

THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

VOL. 31 - NO. 4

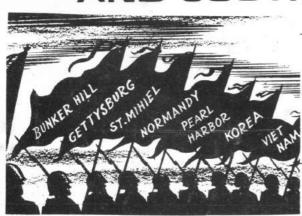
JUNE JULY AUG. 1976







I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
TO THE FLAG OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND TO THE REPUBLIC
FOR WHICH IT STANDS,
ONE NATION UNDER GOD,
INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY
AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.



"WE FOUGHT

FOR OUR

FREEDOM"



THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

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

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS

Who Have Served Us Well

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			

[•] Deceased

EXECUTIVE BOARD CORNER

Well, here we are with the last issue of the Thunderbolt for this year. This is also my last Report as an Officer of the Association. The years slip by quickly and now it is time for someone else to take over.

This has been a hectic year for me, being the Chairman of the Board and having the extra duty of receiving the money for the ADS and coordination of the Reunion, with Bob Taylor, Doc Keeler and the rest of the Board. It has been difficult at times because of the communication problem, but everything is falling in place and we will have a good Reunion. We will show that the Board can put on a Reunion successfully if the need arises.

Through the efforts of a lot of men, we are back over the 1,000 Members, many did not realize that they had not paid their Dues. Quite a few did not know about the Association and were anxious to get on the Band Wagon. The Thunderbolt as constituted now makes for very interesting reading, especially for those who do not belong to a Chapter. Sam is doing an excellent job on it and I wish to add my commendation to the many that are appearing in the Thunderbolt.

Since I was elected as the President in 1970 then to the Board in 1971, many things have been done to improve the operation of the Association. The Board now exercizes more control over the duties and functions of all Officers of the Association. This is the prime duty of the Executive Board of any successful Organization, and its main function is to do things that are in the best interest of its Members.

Many things were taken into consideration when we were planning the Reunion. The prices the Hotel charges for a Cocktail Party were exorbitant. The Hotel is situated on the outskirts of Orlando, therefore Restaurants are some distance away. We felt that this would create a problem especially for those who fly in. It therefore was decided to have a Sit-Down-Dinner on both Friday and Saturday, Beer Party on Thursday and of course, Dancing onall days. There is a Liquor Store in the Hotel Complex, and Liquor can be purchased at reasonable prices, and of course we have the Hospitality Room for some socializing.

Now that my years of service are coming to an end I wish to Thank my wife Eleanor, daughter Barbara and son Michael for all the help they have given me, without their support it would have been impossible. I also wish to Thank the men and women of the Cleveland Chapter for their counciling and support, a great group.

I was proud to have served with the 83rd during the War and proud to have served as an Officer of the Association. The spirit of both is without equal. To all my friends in the 83rd:

> THANKS CASEY SZUBSKI - CHAIRMAN

CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Hello Buddies:

Everything is rolling right along here in Cleveland, so far everyone is feeling up to snuff, and that's the kind of news one likes to report.

It is getting so close to Reunion time that it's hard to believe August is so near.

Received the Thunderbolt today and sure am surprised to see Frank Albano and Mort Goldman in the fold. I wrote to both of the guys, Albano in particular and received no answer, this is going back to the Philly Reunion, still it s good to have them aboard.

Here in Cleveland, Earl Lindsey is burning up fairways every Sunday, and me, I'm doing well in the fishing department. Chester Czech is sporting a new set of China Clippers and Eleanor Szubski is doing fine also after her bout with the pentist. Bob Uher is looking very svelte these days, losing some fifty pounds, (watch Bob go on the Dance floor now.)

Our May Meeting was hosted by Casey and Laura Kowalec and a good time it was. Casey did the cooking of the hamburgers, (in between the rains) and prior to that about five pounds of Polish Kishka was consumed along with the ever present liquids. Casey Kowalec is looking fit again and Laura is doing fine once again after some leg surgery, she had her legs stripped, whatever that means, and that's the way I heard it, no more comment.

Cleveland is starting our combined Picnics and Meetings for the summer months. June, of course, starts us off this year.

Al Klugiewicz is recuperating after surgery, haven't heard much except that he was operated on for Prostrate troubles. We wish Al a speedy recovery and hope to see him and Eleanor at our Picnics this summer. Al is our newest member.

Decoration Day is just around the corner and we are planning to pay our respects by participating in the Parade, hope we have a good turn-out, it would be nice, this being our Bi-centennial year.

I am working on another 83rd man, just have to catch him feeling a bit bubbly, then nail him down for six bucks or I won't let him read my T-Bolt.

Hope to see you all in Orlando, Florida in August.

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

P.S. Enclosed please find Dues for Mr. Joseph along with an Article he wants in the Thunderbolt. He also gave me a check for \$12.50 for an AD in the Reunion Program Book which I forwarded to Casey Szubski. There is also an Article taken from our neighborhood news paper. Thank you much.

Al Uridel

83rd. INFANTRY DIVISION MAN HONORED IN CLEVELAND A Bronze Plaque was awarded to Anthony J. Joseph in recognition and sincere appreciation for dynamic leadership, personal dedication, and total commitment to and for the Disabled American Veterans, and for devoted service to all Veterans, especially in the Greater Cleveland Community.

Presented Saturday, the twenty-second day of May 1976 at the Golden Anniversary Celebration by the Disabled American Veterans Cuyahoga Chapter #7.

DAV SERVICE AWARD GIVEN

During the Golden Anniversary Banquet, celebration by Cuyahoga Chapter #7, Disabled American Veterans, last Saturday, May 22nd., at the Hollenden House Hotel, Anthony Joseph Commander of Chapter #7, received a beautiful Bronze Plaque for his outstanding service to the DAV Chapter. Also, a signed Proclamation by the Mayor of Cleveland, Ralph J. Perk, was presented to the Chapter on the occasion by Chester Koch, coordinator for Veterans Affairs, and councilman Joseph M. Kowalski, in behalf of Cleveland City Council. Principal Speaker during the Banquet was James R. Priest, Commander Dept., of Ohio. Paul Dzeiak was Chairman. Dancing followed the Banquet to the music of Sheldon Hendershott.

(I'M sure that everyone in the 83rd Infantry is proud of our Buddy Anthony Joseph and wish him even more success in his service to the DAV.) ED.

THE NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

Here it is, the last Thunderbolt before Reunion time.

Time goes fast, but when it brings us together quicker, you don't mind.

This has been a busy winter, with lots of traveling.

In April, my Buddy Don Thiebolt, his wife, my wife and I went to Oklahoma City, to bowl in the American Bowling Congress. We didn't do as well as we had hoped, but did get a few bucks, and really had a swell time together. On the way home we stopped in Memphis, Tennessee to see Leo Schneider and his sweet wife. Didn't see Shirley, but did see Leo and he rolled out the Red Carpet for us. Took us to Dinner and then to his place of business for a tour. Was sure interesting, and we had a great time. Thanks again, Leo, sorry we didn't see Shirley, but we'll see her in Disney World.

Sure wish we were going on the trip to Europe with the gang, but maybe next time. I have been looking forward for a trip like that but something else always comes up at the time.

Stan and I are still playing a lot of golf lately and that is sure one way to relax and have a good time. Wish some of the other boys would get interested in the sport, we could have a Ball together. Score doesn't mean everything.

Hope Casey is feeling well again and raring to go again.

Well gang, don't know what else to write about but hope to see you all soon. Take care and those on the trip, have a Ball.

DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS

Hi Buddies:

The Dixie Chapter is still going strong. We had a meeting in March in Columbia, SC and had a good turnout. A few members live near Columbia and make these meetings, if not the others, but we have to keep moving around in North and South Carolina with our meetings to try our best to be fair to all. We have some members who make the meetings anywhere they are but I won't try to name them for there are quite a few of them.

Our next meeting was in Statesville, NC on May, 15th with a turnout of over sixty and we were sure pleased with this crowd. Our average meeting is between forty and fifty, which isn't bad for a bunch that is spread all over the south. We had bad news from the Winston Salem members of a very sick member Ralph E. Moore, Route #4, Box 129, Reidsville, NC 27320, who is in the hospital in critical condition. Ralph is a Sergeant-at-arms of the National Assoc. and is a true 83rd man. I have known him to get out of the hospital on Thursday and have someone drive him 150 miles to a meeting on Saturday. Ralph has the Dixie Chapter praying for him and we all missed him at the meeting in Statesville.

Keith Echerd was in charge of setting up our meeting in Statesville with some help from the NC members and did a swell job. He also went a lot of miles out of his way on Sunday to lead me to Ferguson, NC to see Glen Ray Walsh who was in 'L' Co. 330th. It was a pleasure to see Glen after all these years; the last time was in 1945. He has a store there and drove in after we arrived and that grin would have told me who he was if I hadn't known. Funny how one thing will stick with you through the years. I hope Glen will make an effort to make our meetings, as he is a member of our Chapter, plus the National Association. Glen, I know you can find someone to take care of the store for a few days and make the Reunion in Orlando, Florida. It was a read pleasure seeing you after all these years and hope to see you soon at the meetings.

Keith Echerd, Co. 'G' 329th Inf., went a lot of miles to take me on this trip to see Glen and I saw parts of NC I never would have seen. It was really lovely country and he took me all the way back to Expressway 40 which put him 45 miles from home. Thanks Keith, no one could ask for a better friend and Buddy.

Our next meeting will be an outing at Buck and Mary Muldrow's cottage home on the lake out of Greenville, SC. I am looking forward to this as it's always a pleasure to be with them. The meeting will be June 12th and we are looking for a good crowd for this one.

Billie said Hello to everyone and we are looking forward to Orlando in August.

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

GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

At our Spring Hop, the Philadelphia Chapter ran a Square Dance at St. Margarets Church Hall in Narberth, PA. Our Square Dance Caller was our good friend Bill Appleby - 783rd. Ordinance, and through the good Father Gleason Monsignor of the Parish, and Bill Appleby, a great time was had by all present. The affair was catered by our old Buddie, Lou Volpi, 'A' 324 F.A. God Bless them one and all for their good work.

In April - all Square Dancers of the Greater Philadelphia area drove up to Dublin, Pa. in Montgomery County, for the wedding of Sheryl Appleby the daughter of Bill and Martha, to Don Perkins, son of Tom and Dot. After the wedding, all headed for the Dublin Hall for a real Hoe Down - Bless the newly weds in their new life ahead together

Also in April, our Chapter had a Hoagie Nite for Members and Guests. Happy to see our old Buddies Art and Selma Federicci again. Art served with 'H' 329.

In celebrating Mothers Day, a great portion of our Chapter men escorted their wives to Zabrerers of Atlantic City, NJ for a wonderful Seafood Dinner. Then, all took a stroll on the famed Atlantic City Board Walk, which was enjoyed by all.

31st May. Memorial Day. The Greater Philadelphia Chapter led the Parade in Narberth, PA with our own Float, theme - Liberty and Freedom. The Float was carrying a Liberty Bell, sprayed with gilded gold. The bell was built by Denney Getsie, Buddy of Bill Hoolan and Lou Volpi. They worked on it many hours to make our part in the Parade a success. Again, our Chapter had the honor of leading the Parade with our Color Guard and Firing Squad. Lou Volpi designed the Float and was assisted by Al Belvedere, Bill Chavanne, John Piscitelli and Little Moe, a good man that did a great amount of work, helped to make our day a success.

It's wonderful and makes our heart feel full of joy that the 83rd is well known throughout our area, due to Parades and Outings and other affairs. God Bless one and all that participated.

John Piscitelli ''C'' 323 F.A.

P.S. Ran into Bill and Pam Skerbetz last weekend. He sends his regards to Pat DiGiammerino, Tiny Maser and Charlie Anello, all of Serv. Btry. 323 F.A.

CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE

To our Comrades, the following deceased men,

that we've been notified of their passing on since our last Thunderbolt Issue. May the good Lord keep them under His care even to the end of time. Amen.

May their souls always rest in peace. Amen.

Joseph Stort - Hq. 324 F.A.

Franklin K. Kitzelman - Hq. 83rd. Inf. Div.

Mitch Evanick - "E" 329th. Inf.

James J. Jones - "G" 331st. Inf.

Fred Melborn - "M" 329th. Inf.

Steve Benson - "E" 331st. Inf.

Frederick Fisher - "B" 308 Eng.

These men will be sadly missed by all their Buddies. Franklin, although not an Active Member in his absense he was always in touch with our Phila. Chapter by mail or phone. Joe Stort was a personal S. Philadelphia friend of mine. May the good Lord keep them all. Amen.

The following Prayer was read by your National Chaplain, honoring all our deceased Comrades of our 83rd. Division and all Veterans of our great Country at our Memorial Day Parade in Narberth, PA.

Lord. We here today Pray for our deceased Comrades, in times past when courage was needed you Blessed us. Men offered their lives and did not doubt it was good. We thank You for their courage, and commend them to Your kindness. O'Lord help us to always remember our Comrades, not just for Parades and Ceremonies, but throughout our lives. We will always love our God, our Country and our Flag. It's good to remember, it renews our feelings of Patriotism and Devotions to each other, our families, our friends and our neighbors, even until our last days on earth. Amen.

John Piscitelli ''C'' 323 F.A.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Again, the Greater Philadelphia Chapter has done it!

We were in a Parade on Memorial Day in Narberth, Pennsylvania, which is Lou Volpi's home town - a suburb of Philadelphia. Not only were we in the Parade, but we were the 'Honor Guard', and we led the Parade which consisted of ten City blocks.

Lou Volpi went all out this year. He hired a tractor-trailer and the men of the Chapter decorated it and this was the 83rd Float in the Parade. You will see some pictures of it in this Issue.

After the Parade, we all returned to Lou's place and he and Lucy, his wife, as usual, set out a beautiful set-up for all our Chapter members and their wives. Naturally, our wives worked with Lucy as close as possible to make the affair what it was. There was more food than an Army could do away with and everyone got tired bending their elbows at the refreshment bar.

John Piscitelli again, was the Chaplain and as usual did a wonderful job. I still say the Philadelphia Chapter is not the oldest but the greatest in the Association for Brotherhood and Friendship.

I will close this little Article by saying - May God Bless all - and hope to see all in Orlando, Florida.

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







BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS

Hi Buddies:

This will be the last writing before the Reunion and the year has passed quickly. It seems like yesterday that we were in South Carolina.

We were very fortunate to have so many 83rders in Florida doing such a fine job getting things rolling for us at Reunion Headquarters. Dr. Keeler, Chairman and Bob Taylor explained it well in the last issue of the Thunderbolt.

In Boston we have been quite active. Pat DiGiammerino had a meeting in Malden, Mass. along with a cookout. Ginny did a wonderful job getting out the chow. This affair was on June 5th and lasted into the late hours. Ginny says, come early and go home late. Lucien Elie comes early and goes home fast. Ha! Ha! Pat showed some movies of past Reunions. Some of us should be in Hollywood after viewing the movies.

Gary DiGiammerino was married May 8th. June Coakley was the lucky girl. The reception was held at the Revlin Plaza, Malden, Mass. Gary and June went to Florida on their Honeymoon.

Nick and Mary Francullo have been busy in Lynn, Mass. Young Nick's wife had a baby girl and their oldest daughter is expecting a baby in September.

Terry Francullo is getting married in September so the Francullo family is a busy family.

John Donahue has been sick after another Operation and will not make the Reunion this year. We hope John gets well quick.

Mike Caprio's wife Vera's broken elbow is coming along fine. Their son Joe purchased a beautiful home in New York a few months back. We wish Joe and Pat Caprio lots of luck in their new home.

I hope all the Cleveland boys are back in the best of health again.

In the last issue of the Thunderbolt it was mentioned about my column being late. Well, after reading Jim Bowie's news from New Jersey enough was said. Jim you always did a good job.

That's all from Boston for now.

Amby Tynan
Boston Reporter

REMINDERS

AUGUST 19, 20, AND 21, 1976 ---- REUNION SEPTEMBER 10, 1976 ---- THUNDERBOLT DEADLINE

DID YOU SEND IN YOUR ADS TO CASEY SZUBSKI?' IF YOU ARE NOT PLANNING TO ATTEND THE REUNION, - YOU CAN SEND YOUR DUES TO ME NOW.

HOW ABOUT YOUR RESERVATIONS? DID YOU MAKE THEM?

IF YOU MOVE - SEND YOUR NEW ADDRESS TO ME.

WE ARE OVER THE THOUSAND MARK AGAIN!!!!

Hi 323rders:

Just a few lines to let you know I am still active.

I spent a day with George Polites a while back. George was having a bad time with his health and as a result had to retire. He seems to be doing better now.

Romeo Maynard was at the Boston Chapter meeting. Romeo and myself really talk a lot about old Headquarters Battery.

Erwin Erhardt wrote me a letter and everything is going fine in his home.

John Turkett has not been doing so well. We hope John will be doing better when he receives this issue of the Thunderbolt.

Jim O'Connell, Bill Shaner, Ed McCouch, Don St. John and their wives met in Willow Grove, PA around the 23rd. A good time was had by all. If I left anyone out, I'm sorry. I tried to make this trip myself, but had other committments.

I was very happy to see Cardinal John Piscitelli Column in this issue of the Thunderbolt. We look forward to John's guidance.

Walt Harding will be looking for all the 323rd F.A. Bn. in Florida in August.

Enjoy your summer vacation and I hope to see you all at the Reunion.

Amby Tynan 323 F.A. Bn.

In recent years, many of our Units have been getting together on a small scale Reunion, just for the sake of becoming closer knit as a Unit, not on the large scale such as the National Reunion. From what I can see of these affairs, it is going to help our Association grow because the friendliness is spreading out to the guys that were never interested in the big affairs but with this sort of affairs, I am sure that a lot of the Stay-Aways will be joining the Association.

On Derby Day week-end, I joined the members of my Company down in Kentucky for a big get-together. We really had ourselves a Ball. Went to the Governor of Kentucky - Derby Day Breakfast at the apitol, got to shake hands with the Governor and his wife, took pictures with them, shook hands with the state Senator and met a lot of fine Kentuckians. What made the whole week-end just perfect, was the fact that my horse came in first. Everybody said that there wasn't a horse living that could beat Honest Pleasure. Ha! Ha!

While down there, I went to Louisville, KY and met with an McCarthy and we went to three Hotels to see what was available for our Reunion in 1978. They have several good Hotels and there was one that was just perfect for us. The selection will come from Dan and the Committee that he has working with him.

A list of names and addresses was sent to Dan to possibly get a Chapter going down that way or

atleast to get enough people to work with him. I'm sure that he will have no problems because there have been many volunteers already. Ritchie and Tom Hensley of Lexington, who joined us in our affair set up a Dinner ight in Lexington for us that turned out just great. It was one of the best of the Restaurants in Lexington.

Come on you guys in that area, contact Dan and help him to get that Chapter going. It sure would be nice of you to show the rest of the Association the kind of hospitality that the Kentuckians dish out.

The following photos were given to me by Johnny Caruso of the Pittsburgh Chapter, who went down with George Komlos, Andrew Churpak and myself. Others in the group were R.C. Hamilton (he made the arrangements for all of us), Allison Shrawder, Ralph Gunderson, Tom Hensley and Theodore Ritchie.

Mrs. Gunderson, Mrs Hamilton and Mrs. Shrawder were amongst us along with a group of guests brought in by the Hamiltons.

My only hope is that the other Companies enjoy themselves as much as we did. My understanding is that 'G' 331st. Inf. will meet in July here in Pittsburgh, 'K' 331st. Inf. is still in the planning and 'I' 331st. Inf. has been doing this for years.

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



Left to right:

Samuel Klippa, Mrs. Shrawder, Allison Shrawder, Mrs. Hamilton, R.C. Hamilton (future Governor of the State of Kentucky), Mrs. Gunderson and Ralph (future Floridian) Gunderson.

In the background is the Capitol Building.

It can be said that Kentucky is really one of our most beautiful states..

I'm sure that everyone of us will enjoy having the 1978 Reunion there.



Left to right:

A guest from Marion, KY, Andrew Churpak, Tom Hensley, Samuel Klippa, and Ted Ritchie. In front:

Ralph Gunderson and George Komlos.

Here is a photo that was sent to me by Frank Spowart of St. Marys, PA. He wanted to give it to me personally when he was in Pittsburgh one day, but I was away and we could not get together. Frank was with "A" Battery of the 324th. F.A.

I don't think this shot was ever printed.

ED.



MICHIGAN CHAPTER

I too am a member of the Michigan Chapter and was trully sorry to hear of Steve Bensons death, or any other death due to guns or by other means. The assumption of our Chapter Reporter that all the members of the Michigan Chapter are of the same

opinion regarding guns is certainly not true. As he stated, the man who committed the crime was a six time convicted felon. Taking away all guns, if that was possible, will not stop this type of man from having a gun. I believe in stiffer laws and enforcing them and harsher convictions for a crime committed with a gun, rather than the extremes advocated.

Bruce Winchell 83rd Sig. Co.

Dear Buddy:

Just a line to get a little information about the 83rd Reunion as I haven't heard from anyone in many years. I happened to see your note in the Legion Magazine.

I would like more information on when and where the Big Event is to be held. Don't know whether I can make it this year or not, but would like to be on the mailing list and keep in touch. What are the Dues and how often do they hold a Reunion?

Would also like any addresses you have of any Members of 'G' 330th Inf. as I served with them for several months.

Sincerely Oval H. Potts

Hi Sam:

Been writing to you for six weeks now and finally getting to it.

Feeling good but busier than a one armed paper hanger with the mechanized dandruff. Health is great, hoping yours is the same.

Just wanted to tell you that Henry Trzeciak had open heart surgery, and is doing fine.

I'm still flipping a coin on the Reunion, but it doesn't look as if I'll make this one.

God Bless Casey Kowalec

(It was really great to hear from Casey and to know that he is feeling better. I know a lot of the boys will be glad to read this one.) ED.

Dear Sam:

Enclosed is my check 1976-77 Dues. Wishing you all the luck in the world in reaching your goal of 1000 paid up members. Speaking of goals this is one problem our stumbling Green Bay Packers had trouble finding last season.

Clem Stemplewski

FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS

(con't. from Vol. 31 # 2)

VA IS-1 Fact Sheet January 1, 1975

HOSPITALIZATION ALL VETERANS

ELIGIBILITY - GENERAL

Discharge or release from the Active Military service under conditions other than dishonorable.

GENERAL ADMISSION PRIORITIES:

FIRST- Veterans needing hospitalization because of injuries or disease incurred or aggravated in line of duty in Active Service have top priority for admission for treatment of the service-incurred or service-connected disability.

SECOND -Veterans who were discharged or retired for disability incurred or aggravated in line of duty or who are receiving Compensation, or would be eligible to receive Compensation, except for receipt of Retirement pay, who need treatment for some ailment not connected with their service, will be admitted as beds are available.

THIRD- Veterans who were not discharged or retired for disability and who apply for treatment of non-service-connected disability may be admitted to a VA Hospital (1) if hospitalization is deemed necessary (2) if they state under oath that they are unable to defray the cost of the necessary hospital charges elsewhere and (3) if beds are available. NOTE: The 'Ability to Pay' requirement does not apply to any Veteran who is 65 years of age or older or is in receipt of VA Pension.

