



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

VOL. 35 NO. 3

JAN., FEB., MARCH 1980



The Betsy Ross House in Philadelphia is "The Birthplace of Old Glory" In this little Colonial dwelling Betsy Ross, seamstress and Patriot, stitched the First American Flag.

Here we come Philly for the 34th reunion.

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: 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013.

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan 1947	Raymond J. Voracek 1958	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968
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Lt. Gen. Robert H. York 1956	William M. Doty 1966	Mike Skovran 1976
*Harry W. Lockwood 1957	Albert A. Belvedere 1967	Manlius Goodridge 1977
		Joseph A. Macaluso 1978

THE PRESIDENT'S SPOT

I just received the latest Thunderbolt and that line that stated "March 10th Deadline" caught my eye, so I'm sitting here trying to think up some goodies to write about. Your Reunion Chairman, Sam Aiello and I made a trip to the Marriott Motel last week to clean up a couple of things that had been hanging fire and we did some more looking around before we left. Sam and I congratulated each other and agreed we picked a very good Site. Our next "Main Event" on the Reunion Card is the Meeting with the Executive Board in May. And, I personally think when they see the place, the Board will be in complete agreement with us.

When the Philadelphia Chapter went to see and hear the String Bands perform on March 1st, we had the pleasure of having out of town 83rd'ers with us. They spent Friday and Saturday night at the Marriott and we have heard nothing but praise about the Motel. I dislike repeating myself, but I think a few items should be restated. First of all, the Marriott Motel is a very popular spot and no matter what night of the week it is, the Motel has very few empty rooms. I would suggest you send in your Reservation cards early with a one night's deposit if possible.

The other item is the Atlantic City trip to the Casino on Wednesday, August 20th. We think the trip is something you people will enjoy, but for the Bus to pick you up at the Motel, we must guarantee a minimum of 40 people. So, if you think you would like to get a glimpse of the Gambling Tables, drop me a line. Atlantic City parking fees start at \$5.00 per Car for a limited amount of time, so the Bus is a much better bet!!

AH Yes!! We are starting to get our AD BOOK set up. So don't forget fellows, all your Ads will be a great help to defray some of the costs and help us put on a Great Reunion. I can't think of any more to write about at this time, except to say that Sam and I are doing our best to give you the Best. I'm going to bring this letter to a close with a wish for Good Health to all and see you in August in Philly!!

Bill Chavanne - Natl. Pres.
7041 Rutland Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19149
Co C - 308th Eng.

TO ALL 308TH ENGINEERS

I send out letters recently to all 308th Engineers whose name I was able to find on Chapter and National Rosters with the idea of making up a Booster page in the Ad Book. I personally was in Co "C", but I would like to make up the Biggest and Best Booster which would be made up of ALL Engineers. You know who you are, HQ, A, B and C companies, so this is the time to stand up and be counted!! Also, fellows, you may have on hand the name of a Buddy Engineer that I don't have. If you do, please give him a shout and tell him what I am trying to do. Or better yet, if you do have a name how about sending me the info?? If you feel as strongly as I do about the Engineers, just drop a check for \$5.00 to me (made out to the 83rd Inf. Div. Assn.) and I'll love you for it. Here's hoping to hear from all of you soon.

Bill Chavanne - 308th "C"
7041 Rutland Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19149
215-728-6040

SECRETARY - TREASURER REPORT

Dear Buddies:

Where does the time go? We certainly have no time for boredom. I am really really enjoying this job and hope that you are all happy with the way I am getting it done.

I am getting a good response from the membership letter. But there is always room for more. As I have said, remember at one time we were a very close family, let us be that way again. Contact that buddy of yours and see if he has send in his membership dues.

I want to thank all of you for the support and the kind words you have written me. I really appreciate them.

We are getting closer and closer to Reunion time. Your reservation card was in the last issue of the Thunderbolt. Get it sent in to the Philly Chapter. I can assure you that you will be made welcome. The host chapter makes you really feel welcome and will see that you get in touch with your old friends. Nothing it seems is more important than friends with whom you can reminisce. So make plans now.

Pearl is doing fine and thanks all of you for remembering her each time you write or call.

Men, remember those dues and also your cards to the Philly Chapter. If you send any news to me or names of men from the 83rd, please put their address and Company with it. There are many new names to me and until I can get all the files up to date I need all of the information. Am looking forward to greeting all of you for the first time as your Secretary-Treasurer at the reunion.

Bob Derickson
3rd Bn. Hq. Co.
329 INF.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Having just received the latest issue of the "THUNDER-BOLT", and having had the chance to read over it, I can't help but feel that congratulations are in order for the great job our new Secretary-Treasurer, Bob Derickson is doing. Having had the opportunity to serve this Association as Secretary-Treasurer and Editor, I know only too well of the tremendous amount of hard work it is to do both jobs and do them well.

As we receive this publication, and read it through, I often think of those men who served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, who are not members of this Association and being able to be in contact with those Buddies that they first met in Basic Training, living as one big family, and finally that day coming to go Overseas and continue on with in Combat.

I know that there are many of them who are members of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Jewish War Veterans, Catholic War Veterans and many more organizations. I often wonder if they have ever sat down and considered just what the 83rd Infantry Division Association is. This is more than just a Veterans Organization, it is a unit of men who swerved together. Any of us can be members of these other Organizations, but their members can not be a member of ours.

Let us all give some thought to either trying to get a Buddy to join or give him a gift of a paid up Membership. Let us all take an active part in keeping this the greatest Veterans Organization in the Country. Give serious thought to attending a Reunion and meet some of those long lost Buddies, and contribute to our Add Book which helps the Reunion Committee give us a better Reunion. Let us all remember, we are part of a very large family, help keep this family together. I have often heard men say, "I never heard of the 83rd Infantry Division Association". I don't know how they can truthfully say that as we have had publicity throughout the Country.

Larry Redmond,
Co. "H" 330th

"FRANKLY SPEAKING" TO THE MEN OF "D" COMPANY 330TH

Hi Buddies!

This is a reminder and a follow-up of a letter I sent to you a couple of weeks ago asking for a donation for an ad for Company "D-330th" in the ad book at the coming reunion.

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

Buddies, I don't like to make a pest of myself but as I stated in my letter, "D" company was always there when they were called on and I would like to carry on our reputation.

Larry Redmond and myself are hard at work sending out letters trying to get ads for this book. This is again a reunion project that entails a lot of hard work. If we were to obtain at least a booster ad from about half of our membership, quite a bit of money could be derived from this project.

"HELP"

"HELP"

"HELP"

Just "MAC"
Frank McGrogan
Company "D" 330th

REUNION ADD BOOK

Hello Buddies:

As you know, time is rolling by on us, and before we know it, the time will be here for our Reunion. As you are all aware, this year it will be held at the Marriott Motel on City Line Ave. just off the Schuylkill Expressway and close to U.S. Route 30, U.S. Route 1 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike and available to the Philadelphia International Airport by Limousine Service.

I am sure that all of you are aware of the hard work on putting on a successful Reunion. With the rising cost of everything it gets harder each year to give you the type of Reunion that we would like to give you, and that is where the Add Book Committee comes in. We need your help with this Book to help keep the Reunion costs down.

Now comes the plug, Frank McGrogan and myself are hard at work sending out letters trying to get Adds for this book. There again is a Reunion project that entails a lot of hard work and disappointment. Several hundred letters are sent out and a very small percentage are acknowledged. If we were to obtain at least a booster add from about one half of our membership, quite a bit of money could be derived from this project alone. Many of you are in Business and could afford a larger add, this is one way of contacting that long lost Buddy and letting him know that you are a successful business man as well as obtaining some extra customers at a minimum of publicity expense. As you know we have men from coast to coast who attend these Reunions, so there is your add reaching the entire Country. Please lend us a helping hand by taking an add, no matter how large or how small, or contact a Buddy or a local merchant and obtain an add for us. Being true 83rd men, we know that we can rely on you for your help.

Your buddy
Larry Redmond
Co. "H" 330th

P.S. See back page of book for Add Book application and prices.

YOUR CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Hello Everyone.

I am taking this opportunity, to write this letter so that I may personally thank, all of the Officers that have served so well on the Board, or with the Board.

The Dedication that these men have shown us, is reflected on the well organized, 83rd Infantry Division Association. Money and time was no object to these men, when it came to traveling all sorts of distances, and giving up weekends, and reunion time.

May the good work continue in the future, and always for the good of the Organization. I salute all the dedicated men I have served with as an Officer.

Most Sincerely Yours
Louis J. Volpi

**REUNION CHAIRMAN'S CORNER
SAM AIELLO "C" BATTERY 908**

Philly Fun - For Everyone

Well buddies another year has past and the start of 1980 has begun, it seems as though the years are just going by to quickly.

But 1980 will bring a great event, our 34th Reunion will be held in Philadelphia, Pa. This reunion promises to be one that will be remembered by all who attend. The reunion will be held August 21,22,23, special rates have been given to us by the hotel \$32.00 per day for singles, and \$38.00 per day for doubles, as you all know this reunion will be held at the beautiful Marriott Hotel located at City Avenue and Monument Road.

