



THUNDERBOLT

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WORLD WAR II

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1981 35th. Annual Reunion



Make Your Reservations Early at the . . .

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Monroeville, Pennsylvania

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THE THUNDERBOLT
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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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*Harry W. Lockwood 1957	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968	William J. Chavanne 1979
Raymond J. Voracek 1958	Pat DiGiammerino 1969	

Historian Corner

"MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT C. MACON"

Dear Buddies,

On Monday October 20th General Robert C. Macon died at the age of 90 of pneumonia at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station Maryland. He was born July 12th 1890 in Washington D.C.

His niece Mary Macon Prior called me and I then spoke to Bob Derickson and had him pass on the sad news.

Very few of you 83rd'ers knew their General outside of his being our two star divisional Commander.

He was more than a great military leader. He was an officer and a gentleman, a "SOLDIERS SOLDIER"---- A MAN.

May I give you a picture of General Robert C. Macon Commander of our 83rd Infantry Division as I knew him overseas and at his home in Maryland.

If I remember correctly I was transferred after St. Malo and traffic duty to Div. Hqt. (Nobody wanted it and I was volunteered.)

All that brass was dazzling, but like us, after a while fitted into a pattern.

The nicest was General Macon and here are some of my fond memories of him.

He always had a kind word for me when I was on duty at any of the Div. Hqt. C.P.s.

Only three times did I ever see him angry - Once in Luxemburg City on Thanksgiving Eve (I don't know what happened) another time at me personally for something I said at Bad Hartzberg and I admit I was way out of line. It went "down the line and up". You don't talk to General Officers that way! The last time, in Germany, to my buddy when he liberated an accordion from a wrecked home - all the said was "Put it back".

The tone of his voice, during the Bulge, when the C.P. was a tent in the snow and cold, when speaking to General Collins (?) "My God, General, I'm losing so many men now." You were HIS men.

Forgive me Bill -- when Col. Bill White (then a Major) came into the C.P. (I can't remember where) loaded with Thompsons, 45's and grenades hanging from his harness (with the famous tin pot) and the General told me to ask Bill to leave -- he was upsetting the Hqt. staff.

His look of surprise (at the Moselle C.P.) when I told him he should move when he stood in the open door of the C.P. at night with the light making him a perfect target -- he moved after I stood in front of him.

The warm friendship between he and General Ferenbough (Assistant Div. Commander then).

His humaness at being upset and tense when General Patton visited.

In Thergegrade, up to the C.P. drives the P.M. in a Mercedes Benz (stretching from here to hell and gone) belonging to the local Baroness -- with her in it -- the Major (M.P.s), feeling no pain, introduces her to General Macon (\$65 remember?). The General looks at me, shrugs and says "What can I do with him"?

The day he and the staff returned from meeting the Russians (we were in Calbe, the town near the famous Truman Bridge over the Elbe).

The General drove his own jeep back, his driver with his head in his lap. Out like a light. -- Got out -- salutes me and walked backward up the C.P. steps -- by the way there was a good fist fight among the other officers in front of the C.P. -- that Vodka, potent stuff.

The pretty French Liaison Officer he escorted around the C.P. one day. -- a female of course.

His concern when he asked after the war at Vils-hofen, if I had received my Bronze Star - (we didn't - the M.P.'s got a unit citation instead).

I have his signed picture he sent me years ago - one of my proudest possessions. I also had a picture signed by General Omar Bradley sent to me for him -- which General Bradley was kind enough to do.

My wife and I visited the General at his home in Maryland - a true Southern reception.

His only question to me was did I remember if he had fallen after returning from meeting the Russians.

He had a little Bull Terrier named Sergeant which he had taught to police the area and salute him back.

Our General was a warm compassionate human being -- he gave me the Honor of calling him Bob -- which I could not do.

At Arlington

Major General Robert (Bob) Macon

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

Gen. Robert Macon, 90; Led Division in Europe

Maj. Gen. Robert Chauncey Macon, U.S.A., retired, commander of the 83d Infantry Division in World War II, died of pneumonia Monday at the hospital at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Md. He was 90 years old and lived in California, Md..

General Macon was deputy commander of the 83d before being promoted to major general and named commanding general of the division in 1944.

The division was nicknamed the "rag-tag circus" by war correspondents because in its drive from the Rhine River toward Berlin General Macon gave orders to supplement the division's transport with anything that moved -- "No questions asked." The result was an amalgamation of hastily repainted, captured German vehicles ranging from staff cars and ammunition trucks to motor bikes, buses and two fire engines.

