky Walk which every city should have to pep up it's center core.

Also, our Chapter members, Bill and Martha Appleby, Michael Brick and his Mrs., and quite a few other Chapter members were there. We enjoyed all tours planned by the Kentucky Committee. Our Congradulations to Manny Goodridge on his close election to his five years as Executive Board Member - a very close race between him and Bob Taylor. Both good men. Hard to choose which one to serve on the Executive Board.

Lets all get on the wagon and back "Big Mac" for another great year for a New Orleans success. Everyone that has them, send names and addresses to the Kentucky Chapter, the West Virginia Chapter and the New Orleans Chapter. Good luck. As we grow older and mellow - lets have larger attendance. Thank you.

John T. Piscitelli

"C" 323 F.A. Bn.

MORE FROM PHILADELPHIA

We are sure happy to see Frank and Mary McGrogan and Larry and Mary Redmond at the Reunion. Both Mary's were ill for awhile but both look their cherry self again. Mary was concerned about all of us that drove home. She called each of us and we thank her very much. We also appreciate Larry inviting everyone to his suite immediately after the ceremonies. Also, credos to Manny

Goodridge's son for the showing of the ceremonies in the Hospitality Room. A job well done. We know Manny is proud of his boy. Also on Saturday, our good Buddy Earl Geissler, and his wife Marie of "C" 322 F.A. had the Philly Chapter and the ladies at their suite - with his comrades from the 322. Earl is very active in Philly with Bishop John Neumann High School in all its affairs.

Saturday, August 26 in Philly, Manny "K" 331 and his wife Claire had their son happily married. Quite a few THUNDERBOLTS and wives attended Church and Dinner Reception in the evening. God Bless the newlyweds and all their parents. Enclosed are a few pictures that our friends took. I'm writing to my Buddies from "C" 323 - to send their Dues in.

Your Buddy
John T. Piscitelli



The Wright Patterson Air Force Band.



Honor Guard with our Chaplains Kowalec and John T.



Fr. McCartin and John T. showing off our Headlines.

Hello Buddies:

Here we are back home from our 32nd Annual Reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. We owe a great vote of thanks to the Kentucky Chapter for a tremendous Reunion, well handled. I dare say that this was about as fine a Reunion that any Chapter has been able to put on. To those of you who have never taken an active part on putting on a Reunion, you are not fully aware of all the hard work that it involves.

The Kentucky Chapter is like a new born child in our great Association, not that their members haven't attended Reunions, and have the chance to enjoy the fine job that other Chapters have done, but for them to take over such an ordeal without having been organized long enough to get their feet wet as a Chapter, they really did very well. This should be proof to all of us that there is never any job that is too hard to handle, so long as you have support behind you, and the Kentucky Chapter had just that.

To those of you that attended the Business Meetings, you are to be congratulated also. Everyone in attendance at these meetings conducted themselves as perfect gentlemen. The meetings went off in a real business-like manner, never once was there anyone out of the way. It was a pleasure to be able to attend such orderly meetings. Granted we did have a couple of needlers, but that was all done in fun and helped to add a little spice to the meetings so that they didn't become a drawl.

Getting back to our congratulations of the Kentucky Chapter, they put on a Parade and Memorial Service that was just out of this world. That idea of Parading to a Band was the greatest, it made us realize that we are only as old as we want to make ourselves feel. When the first beat of the Band struck up, the feet began to click and we marched as if we had just finished a period of Military marching. I am sure that if General Macon had been standing on the sidelines or in the Reviewing Stand, he would have been proud of his men. I doubt if there was as much as one man out of step. If we were to have such a Parade again at a Reunion, I wish that every Chapter would be able to have a Color Guard, it would be so nice, it would add so much to a Parade. We of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter are mighty proud of our Color Guard. I am sure the other Chapters would be also.

Well fellows, again I say it was a wonderful Reunion, and I am sure that each and everyone of you enjoyed it very much. May we all be able to attend the 33rd Annual Reunion next year in New Orleans, Louisiana. Let us all take a minute out for a silent Prayer for all the boys who left us since the Reunion, and may God Bless all who are sick and ailing and hope that with his Blessing, they may be able to be with us next year.