The Marriott has so many wonderful activities to offer us. There 715 rooms at the Marriott and all of them are luxury personified, complete with oversize beds, individual climate controls, color TV's, bathroom heat lamps, and telephone message lights. The mini shopping mall offers shops and services of all descriptions. Other Marriott conveniences include dry cleaning and laundry service, auto rental, airlines desk, and many others to numerous to mention. Almost every service you could need is ready and waiting to make us comfortable and happy.

And for those of you with a gourmet palate, there are five restaurants and lounges under one roof offering everything from 24-hour family food and snacks to exciting specialty restaurants featuring the finest beef, seafood, and polynesian fare.

And there's more to do, with Marriott's three swimming pools, two outdoor, one indoor, and a hydro-massage pool, to relax those aching muscles after a night of fun and frolic. There are also two game rooms a virtual heaven on earth for the kids to enjoy. For every moment of your visit, Marriott wants to make you happy, and so do all your buddies from the Philadelphia Chapter.

After a day of all these activities when the sun begins to set, its not over yet, its time to put on your dancing shoes. Because, the Philly Chapter will entertain you for three days & nights like you never been entertained before. Our program has something for everyone, with the activities that the Marriott has to offer and the entertainment the Philly Chapter has lined up, it promises to be a winning combination.

"YOU WENT TO THE REST NOW COME TO THE BEST"

So get your reservation cards in as early as possible so not one single person will be dissappointed.

Refer all questions and inquiries to:

SAM AIELLO
1128 Durfor Street
Phila., Pa. 19148

**FOR THE THUNDERBOLT
SPECIAL NOTICE
MEMBERS OF THE 908TH F.A. WILL TURN OUT IN FAR
GREATER NUMBERS THAN EVER BEFORE AT THIS
YEARS GRAND 34TH. ANNUAL REUNION TO BE HELD
AT THE MAGNIFICENT MARRIOTT IN PHILADELPHIA.**

**SUBMITTED BY
M. BRICK
A-BTRY 809TH F.A.**

Hello Buddies:

Here it is March already and August coming up fast, and Reunion time again staring us in the face. So you guys, make your vacation plans now so you can go to Philly and partake in the fun that we all have meeting old buddies. The Philly Gang is hard at work preparing for a gala affair, and if it is anything like the last Philly reunion I for one want to be there.

We have a couple of our members in the hospital. Al Lacinski had a new valve installed in his heart. Al is doing okay, coming home tomorrow (March 2) and as Casey Kowalec would say, our prayers were answered. Haven't heard about Jim Lindsay. He was to have a disc operation and if I don't hear from someone about how he fared I damned sure can't write about it.

My wife, Eleanor was hospitalized for a week, and don't think we weren't scared. She is okay now. They found that she has sugar, what next?

Reunion plans - 1980. We were planning on chartering a bus, but the gys can't seem to get together on the same days. Some want to leave on Tuesday, others on Wednesday. The big gambling seems to be the attraction. The guys want to try their luck on Wednesday at Atlantic City.

Earl and Ronnie Lindsey moved into their new quarters, a home of their own. It took some time before everything was straightened out. They had the misfortune of getting a new landlord who turned out to be a perfect bastard to put it bluntly. I don't know how Earl stood it for so long. I would have decked the guy early. After 12 years of peaceful living they had to be blessed with a goon like that. Poor Ronnie had her nails bit off up to the elbows.

Heard that Lou & Priscilla Donnelly became grandparents. I think Lou said that was number six. If he was joking the joke backfired as I have ears. "Ha!"

We had our election in February. Our slate remains the same with one exception. Lou Donnelley.

**Lou Donnelly, President
Casey Kowalec, Secretary
Walt Meczka, Treasurer
Al Uridel, Reporter
Bob Grobelny, Sick Committee
Rollie Warner, Sgt. at Arms**

Our last meeting was held at the Bob Grobelny residence, and once again the Grobes did it up like we like it, good food, good booze as always. Our March meeting will be at Ed and Julie Cox residence, and I know that the Cox's will not be out maneuvered. So, another meeting is in store for us.

Talked to Ed Glinka today. Had to call him and ask how Josephine was coming along. He said she's okay, needs a lot of rest. So now we all know how Jo is doing. Hoping to see all of you in Philly in August. Stay nice and God Bless.

**Al Uridel
Cn Co 329**

P.S. Check your membership cards, you may be delinquent. Dues are due.

G COMPANY 331st

Recently, I checked over my files on the articles that I had written for the THUNDERBOLT. I began writing so that I could express my thoughts and my respects for the many men that served in G 331 in World War II. I had written about the replacements, the runners, clerk, mail clerk, communication personnel, supply personnel and jeep drivers.

With the Convention in New Orleans dominating my time I have been unable to continue the articles on those individuals that I owe a great deal of gratitude and thanks for making my position as Company Commander an easy task and a very rewarding one.

When I entered the 83rd Division in October 1943 at Camp Breckenridge, I had been in the army a little over a year, spending my time between various service schools and the training of replacements. As an ROTC cadet, I had many hours of training in Discipline, Command and Leadership. During the year before joining the 83rd, I had a chance to put into practice the many things that I had learned from the text books. The principles behind the training are outstanding, but the practical work and the application of those principles cannot be proven until you become part of the Army. In that first year I was able to apply myself to those principles. It was a learning experience. I thought that I had learned everything that I needed to know. That was a mistake I made, because when Bill Waters assigned me to the Weapons Platoon of G 331, I found that I knew very little about the Light Machine Gun and the 60 Mortars. I had a lot to learn and very little time to learn it. With Division test being conducted I felt that the only way the weapons platoon would pass those test was for me to call upon someone who knew his job and knew how to run the platoon. I was very fortunate that I had Sgt. Clyde Flannary to turn to. Flannary was what we called an 'ole soldier' and had more years in service, than I had time in the chow line. Flannary told me that all I had to do was follow him around during the test, and do what ever he was doing. It worked, the platoon passed the test and I got an education. Flannary had trained the platoon and had selected a group of NCO's to run the sections and the squads. Carl Wheeler, Beau Titus, Bo James, Herb Barton did outstanding jobs training the personnel. I worked with this group for six months, and by the time we sailed for Europe, we had become a close knit platoon and felt that the training in the states welded us into one of the finest platoons in the Division.

Once we entered into combat, all of that training, that we had spent in the states and in the hills of Wales, paid its dividends. We realized that there would be casualties, so that when the casualties began to come in, all of the NCO's were ready to step in and assume the leadership roles. Unfortunately, we lost a number of key sergeants early in combat. Flannary performed an outstanding job as platoon sergeant until he was wounded in the St. Malo area. Carl Wheeler and Bo James had the mortars doing an excellent job, until an entire group was lost in an unfortunate incident. With these sergeants out of action, it was Beau Titus's turn to step forward. Without hesitating Beau stepped into the job and performed in an excellent manner. He remained as weapons platoon sergeant for the remainder of the combat in Europe.

Until we entered into the St. Malo area, I had served practically all of my time with the weapons platoon. I had served from time to time with one of the rifle platoons and also as executive officer. I had known most of the sergeants from the training days at Breckenridge and in the early combat in Normandy, but I had not been as close to them as I was with the members of the weapons platoon. When we reorganized after St. Malo, Capt. Waters the CO went to the Battalion Staff and as a 2nd St. I was given command of G Co. This was indeed a reward for me. I had assumed a Job that carried a great deal of responsibility and I would need all the help that I could muster in order to do the job that was expected of me. We had only myself and one other officer in the company, before the replacement officers arrived. That is when I looked around to see what sergeants I had in the rifle platoons.

I knew that in Mort Gaynor, that I had a solid top sergeant. Mort had been through Officer Candidate School, but through a technicality he did not receive a commission, he had successfully completed the course. This was a God sent to G Company, Mort was available when I needed assistance in handling the administration end of the command. He performed his job as a First Sergeant, I had no worries in that part of my command.

In the states I had gotten to know some of the personnel in the three rifle platoon. The platoon sergeants were experienced in their jobs. Singleton, Yeary, Bertinetti did commendable jobs. Once in combat, we lost two the three within a few days, and the third only a few months after. Advancements had to be made, we were fortunate in G Company to have squad leader who could step into the job of Platoon Sergeants. There were men like Frank Bunk, Bob McAbee and Loyal Pangle. Once these three men took over the platoons, it was evident that I was a fortunate Company Commander, to have these men available to assume command of the platoons. With Pangle, we had an individual who had also gone through OCS and due to a technicality he did not receive his commission. He did an outstanding job as platoon sergeant, and was a NCO who was able to do it all. At times I knew he was not satisfied with the ways things were going, but he would always stay in there and pitch. It was a relief to know that I had men like Gaynor, Titus and Pangle, that I could depend on.