One of the fire engines led the drive, with infantrymen hanging from both sides and a large banner across the rear bumper reading, "Next Stop: Berlin."

General Macon's division had secured a bridgehead across the Elbe River when he was ordered to halt the advance on April 12, 1945, as he made contact with Soviet Army units.

General Macon was a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, where he also earned a master's degree.

A widower, General Macon is survived by three grandsons. His daughter, Elizabeth M. Prior, died in 1978.

Major General Robert Macon

Germans Turn Over 19,000 Allied PWs To 83rd, Including 1200 GIs, Some From Elbe Bridgehead

More than 1,200 Americans, including a large number of 83rd men, were liberated from a prisoner of war camp at Altengrabow by the Thunderbolt Division this week. Negotiations for the mass liberation were conducted by General Macon and a Colonel from the German Army, who came through the 83rd lines under a white flag to request the removal of the Americans and 17,000 other Allied PWs.

The German colonel was accompanied by 2nd Lt Richard E. Drury, of the 83rd who was captured at Badetz during the enemy counter attack on the Elbe bridgehead. Drury was a mortar observer with Co. H of the 331st Infantry when his position was overrun and he was taken prisoner. He volunteered to accompany the German prison camp commandant to the American headquarters and help arrange the liberation. Drury came overseas with the Division and won a battlefield commission last March. He holds the DSC which he won at El Guettar in the same battle as his regimental commander Colonel Robert H. York. He did not divulge to the German colonel that he was a member of the 83rd but when he heard that an attempt was being made to contact the Americans near Zerbst he volunteered knowing that his outfit was in that immediate area.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE

Arrangements were completed Wednesday and at eight o'clock Thursday morning the first 83rd convoy consisting of four ambulances, a radio car and six 2 1/2 ton trucks left Zerbst to travel 20 miles behind German lines to enter the camp. Each vehicle was accompanied by German soldiers to insure safe conduct through the area and guide the American convoy over the pre-arranged route.

When the first few vehicles rolled into the barbed wire enclosure, Yanks stared at one another in disbelief and then, on realizing they were seeing GIs again, shouted greetings that could be heard almost as far back as the American lines. They hastily got together their few possessions, mounted the trucks and set out for the return trip.

Wounded Americans were returned in the first convoy of ambulances and after their arrival at Zerbst a second convoy of 35 trucks and 22 ambulances returned to pick up the rest of the men. This group of vehicles completed the liberation and began evacuation of interned soldiers of other Allied nations.

Included in the liberation were men who had fought in North Africa, Italy, France and almost every major American operation of this war. The men from the 83rd who were liberated were captured during the German counter-attacks at the Elbe bridgehead last month. A complete roster of the men was not obtainable at press time,

but a partial list includes the following: From the 329th Infantry, Pvt Lee A. Moore, Pfc Donald J. Krumm, Pfc Jacinto Moreno and Pfc Robert A. LeCount. From the 331st: S/Sgt Ralph L. McDonald, Pfc Steve M. Maliozzi, Pfc Horace J. Palmer, Pfc Vincent P. Caranhan, Pfc Joseph I. Cranko, Pfc Mayes O. Key, Pfc Lawrence F. Killo, Pfc Gordon A. Bennett, Pvt Ralph E. Hamilton and Pfc Hebert A. Reno.

GIs munched on K rations during the return trip and reported their treatment at Altengrabow to be "fairly good" considering the scarcity of food in Germany.

"The fact that we could hear good old American artillery in the distance

also discouraged the Germans from treating us harshly," said a bearded Ranger who had been captured at Anzio. He stated that the Germans told PWs that the Americans were now fighting the Russians, that President Roosevelt had been assassinated and that the Japanese had invaded California. "Naturally we didn't believe any of it", he concluded, "but the Germans repeated it so many times that after a while they believed it themselves and even offered to set us free to fight the Russians."

Most Yanks from Altengrabow were enlisted men and only a few officers were included in the group. All of the evacuees were returned to Army headquarters where those who have been captives for more than 60 days will be flown to Paris. In Paris they will be outfitted in new uniforms and then board C-54s for a non-stop flight to the United States.