PREHOSPITAL CARE AND POSTHOSPITAL CARE

The VA may provide certain outpatient medical services to prepare a veteran for hospital care and to complete treatment for a veteran who has been furnished hospital care.

AMBULATORY CARE

Ambulatory care may be furnished to veterans who are eligible for VA hospital care and who do not otherwise have entitlement to outpatient care providing the following conditions exist: An application is made for medical care and a medical determination indicates that hospital care is reasonably necessary, but might be avoided by providing ambulatory care, or hospitalization would become necessary in the immediate future, if the condition remained untreated.

WHERE TO APPLY

Any VA Medical Facility.

MEDICAL CARE FOR DEPENDENTS OR SURVIVORS

Public Law 93-82 authorizes the VA to provide medical care for the wife or child of the veteran who has a total disability, permanent in nature, resulting from service-connected disability, and the widow or child of a veteran who has died of a service-connected disability, provided they do not have entitlement to care under CHAMPUS or Medicare. Normally, this care will be provided in non-VA facilities under the CHAMPVA program. VA facilities however, may be utilized for specialized treatment when (1) they are uniquely equipped to provide the most effective care and (2) use of these facilities does not interfere with the care and treatment of veterans.

WHERE TO APPLY

Any VA facility.

NURSING HOME CARE FOR VETERANS WITH ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

PURPOSE

To provide skilled nursing care and related medical care in VA or private nursing homes for convalescents or persons who are not acutely ill and not in need of hospital care.

ELIGIBILITY

For admission or transfer to VA Nursing Home Care Units, it is essentially the same as for hospitalization. Direct admission to private nursing homes at VA expense is limitted to (1) Veterans who require nursing care for service-connected disability after medical determination by the VA, and (2) any person in an Armed Forces Hospital who requires a protracted period of nursing care and who will become a veteran upon discharge from the Armed Forces. VA may transfer hospitalized veterans who need a protracted period of nursing care to a private nursing home at VA expense. Normally VA authorized care may not be provided in excess of six months except for veterans who require such care for service-connected or adjunct disability.

GENERAL ADMISSION PRIORITIES:

Veterans in need of care in a VA Nursing Home Care Unit may be admitted or transferred according to the following priorities:

FIRST- Veterans receiving hospital or domiciliary care in VA facilities when transfer is required for service-connected or adjunct disabilities and persons being furnished care in Armed Forces hospitals who will require a protracted period of nursing home care upon release therefrom, and will become veterans on discharge from active military service.

SECOND Veterans not hospitalized or domiciled by VA who require nursing home care for serviceconnected or adjunct disabilities. THIRD- Veterans receiving hospital or domiciliary care in VA facilities whose transfer is required for non-service-connected disabilities.

Fourth - Veterans not hospitalized or domiciled by VA who require nursing home care for non-serviceconnected disabilities.

WHERE TO APPLY Any VA Office.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT ALL VETERANS

ELIGIBILITY - GENERAL

Discharge or release from Active Military Service under conditions other than dishonorable. After hospitalization, veterans who receive treatment for alcohol or drug dependence may become eligible for follow-up outpatient care.

WHERE TO APPLY

Patients may be admitted to any VA hospital for inpatient care. However, there are specialized VA alcoholism treatment units and drug dependence treatment facilities for inpatient and/or outpatient care in the following cities.

(There are so many on the list, both for drug dependence and alcoholism that it would be better to check with the local VA in your area. ED.)

DOMICILIARY CARE

FOR VETERANS OF THE ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICES WHO HAVE A PERMANENT DISABILITY; FOR VETERANS OF ANY WAR OR OF SERVICE AFTER JANUARY 31, 1955

PURPOSE

To provide care on an ambulatory self-care basis for veterans disabled by age or disease who are not in need of acute hospitalization and who do not need the skilled nursing services provided in a nursing home.

ELIGIBILITY

Veterans of the Active Military Services who were discharged for a disability or are in receipt of disability compensation and suffering from a permanent disability, have no adequate means of support, are incapacitated from earning a living and meet certain requirements. War Veterans veterans with service after January 31, 1955, must have disabilities that incapacitate them from earning a living, but not so severe as to require hospitalization, must be unable to defray the expense of domiciliary care and meet certain other requirements for residence in a domiciliary.

TRANSPORTATION

As a rule, transportation to a domiciliary at Government expense is provided only for the initial admission.

WHERE TO APPLY

At any VA office. Prior approval needed for admission.

OUTPATIENT MEDICAL TREATMENT ALL VETERANS

ELIGIBILITY

The veterans must have been discharged or retired under conditions other than dishonorable, (check with your local VA for interpretation) and be in need of treatment for disability incurred or aggravated in service.

Veterans who are more than 80% disabled because of service-connected disabilities, those receiving aid and attendance or house bound allowances, Spanish-American War Veterans, and disabled veterans training under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act to the extent necessary to continue their training, are entitled to outpatient treatment.

Eligible veterans may be furnished drugs or medicine ordered on prescription.

WHERE TO APPLY

Any VA Office.

OUTPATIENT DENTAL TREATMENT ALL VETERANS

ELIGIBILITY

Generally the same as for outpatient treatment above except for the following:

Application Conditions:

- 1. Those whose dental conditions or disabilities are service-connected and compensable in degree may apply at any time.
- 2. Those whose dental conditions or disabilities are service-connected but not compensable in degree, and which are shown to have been in existance at the time of discharge or release from Active Service must apply to VA for outpatient dental care for service-connected dental condition within 1 year after discharge or release. The one year is extended in certain cases.
- 3. Those with service-connected noncompensable dental conditions resulting from combat wounds or service injuries, former prisoners of war with service-connected noncompensable dental conditions, and those whose nonservice-connected dental conditions are found by the VA to be directly related to or aggravating a service-connected condition, may apply at any time.
- 4. Disabled veterans training under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act and Spanish American War Veterans who need dental treatment may apply for this type of treatment as needed.

WHERE TO APPLY Any VA Office.

PROSTHETIC APPLIANCES FOR VETERANS WITH ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

ELIGIBILITY

Veterans must meet the basic requirement for outpatient medical treatment or be receiving hospital or domiciliary care, and be in need of prosthetic appliance for atleast one of the following:

(1) For service-connected disabilities or adjunct conditions, (2) for disabilities for which hospitalization has been authorized, or disabilities associated with and aggravating the condition for which hospitalization was authorized, (3) as part of domiciliary care when necessary, (4) for any disability of veterans who are 80% and more disabled, because of service-connected disabilities or (5) when in receipt of special monthly compensation based on the need for regular aid and attendance, or for being permanently housebound.

WHERE TO APPLY Any VA Office.

> AID FOR THE BLIND FOR ALL VETERANS WITH ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

Eligibility

Blinded veterans entitled to receive compensation from the VA for any service-connected condition; or increased pension based on the need for regular aid and attendance; or increased pension by reason of being permanently housebound, are eligible to receive authorized aids for the blind.

Nature of Benefit

- 1. Approved electronic and mechanical aids to the blind, and their necessary repair and replacement if medically indicated.
- 2. Guide Dogs, including the expense of training the veterans to use the dogs, and the cost of the medical attention.

WHERE TO APPLY Any VA Office.

GI BILL EDUCATIONAL TRAINING
FOR VETERANS OF THE POST-KOREAN CONFLICT PERIOD
AND VIETNAM ERA, AND SERVICEMEN

ELIGIBILITY

Veterans who served and servicemen currently serving on active duty for more than 180 days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955, and who (a) were released under conditions other than dishonorable; (b) were discharged for a service connected disability, or (c) continue on active duty

are eligible under the Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 as amended.

The 181 days required active duty does not include any period when assigned full time by the Armed Forces to a civilian institution for a course substantially the same as a course offered to civilians; served as a cadet or midshipman at a service academy. If a veteran has served in the Reserves or National Guard (but not at one of the service academies) and later serves for one consecutive year or more on active duty, the active duty for training time initially served shall be treated as active duty for VA purposes.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

An educational institution approved for training may include any public or private elementary, high, vocational, correspondence, or business school, junior or teachers college, normal school, college or university, professional, scientific or technical institution, or any other institution which furnishes education at the secondary school level or above.

Veterans who have already qualified in a program of education may receive educational assistance for up to six months to pursue refresher training to update skills aquired prior to or during service. Entitlement is charged.

Each eligible person may select a program of training at any educational institution or training establishment which will accept and retain him as a student trainee in any field or branch of knowledge which the institution finds him qualified to undertake.

Educational and vocational counseling will be provided by the Veterans Administration upon request.

Generally a program of education outside the United States may be pursued only at an approved educational institution of higher learning.

CHANGE OF PROGRAM

A change of program is permitted under some conditions.

ENTITLEMENT AND DURATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Each eligible person will be entitled to educational assistance for a period of 1½ months or the equivalent in part-time training for each month or fraction thereof of his service on active duty after January 31, 1955, up to 36 months. If he served 18 continuous months or more after the date and has been released under conditions satisfying his active duty obligation, he will be entitled to 36 months. A veteran entitled to 36 months may receive up to 9 additional months to pursue an undergraduate college degree.

The aggregate period of time for which a person may receive educational assistance under two or more laws administered by the VA is 48 months.

TIME LIMITS

Veterans released from active duty after January

31,1955, have eligibility for 10 years after release or until May 31, 1976, whichever is later. For farm cooperative, apprentice or on-job training, or flight training, eligibility ceases 10 years from date of separation from service after January 31, 1955, or August 30, 1977, whichever is later.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

This program combines formalized education with training in a business or industrial establishment with emphasis on the institutional portion.

CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAM

Allowance for a program of education pursued exclusively by correspondence and paid quarterly will be computed on the basis of 90 percent of the established charge paid by nonveterans for the same course or courses. Entitlement will be reduced at the rate of one month for each \$270 paid to the veteran.

FARM COOPERATIVE TRAINING

An eligible veteran enrolled in an educational institution for a Farm Cooperative program consisting of institutional agricultural courses must be concurrently in agricultural employment which is considered to be related to the approved institutional courses.

The veteran may receive benefits for a full 12 months when instruction for the year is prescheduled for 44 weeks of the year.

APPRENTICESHIP OR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

An eligible veteran may pursue, on a full time basis only, an approved program of apprenticeship or other training on-the-job. Apprenticeship or on-job training programs must be approved by a state approving agency.

The entrance wages shall be atleast one-half of the wages paid for the specific job and shall be increased on a regular schedule until the veteran is receiving 85 percent of the wages for that job by atleast the last full month of his training period which cannot exceed 2 years. These limitations do not apply to apprenticeships.

FLIGHT TRAINING

An eligible veteran may take an approved course of Flight Training generally accepted as necessary to attain a recognized vocational objective in the field of aviation or where recognized as ancillary to the pursuit of another vocation. He must possess a valid Private Pilot's License and meet the Necessary medical requirements.

Educational assistance allowance for flight training is computed at the rate of 90 percent of the established charges for tuition and fees which nonveterans are required to pay.

Flight training as a part of an approved college

degree program is also available.

HIGH SCHOOL TRAINING

A veteran who must complete high school training education may receive educational assistance allowance without a charge against his basic entitlement. It also permits additional secondary school training such as refresher courses or deficiency courses needed to qualify for admission to an appropriate educational institution.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Veterans not completing the eighth grade may receive educational assistance allowance without a charge against basic entitlement.

TUTORIAL ASSISTANCE

Veterans or servicemen in post-secondary (above high school) training at educational institutions on a half-time or more basis, who need tutorial assistance may qualify for tutorial payments not to exceed \$60 a month for a maximum amount of \$720 with no charge against basic entitlement.

PREDISCHARGE EDUCATION PROGRAM (PREP)

Servicemen with 181 continuous days of active duty may pursue without loss of basic entitlement, courses required for a high school diploma or any deficiency or refresher courses required for pursuit of an appropriate program of education or training. Servicemen must consult the base education officers for information or application forms.