Once in Combat, when officer casualties were out weighing the replacement officer, it was necessary to reward these outstanding sergeants with Battlefield commissions. I offered commissions to Gaynor, Titus, Pangle, McAbee and Bunk, for some reason they all refused. It is amusing that even to this day when we meet each year at the reunion, neither one of them can give me a reason as to why they refused the commissions.

These are the noncommissioned officers in the unit that held the positions at the platoon level. When we got down to the squads, we were extremely fortunate to have a continuous group of men to assume command of those units. These are the men that bore the brunt of the casualties. It seemed as though I was always looking at new squad leaders. It is hard for me to recall the names of all the men that had a chance to command the squads in G Company, but I felt that I was always secured at that level. Some of these men did a tremendous job, all of them did a commendable job. Men like Myer, Kosobuncki, Krull, Schwartz, Rung, Paradis, Budd, Kontoulas, Piette (his job was keeping Berlet and Titus on the ball) Naelrod, James Balke, White. I know that I left out quite a few names, but believe me without these individuals my job as CO would have been a difficult task. Because of these men and me like them that made up the 27 rifle companies in the 83rd, The Division went on to achieve some of the greatest victories in modern warfare. My hat is off to those unsung heroes of the American Army, The Sergeants.

Joe Macaluso



Tom Sullivan, O.L. Cook, Jack Krebs - Boat Ride, New Orleans



Joe & Mena MacCaluso Co G 331st New Orleans Aug. 1979



Chester Gray Co M 330th Parrish, Alabama



Lucy Volpi, Dick Riddle, Lou Volpi & all that money given away in New Orleans



Haran & Dorthy Martin

Michigan Chapter Report

The Michigan Chapter, as is our custom, has held no meetings thru this past winter due to weather problems and travel distances. So this report will be short.

Chapter members have once again survived the winter here in reasonably good condition, although some found it necessary to travel to warmer climates to briefly re-charge their batteries. We've had our share of the sniffles of course but these seem to be part of our Michigan winters.

We do have one seriously ill Chapter member however, and once again we ask that your prayers, as ours do, include Mario Muoio in them, asking for a swift recovery from the illness that has plagued him in recent months. Mario is at home and receiving visitors but anticipates a long recuperation period.

By the time that you read this we will be well into our Chapter meetings for the new year, our first to be held on March 16 at the home of Nick and Sylvia Barbu in Dearborn Heights. So my next report will include an up-date on plans for the 1981 reunion in Detroit. Until then let me remind you that the reunion host chapter depends in great part upon your ads in the reunion ad book to help defray the cost of putting on a successful reunion. So get your ad in now and give Philadelphia your support. From past experience we know that we'll get back more than we will give.

Bob Taylor
B - 329

REMEMBER!!!

*DEADLINES FOR ARTICLES TO BE PRINTED
IN THE THUNDERBOLT ARE:*

SEPTEMBER 10., DECEMBER 10,
MARCH 10., JUNE 10.

BOSTON CHAPTER

323rd F. A.

Time is here again to write a few lines for the Thunderbolt. I must say Robert Derickson has done a terrific job getting the issues of the Thunderbolt out to us.

Last night we had the monthly meeting of the Boston Chapter at the home of Larry and Fran Arrigo. President Romeo Maynard called the meeting to order. Mike Caprio read off our financial report with all the interest. He also informed us that the membership was coming along very good. This we were very happy to hear for our membership drive is paying off.

Raymond Hickey of Proctor, Vt. and Bill Rayotte passed away. Our condolences go out to the families of these men.

My apologies go out to Ray Bjork and his wife. It was their 6th grandchild and the grandparents are still doing fine. Ray you know I only have 5 fingers. Ha Ha!

Lucien "Jiggs" Elie is going West in July to attend the 42nd Infantry Division Reunion and hopes to make the 83rd in August. Lucien was instructed how to drive home from the meeting, however, he still maintains his badge so he can drive like heck. We sent our regards to Norman Bilodeau as Lucien sees him alot. Norman hasn't been able to make the last few meetings and we do miss him and his wife Nettie.

Joseph Healey from "A" Company 331st sent his dues along with some news. Thanks Joe even if it was bad news we like to know about our army pals. I knew some of your company myself. In fact, I think along with Joe Stranahan from Brookline, Ma. I gave you a good steak after your first battle. Do you remember that in Normandy? I thought you were from the Western part of the Bay State.

Stuart B. Hill also dropped a note that he lives only a few blocks away from our Boston Chapter President Romeo Maynard. We hope you two can get together now that you know you live so close. Maybe Romeo will get you to one of the meetings. They tell me Stuart got a pass to "Gay Paree" for naming the Division Thunderbolt.

Along with the Boston Chapter, we want to thank Fran Arrigo for all the lovely food dishes she put out and to Larry for pouring all the gingerale. We hope we did not keep you people up past your bed time.

Mike Brick has been writing to me trying to locate a buddy in this area. However, I have had no success but I have not given up. Mike does a fine job keeping his gang together along with his good pal Howie Carlbon. Over the years we have not shown enough appreciation to these men.

In January, we had a meeting at Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino's house. We decided to have a special meeting in February for our membership drive. After that, Pat and Ginny who recently became Grandparents, took us all down to see the baby along with Gary's house which he had just bought. The baby is a real 83rder. A good time was had by all.

More news at the DiGiammerino's is that David is getting married to Liz Meyer from the Buckeye State in October.

John Arrigo is getting married to Susan Jackson on June 21st.

Mike and Vera Caprio's son Michael went to Texas for a new job. We certainly wish him a lot of luck. Also, one night Joe Caprio was really roasted at Colgate College. This is a night ne will never forget. Joe has been with the Colgate Faculty for a number of years now.

Many thanks to Ray Orsene from Bradford, Ct. for sending me a pin. I had been looking for one for a ling time. Ray your wife Billy must be keeping you in line Ha! Ha! !

Well, that's all the news for now.

AMBY TYNAN
Boston Reporter

A few weeks ago I received a telephone call from Robert Derickson telling us about the untimely death of Albert "Doc" Schaeffer. Al was with the 323rd F.A. Bn. all the way. Al will be a great loss to his family as well as the 83rd Division Association. He put the 83rd on the front page two years ago in Cincinnati as Al worked at the Cincinnati Enquirer for 40 years. Our condolences to Al's family.

Many thanks to John Centrullo and Erwin Erhardt for going to see Betty Schaefer and her lovely family for the 323rd at their time of sorrow.

Romeo Maynard is back from Hawaii after 7 days plus 2 days in California.

Nick Birbardie of Battery "A" 323rd is getting along okay.

I was to see Tony Piantidosi but he was very busy and I did not get much chance to talk with him.

I had a nice letter from Captain Ralph Morgan who now lives in Virginia.

John Turkett has returned to the V.A. Hospital. I would appreciate it if you would drop John a line. (Address: NACU, V.A. Hospital, 1C 119, Columbia, South Carolina)

I recently talked on the telephone to Dallas Williams, James "Buck" Taylor, Dave Nellies, and Bill Shaner they are all doing well.

Don St. John has retired from the Postal Service. This week there is a retirement party being held for him. I guess Don is ready for the old rocking chair. Hah! !

John Piscitelli needs to straighten out some of his Phillie Troop before sending them to Boston. John they are a rough bunch and of course we are real good people here.

Well I guess that is all for now.

Amby Tynan



Women of the Greater Boston Chapter



Women of the Greater Boston Chapter



NEWEST MEMBER OF THE 83RD FAMILY Jill Marie in Mother June's arm. Proud Grandparents are Pat & Ginny DiGiammerino.



Mike Caprio & Larry Arrigo counting money

LOUISIANA CHAPTER

Our group in Louisiana can now settle down and handle the business at hand. First it was the football seasons, and while the games were being played, the Carnival Season began, and since September it has been one merry go round. With all of that behind us, we plan to get our group active again. I have been in touch with a few members and we are anxious to get some type of program going where we can continue our meetings and have a social or two.

As yet we have not made plans to attend the reunion in masse, it is my hope that we can get a few of the members together so that we can make a showing in Philadelphia. A letter will go out to each member within the next month, to gain some interest in attending the Annual Reunion.

As a representative from this area on the Executive Board, I will be in Philadelphia for the Board meeting in May. I will check with our members to get their ideas on the Program that the Philly Chapter had listed in the last issue of the THUNDER-BOLT. It should be an interesting reunion.

Joe Macaluso



Romeo Maynard & Hy Goodman double checking

KENTUCKY CHAPTER NEWS

The Kentucky Chapter was deeply saddened on February 20 when Betty called Bob Derickson to tell him that Al had passed away with a heart attack.

Time is really precious to all of us. Our chapter will meet at Butler State Park on March 29th for their spring meeting. Then on June 7th we will meet at Bob and Pearl Derickson's in Hamilton for our summer meeting. They have given an open invitation to anyone in the area to come and be with us. Be sure and let them know as Pearl is preparing food and they want to be sure and have enough. Will have more news next time as we will give a report on both meetings. Sign up a buddy now and send your reservation in for the reunion in Philadelphia. I know you will have a great time.