IN A SURPRISE CEREMONY GEN. PATTON PINS THE LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL ON GEN. MACON. The citation for the medal mentions the exceptionally meritorious conduct of Gen. Macon in the German-Ardennes offensive between Dec. 26, 1944 and Jan. 20, 1945. The citation extols Gen. Macon's energy and professional skill in contributing materially to the defeat of the enemy.

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Dear Buddies:

Good Gosh, where is thee time going? I find it very hard to believe that this is already my second message for the year 1980-'81. It must be the fact that old age is getting to me and time is just flying by. Before we know it, the Pittsburgh Reunion will be upon us and gone and we'll be making plans for the Reunion in South Fallsburg, N.Y. in 1982. The following year will be in Florida etc.

Speaking of New York, yours truly made the trip up there in October to look over the property we will be occupying in 1982 and I just can't help but believe that the big and long d change is going to be most satisfactory to all of us. Mike Skovran promised that he would write up the visit and his Column should be elsewhere in this issue. Bernie Cove, the Maitre de and Stephen Ehrlich, the owners son, showed us around the place and let us in on what I think is going to be the greatest program ever. Your days there will be full of things to do and there will be no need to leave the premises. Plan to be there in 1982 and you won't be sorry that you did.

While on the way to New York, I decided to stop off in Reading, PA to visit those Factory Outlets so many people have been telling me about over the years. They are all that they say and the bargains are really there. Many of the things I bought were truly half price as advertised. It's a good place to stop and do some shopping if and when you are in that part of Pennsylvania.

In November, my travel partner, Nep Campbell and I got in the car and headed for Florida for the third year in a row. Previous tours were by plane,, but I wanted to try touring by car again and found it most enjoyable, though a bit hectic. Going down it was almost 1300 miles and the return trip was 1470 miles. in Florida, we stayed with Ralph Gundersen in Pompano Beach as his wife Geri was away in school. We sure ate at a lot of good Restuarants in that area and if you like Crab Legs, that's the place to get them.

Sylvain Fishman of "F" 329th Infantry, had surgery on his back just before we got there, we paid him a visit one day at his fabulous

home and had ourselves a Ball just talking about old times etc. He and his wife are wonderful Hosts as always. He was in a lot of pain while we were there, but forgot about it while we were talking. I guess talking is a good medicine when the subject is something you like to talk about. Hope you are in top shape by now Sylvain, we want to see you in Pittsburgh.

Florida just happened to have one of their Meetings while we were there and I was surprised to see how their Chapter has grown. They have nearly fifty Paid-up members at present and I'm sure they will grow because it seems that all our Retirees are on the move to Florida. Many of their people have a Travel problem because of the length of the state, but still manage to attend the Meetings. Anyhow, we had a great time with all of them and enjoyed ourselves very much. This was the fourth Meeting I attended in Florida and they made me an Honorary Member. Thank You Florida.

On the way home, we had planned to stop in Columbus, GA to visit the Infantry Museum, but changed our minds when we learned that it was too far out of the way and it was supposed to snow in the Smokey Mountains which were on our road of travel. It was a good thing for us because we had missed the snow by just two hours. From Cordele, Ga we drove all the way to Mt. Sterling, KY on the second day. Had planned to call some of our Buddies in that area but decided against it and went to bed. Made it home on the third day and were shocked to see an eight inch snowfall in the area. In Florida it was 85 degrees the day we left and here it was freezing. Some change!!!!

At home, we are working hard to make the Reunion the best ever for your enjoyment, and we hope that our efforts will be worthwhile. We are trying to do a few things differently and away from the regular routines. The changes will be for the betterment, I'm sure.

Many Thanks for your time. Hope all of you have had a wonderful Holiday Season and that you are all in good health.

Sincerely
Samuel Klippa

FROM YOUR SECRETARY - TREASURER CORNER

Here we are at the beginning of another year. The holidays are over and we hope you all had a very enjoyable one. Hope not too many caught this terrible flu that is going around. I had a bad seige of it and Pearl had just a small dose. But we are both recovered now and ready to start the new year.

I would like for all the chapters to update their officers and reporters. I can't put news of the chapters in if it doesn't get to me. If you know of someone who has not paid their dues yet, remind them it is still six dollars. Men write and say they aren't getting the Thunderbolt. I can't do it if the dues aren't paid or if I don't get a change of address. When you send in a new address be sure and give the old address also.