EDUCATION LUAN PROGRAM

An eligible veteran or person may borrow up to \$600 per academic year to pursue a course leading to a standard college degree, or if enrolled in a course leading to a professional or vocational objective which requires atleast 6 months to complete. The interest bearing loan program is based upon financial need and is only available to those who are unable to obtain a student loan in the full amount needed under the provisions of Title IV of the higher education act of 1965, as amended.

RESTRICTIONS -- WHERE TO APPLY

The educational allowance is not payable if the eligible person is on active duty and has his education paid for by the Armed Forces or the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (for Public Health Service Duty), or is a Federal employee receiving his full salary and having his course paid for under the Government Employee's Training Act.

Application forms are available at all VA offices, active duty stations, and American Embassies in other countries and shall be submitted to the nearest VA Office or Embassy when completed.

G.I. BILL RATES (Check with your VA Office.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Imagine my surprise, when I accidently discovered a customer of mine who is an ex 83rd. Division Infantrymen. I didn't know there was anyone in the whole Atlanta area who was with the 83rd.

He gave me an Issue of your 83rd Thunderbolt Magazine. I didn't know the Association existed. I only wish I had known about it in time to make the ETO Tour. We really would have enjoyed it.

May I have the address of Robert C. Macon?

R.W. Bill McCullough

"I" Co. 330th Inf.

Thank you for paying my Dues. It was just an oversight on my part. Let me know if I owe anymore. Hope to see you soon.

Nick Taglianetti "D" Co. 331st Inf.

(I paid for five "D" Co. 331st. men and as they send me their checks, I sign up another "D" Co. man. We got eight more members this way.) ******

Last year was the first time I ever had joined or attended one of our Conventions. Why I never joined before last year; I just don't know. As I really had a time at the Convention meeting with my old Buddies, going over the War days.

I was with Company "B" 308 Engineers from the start in Camp Atterbury until we met up with the Russians at the Elbe River. See what you can do to get some of those other "B" Engineers out to the

My wife said she also enjoyed the Convention and said she never danced so much or ate so much in her entire life.

> John R. Shaner "B" 308 Eng.

Couldn't make it last year because I had lost my Gall Bladder, recovered, then had Bleeding Ulcers. It has left me weaker. I also have Angina and High Blood Pressure. Finances are going to hold me back this year, but I sure do miss seeing such old friends as Lou Volpi, Al Belvedere and Casey and a lot more. With God's help I expect to see you next year. Enclosed are my Dues.

> John J. Donahue 1 Bn. Hq. 329 Inf.

Thanks for paying my Dues. Enclosed find check for \$10.00. Let me know when they are due again.

> John Micheli "B" Co. 329th Inf.

(John is one of the fellows that had his Dues paid-by Bob Taylor. A 1976-*77 Card was sent to him.) ED.

Can't make the ETO Tour this time but am hoping to make Orlando. Just got out of the hospital and it

will be some weeks before I can do anything.

Joe Petrucci

Cn. Co. 330th Inf.

I just received the Annual Notice of Reunion of the 83rd. My husband, Gordon F. Rothman of Company "I" 331st Infantry died in June of 1975. lease delete his name from your Roster.

Also, if his name should be printed in "TAPS" in any of your publications, his address at date of death and my present address are listed below, should there be any correspondence to sonsider.

> Very Truly Yours Jean S. Rothman 5115 Lake Road # 917 Sheffield Lake, OH

(I have inserted the address for those of you that knew Gordon and wish to send your Condolences to his wife Jean.)

I know that we are all getting older but I hope the 83rd will continue to prosper. I'm sorry that I can't make the Reunion. My Dues are enclosed.

James M. Alexander "B" '908 F.A.

I am sorry that I never wrote and told you. Frank Bailie died on November the 12th of 1973. He always enjoyed going to the Reunions.

> Mrs. Frank Bailie Creighton, PA

(Frank was never in my files but he was in the file of stencils received from Philadelphia. This was the reason a Notice was sent to him.)

(Walter H. Carmichael, Sr. of 'M''Co. 331st is trying to get something going for his Unit and a copy of the letter he sent to his company follows. I hope he meets with good results as this is the sort of thing that really helps to build Membership.) ED.

Haven't seen you in a long time but thought I'd keep in touch with you.

The 83rd Division had a Reunion in Myrtle Beach this past year and my wife and I had a BALL. Another will be held in Orlando, Florida on August 19th and thought you might be interested. You sure meet a lot of old friends.

Why don't you join the Organization? The Dues are just \$6.00 per year and the Magazine you get four times a year is worth many times more.

> Best Wishes Walter H. Carmichael "'M''Co. 331st Inf.

(Walter told me that Wallace Duke of "M" Co. died in 1971 and that his wife would like to have a copy of our Thunderbolt sent to her. She is now on our mailing list.) ED.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

This is a particularly difficult column to write for this is the last column that I will write as the President of this great Association. So what does a President who is about to lose his office write about?

Well, I could tell you about the tremendously successful year that we've had. How we came from some 670 Members last year to more than 1,000 Members this year, an increase of about 50%. I could tell you, but I won't. Instead, I'll let Sam Klippa tell you, for it was largely due to his efforts that we accomplished this.

I could also tell you how great it has been working with Casey Szubski, Doc Keeler, Bill Doty, Sam Klippa and all of the other Officers in the Association. But I won't do this either, for most of you know these people and know what a great bunch they are.

But I can and will, tell you that the past year has been one of the most gratifying of my life. It has been a great personal experience to have been elected to this position by the Membership at Myrtle Beach, and although it has been a busy year for myself and the other Officers in the Association I am glad for the opportunity to contribute my bit toward the continuance of our Association. I have considered it an honor and will continue to feel the same in the future.

Before I close this I'd also like to mention one other person who has made a tremendous contribution to the Association, both in time and effort. A well deserved THANK YOU goes to my wife, Rita, for her work and her patience and for the encouragement that she has provided when I needed it. Without our wives gentlemen, we would still have an Association, but we have a much better one because of them.

I hope to see each of you in Orlando.

Bob Taylor
President
83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. Inc.

FROM THE REUNION CHAIRMAN

Dear Buddies:

The time for our Thirtieth Annual Reunion is fast coming up, and all plans seem to be perking right along. The Contracts etc. all seem to be in order and we are sure we are going to have a great Reunion in Orlando. Have had many responses from men who have never attended a Reunion, so it looks like we will be getting more new Members to achieve the Thousand Mark and more.

We are going to try and start a Florida Chapter this year and will have all Florida men register on another roster to see just how many we can recruit. Have enough men living in Florida now, so we should be able to get it rolling this year.

I have enjoyed serving the 83rd this year and thank you sincerely for the honor of 1976 Reunion Chairman. It has been and will be a lot of work yet, but with all your help I know it will be one to remember.

Lola and I plan to go to Orlando the latter part of June to see that all is in order at the Sheraton Towers Hotel.

Looking forward to seeing all you guys and gals in August in Orlando for the Thirtieth and Bicentennial Reunion. Let's all make it a real CELEBRATION.

> God Bless Doc Keeler Reunion Chairman

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REUNION
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.
SHERATON TOWERS
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Thursday, Aug. 19, 1976

9:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M. Registration in Lobby. 10:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon - Bingo for the Ladies. 2:00 P.M. To 5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room. 8:00 P.M. To Midnight - Beer Party - Cash Bar.

Friday, Aug. 20, 1976

9:00 A.M. To 5:00 P.M. Registration in Lobby. 10:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon - Bingo for the Ladies. 10:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon - Business Meeting. 2:00 P.M. To 5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room. 7:00 P.M. To Midnight - Dinner Dance - Cash Bar.

Saturday, Aug. 21, 1976

9:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon - Registration in Lobby. 10:00 A.M. To 12:00 Noon - Business Meeting. 9:00 A.M. To Noon - Leisure Time for Ladies. 2:00 P.M. To 3:00 P.M. - Memorial Services. 3:00 P.M. To 5:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room. 7:00 P.M. To ??????? - Banquet, Dancing and the

GRAND FINALE

HAVE A HAPPY REUNION

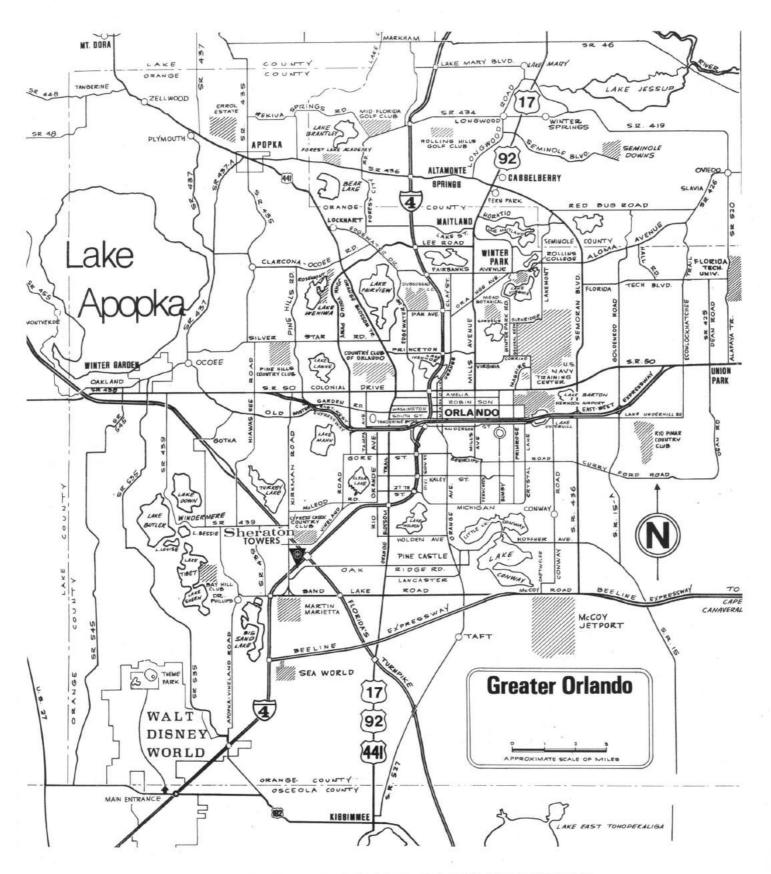
3 Day Registration - \$66.00 Couple - \$51.00 Single.

2 Day Registration - \$56.00 Couple - \$41.00 Single.

1 Day Registration - \$36.00 Couple - \$22.00 Single.

Child 2 Days - \$13.00 Child 1 Day - \$13.00.

Complete information will be available at the Registration Desk.



THE ABOVE MAP OF THE ORLANDO AREA SHOULD BE A GREAT HELP TO EVERYONE.

The following concerns a Newspaper clipping that was sent to me by Malcolm O'Malley of 'D' 330 Infantry, who resides in Illinois. He said: 'Sorry I cannot make the ETO Tour this year, it is one I should like to take someday.' The clipping was from the Chicago Tribune and written by Nicholas Lynn.

St. MALO, FRANCE

St. Malo, France, - As dusk settles over the north coast of Brittany, a mist creeps over the ramparts, gabled houses, Church spires and fortress towers of St. Malo. The tide which moves in with great swiftness in these parts, has sealed off the neighboring Islets. The last gull long since has disappeared from the blue-gray skies.

Once an island, but now connected to France by a short sleeve of land, St. Malo prepares for yet another night with it's ageless companion, the Sea. To the traveler, snug within the port's protective ring of midieval walls, Paris seems more distant than 250 miles to the southeast.