R.C. Hamilton
"D" 331st

Mr. Derickson,

I'm sending this article to you in hopes you will publish in one of the issues of the Thunderbolt magazine. All of this happened last August but this is the first opportunity I have had to write to you about it. I hope you can publish this and also put a piece in the magazine concerning my husband in hopes someone remembers some of the events that happened. He is trying to get a service pension and needs someone to verify the facts.

He was a member of the 83rd Division, Co. L, 330th. He has been in bad health for the past three and a half years. He had back surgery in June of '76, was home two weeks when he developed an embolism and was back in the hospital for another two weeks. The doctors couldn't get his blood stabilized. Then in September of '77, the doctor took him off of coumidan and five weeks later he had another embolism. In the meantime, he had had five hemorrhages, two mild heart attacks and is still trying to work. We aren't sure, but we think a piece of shrapnel worked into the disc of his back and caused the herniated disc. He was wounded by schapranal at St. Lo, France on July 25, 1944.

When he started working at Procter & Gamble in 1947, everything went fine until a piece of schapranal worked out of the side of his right foot and another piece worked out of his big toe; therefore we are fairly certain a piece worked into the disc of his back because it happened so fast. Within three days, he had to have surgery.

If you cannot use this article in the Thunderbolt, could you please return it. It is the only copy we have and I would like to keep it. We would appreciate knowing if anyone remembers Delmar McLaughlin and what happened. Mr. Watkins wasn't in any shape to remember what happened. Maybe the medic on the line (if still living) will remember.

Thanks for any help anyone can give.

Sincerely

Mrs. Anita McLaughlin (Delmar)
4424 Glendale Dr. Apt. 3
Batavia, Ohio 45103

'I Thought He Was Dead'—But.



June Watkins and Delmar McLaughlin talk about their war experiences.

A German shell whistled into the hedgerows of St. Lo, France, on July 25, 1944, and left two American infantrymen wounded.

June Watkins of Winston-Salem lost his left arm and was riddled with shrapnel. Bits of the same shell hit Delmar McLaughlin of Batavia, Ohio, but injured him less seriously.

McLaughlin summoned medics for Watkins and helped them remove him from the battlefield.

As the stretcher disappeared down the road, McLaughlin said he thought to himself, "He's a goner. That is the last I will ever see of him."

In fact, McLaughlin was so certain that Watkins had been fatally wounded, "I just assumed he was dead."

But a month ago, McLaughlin discovered that Watkins did not die. And this week they have been holding a reunion after 35 years.

How do both of them feel about the reunion?

"Man, it's great!" both said.

Watkins, now 60, and a resident of 3345 Old Salisbury Road, and McLaughlin, now 58, met for the first time in October 1942, when both were assigned to Camp Atterbury, Ind.

"We were among the first soldiers assigned to the 83rd Infantry Division when it was formed," said Watkins. "And we became great buddies and spent a lot of time together."

Both were finally assigned to the same squad in Co. L, 330th Regiment of the 83rd Division. Watkins as a scout and

McLaughlin as a Browning automatic rifleman.

They landed in France shortly after the invasion of June 1944 and were fighting in the hedgerows of Normandy when they were wounded.

"I had been wounded a couple of times earlier," Watkins said, "but I got it real good at St. Lo."

McLaughlin recalled that he had "absolutely no hope for June when I saw him lying there — the way he looked to me he couldn't make it."

The day after Watkins was wounded, the 83rd, which had been pinned down in the hedgerows, put its soldiers on the sides of tanks and moved 90 miles at one time.

"It was a real breakthrough," McLaughlin said.

McLaughlin continued with the 83rd until near the end of the war in Europe in May 1944. He was aboard a ship en route to the United States for leave when the armistice came.

Watkins meanwhile had been treated at a field hospital in France, then went to England for several weeks and finally to McCloskey General Hospital in Temple, Texas.

Watkins left the service on April 16, 1945, and returned to Winston-Salem. He was declared 100 percent disabled.

McLaughlin left service in October 1945. He had entered the service from South Carolina but lived there only a year after his discharge and went to Ohio to work for Procter and Gamble.

Watkins said he had thought about McLaughlin frequently through the years and had tried to locate him in South Carolina "because I thought he went back there."

McLaughlin said he had thought about Watkins — "but since I believed he was dead, I did not try to locate him."

About a month ago, Watkins noticed McLaughlin's name in the magazine of the 83rd Infantry Division, "The Thunderbolt," and wrote him to ask if he was the same McLaughlin he had known.

When the answer came back, "yes," the two immediately planned a reunion.

McLaughlin and his wife, Anita, came down from Batavia, to spend a week with Watkins and his wife, Ermalee.

The four were happy over the unexpected reunion.

"And I am glad that June isn't dead," said McLaughlin. "I am afraid I have thought that for 35 years."

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

The New England Chapter held its Christmas party at the Boxborough, Sheraton Inn, again we must say that everyone had a swell time. We had Karl & Ingrid Burkhard from New York, Mike & Marie Champey from Conn. and from Mass. Spike & Gloria McCartin, Nick & Mary Francullo, Dutchie & Helen Smith, Jim & Georgia Emanouil and we were glad to have a new member join us, Alfred J. Voisin - D-Co. 331st. Mr. 7 Mrs. Santa Claus arrived and had gifts for all. After Santa left some time was spent in the heated pool which was great. The indoor tropical atmosphere around the pool created a delightful setting for some good drinking.

We hear the Abdinor's & the McCartin's had a great time on their two week cruise to the Caribbean Islands. They are still trying to break the Bank at the Casino's.

Nick tells us he received X-mas cards from Bill C. Bier Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330 now of Brockville Ind. & he is retired from the Army, Wayne Turner Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th living in Greenville Ohio, also he just finished building a new home. Homer Rose R.D. No. 1, Alum Bank, Pa., Ray Orsene & Big Raynor Burcham who are retired from the Post Office. Bucham is living in Fla. for the winter & Proctorville, Ohio in the summer. Good to hear from all of you, hope to see you in Philidelphia.

Nick & Mary Francullo had their 34th wedding anniversary Feb. 23. good luck Nick & Mary and may you enjoy many more.

Jim & Dot Brennan are off to Texas to visit their daughter & son in law Mike, for a week or so. I guess they are spending more time in Texas than in R.I.

On sick call, we have Helen Smith who was operated on her shoulder in Jan. and her arm is in a cast. Doing fine. But this was too much for "Duchie" so he broke his toe, also doing fine. Called John Donahue last night is doing very good and hope to have him with us soon. John is also planning for the reunion in Pa. if all is well.

We had our Jan. & Feb. meeting at Nick's house Lynn Mass. Well attended, with all the business of the Chapter taken care of. Nicks & Mary Francullo had a lovely spread with plenty of food & drink as always. Thanks Mary & Nick.

The New England Chapter goes along with the idea of holding a reunion in October at Myrtle Beach as stated by the Jersey Chapter, as it seems every year it is more expensive to go to the reunions in August.

We hope everyone had Healthy & Happy Holidays.

Always
Your Buddy
Jim Emanouil
83rd Signal Co.

NOTICE

OUR NEW ADDRESS IS:

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
3749 STAHLHEBER ROAD
HAMILTON, OHIO 45013

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hi Buddies,

Just reading through the last Thunderbolt and it is a shame that most of the things we read about have already passed by more than two months ago.

We are wishing every one a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year in March. Chapters are telling us that they are having a party or some other good time so if we are in the neighborhood drop in and have a good time with them. By the time we read this the good time is long gone.

I asked a few times during the past few years that I thought it would be nice if the Chapters would put a list of the affairs they were having in the Dec., Jan., Feb. issue of the Thunderbolt for the whole year. Than if we were near at these times we could visit with them.

I think it would be swell, it's worth a try dont you think?

I received some bad news on Dec. 26th that my buddy First Sergeant Fred Lord had passed away. This poor guy had more trouble than one guy could take. His children had trouble with their backs all their lives, His wife died with cancer a year ago and now him. Its a shame that all the sickness was'nt spread around evenly to everyone than it would'nt be such a burden on just a certain few.

I guess everyone has dug themselves out of the snow by now and looking for that good old summer time. We in Jersey can't kick though. We had two small snow storms and a little cold weather nothing like last year. I have been golfing every Tuesday all through the Winter and I don't think we miss four days in that time.

We have had about four or five guys show up at our meetings every third Friday. It just seems like we can't get them out. I know some of them are busy but not all the time. I drive a 200 mile trip to have two coke with them and Stan Bieler drives about 80 miles to the there. Emil Wehling, Charlie Schlinick, Stan and I are always there. Joe DePeri stops in once in a while. Vito Lascari we haven't seen since our reunion in Cincinnati. I know if he got married he would have let us know. I hope everything is okay with him as we miss seeing him.