Larry Redmond
"H" 330th. Inf.

In the Thunderbolt of September, October, November 1977, an article on "Hams Do The Job" appeared. I am a Ham Operator and would like to contact Clarence McBride of Lynchburg, VA. I am WBZSE and have been "hamming it up" for only two years. Just as Tony Slives said, I too am wondering why so few of our 83rd Signal members have joined the Association. Dick Dudley is doing a great favor in checking addresses and forwarding them to Sam Klippa. People like this make the great Association that we have, and we can always use more help.

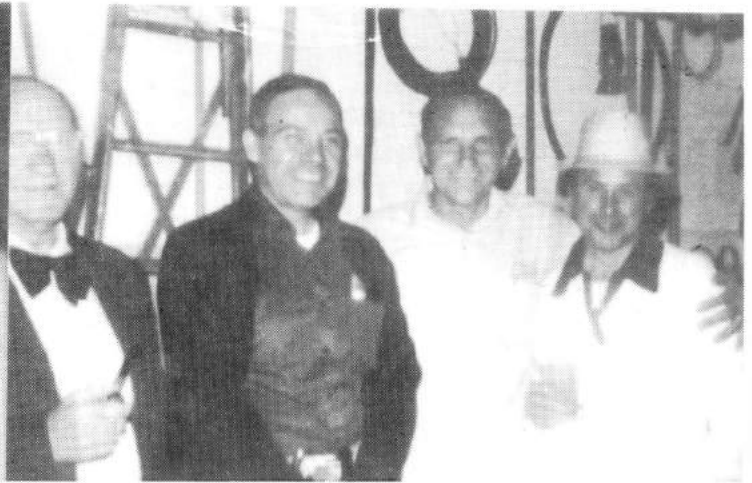
Hope you had a wonderful Reunion in Cincinnati, Signal was no doubt represented by the Winchells. People like them, ever faithful to the Association deserve a special certificate or medal, I think.

Don Hinz
83rd. Signal

(The 83rd. Signal is well represented, especially since Dick Dudley has been in touch with them.) ED.



Samuel Klippa and Curly Ruprecht



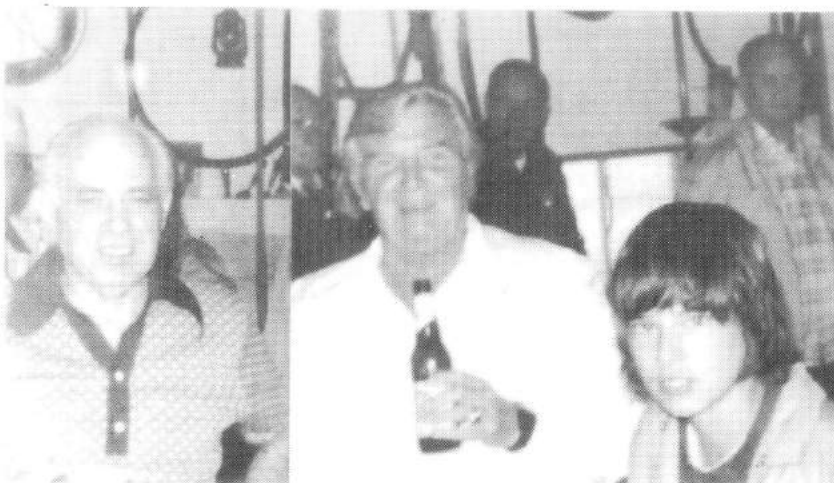
Emil Becker, Ezio Alicandri, John Marek and Lou Kanes



Sam Klippa, Dick Campbell and Curly Ruprecht.



Lawrence Leonardi and Joseph Danylo



Charles Altomari

Wilbur Campbell



Mrs. Charles Caven and Mrs. Wm. Jacobs

THE GREATER PITTSBURGH CHAPTER PICNIC

At our Business Meeting on Saturday in Cincinnati, James (Buck) Taylor gave a little speech on Patriotism of the 83rd Infantry Div. Assoc. and what a great feeling it was to him. He was in Hq. 323 F.A. Buck Taylor served 34 years in the Service of our great Country. He stated: "That a lot of Service men and women feel that the public has deserted them and that no one cares for them." He said: "That if they could see and hear the THUNDERBOLTS of the 83rd at our Meetings, they'd know we're behind our Servicrs 100% - our thanks to Buck Taylor - a great soldier."