Glistening with tiny droplets, the cobblestones of Place Chateaubriand reflect the scrambled colors of Cafe and Restaurant lights. It seems an irresistable moment to muse over an early evening glass of Calvados and drift with the spell of this extraordinary city, most often overlooked by visitors to Mont St. Michel whose fame eclipses St. Malo's - but at the same time has spared it the blight of cheap souvenir shops, hawkers, and quick eateries.

The Monks who built Mont St. Michel and made it the wonder that it is have departed. The descendants of the seafaring Bretons who constructed the walled port of St. Malo, however, haven't budged an inch. They go on with their business, cod fishing (off Greenland and Newfoundland), ship building, and operating ferries to the Channel Islands. From time to time, they also rescue tourists who fail to heed the warning bells and get trapped by the incoming tides of Grande Be Island and on the rocky steps of Fort National, an eerie citadel built by King XIV's great military architect, Vauban, in 1689.

A century and a half earlier, St. Malo's most celebrated Captain, Jacques Cartier, sailed from Brittany to the New World in search of gold. Instead of the precious metal he discovered the mouth of the St. Lawrence River and named the country he claimed for France - 'Canada.'

St. Malo has changed little since then. The massive crenallated ramparts, begun in the 12th Century, have withstood the most savage attacks, climaxing with the World War II bombardment in 1944 to dislodge the Germans from this impregnable stronghold.

After the War, the citizens of St. Malo carried out the most successful restoration in France. The ancient walled port was reconstructed – at enormous cost – exactly the way it had been, from slate roof tiles and Renaissance gables down to the last bronze

door knocker.

Happily for the residents, modern plumbing fixtures were the only concession to the Twentieth Century allowed.

Day or night, the best way to get aquainted, with St. Malo is to make the circuit of the ramparts starting at the Castle adjoining the twin St. Vincent gates, principal entrance to the town. A picture-book structure straight out of the Middle Ages, the Castle has four huge corner towers (with banners always fluttering from their flagpoles) and contains a Museum dedicated to St. Malo's famous sons. Conducted tours around the ramparts are conducted every hour in the summer.

From the Castle, the ramparts overlook Fort National and, on the far right, a broad sandy beach which curves for miles past the casino and the new town of St. Malo. At low tide children dig for shell fish in sandy pockets near the fort and play soccer. If they have a mind to, visitors are welcome to kick off their shoes and join in both sports.

In front of Bidouane Tower is deserted Grande Be Island (accessable at low tide), which is carpeted with wild flowers. A solitary granite Cross stands atop a rocky cliff on Grande Be marking the grave of 19th Century poet Francoise-Rene de Chateaubriand.

From Grande Be, there's a splendid view of St. Malo, an oceanfront swimming pool (unique because it is refilled by salt water spilling over its sides at high tide), the popular resort of Dinard across the mouth of the Rance River, and hydrofoils coming to and from Jersey.

Inside the ramparts, you easily can spend a day wandering through the maze of streets. The area is smaller than that of Paris' Tuileries Gardens and features creperies (pancake shops), and wool sweaters for men and women.

Plan to spend atleast one day within the walls of St. Malo, even though more 'luxurious' hotels are located across the Rance at Dinard, which is the start of Brittany's magnificent Emerald Coast. Best in town is the 47 room Hotel Central on Grande Rue, near St. Vincent Cathedral. Rates are about \$10 for single and \$22 for double, both with bath. A more rustic choice is the Hotel France-Chateaubriand, where a double room with a view over the ramparts goes for as little as \$15 a night.

One of the best Restaurants in Brittany is located just inside St. Malo's main gates. La Duchesse Anne, named for the woman who inherited the province and joined it to France by marrying the King, is a cozy Restaurant where you can feast on Belon Oysters; mussels in cream sauce; steak Chateaubriand (naturally); and a delicious desert called La Delice de la Duchesse Anne, a baked-Alaska style concoction given a finishing touch by sprinkling of crystalized violet blossoms.

St. Malo is an interlude not to be missed if you visit this area of France, and it's a perfect place

for excursions into Brittany and Normandy. It's essential to have a car

From Paris you can set out for St. Malo via Normandy and spend an afternoon at Mont St. Michel. But plan to arrive within the walls of St. Malo before sunset and in time to book a table at La Duchesse Anne.

(THE NEXT ARTICLE CAME FROM THE LATE AL GRUBER, A DEAR FRIEND OF MINE AND THE ASSOCIATION.) ED.

The following information was extracted from the series of books 'United States Army in World War II'. THE SIEGFRIED LINE CAMPAIGN THE APPROACHES TO DUREN

Where the 4th. Division had stalled at the western skirt of the Huertgen Forest opposite the settlement of Hof Hardt and the Village of Gey the 83rd. took over. This too, was a veteran replacement which had seen action in Normandy and Brittany and for more than a month cleared Luxembourg with the VIII Corps. To reinforce the Corp right wing much as the 3rd. Armored Division strenghtened the left, General Collins obtained the 5th. Armored Division.

General Collins ordered the attack resumed on December 10th. On the left, the 104th. Division was to clear a three mile stretch of the Roer Plain between the Inde and the Roer where three villages represent the only breaks in monotonously flat terrain. On the right, the 83rd. Division was to sweep the south-western approaches to Duren. After gaining additional roads on the fringe of the Huertgen Forest, the 83rd. was to relinquish the extreme right of the Corps Zone to the 5th. Armored Division so that the armor might bridge a gap between the Infantry's objectives near Duren and the point on the Brandenberg-Bergstein ridge where the V Corps had reached the river.

Because of the configuration of the terrain, the fighting in the final push to the Roer was to fall into two categories --- one akin to the battle of the Huertgen Forest, the other to the battle of the Roer Plain. In general, the dividing line between the two followed the boundary between the 9th. and the 83rd. Divisions. It ran from within the Huertgen Forest between Merode and Hof Hardt northeast to the

Roer at Duren.

North of the dividing line between the Huertgen Forest and the Roer Plain, the final push had taken most of four days. A dirty fight, lacking in both glamor and surprise, it had cost the 3rd. Armored, 9th. and 10th. Divisions - 1,074 casualties.

South of the dividing line between the 9th. and 83rd. Divisions lay forest and plain. As in the sector between Stolberg through which part of the VII Corps earlier had attacked, densely wooded hills reluctantly gave way to larger and more frequent clearings. Within a mile of Duren the highlands

merge with the flatlands of the plains. In approaching the settlement of Hof Hardt, in occupying Grossau, and in gaining positions overlooking Gey, the 4th. Division technically had reached the edge of the Huertgen Forest before casualties had prompted replacement. Yet in many aspects, including some of terrain, the fighting to be experienced by the two units renewing the drive would be markedly similar to that which had occurred deep within the forest.

The principal similarity had to do with a struggle for adequate roads. On the left wing of a four mile zone which the 83rd. Division inherited initially, one regiment, which was to take Hof Hardt and drive northeast alongside and eventually pinch out the 9th Division's 39th Infantry, had a good road, an extension of axial Route U which the 4th Division had used. But in the center and on the right wing, route of communication were more potential than actual. Though the V Corps at Huertgen and Kleinhau and the 4th Division at Grosshau had made down payment on a good road net, another big installment would be required before clear title could be claimed.

The road net problem facing the 83rd Division about the two villages of Gey and Strass, both northeast of Grossau. These villages gather in several roads and trails from the Huertgen Forest, subject them to minot multiplication process, then release them to the northeast, east, and southeast toward the Roer. To travel from Grossau northeast toward Duren, it is necessary to pass through Gey; to move east and southeast to the river, control of Strass is needed. The 83rd Division Commander, General Robert C. Macon, assigned one regiment to each village, the 330th Infantry on the right to Strass, the 331st Infantry to Gey. The third regiment, the 329th Infantry, was to pursue the somewhat separate assignment of driving northeast along axial Route U on the Divisions left wing.

After capture of Strass and Gey, the 330th Infantry presumably was to revert to reserve and the 331st Infantry to continue northeast from Gey toward Duren. At thie point, both villages were to serve as jump-off bases for the 5th Armored Division (less CCR) in a sweep east and southeast to the Roer to clear the southeastern corner of the VII Corps Zone. One Combat Command was to move through Gey, thence east to an elevation overlooking the Roer, Hill 211. The other was to advance southeast from the vicinity of Strass to another height on the vast bank of the Roer, the Hemgen Berg (Hill 253.)

The key to early success in this miniature battle of the Huertgen Forest obviously lay in quick seizure of Gey and Strass. That explained General Macon's decision to put a regiment on each objective. It also explained why the enemy's 353rd Division made the villages the Keystones of their defense.

General Macon expected to take Gey and Strass in one swift stroke; indeed, the 5th Armored Division

was scheduled to join the operation before nightfall of D-Day, December 10th. Each regiment was to employ a Battalion just before dawn, one to advance astride a dirt road leading from the west into Gey, the other along another unimproved road winding northeast through a patch of woods, past the settlement of Schafberg, thence to Strass.

Each regiment would have to depend at first upon a narrow, muddy, supply route closely embraced at some points by woods. Veterans of earlier fighting at Merode, at Huertgen, and at Schmidt might have looked upon the prospect with some degree of alarm.

Concious of the need to get into Gey and Strass before daylight provided the enemy observation on open fields near the villages, the two attacking Infantry Battalions moved swiftly. On the left, the 331st. Infantry picked their way over deeply buried Anti-Tank mines, skirted unoccupied but Booby-Trapped trenches and reached Gey shortly after dawn. The Battalion of the 330th. Infantry moved with equal success through the xoods toward Schafbert, by-passed the settlement, and continued to Strass.

Both Battalions got into the villages. In Gey the Germans fought tenaciously from house to house so that reduction of the village became a slow, systematic proposition. In Strass, the occupants gave up more readily, but an hour later they counterattacked with about a Company of Infantry supported by Tanks or assault guns.

In both Gey and Strass, the Americans needed Tanks - in Gey to tip the balance between Infantry forces of about equal size, in Strass to halt the counter-attack. Complexity and vexation entered the 83rd. Divisions operation when in midmorning on the 10th. of December, attached Tanks of the 744th. Tank Battalion first tried to get forward.

On the dirt road to Gey three Tanks soon lost tracks in the antitank mine field through which the Infantry had passed safely. They blocked the road. Through this day and the next, the Engineers attempted to clear both this road and the main highway leading northeast from Grosshau into Gey. Observed German fire severely hampered the work. The dirt road was so full of shell fragments that mine detectors were of little use. On both roads the Engineers might deem a mine field cleared, only to watch in consternation as the lead Tank would strike an undiscovered mine. The Germans in the meantime strengthened their Garrison in Gey with Infantry reinforcements. On the 11th. of December, the 331st. Infantry Commander, Col. Robert H. York, also sent reinforcement ». The result was a stalemate.

First efforts to get Tanks to Itrass proved more successful. An entire Tank Company began the trip, but one Platoon apparently took a wrong turn, ventured into enemy territory, and was annihilated. Yet, in passing, the Tank tracks cut deeply into the muddy dirt road so that many doubted if other vehicles would be able to follow.

As night came on December the 10th., Strass was secure, particularly along a half mile stretch between the Americans in the two villages. Because of 'traffic problems' presumably in moving through the Huertgen Forest to Grosshau and Kleinhau, the 5th Armored Division Commander, General Oliver, decided to wait until the next day before joining the push.

After darkness, the Germans resorted to an old Huertgen Forest trick of infiltration. Along the wooded portion of the supply route to Strass, near Schafberg, they emplaced several antitank guns. Into Schafberg, which had not been cleared of Germans even though American Tanks had passed through, they thrust Infantry Regiments. The American Battalion in Strass, was in effect, cut off.