Just hit my 66th birthday on the 28th of February, boy where does the time fly.

I wonder where we will be having our reunion in the year 2000. We better start making all the reunions from now on, you can never tell when it will be your last one. Life is so short we should enjoy ourselves day by day and never wait for tomorrow.

We would like to wish Betty Kirgan a happy retirement and hope her & Ed enjoy many happy & healthy years in that new Cabin they just bought.

We would also like to wish Joe Glinka a speedy recovery from her heart attack. Take it easy Jo we want you around a long time yet.

Well gang not much other news at this time just hope you all doing well and hope to see you all at the reunion in Philly.

Take care, God Bless and remember its later than we think.

Your Buddy
Jim Bowie
Co. B. 330th

Dear Buddies:

Time sure does fly by quickly and I wonder if that isn't a sure sign of getting old. It seems that I just finished writing for the Last Thunderbolt, and here it is, time once again to get the word out. Hope this message finds all of you in the very best of good health and ready to enjoy the coming Spring weather. Our Winter was a very mild one this year and I do believe that a lot of the South had more severe weather than the North. Soon you should be preparing for grooming your lawns or digging gardens.

Since the last issue of the Thunderbolt, I have written to every "D" Company member in the hopes of creating more interest in our Association and to ask them to come to the next Reunion in Philly. There were a surprising amount of replies and I'll give you just a condensed version of their letters.

From Norman Schuster: Frank Meyers and I finally got together and took a trip up to see Romeo Letteri in Long Island, NY. After that we went up to see Bernie Plotnicov at the Pines Hotel in the Catskills. Romeo is just getting over his illness but his wife is still having problems with her eyes. Bernie really gave us the Royal Treatment. Made us feel very important. Both will try to make the Philly Reunion and Frank and I already made our Reservations. Vern Mueller may be able to get a few days off this year and come to the Reunion.

Stanley Rummel writes that he will be seeing us in Philly, health permitting. He gets to see Frank Meyers quite often since he retired.

Romeo Letteri said that he hated to see another Reunion pass him by, but things haven't been going too well for him. He is just starting to feel a bit better since his Heart Attack on the 6th. of September.

The Gundersons are still in Florida enjoying the great (cold) weather and always have plenty of company at their home. Was hoping they would be going to Europe with me the next trip, but they just can't make it this time. They are enjoying their grandchildren very much these days.

Wilbur Campbell, my travel companion, went to the Super Bowl in Pasadena, CA and came home a bit under the weather and entered the Hospital for five days of testing. He tells me that all is well and he needs to rest more (this is about all that he does anymore) and relaxation, so he is going to Florida again in April. One thing is for sure, he brought back a great winner from Pasadena. Hurray for Pittsburgh, the "City of Champions."

Gene Nolte and his wife are doing fairly well. Gene still has a problem with his knees and is talking about more surgery which he would rather do without. We were together at the Gundersons in November and had a great time with them.

Haven't heard from the Shrawders, John Kovak, Gerthie Little, the McKees, Gleba or the rest of "D" Company as yet. Maybe they'll all sneak in on us at the Reunion. I certainly hope so.

Since many of the other Units are buying up their own Page ADS in the Program Book for the Reunion, why not have one for "D" Company. Send your \$5.00 Patron AD to me and I'll see if we can get a Full Page for ourselves.

It's getting tougher and tougher to travel these days with the price of gasoline what it is, and I'm sure this is going to put a "Crimp" in my traveling. Nobody knows what the future holds for us, so plan to see all your Buddies at the next Reunion in Philly. I don't think it will ever cost less. Let's make this the best attended Reunion ever, or at least since the Pittsburgh Reunion (the second one) where we had 56 men and their wives in attendance. We can do it again.

Don't forget to get your Dues paid up and remind your Buddies to pay up also. Best wishes to all of you until the next Issue.

Samuel Klippa
"D" Company 331

GOOD NEWS!!! Lola Keeler was joined in Matrimony to Jack Ubig on February Eighth, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty in Port Charlotte, Florida. Congratulation!! May they have many happy years together.

Bad News!!! We lost a dear friend in Cincinnati. Al Schaefer of the Medics, one of the people that worked to hard at the Cincy Reunion, passed away on the 20th of February.

Paul Shivey, of McKeesport, PA (Unit Unknown) passed away recently. He was a member of the Pittsburgh Chapter in the very beginning and we haven't seen him for a number of years.

To the ETO Travelers of last year: I received a Christmas Card from the Red Lion Inn in Sturminster, England. They send best wishes to all and said they shall never forget us. They enjoyed our stay very much.

Franklin M. Davis, Jr., MG Retired, sent me a Thank You Note for the information I sent him regarding the 83rd. He is writing an article for a book he is doing for Time-Life World War II Series and will be published in that series on April 11, 1980 under the title "Across The Rhine." He has recounted the 83rd's effort to take an intact bridge at Oberkassel on the Rhine by deception ruse on March 1, 1945. This exploit, though unsuccessful, was most imaginative and daring, and the 83rd very nearly pulled it off. General Davis will be doing a second book, covering the 83rd part at the Elbe and the VE Day operations.

This is about all for now. Make plans now to attend the Philly Reunion. Time is running out. Let's enjoy the Company of our Buddies while we are still able.

Samuel Klippa

REMINDERS:

When writing to me about yourself or anyone in the 83rd, please give the full name and address and the company of both yourself and the person you are writing about.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!

When you move, or plan to move and know your new address in advance, please notify this office. The Post Office has Change of Address kits that are free for the asking. This is a sure way of keeping informed. Do this in advance and avoid a lot of problems. Its up to you to keep us informed and to keep our address files up to date. Notify your Post Office to forward your mail to your new address.

W. VA. Chapter Dinner

We met at the Diehls Restaurant in Nitro, W. Va. on March 1st, for our regular chapter dinner. We had a nice turnout. Especially, since we had a snow storm and blizzard and over a foot of snow.

We had as our visitor, Mr. Larry Hoskins, from Wheeling, W. Va. one of our very capable Vice-Presidents. Larry is working very hard up in the northern part of the state in getting us new members, go get them Larry, we are all behind you.

We also had some of the ladies auxillary, including the president, Mrs. Evelyn Shepard.

Our very capable Secretary-Treasurer -Mr. Don Pettry, was ill, and could not attend. We all missed you Don.

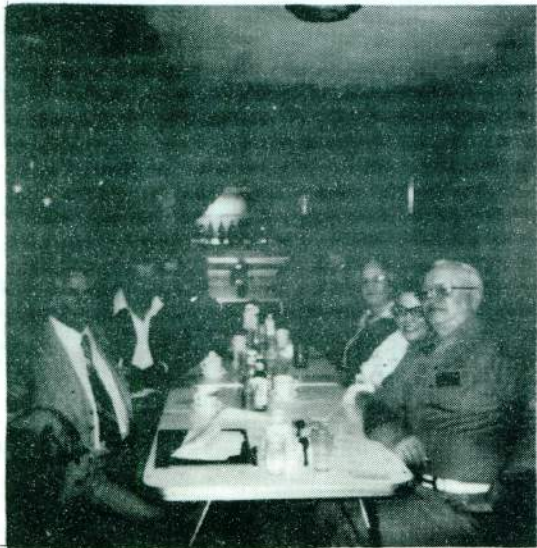
Mr. John Shepard, another one of our Vice-Presidents, has prepared a very nice replica of the 83rd emblem, for the W. Va. Chapter, and I feel that it is worthy of mention. Also I am sending a photo of him holding the emblem.

Mr. Jim Dunkin, our by-law's Committee Chairman, will have the by-laws ready by our March 22nd meeting in Parkersburg, W. Va.

I am also sending you a few more pictures taken at this chapter dinner. I will say so long until we all meet in Parkersburg, W. Va. on March 22nd, at the Wilmar Cafeteria, at 1:00 P.M. We wish all the 83rd a warm welcome.

Eugene E. Persinger
Co. A & D, 329th

P.S. I am making this report, because Don Pettry our very capable reporter was not present at the dinner.



L-R Larry Hoskins, Marion Upton, Mary Upton, Harold Crouch
Bootsie Crouch, Evelyn Shepard, and John Shepard.
The W.V.A. Chapter Dinner



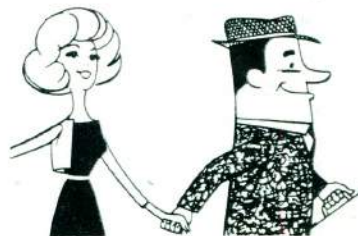
Mr. John Shepard
The W. Va. Chapter

GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS
Reporter -- John T. Piscitelli

March 1st our chapter hosted our buddies and wives of our association to our annual show of annual Philadelphia Mummers string band shows. After the Mummers show, the Entourage met at the Marriott Inn for dinner, a Preview of where our reunion will be held this coming August. After dinner our Phillie gents and ladies showed our visitors to our Chapter home in Marbeth, Pennsylvania. Sorry I couldn't be there. Due to illness of my daughter, my wife Josie, and myself. Sorry we missed Voracek's--the Tysiak's the Bifano's and Frederici's also Vito and Virginia Pallazolle. I know a good time was had by all. We hope to see them all here in August. Again we thank them all for coming to Philadelphia. Bless them all. Our National President and National Chairman are preparing a great time for all.