I wish to thank all men of "C" 323 F.A. that helped our deceased Buddy Phil Remillard - who died on August 2, 1978 - to get his Disability that he had coming to him. Phil was in great pain and suffering for many years prior to passing away. His wife Ginger and family thank everyone for their Mass Cards and Prayers. God Bless them.

John T. Piscitelli

I hope the Cincinnati Reunion was a huge success. My next Reunion will be in 1980 since I will be working here in Tehran until November 1979 to finish my 27 month contract.

One thing that I really look forward to receiving is the 83rd THUNDERBOLT. It's like a touch of home. When I receive it at "Mail Call" I immediately stop whatever I am doing and scan through it. Then, when I get home to the apartment, I read it from cover to cover. Keep it coming. Say Hello to Joe DeLuca for me. Christian C. Heine
Hq. Divarty.

Hope you had a successful Reunion. We hope to make it next year.
Joe Petrucci
Cn. 330th. Inf.

I noticed in the Pittsburgh Press that the 83rd was having a Reunion. I was never informed about the 83rd. I was an original in the 323rd F.A. Never attended a Reunion but am interested.
Walter J. Matters
323rd F.A. Bn.

I just want to thank all that are responsible for the THUNDERBOLT. I think it is wonderful and get a lot of comfort and joy from it. We had a short visit with Arthur Haught and his wife last year. I agreed to have another this year but things don't always fall into place, I guess. I may not be with you in person, but I'm with you in my heart. Say Hello to Bill Nagel and Nick Barbu for me.
Merle Akam
"D" 331st. Inf.

Thank you for the many kindnesses you showed me.
Ed Weed
3 Bn. Hq. 331

Say Hello to all the 908th F.A. for me. Sorry we couldn't be at the Reunion with you.

Frank L. Mangum
"A" 908 F.A.

Leonard had Lung Cancer and was cured of that but two Brain Tumors showed up a year ago. He is getting worse now and is bedfast. Has been on Disability since March. Would appreciate getting Cards from his Buddies in the 83rd Signal. Things have been rough but with Gods help we will make it.
Mrs. Leonard Hottel
83rd Signal

(Get out those Pens guys and cheer up a Buddy.)

DECEASED

George Gabel reported that Larry Munch of "C" 330th passed away several years ago. We are sorry that no one had reported this sooner.

I won't be paying the Dues of James Motley anymore. He died on February 4, 1978 in Cape May, NJ. He must have been one of the oldest members we had as he was in World War I and was overseas. Will his wife Kathryn still get the THUNDERBOLT free?

Vernon Callihan
"L" 329th Inf.

(John W. Miller sent me the same report.)

Ody Coffey reported that Eddie Stein of "B" 308 Eng. passed away after a long illness with cancer. No other details were available. ED.

(The Record Herald carried this write-up about our own Bill Shuman. The paper is done in Waynesboro, PA. The clipping was sent to me by Charles B. Stine, Sr. who was drafted at the same time as Bill and they were the best of friends. John Piscitelli sent me another article from the Philadelphia Inquirer.)

REP. 'BILL' SHUMAN IS DEAD AT 57

Rep. William O. Shuman, serving his seventh term in the House of Representatives from the 90th Legislative District died Wednesday evening in Miami, Florida of an apparent heart attack. He was born July 23, 1921.

He was a member of the House Military Affairs Committee, secretary of the Agricultural and Rural Affairs committee and a member of the Fish and Game Commission.

Shuman was in the U.S. Army as a artillery sergeant for 38 months during World War II, 21 of which were in combat. He held the Bronze Star Medal and five battle stars for service in the European Theater. He was chaplain of the 83rd Inf. Division Association; a member and chaplain of the Harry D. Ziegler Post 6319 VFW and the Frank L. Garbaugh Post 373 American Legion, both of Greencastle.