The 83rd. Division Commander, General Macon, insisted nevertheless that Armor could move over the road to Strass on ecember the 11th. 'The road is about as open as we can get it,' he told General Oliver. 'We can't keep out the snipers.' A Commander like General Oliver, who less than three weeks before along the German-Huertgen highway had seen what premature committment could do to one of his Combat Commands, could be excused a measure of trepidation about a situation that appeared to be shaping up in the same way. He discussed the matter with the Corps Commander, General Collins. Having checked with General Macon, Collins assured the Armored Commander that the road was open. 'I told General Oliver to go on ahead.'

By daylight of December the 11th., however, General Macon decided, 'We may have more to do than we anticipated.' A new counter-attack had hit Strass before dawn; though contained, it made for intense fighting through much of the morning. More accurate reports of enemy strength along the road to Schafberg had prompted the 330th. Infantry Commander, Col Robert T. Foster, to committ a fresh Battalion to clear the road. The Armored Commander, General Oliver, decided nevertheless to proceed as planned. 'Our going down there,' he told General Macon, 'Ought to atleast complicate their job of going in against you very severely at Strass.'

Since no one even presumed that either a road to, or even a path through Gey was clear, no plans were made for immediate committment of any but one command. This was CCB (Col. Cole.) The Armor was to pass beyond Schafberg to a wooded knoll a mile to the east (Hill 266), then to turn northeast against the village of Bergheim, and finally to occupy the Hemgen Berg (Hill 253) on the west bank of the Roer. The column actually was not to pass through Strass, though movement east from Schafberg obviously would be impossible if the enemy still held Strass.

In recognition of the fluid situation along the route to Schafberg, mounted Armored Infantry led the column. The Infantry still was several hundred yard short of Schafberg when small arms fire and contact with the Battalion of the 330th. Infantry, which was

attempting to clear the road, prompted an order to dismount. Though CCB's Infantry joined an attack toward Schafberg, the Germans when night came still were holding the settlement and effectively blocking the road. The fight cost CCB 150 casualties.

Meanwhile, in Strass the Germans had counterattacked a third time. Again American Infantry and Tanks beat them off, but the small force in Strass obviously was in a bad way. In two days the Infantry Battalion had run through four Commanders: one killed, one missing, two wounded. About sixty casualties had accumulated and were badly in need of medical supplies. No one had food or water. Ammo was running low. Only seven Tanks remained. Though a ten man patrol broke through to Strass during the night of December the 11th, the Battalion in the village needed more help than that.

On the third day of the attack, on December 12th, the two regiments at Gey and Strass renewed their efforts to clear roads into the villages and enable the 5th. Armored Division to move in. In the meantime, on the 83rd Division's extreme left wing, more than a mile and a half northwest of Gey, a third

regiment began to attack.

This was the 329th. Infantry, commanded by Col. Edwin B. Crabill, which did not complete relief of the 4th. Division troops in its sector until the 11th. of December. So removed from the rest of the 83rd. Division was this regiment at first that the Corps Commander contemplated attachment to the 9th. Division though later developements prompted reconsideration and instead of a Squadron of the 4th. Cavalry Group was assigned to bridge the gap between the regiment and the rest of the Division. The 329th Infantry was to advance along axial Route U through Hof Harst, northeast to the village of Guerzenich, thence east through another village, Roelsdord, to the Roer at Duren.

Attacking through woods at Hof Hardt in midmorning on the 12th. of December, troops of the 329th. Infantry quickly experienced some of the difficulties of the Huertgen Forest fighting; tree bursts, extensive mine fields, and problems of control. The fresh regiment nevertheless gained Hof Hardt soon after midday and by dark had secured a line of departure along the skirt of the forest for continuing the attack to Guerzenich.

On December 13th, behind an effective smoke screen, a Battalion of the 329th Infantry gained Guerzenich by noon. Thereby the regiment had outpaced the 9th Division's 39th Infantry in the neighboring village of Derichweiler. So impressed by this success was the Division Commander, General Macon, that he directed the regiment to move the next morning south against Bergel, a village that originally had been assigned to the 331st Infantry.

In the meantime, at Gey and Strass, the situation had taken a slow turn for the better. Behind a Flail Tank borrowed from the 5th Armored Division, a covey of tanks from the attached 744th

Tank Battalion finally gained Gey during late afternoon of the 12th of December, over the main road from Grosshau. Reduction of the stubborn resistance in the village now could be but a question of time. On the road to Strass the 330th Infantry maneuvered one company after another against the bottleneck of Schafberg. Constant pressure of Infantry and Artillery gradually relaxed the enemy's hold.

By midafternoon on the 12th of December, Schafberg was clear, though reinforcements still could not reach Strass because German self-propelled guns controlled a portion of the supply route where it crossed open fields south of the village. The only relief afforded the Americans in Strass during daylight was provided by Artillery Liaison planes from which pilots dropped medical supplies and chocolate D-Rations. Yet this was a minor delay; for as night cut the enemy's observation, no time was lost in sending into the village reinforcements, supplies, and evacuation vehicles for the wounded.

The condition of the Battalion which had fought for Strass was indicative of another resemblance between fighting here and earlier combat deep within the Huertgen Forest. Slightly more than two reinforced rifle companies had reached Strass on the 10th of December; when relief arrived the night of December 12th, 150 men remained. In three days, the 83rd Infantry Division lost almost a thousand men, primarily in two regiments. Even CCB's brief commitment on the 11th of December had cost 150 men. Perhaps the most surprising losses were those incurred by the 330th and 331st Infantry Regiments even before the start of the attack. During five days of relatively static warfare while awaiting D-Day, the two regiments had taken 472 casualties.

A road atlast available through Schafberg to Strass, a second attempt to send the 5th Armored Division's CCB eastward toward the Roer was possible. This time the Armored Commander, General Oliver, wanted to wait until his second Combat Command might attack simultaniously through Gey. During the afternoon of the 13th of December, he conferred with the Corps Commander, General Collins and the 83rd Division Commander, General Macon, to co-ordinate plans for the next day.

The entire southern half of the VII corps zone was to come alive early on the 14th of December with attacks by two Infantry Regiments and two Combat Commands. On the extreme left, the 329th Infantry Regiment was to continue to clear Guerzenich enroute to the Roer while at the same time moving south against Birgel. The 331st Infantry was to attack northeast from Gey, cross-country in the direction of Berzbuir and Lendersdorf, which lie between Birgel and the Roer. With a Battalion of the 331st attached, CCA was to move east from Gey to the village of Kufferath and eventually to Hill 211 on the west bank of the Roer. Augmented by a Battalion of the 330th Infantry, CCB was to follow the original plan of attacking east from Schafberg and Strass

against Hill 266, thence to Bergheim, and finally to Hemgen Berg (Hill 253.) The average distance from lines of departure was about two miles to the Roer.

On the 14th of December resistance varied in intensity in relation to the nature of the terrain. On the left the 329th Infantry had put the Huertgen Forest behind and emerged on the Roer Plain. By nightfall this regiment had cleared Guerzenich and occupied much of Birgel.

At Birgel, surrender of a battalion of the 47th Volks Grenadier Division at the first shot created for the Germans a critical situation not recognized by the American side. The capitulation severed contact between the LXXXI and LXXIV Corps, thereby endangering the so-called Duren Bridgehead at the very moment when the final shifts and assemblies for the Ardennes counter-offensive were being made. To remedy the situation, General von Zangen, Commander of the 15th Army, widened the LXXXI Corps sector to include Birgel and ordered the village retaken.

At dusk, the Germans counter-attacked at Birgel with Infantry supported by six assault guns. A machine gun Squad Leader in Company M, Sergeant Ralph G. Neppel, was largely responsible for driving off one of the assault guns and twenty accompanying Infantrymen. When a round from the Assault gun wounded Sgt. Neppel's entire squad and severed one of his legs below the knee, the Sgt. dragged himself back to his position on his elbows, remounted his gun and killed the remaining enemy Riflemen. Stripped of Infantry protection, the German vehicle withdrew. Sgt. Neppel subsequently received the Medal of Honor.

In the center of this portion of the VII Corps zone, where patches of the forest still existed but where the plain was becoming more evident, the 331st Infantry and CCA found the going somewhat more tedious; nevertheless, as night came, they held a sharp rise overlooking Berzbuir and had drawn up on three sides of Kufferath. On the right, in a sector of broken and constricted terrain more nearly like the Huertgen Forest, CCB ran into serious problems.

Because of the muddy, deep rutted roads through the woods to Schafberg, CCB's Tanks could not get into position during the night of December 13th for an early morning attack. Infantry alone was to strike for the first objective Hill 266, a mile east of Schafberg. Artillery first was to fire selected concentrations before H-Hour, then to create a rolling barrage. Moving before dawn, CCB's 15th Armored Infantry was to drive east from Schafberg while the attached battalion of the 330th Infantry pushed southeast from Strass. The battalions were to converge on the hill just at daylight with the specific mission of eliminating atleast eight known German Anti-Tank gum.

The Infantry had not long to wait before discovering that the enemy on Hill 266 was entrenched too

deeply to be silenced by the artillery preparation. Further artillery concentrations, including a TOT in midmorning, were to no avail. A strafing and bombing mission in early afternoon also failed to help. Although Tanks tried to get forward, they were too late to get the drive going again before nightfall.

General Oliver could not have been deeply concerned about CCB's ability to advance, because CCA's push to Kufferath had provided an obvious opportunity to outflank the resistance from the north. This the Germans too have noted, for on the 15th of December their defense folded. Both the 5th Armored Division's Combat Commands encountered unexpectedly light oposition. CCA took Kufferath early and by 0830 held the high ground along the river. Its main losses were four Tanks knocked out by self-propelled guns roaming near the river. On Hill 266, CCB found abandoned weapons and deserted trenches. Bergheim was in hand by dark, and the Hemgen Berg (253) fell early on the morning of December 16th.

After a flurry of concern on December 16th about German counter-attacks in conjunction with the enemy's surprising move in the Ardennes, the Armor and the 83rd Infantry Division the next day began a mop-up process to eliminate a few remaining pockets of resistance west of the Roer. Southeast of the 5th Armored Division's CCB, the 4th DAV Group lent assistance. In contrast to the collapse on the 15th of December, the enemy defended most of the pockets stanchly. As had been the case further north on the Roer Plain, enemy guns on higher grounds east of the Roer were a constant menace. Nevertheless, by Christmas Day, the west bank of the river, from positions of the V Corps at the eastern end of the Brandenber-Bergstein Ridge to outposts of the XIII Corps twenty four air line miles away at Linnich would be free of the enemy.

The 83rd Infantry Division casualties during the above action were 1,951 battle, 589 killed, and 790 non-battle.

On the 18th of December a six man patrol had crossed the Roer River on a partially destroyed bridge at Duren. The 83rd Division asked permission to reinforce the patrol, presumably to establish a Bridgehead. Permission was refused upon Army order.

(IF ANY OF YOU HAVE WRITE-UPS SUCH AS THE ONE ABOVE, AND WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IT WITH OUR MEMBERS, PLEASE SEND IT TO ME.) ED.

We are nearing the end of another year in the history of our Association, and it's time once again for you to bring your ideas for the betterment of operation, our Membership Drive, and management in general. Speak up now, you are the ones that count. Don't let the other guy do all the talking.

PAST SECRETARY TREASURER

Hello Buddies:

Here we are coming down the home stretch of another year. I sincerely hope that we have a successful year, and I am sure that we should. because our new Secretary-Treasurer has had more luck in taking office than the past two Secretary-Treasurers. When the past two Secretary-Treasurers took over, they took over under adverse conditions. Harry Lockwood took over following a man who I don't care to mention his name (because I may be sued by the Association) left the Association down. Then poor Harry died suddenly and was unable to give a complete breakdown of the records.