John T. Piscitelli, Reporter
"C" 323rd FA

I am asking all men of "C" 323rd F'A' to send their donations for add book. We are trying to get one page, two if possible to honor our deceased "C" members.
Ex Sarg. John T. Piscitelli



**WE'RE
MOVING**

OUR NEW

ADDRESS IS..

*Editor - Thunderbolt
West Virginia Chapter, Christmas Party*

The West Virginia Chapter, Met at Lum's Restaurant in Nitro, W. Va. on December 22, 1979 at 6:30 P.M. We had a good turn out, and every member and his wife enjoyed the dinner very much.

Mr. James Dunkin, who headed our by-laws committee, gave us an account of the progress that he had made toward putting the chapter's by-laws together.

We also took orders for our 83rd Identification Badges, and we have ordered around 25 badges so far, up to now. We are also planning on ordering some badges for our wives, which is less bulky than the men's.

Oh yes, we had a 2 new members that joined our chapter at this party, Mr. Marion Upton, and Mr. Clyde Barker. This makes us come up to 35 members in our chapter. It seems that everyone is very much interested in the growth of the chapter.

Mrs. Evelyn Shepard, our Auxilliary President, is trying very hard to get an auxilliary started.

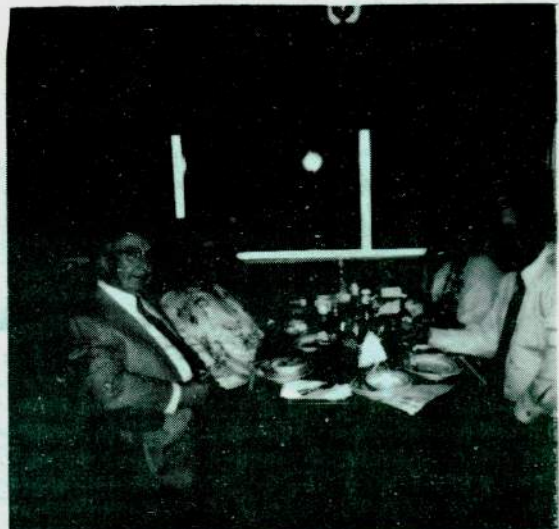
We also have taken some photos at the party which I am sending you some, of which you pick the one's that you want to put in the magazine.

Our next meeting will be March 22nd, In Parkersburg, W. Va. at the Wilmar Cafeteria, at 1:00 P.M. Anyone from the 83rd Infantry Division is welcome.

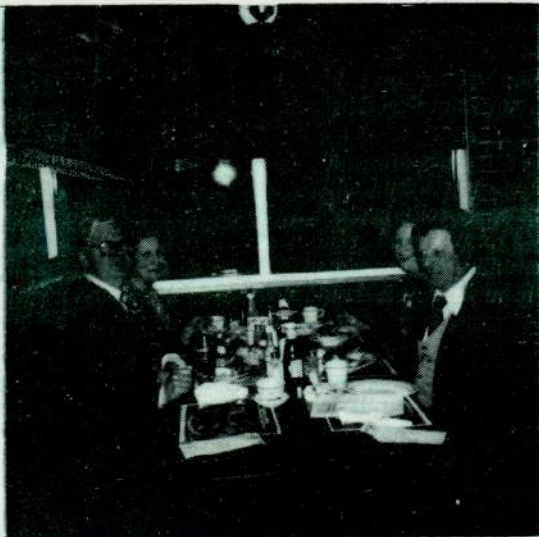
*Sincerely,
Don W. Pettry
B-323rd F.A.*



**The Chapter Christmas Party
W.Va. Chapter**



**The Chapter Christmas Party
W.Va. Chapter**



**The Chapter Christmas Party
W.Va. Chapter**



Edward Thomas--Roanoke, Virginia Co B 329th

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Hello everybody. Hope everyone enjoyed a happy holiday season and may it continue that way throughout the year.

Since my last report, the Pittsburgh Steelers have done it again by joining the Pirates in the number one spot. We think that Pittsburgh rightfully deserves to be called "Title Town, USA" Its a good feeling now because we do remember cheering them in through many of the lean years, when they never quite made it to the top.

Our Pittsburgh Chapter gives us a good feeling too. How fortunate we are to have been brought together by the 83rd Division Association. Our bonds have grown stronger as the years go by. Our regular monthly meeting of twenty-five or thirty-five guys is something special to all of us. And, just as the Pittsburgh Pirates, have coined the phrase, "We are Family".

The recent passing of our dear buddy Adam Hassick, was a mournful loss. Adam was our Chapter Treasurer who left a huge pair of shoes that would have to be filled. An election was held and the job is now in the capable hands of Sam Klippa. He will join our present staff of officers: Bill DeMarino, Pres., Wilbur Campbell, Vice Pres., and Steve Blasko, Secretary.

We received an invitation from Gene Persinger, president of the fast growing West Virginia Chapter, to join them at their March 22nd meeting to be held in Parkersburg. Gene says that Sam Klippa will be guest speaker.

Looks like Bill Chavanne and his reunion committee are cooking up a fine program in Philly. We know it takes a lot of effort and help. Let's do our part of contributing ads for their program book. Today it takes a lot more moola to make up a successful reunion program.

I have had the pleasure of staying at the Marriott in Philly and it is one of the best anywhere. The Kona Kai restaurant in the hotel is also first class. Don't miss the reunion. Plan to be there!

News from here and there - Ezio Alicandri was honored with a 25 year service award at a dinner dance held by the Cherry City Volunteer Fire Dept. Now we know why his nick name is "Smokey". Gene Costanza, after 35 years with Dravo Corp. has changed course and has gone into the home remodeling business with his son - in - law. Helen and Ralph Allen have become grandparents again in January. Their daughter had a baby boy. this makes a total of an even dozen grandchildren for the Allens. Al Suess became a grandpa for the first time. It was a girl for Al Jr. Greer Thompson's daughter, Francine, who lives in Minnesota, is expecting her third. The Thompsons will be there to welcome the newest arrival. Chuck Caven has retired this past November and by jove I think he likes it.

In parting, I say that Bob Derickson deserves a pat on the back for the great job he's doing on the Thunderbolt. The printer does an excellent job too!

Till next time---

Larry Leonardi
"A", 331st

WARREN LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Hi Everyone:

This is my first column as the reporter for our ladies auxiliary and I still don't know why I volunteered, except that no one else wanted the job.

Mary and George Cooley are joining the ranks of the retired and as soon as they sell their home in Warren, they will travel to Florida and move into their new home there. As you all know, Mary was our reporter and did such a fine job that she will be hard to follow. Good Luck and good health to both of you and don't forget to keep the refrigerator stocked and the beer cold, because we all plan to visit you.

This will be a rather short article as our activities have been limited since the holidays. We held our January meeting at the home of Liz Skovran and as usual, Liz served us a delicious lunch, we also had our annual election of officers as follows: Birdie Titus - President, Dolly Halubka - Vice President, Liz Skovran - Secretary, Angie Phillipone - Treasurer, Helen Caparanis - Sunshine Girl.

The March meeting will be held at the home of Theresa Gautschi and at that time we will know more about our anniversary party and picnics for the summer.

Marg and Ray Voracek just returned from a two week stay in Miami, Florida and from all reports had a great time. They traveled to Vero Beach and enjoyed visit to the Hercules Kontulus' home. At this writing Helen and John Caparanis are still on vacation in Florida and Angie and Joe Phillipone just left for Kentucky, Georgia and Florida for their vacation.

I have received no reports on additions to the sick call list, so apparently, everyone survived the winter in good shape.

Well that's it for news of the ladies auxiliary in Warren, Ohio. Hope we have some news for the next issue.

Birdie Titus

Artillery shells to the Infantry

Yes, you all,

There are some Californians out west, who care and we will be in that great city of "Philly" in August, God Willing.

Bill Chavanne & his Reunion Committee have their work cut out, beating last year's reunion in New Orleans.

I had Joe Macaluse figured wrong (all talk) impressed we all were. Would be going back for thirds on those delectable shrimp yet, um, um, what a mess I made

Mke Brick and I have mail out to our close Buddies in "A Battery", 908th, and we will not let Aielle down. (Hi Sam, you look great) Even Stu Hitt is Rhode Island will muster up courage, bum legs and all. Also, Frankie boy, side-burns Palasky, "Tubby Hughes", "lanky" Boucher, "Piper Morgason", "Bowler Lee" Boyers, "Dailey" Charles, "Cigar", Hudson, "Alligator" Clevenger and "Wild Bill" Schroeder. Could mention others like Joel Oliver and his famous putter, but I just won't do it, so there!