When this cold and snowy weather begins to get to you start thinking of next August and the reunion. It will be warm in Pittsburgh so plan to go and soak in some sunshine to do you for next winter. I know they will have a great one planned for us. Plan on getting your reservation in to them when you receive your reservation card and information about the reunion. Also if you can help out with an ad for the book. Every little bit helps out and will make for a better reunion. Remember sign up a new member. If everyone would get one other person to join the 83rd, think what we would have. Reunion dates are August 20-21-22. **PLAN ON ATTENDING.**

Bob

THE KENTUCKY CHAPTER

The Kentucky Chapter continues to grow with each meeting. The fall meeting was held at the Sheraton Inn in Louisville in October with election of Officers for the new year.

President	Arthur Doggett
Vice President	Wilson Day
Secretary - Treasurer	Tom Hensley
Reporter	R.C. Hamilton

Robert Derickson won the raffle. Plans were made for the Christmas Party to be held at Natural Bridge State Park in December.

The Christmas Meeting of the Kentucky Chapter was held at Butler State Park, with our new President, Arthur Doggett presiding. It was decided that this would be the last drawing of the raffle. Robert Derickson, National Secretary-Treasurer presented an engraved gavel to our National Past President William Chavanne. Door prizes were drawn with all attending the meeting receiving one. After the meeting everyone adjourned to the lodge for a delicious buffett dinner. We then went back to the recreation room for our party and social hours. All you 83rds out there I want you to know it is like banquet night at the reunion. If are ever in the neighborhood of Natural Bridge the

first week-end of December you are welcome to attend this get together. I am sure you won't regret it. We promise you a good time. We will meet again in March at Butler State Park in Carrollton, Kentucky. Join us if you wish on (Mar. 21, 1981). Twenty rooms have been reserved. And these rooms will be held for the Kentucky Chapter meeting until Feb. 21, 1981. So get your reservation in before then and your deposit. If for any reason you would be unable to attend you can cancel your reservation 7 days before Mar. 21, 1981 or in case of any emergency you can cancel and your deposit will be refunded. Every member or any guests are required to make your own reservations by calling or write General Butler State Resort Park, Carrollton, Ky. 41008 Phone Number (502) 732-4384.

The rates for a double will be \$32.29 Tax included and \$4.20 Tax included for each additional person per room.

Meeting time will be between 3 and 5 o'clock P.M. A buffet meal will be ready for us after 5 o'clock and we eat in a private dining room.



The newest member of the Kentucky Chapter. Tiffany Diane Lawson granddaughter of Kermit & Maxine Hargis. Born October 25, 1980. Isn't she a doll?



Herschell McIntosh doing his bit at entertaining the Kentucky Chapter at their Christmas Party.



Theodore Ritchie and his wife Thessa enjoying the Kentucky Chapter Christmas Party.



Cecil Walter and his grandson Jason who drew Robert Derickson's name in the Kentucky Chapter raffle.



Serving as commanding general of the 83rd during its entire combat career has been Major General Robert C. Macon of Washington, D.C. General Macon is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, class of 1913. In 1916 he was commissioned in the infantry and from 1919 to 1921 he commanded the 13th Infantry in China. He served as general staff officer with troops in Panama from 1931 to 1933 and in 1941 was a General Staff Officer with the Fourth Armored Division. General Macon's first combat experience came during the November invasion of North Africa in 1942 when he led the Seventh Infantry of the Third Division ashore. A short time later he was promoted to Brigadier General and returned to the States. In April of 1943 he came to the 83rd Division as Assistant Division Commander and in January 1944 took over as commanding general, succeeding Major General Frank W. Milburn who commanded XXI Corps during its combat operations in Europe as a part of the United States Seventh Army.

NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!

WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO GET ALL THE REUNION INFORMATION FOR THIS ISSUE OF OUR THUNDERBOLT AND WILL BE SENDING IT ALL OUT TO YOU IN LETTER FORM. YOU WILL SURELY GET THEM IN PLENTY OF TIME TO PLAN YOUR VACATIONS TO COINCIDE WITH OUR 35TH ANNUAL REUNION.

THANK YOU.

**YOUR PRESIDENT
SAMUEL KLIPPA**

LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT

REUNION - 1982

Dear Mr. Klippa:

I have frequently admired the spirit you and your colleagues have evinced over the years in keeping going a purely voluntary organization. This sort of spirit is what made us a great Division and won us the war that the politicians couldn't interfere with.

I have been prevented in the past from contributing more than money and am now past the age to be of much use (I was 80 in June). With the recent death of General Macon, I am the last survivor of the Division Staff (I was G-1) that went overseas from Camp Breckenridge.