Well fellows, before I get a chance to say anything I am sorry for or have to be screened for, I would like to say that I sincerely hope that the Association has a successful year, and I am sure that it will if all of you lend the support that you have in the past. As you know, we are coming down the homestretch, and your Dues are what we need. Along with that, we need your support for a successful Reunion. If you are unable to attend, lend your support by sending an AD. No matter how small it may be, it is a help to the Reunion Committee. To those of you who have never been an Officer or have helped on a Reunion, you can't possibly appreciate the work involved. It is easy to come to a Reunion and just sign in and enjoy the Program that is set up, but stop for a minute and figure out the man hours spent in planning or working on this Reunion.

Gentlemen, over the years I have served this Association in almost every capacity that is possible to serve, and I have had contacts with Officers and Reunion Officials and know what I am talking about. Your help is needed and needed badly, no matter how little it is.

This year we have tried something different than we have in the past. The Executive Woard is running the Reunion, in the past we have depended on a Chapter of a City. This is one reason we need your help even more. We want to prove that no matter how small a City is, we can still have a successful Reunion there if we have the help and support needed. If you haven't sent in an AD as yet, please do so now, no matter how small or how large, every little bit helps. Remember, this is your Association, it is not the Association of the Officers or any one individual. This is an Association of men who fought with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II.

Let us make it a point to try and meet that Buddy that we haven't seen since, Atterbury, Breckenridge, Camp Shanks or Europe. I have had the pleasure of such meetings and I am sure that many of you have had also. If you can't find that long lost Buddy, lets try to make a new one. We are all in need of old friends, and there is no better way of finding them than at a Reunion. Let us make this Reunion in Orlando a Reunion to be remembered for

many years to come. Make our Executive Board proud of the great job they have done, and let us all remember 'Doc' Keeler our Reunion Chairman proud of a good job well done, to those of you who know 'Doc' I am sure that you know what a great dedicated man he is, and know that 'Doc' has never taken on a job that he can't do.

Remember, meet us in Orlando, or if not, send in your AD. We need your support be it not in person, make it financial support.

> Yours Truly Larry Redmond.

HISTORIANS CORNER

Dear Buddies:

In this issue is the balance of the 'After Action' reports for the month of July 1944, when we were in Normandie.

As you will read on the last page of this months report, the Division was sadly 'well bloodied' during our first month of combat.

The 8x10 picture is, as they will all be, from the files of the U.S. Army. It is of Infantrymen of 'F' Company of the 329th. They are mopping up in the suburbs of Duren at a town called Gurzenick where the Germans held out to the end in house to house fighting.

Unhappily I will be unable to make the Reunion in Orlando, but I will be with you in 'Spirit', so have a drink for me.

I insist all my Buddies and their wonderful wives and children the very best of times - have the Greatest of Reunions!

> Your Historian Wm. Kent O'Connell M.P. Plt. - Div. Hg.

14 July 1944

In the early morning there were six enemy tanks reported firing on our troops from the vicinity of (T 349757).. Patrols were sent out to locate and fire on these tanks.

Oral orders received from VII Corps on 13 July 1944 prescribed that the Division would continue the attack at 0930 on 14 July 1944. The Division issued Field Order No. II for an attack not earlier than 0930. The attack of the 329th Infantry was closely coordinated with the 4th. Infantry Division. At 1010 the Division received orders from VII Corps giving the hour of attack for the 329th Infantry as 1100. The attak was held up shortly after H-Hour, because of heavy machine gun fire, mortor and artillery fire.

At 1300, the 330th Infantry less detachments was alerted to operate south of Tribehou (T 3874) under control of the 9th Infantry Division, operating on the left flank of the Division.

The Division Command Post at (T 378808) was

closed and new Command Post was opened in the

vicinity of HOTOT at (T 362778) at 1500.

At 2050 the tank force in the vicinity of Le MOULIN (T 3775) was withdrawn. The 83rd Reconnaissance troop and platoon of 802nd Tank Destroyer Bn. were left behind to hold the area.

On the right a new attack was organized to start at 2100, preceded by artillery preparation to take a strong point at (T 338755). At 2300 the strong point was taken and the positions were organized during remainder of the night.

15 JULY 1944

83rd Infantry Division less 330th Infantry (attached to 9th Division) continued the attack. Field Order No. 12, 83rd Infantry Division (see Item 2702, G-2, G-3 Journal, 15 July 1944.) Attack by the 331st Infantry jumped off at 0600.

329th Infantry launched an attack at 1000 and advanced to positions short of the objective. The

attack was held up by enemy tank formations.

The 330th Infantry continued the attack at 1145 operating under control of the 9th Division (see Item 79, G-2, G-3, Journal, 16 July 1944.) Heavy counter-attack prevented the regiment from advancing. Oral Instructions from the Commanding General, VII Corps stated that the 83rd Infantry Division reverted to control of the VIII Corps at 2400, 15, July 1944, (see Item 2184, G-2, G-3, Journal, I July 1944.)

Operations memorandum, VII Corps, 15 July 1944, stated that 83rd Infantry Division, less 330th Infantry Regiment, (802nd T.D. Bn.(T) and 453rd AAA Bn. (AW) attached) passed to control of VIII Corps, 1524003, July 1944 (see Item 2870, G-2, G-3, 15 July 1944.)

16 JULY 1944

The 83rd Infantry Division at this time was

assigned to the VII Corps.

The 330th Infantry received heavy artillery fire during the early morning. The 330th resumed the attack at 0900 to capture objective to the west. Attack continued until 2000 when objective was taken.

The 331st Infantry attacked at 0530 to capture limited objective north of the TAUTE RIVER. They met small arms and automatic weapons fire and resumed the attack at 1130, but were unable to advance. Under cover of Darkness, the 329th Infantry and the 106th Cavalry relieved elements of the 4th Infantry Division.

Field Order No. 8, from VIII Corps., 152400B July 1944 (see Item 53, G+2, G-3 Journal, 16 July 1944) ordered the Division to attack H-Hour, D-Day to capture objective south of PERIERS-ST. LO road.

17 July 1944

The 329th Infantry and 331st Infantry occupied

and organized positions north of the TAUTE RIVER. First Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked at 1830 to capture north end of the LaVARDE PENINSULA (T 3673) and fighting continued all night.

The 329th Infantry jumped off at 1800 attacking a limited objective north of the TAUTE RIVER. The attack did not progress as anticipated because of enemy automatic weapons, and well placed supporting fires.

18 JULY 1944

The 330th Infantry reverted to control of the 83rd Infantry Division 172400B July 1944 by authority of the VIII Corps (see Item 394, G-2, G-3 Journal, 18 July 1944.L

The attack of the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry failed to reach its objective. Natural obstacles such as swampy land, flat terrain, and the TAUTE River hindered the advance. Weapons were clogged with mud and the enemy had excellent fields of fire for his automatic weapons well placed on his main line of resistance.

19 JULY 1944

The 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked at 1930 with the mission of capturing and securing the LA VARDE peninsula (T 3673.) The 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop led the attack as a screening force. The first phase of the attack met slight resistance allowing elements of the Reconnaissance Troop and two Companies of Infantry to establish a foothold on the higher ground. The 330th Infantry supported the attack with fire. In the late afternoon the enemy counter-attacked with tanks. Due to the fact that they had not been able to get their supporting weapons forward, the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry was unable to hold its position on the peninsula and was forced to back across the swamp.

The 329th Infantry continued to improve organization of the terrain held. The regiment made a reconnaissance in force to the south.

20 July 1944

In compliance with amendment No. 2 to Field Order No. 8, VIII Corps (see Item 890, G-2, G-3 Journal, 20 July 1944L units continued to clear zone of hostile resistance that had been by-passed and awaited further orders. Division improved positions held. The 330th Infantry was ordered to coordinate with the 9th Infantry Division on H-Hour for Operation COBRA.

21 July 1944

Amendment 5 to Field Order 8, VIII Corps was received at 201945 see Item 978, G-2, G-3 Journal, 20 July 1944.) Field Order 18, 83rd Infantry Division was issued at 210200 (see Item 1019, 6-2, 6+3, Journal 21 July 1944.) Units of the Division continued to hold positions occupied and to regroup for future operations. Reconnaissance was made for crossing of the TAUTE RIVER.

22 JULY 1944

Amendment No. I to Field Order 18, 83rd Infantry Division; issued at 220400.

Division remained in position generally along the Taute River and made preparations for the attack on D-Day. A truck movement was heard during the early morning in front of the 329th Infantry positions. Artillery was directed on this target and a good effect gained. Units continued adjustment of the lines and regrouping.

23 JULY 1944

At 0530 enemy troops and vehicles were observed in the vicinity of (T 323546.) Artillery fire was adjusted on this target and excellent results were obtained.

The 329th Infantry and 330th Infantry made a reconnaissance in force at 1200 which developed into a coordinated attack for a limited objective. The objective was reached and gains consolidated.

24 JULY 1944

Elements of the 4th Armored Division started to relieve units of the 83rd Infantry Division on LE MOULIN (T 3775) and LES AUXRIS (T 3773) at 1630. D-Day for Operation COBRA was postponed until 25 July 1944.

Elements of the Division regrouped along the north bank of the TAUTE RIVER in preparation for the coordinated attack on 26 July 1944.

25 JuLY 1944

At 250125 July 1944, the Division received information that D-Day and H-Hour for Operation COBRA for the 330th Infantry was 251100 and that D-Day and H-Hour for the remainder of the Division was 260530 (see Item 1456,G-2, G-3 Journal, 16 July 1944.)

The 330th Infantry, with the 106th Cavalry Squadron attached, launched an attack at 1100 to seize that portion of the ST LO PERIERS road in its sector and the town of LE MESNIL VIGOT (T 3368.) This attack was coordinated with the 9th Infantry Division on the left. The 330th Infantry made slow progress against stubborn resistance and by dark had reached ST LO-PERIERS road in the vicinity of the crossroad (T 3768.)

The 83rd Infantry Division, less the 330th Infantry, prepared for the attack on 26 July 1944.

26 JULY 1944

Field Order No. 19 was issued to units at 0130 for the attack at 0530. This field order was confirmation of oral instructions already issued by the Commanding General, 83rd Infantry Division. A change in the right boundary of the zone of action was ordered and the first Battalion, 329th Infantry, was relieved by the 357th Infantry, a regiment of the 90th Infantry Division.

The 83rd Infantry Division, less the 330th Infantry, launched an attack at 0530 (see Item I559 G-2, G-3 Journal, 26 July 1944.) Both of the front-line regiments in the attack encountered very heavy mortor and small arms fire. The 330th Infantry started its attack at 0900. Very slow Progress was made against determined resistance.

The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry, launched an attack at 2230 to secure a limited objective which straightened out the lines of that regiment.

27 JULY 1944

The 83rd Infantry Division launched a coordinated attack at 0900. The 331st supported this attack by fire only. The 330th Infantry made an advance of about 800 yards against moderate resistance.

During the morning, there was evidence of enemy withdrawal, especially on our right front.

In the afternoon, the enemy resistance weakened and the Division was able to advance to the TAUTE RIVER with no oposition. Many mines and booby traps were encountered by the advancing troops.

Reconnaissance of the TAUTE RIVER in preparation

for crossing was made.

At 1755 the Division received orders from VIII Corps directing the Division to advance until dark 27 July and to resume the advance at daylight 28 July (See Item 1724, G-2,G-3 Journal, 27 July 1944.)

Reconnaissance revealed that there was little or no oposition on the south bank of the TAUTE RIVER. The Division moved across the river without delay. By midnight the 329th Infantry and the 331st were on their objectives south of the TAUTE RIVER.

28 JULY 1944

In compliance with TWX, VIII Corps, the Division resumed the attack at 0530 and advanced with little or no oposition. The Division objective was changed during the day by VIII Corps, extending it to the south about 1000 yards (see Item 1849, G-2, G-3 Journal, 28 July 1944.)