Amby and other fine reporters have told us of the ailing not able to attend these Great Reunions. Our hats are off to these memorable soldiers, and Chaplain John Piscitelli's prayers which also express our thoughts.

God Bless everyone of you
Howard & Clarice Carlborn
"A Battery, 908th"
Stockton, California

Letters:

I just received word that Ray Dutton is in a V.A. hospital in Brecksville, Ohio 44141. Building No. 3 Ward 32 B. He is also of Company B 329th

B BTRY
908 F.A.

Due to a serious operation this past December that required hospitalization for nineteen days. I was unable to acknowledge any holiday mail I received. I am extremely grateful to all of my friends for this mail. I am currently recuperating at home which will take another six weeks before returning to work in late February. Will also look forward to attending this years 83rd Division Reunion in Philadelphia.

Sincerely
Michael Rudy
B BTRY 908 F.A.



“How you sit there night after night
and watch that junk I’ll never know.”

Letters

TO THE 83rd

From Betty Schaefer, wife of Al Schaefer who passed away of a heart attack on February 20.

I want you all to know how Al felt about the 83rd. He was so proud to join. When we first heard about the reunions it was 1975. Then we tried to go to every one after. He always said he wanted to take me overseas where he fought. When the opportunity came in 1976, we took it. We were really happy we did. It was sort of like a honeymoon too. Then after that the Kentucky Chapter was formed. We were asked to have the 1978 reunion here in Cincinnati. We worked hard and had fun working and planning. We met a lot of nice people. He was so proud of being an 83rd and so am I. Thanks again for your flowers and prayers.

Sincerely,
Betty Schaefer, wife of Al Schaefer Med 323rd F.A.



From Sal Bones

I was wondering if you know of anyone that I could get some pictures that were taken during the war. If not pictures, negatives would be fine and I would return them promptly. I was a member of Company "K" 330th, and would like some photos--any kind and of anything. The ones I had were destroyed. Thanks for your time. Sincerely Sal Bones, 206 South 2nd St. Hughsville, Pennsylvania, 17737. Can anyone help him out. Know he would appreciate it. Bob

11 October 1944

The 329th Infantry and 330th Infantry continued patrolling. Enemy activity was light.

The 331st Infantry, in Division Reserve, continued training.

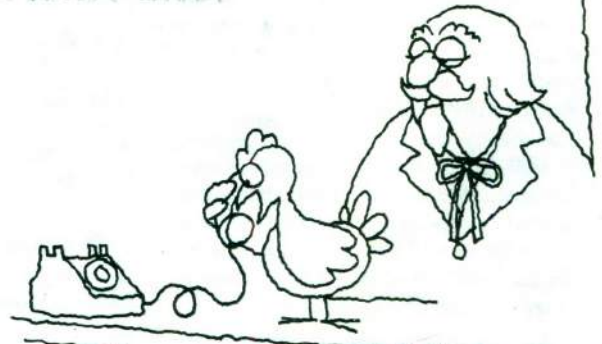
Task For POLK continued patrolling aggressively from SIERCK LES BAINS to the South in the Division zone. Troop B sent three patrols out to the river under cover of darkness. No enemy activity was seen.

At 2400 83d Division was relieved from XX Corps, Third Army and assigned to Ninth Army. The same order transferred following organizations with 83d Division: 453 d Anti-Aircraft Battalion, 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion (to wed) and the 774th Tank Battalion. Task Force POLK and GROUPE TACTIQUE LORRAINE were relieved from attachment to Division, and placed under control of XX Corps.

The boundry between the Third and Ninth Armies moved North to STENAY, LONGOYON AUMETZ, SIERCK LES BAINS, TRIER.

This article will continue in following issues.

COLONEL'S CHICKEN CARRYOUT



"Hello, Mom? I've got the job!"

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE 83rd ANNUAL REUNION OF THE 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, LA, AUGUST 16, 17, 18, 1979.

RECEIPTS:

Received from National Headquarters 9/20/78	\$ 500.00
Received from National Headquarters 9/7/79 (As per Executive Board 5/5/79)	2,500.00
Ads received for Program Book	3,581.00
Received from Members attending Races	1,431.00
Sale of Bolo Ties (30) Pendants (23)	212.00
Sale of License Plates (5)	25.00
Sale of History Books (3)	25.50
Registration Fees	18,033.47
Proceeds from Raffle	153.55
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 26,461.52

EXPENSES:

Wednesday Night Activities (Exhibit 1)	\$ 1,431.00
Thursday Night Activities (Exhibit 2)	4,502.20
Friday Afternoon Activities (Exhibit 3)	2,481.04
Saturday Night Banquet (Exhibit 4)	11,771.15
Miscellaneous (Exhibit 5)	2,880.47
Refund on 2 tickets for Banquet	38.00
Refunds to Dixie Chapter and National Headquarters (Exhibit 6)	2,353.90
Closing Expenses (Printing & Postages)	48.34
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 25,506.10
Profit from Reunion	\$ 955.42

What Has Happened to Camp Atterbury?

By Warren Rowe
Manager, Atterbury State
Fish and Wildlife Area

Is Atterbury "the land of opportunity"? Opportunity for whom might be a better question. In 1940, when it seemed that the United States would become actively involved in World War II, residents of Johnson and Bartholomew Counties were aroused by the acquisition of almost 41,000 acres by the Federal Government. Many lives were disrupted as landowners and tenants alike were hurriedly moved out and hundreds of skilled and semi-skilled workmen swarmed over the farmland.

Approximately six months after the land acquisition began, a typical Army infantry camp was born just 40 miles south of Indianapolis.

What is the status of this temporary camp stand today, 40 years later? The land is still here. Many of the scars from *World War II*, the *Korean War* and the *Vietnam Conflict* have healed or have been rearranged. The 5th Army slowly moved out a little at a time. Since the property is in public ownership under control of the Federal Government, the use and or disposal of this land comes under a prescribed plan passed by Congress.

In 1963 a parcel of land along the Driftwood River just below the confluence of Big Blue River and Sugar Creek was declared excess to military needs. The land was first offered to several different Federal agencies, none of which was interested. The land was then offered to State agencies through a parent federal agency. That is, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources was approached by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The Department refused the offer because of funds to purchase and develop it. Title was finally acquired by the United States Forest Service, which is a unit of the Department of Agriculture. So today that tract is a part of the gradually developing Hoosier National Forest.

In 1969 another parcel of 5,409

acres was declared surplus. After due and complicated process it was purchased by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and assigned to its Division of Fish and Wildlife. Federal funds derived from an excise tax on the sale of firearms and ammunition were used to pay for 75% of the cost. State license fees provided the other 25%. This was the start of the Atterbury State Fish and Wildlife Area. [See *Outdoor Indiana*: November 1971; June 1972; September 1978.]

Development of the property has proceeded nicely, with the sportsmen's money continuing to pay most of the bills. To date, nine lakes and marshes have been constructed and two or three more are planned. Five boat launching ramps, six pit toilets and a primitive campground allow enjoyment of this area with as little disturbance to the natural setting as possible.

This is all available to the public at no charge other than a minimum overnight camping fee. Of an annual 200,000 man-days usage of Atterbury only about 35-40,000 is for hunting or fishing.

The removal of almost 700 buildings and planting of more than 300,000 trees and shrubs in a 10-year period has begun to alter the landscape. Open fields and assembly grounds have disappeared, with a natural succession of plants beginning to show. Flora and fauna unseen for many years are starting to return.

The largest part of the original camp — approximately 34,000 acres — has been leased to the State of Indiana for use by the Indiana National Guard.

This land is used for military purposes by the Indiana Guard, the Indiana Air Guard, and guard units from surrounding States. The United States Army Reserve Center is another tenant of the old camp.

Parts of the present military area are open to the public in ever-increasing usage when it does not con-

flict with the military objectives. For instance, there are the cooperative Deer and small game hunts, mushroom and berry picking, and the viewing of Deer and other wildlife. The cooperation between the Indiana National Guard and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources is splendid. While public use of part of this military area continues, visitors should remember they are guests of the Army and should conduct themselves accordingly.

Another tenant of former Camp Atterbury is the United States Department of Labor. It, in turn, has sublet to two tenants. One is an apprenticeship school for heavy equipment operators operated by their union. The second tenant is the Job Corps, which occupies the old hospital area and part of the former warehouse complex. The Job Corps is a vocational school for underprivileged young adults.

Another tenant of about 800 acres occupies a broken horseshoe-shaped area surrounding the Job Corps complex. This area was donated to Johnson County by the United States Government to be used as a local park and recreational area. Some features of this area will be similar to those of the State Fish and Wildlife Area. However, most will not parallel, for the basic concepts between a Park and a Fish and Wildlife area are quite different.

The last tenant fills a function as a utility company. The water and sewage systems of the old camp were acquired by Prince's Lake, and are maintained to supply all Atterbury tenants as well as several neighboring communities.