Enclosed is my check to get the project off the ground. (The project he refers to is the Memorial to Luxembourg.)

A.F.S. Mackenzie
Col. U.S. Army - Ret.

I just got my Fall Copy of the Thunderbolt and noticed that your Home Town is tentatively selected for next year. I have never been able to attend the Reunions, although I always wanted to. I was with the 83rd. from November, 1942 until the end of the War and served as Operations Sergeant for the 908th. F.A. Bn. In 1945 I reenlisted, got a Commission, served in Korea and retired in 1965. Since then, I have been teaching at Donnelly College in Kansas City and am now Professor of History and Chairman of the Humanities Division.

It seems that the Reunions are always in August, which is when we are the busiest in Registration for the Fall Semester. I think I will be able to be excused from Accademic duties next fall, if I can convince my bosses that I can make a contribution at the Reunion. Over the past couple of years, I have been in contact with a number of friends in the 980t., and we have pretty well reconstructed the roster of Hq. Battery, which I hope to chart out and get reproduced. If I could get a current list of other Batteries, I could start reconstruction rosters as they appeared in Normandy. There is also the possibility to get a Slide Presentation of the 908th, if I can convince persons to loan me their Snapshots so I can photograph them. I know this is early in planning, but do you think there is any possibility of such activities on my part as a contribution to the Reunion?

Sincerely Yours
Del Jurden - 908 F.A.

(A complete Roster has been sent to Del and it is my hope that the 908 will cooperate in sending photos to him for the Slides he intends to make. It surely is wonderful to have someone take such an interest in their Unit. I'm sure the 908th will grow to even greater heights.) Your Pres.

There has been much discussion over the past few years amongst our Association members about changing the date of our annual reunion to a later time of the year in order that we might go to some resort area to take advantage of the "off" season rates. This was brought up again at the Saturday business meetings of our past reunion in Philadelphia, 1980. At that time Mr. Bernie Cove, (Co. D, 331st Inf.) a representative of the Pines Hotel, South Fallsburg, N.Y., a resort hotel, was present. He described and explained the facilities and advantages of this particular establishment as a reunion site for our 1982 Annual association reunion. It was decided at that time that members of the Executive Board or other Association representatives would journey to the Pines Hotel for a first hand observation.

It was my extreme pleasure along with my wife, Elizabeth, Sam Klippa, Pat DiGiammerino and Jim Prentice to be the guests of the Pines Hotel and Bernie Cove, (Co. D, 331st Inf.) South Fallsburg, New York, in the heart of the Catskills Mts., on the weekend of Oct 24 - 25, 1980. The purpose of course of this trip was to check this particular establishment and location out regarding the feasibility and possibility as a reunion site for the 1982 reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

The Pines Hotel is offering our Association a whole new concept for a reunion. A reunion where all activities are held right at the hotel with a full day of activities planned and scheduled with enough diversification and leeway to enable all to enjoy themselves. First of all the reunion would be scheduled to begin Sunday, Sept. 13 or Monday Sept. 14, 1982 with check in time at 2:30 PM, through Thursday with check out time at 2:30 PM. This change of course means that our reunion would begin three weeks later than our normal time and at the beginning of the week instead of Thursday. The change in the date and time would insure us the benefit of the "off" season rate. The weather is reported as extremely nice there normally at this time of the year.

The Pines Hotel is a tourist hotel and is operated on the American Plan which basically means that you pay one price per day per person which entitles you to your room, all meals and complete use of all the services and facilities of the hotel.

All three meals are included and are served in a large dining room capable of seating 1200 at individual round tables. I believe the food to be very good (Courtesy of Bernie Cove, Meitre D') and plentiful. You will order from a menu at a table assigned to you for your entire stay. You will be served by two waitresses or waiters and you may make up your own group to sit at the table with you. No waiting or standing in line for a table or service. Our evening affairs will begin in this

room and you will be permitted to bring in your own liquid refreshments. Our famous 83rd Dinner-Dance will be held in this room on Thursday. You will be able to order your dinner from a menu done to your own personal taste. Prior to the dinner-dance a free cocktail party will be held in the lounge just outside of the dining room. Appetizers and drinks of every description will be served and plenty of them. Dinner music and music for dancing after the dinner will be provided. Speaking of food, if your schedule requires you to leave before the noon day meal of the day of your departure, a free box lunch will be provided to each person for your enjoyment on your trip home.