A fragmentary order was issued at 1800 by the Division to prepare to defend the Division objective (see Item 1861, G-2, G-3 Journal, 28 July 1944.)

Division Command Post at (T 361779) was closed and new Command Post opened at (T 351711.)

Some air activity was encountered over the Division area and the 329th Infantry received some

329th. Infantry - Mopping up.

bombing and strafing.

Patrols were sent out and made contact with the 1st., 9th, and 90th Divisions. The Division at this time had advanced approximately eight miles north of the TAUTE RIVER.

29 July 1944

The Division received TWX of VIII Corps ordering the Division to await orders in present location (see Item 1878, G-2, G-3 Journal, 29 July 1944.)

The Division improved its defensive position and spent most of the day in reconnaissance, and rehabilitation.

The Division Commander held a critique with each Infantry Regiment, covering the lessons learned in the operation just completed.

Division Command Post at (T 351711) was closed and new Command Post opened at (T 340681.)

30 JULY 1944

The Division remained in its defensive position and carried on training programs, to include firing by replacements of AT Grenade Launchers, AT Rifle GRenades at burned out enemy tanks together with machine gun and mortor firing. Technique of hedgerow fighting was stressed.

31 JULY 1944

The Division continued its training program in the same position (southeast of PERIERS T 351711 and awaited further orders.

- 4. Personel:
- 7572 Enlisted a Casualties 413 Officers
- 7073 Enlisted b. Replacements 406 Officers 519 Enlisted
- 26 Officers c. Returnees
- d. Prisoners taken 370.

Robert G. Macon Major Gen., U.S. Army Commanding

(NEXT ISSUE - "AUGUST 1944."

THE COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE HISTORY, OF THE 83rd. INFANTRY, HAVE BEEN MANY. KENT O'CONNELL, OUR VERY OWN HISTORIAN, DESERVES THE PLAUDITS. WRITE TO KENT AND THANK HIM PERSONALLY. I'M SURE THAT EVERYONE IS HAPPY WITH HIS WORK. ED.

PAY YOUR DUES EARLY. DON'T GET CAUGHT BEHIND! THUNDERBOLTS GO ONLY TO THOSE THAT ARE PAID-UP. Ninety two of last years Members are without a Thunderbolt this year.

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Our Dinner Dance has come and gone. There were fifty six dinners served. The best steaks you ever ate and I'm sure the seafood was just as good.

Sorry you couldn't be with us - Yo and Gene Costanzo. Glad to hear that your grandson is coming along after his leg surgery. Also missed Paul and Rita Diethrich. They rarely miss.

Our Picnic is scheduled once again at Adam Hassicks place in West Newton on July 11. Hope to see all of you there.

The departure for the ETO Tour is on the 18th of June. Sam Klippa, Joe Danylo, Hank and Elena Golembiewski and the Bill Wallis's are scheduled to leave at that time. Hope it will be just as enjoyable as the last one.

Kentucky Derby Time -- Ralph Gunderson of Ky, R.C. Hamilton of Marion, KY, John Caruso, Sam Klippa and Andrew Churpak, George Komlos of Pittsburgh, Ted Ritchie and Tom Hensley of KY, Al Shrawder of Ind. What a group! They visited the Old Grand Dad Distillery and attended the Governors Breakfast and had a great time. Also stopped in to see the Nolte's in Columbus, OH. Mrs. Nolte fell and was: in the care of the Doctors at the hospital when they arrived. You can't keep those good folks down.

Emil Becker celebrated his 78th Birthday on June 6th. You wouldn't believe Emil to see him. He's doing just wonderful and attended our Dinner Dance. We all wish him many more Birthdays in good health.

Our Sympathies go to Lou Cavens, whose mother Bertha Saxwen passed away at the age of ninety four.

Our Congradulations are in order for Joe DeLuca who received his Associates Degree May 21 from Westmoreland Community College. He now is furthering his studies at California State to receive his Bachelors Degree in the Social Field. Keep up the good work Joe.

Our Congradulations to Al and Anna Mae Suess on their 27th Wedding Anniversary. How the years do fly and also, Al Suess Jr. is being discharged from the National Guard after six years.

Gene has done it again. He and son-in-law Bill are breaking all bowling records. Bill ranks first in the state in Singles and Gene came in first in Doubles with the Oakmont Nine Plus 1 League.

My wife Lee just got her arm out of the cast after slipping on the wet grass in the yard. Stay healthy, and have a beautiful summer.

> Ed Reuss Pittsburgh Reporter "I" Co. 329th Inf. *****

There will not be a Secretary-Treasurers report this time. I'm going to catch up on everything prior to leaving for Europe. See you at the Reunion.

Best of everything to all of you 'til then. Samuel Klippa

"D" Co. 331st. Inf

CONTINUATION

PAID-UP MEMBERS FOR 1975-76

Rene Gingras - D 331 Kenneth Moody - D 331 James W. Smith - D 331 Joe Galonka - I 329 Charles R. Navish - I 329 James W. Smith - D 331
Joe Galonka - I 329
Charles R. Navish - I 329
Harry Adkins - D 331
Wm. F. Troutwine - B 329
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Edward J. Fenelon - I 329
Vitie C. Atkocius - H 331
Francis G. Monan - A 331
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Lloyd Chambers - 83rd Sig.
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Jerry Polverino - Hq 330
Willet Rusaw III - B 329
James R. McDonald - F 330
Edward A. Reith - H 331
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Hercules Kontoulas - G 331
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Jay D. Bradford - I Bn Hq 330
Ralph J. Blank, Jr. - C 323 F A.
Louie W. Tidd - B 308 Eng.
Jay D. Bradford - I Bn Hq 330
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James H. Young - A.T. 329
William N. Chamman - B3rd Q.M. Oliver Gabriel - B 329
Jaquin Blanco - M 330
Lawrence A. Weber - Med. 331
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Henry S. Hine - M 330
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H.T. McLain, Jr. - I 330
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Eddie T. Fuqua - H 329 Clifford Anderson - A 330
Vernon Bobo - I 331
Eddie T. Fuqua - H 329
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Guy Madison - Cn 331

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Frederick D. Kibbey - I 329
Paul A. Hanna - I 329
Norman Ream - M 330
Olney E. Armintrout - 3 Bn Hq 329
Eugene Nolte - D 331
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Raymond L. Dutton - B 329
Raymond L. Dutton - B 331
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Pete Ferelli - K 330
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Nelson Reisinger - B 908 F.A.
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William F. George - Hq 323 F.A.
Joseph J. Kara - C 320
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All Uridel - Cn 329
George J. Klein - B 330
Nalter Mecka - F 330
Rollinka - B 330
Rollinka - B 330
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Leroy A. Titus - G 331
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Casey Kowalec - C 322 F.A.
Robert Uher - B 329
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Karl Hard A. Herhuth - Hq 324 F.A.
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Jacob Schmidt - H 330
Leroy

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William E. Nagel - D 331
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Roscoe Gautschi - G 331
John Kovac - D 331
John Shamrock - Hq 324 F.A.
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Claude Whitman - Hq 324 F.A.
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John Caparanis - B 331
Richard N. Kelley - Hq 908 F.A.
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Robert Pflieger - D 331
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Frank DiStefani - Serv 908 F.A.
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William C. Seman - 1 Bn Hq 329
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O. Kenneth Baird - G 331
Ned B. Smith - Med 331
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John Kepchar - L 331
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John J. Kujawa - K 330
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Robert E. Scheumann - Hq 323 F.A.
John W. Robinette - C 308 Eng.
Carlos A. Crouse - 3 Bn Hq 331
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Richard T. Alexander, Jr. - Hq Divarty
Richard E. Ammon, Sr. - A 331
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Walter W. Cooper - H 330
Harold L. Michael - 322 F.A.
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Marion B. Cooper - I 331
Robert Trimble - A 331
Jack Drapkin - 2 Bn Hq 331
Rick Boyd - 2 Bn Hq 331
Edward Zerucha - F 329
Nick Barbu - D 331
Edward Zerucha - F 329
Nick Barbu - D 331
Edward Zerucha - F 329
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Edward C. Bain - G 329
Wm. G. Ferguson - F 329
Frank Bellino - I 329
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Matthew Banasik - A.T. 331
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A.G. Christensen - C 331
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Paul N. Graff - A 330
Clem Stemplewski - A 308
Elmod F. Kragar - F 331 Dan Regan - 83rd M.P. Paul N. Graff - A 330 Clem Stemplewski - A Clem Stemplewski - A 308 Eng. Elwood E. Kreger - F 331 Robert E. Hruska - G 329 Mansel A. Slack - Div Hq. Wm. P. Schneider - K 331 Marvin Pieper - Div Hq.

Nyal M. Mullins – 1 Bn Hq 330

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Hugh A. Cantrell - I 329
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Ralph Wavra - L 330
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Anthony Novak - 308 Med.
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Lawrence A. Boyle - Hq 323 F.A.
Willis J. Hanson - E 331
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Phillip J. Meisl - E 329
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John Folsom - A 330
R.E. Baker - C 329
William P. Stanley p C 330
Joseph J. Lorello - B 330

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Louis J. Kinnan - C 324 F.A.
August Kleen - B 329
J. Les Volkmer - K 330
W. Carl Bidner - G 329
Joseph Macaluso - G 331
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Ray F. Jenkins - B 330 Div Ha. Lawrence B. Armand - Cn 3
Ray E. Jenkins - B 330
Ralph E. Godfrey - I 329
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Roger W. Crampton - B 330 William H. Ayers - A 329
Roger W. Crampton - B 330
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Kenneth E. Meyer - 83rd Sig.
Elgie D. Holcombe - D 308 Med.
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William O. Jackson - D 329
Frank Palasky - A 908 F.A. Walter R. Pickett - Serv 908 F.A.
William O. Jackson - D 329
Frank Palasky - A 908 F.A.
Noel O. Villarreal - A 331
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Robert W. Pegg - 323 F.A.
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John E. Massey - Cn 330 Lawrence H. McQuade - 1 Bn Hq 33
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Joseph Kosik - 3 Bn Hq 329
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Oscar J. Hart - H 330
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Felix S. Marra - D 330 Robert F. Mills - I 329
Felix S. Marra - 0 330
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Richard H. Coats - Hq 330
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Charles Kehner - A 331
William Caruso - B 331
Jerry Zingg - C 322 F.A.
Edward A. Paulino - 322 F.A.
Geoge H. Bourget - H 329
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Howard Edwards - B 329
Phil Poso - B 331 Phil Poso - B 331 Howard C. Carlbom -A 908 F.A. Frank Mangum - A 908 F.A. James Taylor - Hq 323 F.A. Albert C. Bizzini, Jr. -John Braz - Cn 330 329 George W. Irvine - Hq 324 F.A. Melvin E. Risley - C 308 Eng.

The past Issue of the Thunderbolt and this one contain all the names of Paid-up Members except for just a few that were signed up since the lists were made. We have more than 200 free Thunderbolts going out to all the VA Hospitals, the other Associations around the Country and to the wives of our deceased Buddies.

William P. Stanley p C 330 Joseph J. Lorello - B 330

If your name is missing, please let me know. You may be one of those unaccounted for.

This has been a very successful year for our Association. We have picked up most of those Members that did not pay their Dues last year and added many new ones. We are in good Financial condition and can stay that way with your continued help. Working together is always good for any Association.

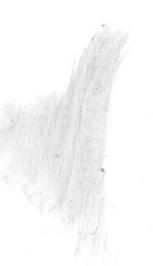
THANK YOU ONE AND ALL FOR A GREAT BICENTENNIAL YEAR. WE ALL APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH. HAPPY THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

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Let's all celebrate the Bicentennial and our Anniversary at the Reunion in Orlando, Florida this year.

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