That is the disposition of the Camp Atterbury land and facilities to date. It is your choice as to how you can best use and enjoy these facilities. The continued wise use of them can provide recreational opportunities for many generations to come.

This article was sent in by Paul H. Anerson
Co A 331st



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August 18-24, 1980

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SCHEDULE OF RATES

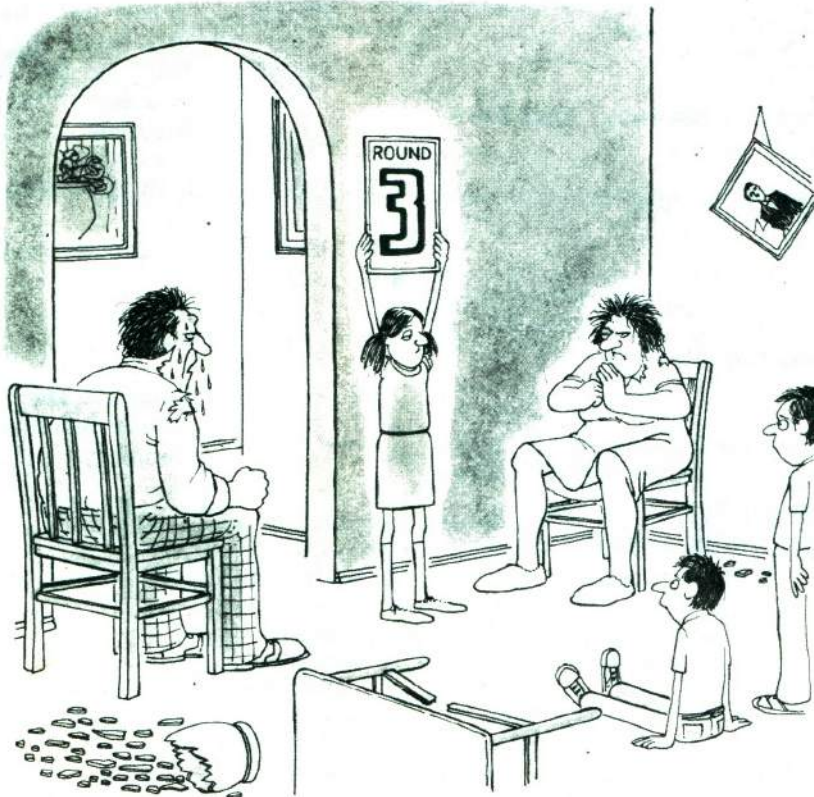
SINGLE 1 person-1 bed	DOUBLE 2 persons-1 bed	TWIN 2 persons-2 dbl. beds
\$32.00		\$38.00

PARLOR	SUITE 1 bedroom	SUITE 2 bedrooms

HOSPITALITY SUITE

If room is not available at rate requested, reservations will be made at nearest available rate.

All reservations must be received by July 28, 1980



THIRTY - FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1980

- 9:00 A.M. - Registration.
- 4:00 P.M.

- 10:00 A.M. - Ladies, we have reserved 80 seats at the Channel 6 TV Talk Show.
- 11:00 A.M. - "AM Philadelphia". They usually have Celebrities on hand to interview, so plan to be there. The only catch is you must be at the Studio by 9:15 A.M. No problem really because the TV Station is across the street from the Marriott Motel.

- 2:00 P.M. - Chinese and Polynesian Cooking Demonstration for the Gals by one of the Head Chefs of the Kona Kai Restaurant. Room to be announced.

- 2:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room Open.
- 4:30 P.M.

- 6:30 P.M. - Sit Down Dinner.
- 8:00 P.M.

- 8:00 P.M. - Dance your troubles away. .Cash Bar
- 12:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1980

- 9:00 A.M. - Registration.
- 4:00 P.M.

- 10:00 A.M. - Men's Business Meeting. to noon

- 10:00 A.M. - Ladies, we have reserved 80 seats at the Channel 6 TV Talk Show.
- 11:00 A.M. - "AM. Philadelphia". If you were not able to get seating yesterday, today is your day!!

- 2:00 P.M. - Memorial Services.

- 3:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room.
- 5:00 P.M.

- 8:00 P.M. - Come visit us on the Midway with the Phantastic Philadelphia Block Party!! Enjoy the Popcorn and Cotton-Candy and make sure you visit all the stands along the way. Ladies, we have been assured the Palm Reader and the Tarot Card Reader are genuine. So, lets see if the predictions are true! Dress will be casual.
- 10:00 P.M.

- 10:00 P.M. - Dancing.Cash Bar
- 12:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1980

- 9:00 A.M. - Registration.
- 1:00 P.M.

- 10:00 A.M. - Men's Business Meeting. to noon

- Ladies - Time is yours today. Make yourself lovely for tonights Banquet or if you should want to see Center City, the Bus route No 44 stops directly in front of the Marriott. It will take you non-stop to the City and back the same way. Your are on your own

- 12:30 P.M. - Unit Luncheons.

- 2:00 P.M. - Hospitality Room.
- 4:00 P.M.

- 4:00 P.M. - Mass.

- 7:00 P.M. - Gala 83rd Div. Annual Banquet Ballroom
- ?? - Dancing.Cash Bar

Chaplain's Steeple
Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli

A PRAYER FOR DEPARTED FRIENDS

We pray for the souls of all our departed comrades and friends, and when your call comes for us O Lord, we eagerly go to meet you; and be reunited with our comrades and friends -- we will be at peace in the joy of heaven -- to praise you and Jesus -- and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

IN MEMORIAM TO OUR FOLLOWING COMRADES

Nic Chirekos	"C" 331st inf.
Frank Bartolo	"?" Philadelphia
Sylvia F. Allard	"C" 330th
Elmer Disher	"F" 329th
August Kleen	
Adam Hassick	
William Rajotte	"A" 331st
Willet Rusan	"B" 329th
Robert Kull	"E" 331st

May they through the Lord's Mercy be with him always, we ask this through Christ His Son our Lord. Amen.

Amelia | wife of John Clevenger
 | wife of Robert Morman
 | wife of Al Paquette

We'll remember them in our prayers and in our hearts.

Get well to the following:

Mary Meczka
Mario Muoio
Larry Redmond and his wife Mary
Tommy Cappolla, son-in-law of Lou and Lucy Volpi, suffering with high fevers.

National Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli

THEODORE E. DeMASSEE

Lt. Col Theodore E. DeMassee, Ret. U.S. Army, husband of Joy Genevieve DeMassee, of Sun City Center, Fla., died Thursday, Dec. 27, at Tampa V.A. Hospital.

He was a former resident of Edgewood and Bel Air.

In addition to his wife, Mr. DeMassee is survived by a son, Theodore E. DeMassee, Jr., of Joppatowne and two grandchildren.

Graveside services with full military honors were held in the Arlington National Cemetery, Wednesday, Jan. 3.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cancer Society or the Emergency Squad, Sun City Center, Fla. 33570.

ADDITIONAL DECEASED NOTICES YOUR SECRETARY - TREASURER HAS RECEIVED

Jack Weissner 4200 Shoemaker Road Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania 19006	January 9, 1980	QM	83rd DIV.
Theodore E. Demassee 1614 Del Webb Boulevard Sun City Center Florida 33570	December 27, 1979	DIV Hq.	Lt. Col.
Bernard Weitzel	February 11, 1980	908 F.A.	all the information I have. Sent in by Leonard Hoskins of West Virginia
Robert Martin 318 Country Club Drive Burlington, North Carolina 27215		"E" 330th	Sent in by Dick Riddle
George Lane 913 4th Avenue North Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29577		"B" 330th	Sent in by Dick Riddle
Albert Schaefer 2394 Antores Court Cincinnati, Ohio 45231	February 20, 1980	MED 323 F.A.	Kentucky Chapter
August A. Kheen		"B" 329th	Sent in by Ed Thomas
Ray E. Jenkins		"B" 329th	Sent in by Ed Thomas
Fred W. Lord 19840 Quinnell Avenue, N. Scandia, Minnesota 55073	November 24, 1979	"B" 330th	Sent in by Jim Bowie

Deadline for ALL articles to be published in
Thunderbolt must be in this office by Sept. 10,
Dec. 10, Mar. 10, and June 10.

Robert Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

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It's never too early to get your ADS in for the next Program Book, so get it over with early by filling out the form below and mail it to Reunion Headquarters.

NAME UNIT or BATTALION

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(Type or print you AD clearly)

PLEASE CIRCLE THE SIZE OF AD YOU PREFER.

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QUARTER PAGE - \$18.00

PATRON AD - \$5.00

Make your Check or Money Order payable to: 83RD. INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION FUND. Mail your money to:
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REUNION IN 1980 WILL BE IN PHILADELPHIA, PA ON AUGUST 21, 22 AND 23RD. THIS IS THE THIRD WEEKEND

START MAKING YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE 34TH ANNUAL REUNION. YOU STILL ARE ABLE TO PUT IN FOR YOUR VACATIONS TO COINCIDE WITH THE REUNION.

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