Each evening we will be able to go into their large night club seating capacity of 1700, for a free live stage show at 10:30 PM with another one at 1:30 AM. You may have a table assigned to you here also for your entire stay. There is a coffee snack bar next to the night club that will stay open until one half hour after the night club closes. The only place you would be required to spend any money outside of your daily rate would be for your drinks in the night club and your food in the coffee shop. No drink will be permitted to be brought into the night club. Our two business meetings will be held in the night club as would our memorial services.

Incidentally the stage shows would be different each night.

Other facilities include the following: There is a 9 hole golf course that is entirely free. A golf tournament is planned. There is indoor and outdoor swimming, indoor and outdoor tennis, ice skating, roller skating, horseback riding, sauna baths, massage plus a planned itinerary for the whole day for everyone's enjoyment. There is a race track nearby with free bus transportation to be provided for an 83rd Night at the Races. There is also a beauty parlor and a small gift shop.

Now the party that you have been waiting for. First of all they request a three day minimum registration from each guest. There are three prices which depends on the room you select. The standard room (175 rooms) is \$48.50 per day per person, the deluxe room (124 rooms) is \$54.50 per day per person and the super deluxe room (99 rooms) is \$61.00 per day per person. All rooms have two beds and there are 4 suites available. This price includes all taxes (7%) and gratuities. Again you pay for nothing else except what you might want to spend in the night club and coffee shop.

There are my observations. I am very enthusiastic about this new concept and I heartily recommend it's acceptance by the body at Pittsburgh in August. I think the time is right for a change and the change is in the right direction. The price might seem high but when you analyze it with an open mind and compare it with past reunions you will be surprised, especially when you realize that the Association registration fee will be minimal. Finally we will have the whole hotel to ourselves. Bernie Cove and Mr. Steve Ehrlich the owner of the Pines Hotel will be at our reunion in Pittsburgh in August to speak to the members there present. The Boston Chapter would be the Host Chapter. The Warren Chapter as has the Cleveland Chapter have already gone on record as unanimously approving to hold the 1982 reunion of our Association at the Pines Hotel, South Fallsburg, N.Y.

Mike Skovran
Executive Board Member

"FRANKLY SPEAKING"

To all my Buddies of Company "D" 330th and all my friends and members of our Great Association, I must apologize for my last article in the Thunderbolt. I was so enthusiastic about seeing so many of you at the greatest reunion here in Philly, that I forgot all about the Holidays. Here is my belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you, I am looking forward to seeing you in Pittsburgh this year, God willing.

To all the "D" Company men who were here in Philly last year, I know you had a good time but I'm sorry I didn't have enough time to spend with you. I will have all the time in the world to be with you this year. I know some of you fellows will remember the best turnout for Company "D" was in 1949 in Pittsburgh, so let's make it bigger this year now that we have more members. I have some pictures in this issue from that year.

I don't know how much longer I can keep up this mailing, as you know postage has gone sky high, and I'm on a fixed income now. We have 39 paid up members in the Association. I hope to make it 50 members this year. I must apologize to a great guy, our 1st Sgt. Claude Dodd (sorry Sgt.), I forgot to put your name on the list with the men who were at the reunion for the first time. Your wonderful wife, Margaret, said she had a very nice time and will see us all next year, don't forget this, Claude.

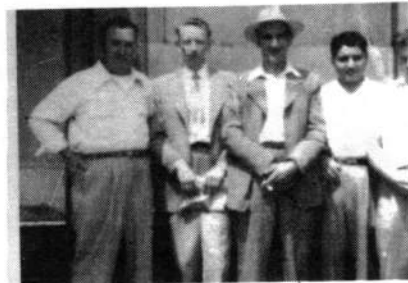
I sent out 55 letters to fellows who were on our original roster and so far I received the following 5 back (7) - addresses unknown: Rodney Knowlton, George Benedict, Lou Goldeke, Al Nimmons, Sylvester Wilson, John Korpita, Frederick Adams. If anyone has a good address on these men, please, send it to me and I will get in touch with them.

BAD NEWS

I also received notice on the following men who are deceased: Charlie Southworth, Frank Beachley, Owen Exline.

GOOD NEWS

We picked up a new member, William H. Johnson, 388 Gibbs Place, Akron, Ohio 44306. We finally got Jim DiAntonio back in the fold after 25 years. Charlie Barefoot is back after missing a year, this was a ght on Charlie's part, thanks Charlie. Leo Sanimo sent in his dues, plus, money for next years program book. Lewis "Dink" Jones was on the sick list but as of now he is OK and hopes to see all of you in Pittsburgh this year.