He was active in numerous other organizations, which kept him quite busy all the time. He is survived by three sisters, Mrs. Isabelle M. Dorer, Mrs. Anita G. Cunningham and Mrs. Suzanne F. Hartman, all of Greencastle, and one brother Joseph M. Shuman of Wilmington, Delaware.

Bill Shuman's death was a shock to everyone that knew him and I'm sure there are a lot of 83rders who are also shocked by this news. He was a member in good standing for as long as I could remember in our Association. We will all miss him very much. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Your Editor

More about Shuman from the Philly paper - Shuman was a Democrat, was known for his fight to keep school spending to a minimum. He was an opponent of tax increases and government spending. He was seeking his eighth term in the November general Election. He was once Editor of the Echo-Pilot, a weekly news paper.

God rest the souls of all our deceased Buddies.
May they rest in peace always and forever.

Those of us that are living, should try harder to get to see our Buddies while we still have time. Like Jim Bowie always says: It's later than we think.



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Whereas, the 83rd Infantry Division, together with many others of the Free World, engaged in combat against the Nazi War Machine which was personified by the Arch Criminal Adolph Hitler, and symbolized by the Nazi Emblem, and

Whereas, an avowed purpose of Hitler and his henchmen was the elimination of all non-aryans, including all jews, and

Whereas, we members of the 83rd Infantry Division saw many of our comrades-in-arms die and many others maimed for life as a result of the anticism exemplified by the Nazi Symbol, and

Whereas, recently this hated symbol has more and more frequently been used in the United States by hate groups in an attempt to intimidate those of us dedicated to Liberty under law, and

Whereas, these hate groups mis-use the 1st Amendment to the United States Constitution for their subversive purpose as an excuse for their psychological Warfare and this cheapens those principles for which we and our friends fought, bled and died.

Now, therefore, it is here resolved by the 83rd Infantry Division Association Inc., assembled this 19th day of August 1978, that the use of the Nazi Symbol or emblem and what it stands for is not included in the protection afforded by the 1st Amendment and shall be outlawed for use in public places in the United States.

Be it further resolved, that we call on the Congress of the United States and the governing authorities of the several states to provide appropriate Civil and Criminal penalties against individuals or groups of individuals who display the Nazi Emblem or symbol in any public place and call upon the courts of the land to recognize the rights of citizens to be free of the attempted psychological intimidations by upholding such Civil or Criminal penalties

Be it further resolved, that the Secretary of this Association shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the President, Secretary of the United States Senate, Secretary of the United States House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and to each of the major News Media in the United States.

Unanimously Adopted

President

Joseph L. A. Macaluso
President

Attested

Samuel Klippa
Secretary-Treasurer

William M. Boty Judge Advocate

Members of the Executive Board

Mike Skorman

Robert H. Fagles

Pat Di Giannmarino

Louis J. Napoli

B. O. Riedel

24 *Marvin L. Goodridge*

**'Thunderbolt Across Europe'
ORDER FORM**

Please send _____ copies @ \$8.50 each to :

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____

Enclosed find my check or money order in the
amount of \$ _____

SIGNATURE

Make checks payable to:

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASS'N., INC.

Mail to: SAMUEL KLIPPA, 1500 MUTUAL STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA., 15204

"DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE FOR NEXT YEAR, IF YOU LIKE BEING EARLY."

DO YOUR SHARE TO HELP US GROW, SIGN UP A BUDDY TODAY.

KEEP UP TO DATE ON ALL THE NEWS IN THE THUNDERBOLT.

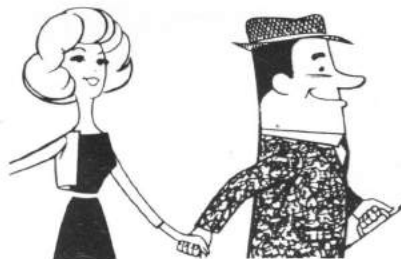
A limited supply of Bolo Ties for the men, and Pendants for the ladies are still available. Send \$4.00 for each to this
Office and they will be mailed to you the same day your order arrives. First come, first served.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!!!!

CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR CARDS!!!!

achtung!

PAY YOUR 1978 DUES
OL' BUDDY...thanks



**WE'RE
MOVING**

OUR NEW

ADDRESS IS..

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.

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