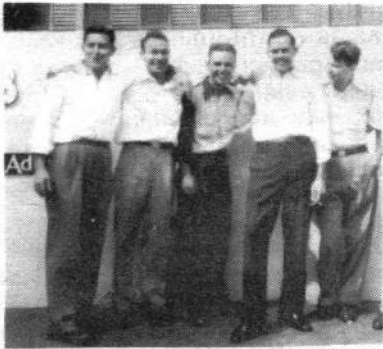
L-R: Del Padre, Bisnyder, L. Sanino, F. Marra.
REUNION "1949"



**F. Marra - S. Ferko
REUNION "1949"**



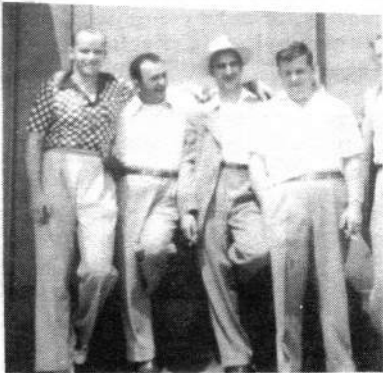
**P. Vitantonio - F. McGrogan
REUNION "1949"**



**L-R: Hendren, Ryan, Adams, Jackson,?
REUNION "1949"**



**Back Row: Vitantonio, Blackburn, Jackson, Walker,
DiAntonio.
Front Row: Owens, McGrogan, Ferko.
REUNION "1949"**



**L-R: S. Ferko, Del Padre, L. Sanino, B. Harrell
REUNION "1949"**

I just received another dues today, also a new member, John Jankovich after all these years, he told me his brother, Urban, is not too good, drop him a line and say hello. Does anyone have a good address for Bill Foor, if so please let me have it- the last one I have is in Altoona, Pa., which isn't any good?

Well, fellows, this is all the good and bad news I have for this time around, if you have some news let me have it for the next issue. God Bless All.

**Frank McGrogan
Company "D" 330th**

P.S. Notice to the old members that have not paid this year dues, namely Philip Kazanjian, Frank Bialy, John Walker, Elmer Weemhoff.

MEN OF CO. K. 331ST INFANTRY:

I and the Philadelphia Chapter would like to take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you who contributed to the Ad Book.

The Ad Book was a success because You Men of the 83rd Division have contributed towards it. Without EVERYONE donating, it could never be profitable.

Keep up the Good Work. The Ad Book plays a large part for a successful Reunion. Our Reunion in Philadelphia was enjoyed by all who attended.

I was able to get in touch with three Company Commanders from Co. K; Captain Dagger, Captain Cooper, and Captain Dan Halladay. It did my Heart good to hear from them and also from Men of Co. K.

I am sorry to say that Captain Halladay passed away soon after I contacted him in July, 1980.

K.J. Horvat attended the Reunion in Philly. I haven't seen him since the War, and it was good to see him and his lovely wife. Theodore Ritchie and his wife also came. We have been seeing them at quite a few Reunions and it is a pleasure each time. How about more of Co. K. coming to future Reunions. It will be in Pittsburgh, 1981.

You will be hearing from me each Year to represent Co. K. in future Ad Books.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND GOOD HEALTH TO ALL.

**Al Belvedere
Co. K. 331st Infantry**

The "B" Bag

For the first week of the big Fourth of July Attack in the hedgerow country the American troops went nowhere. A request came down from Division for anyone to devise a method to advance thru the hedgerows. A few days later, 1st Battalion was issued orders to attack toward Culot, which was in the hedgerows somewhere south of Carentan. In addition the orders stated we would use the new three unit assault plan, and since we never heard of it we would learn it on the way.

This plan involved three units of whatever strength would be required for the task, such as a squad, platoon, or company. It was sort of a leap frog maneuver, and the platoon, with its three squads was the natural unit for the operation. The first squad was placed across the front row, the second squad was behind on the left side row, and the third squad lined the back row. The attack would begin with the first squad firing straight ahead thru the next row while the second squad moved up, single file, along the side of the field ahead. As they reached the far end, the first squad held their fire, and then the second squad spread across the front row, tossing grenades over the hedge to insure against sleepers on the other side. They then began their leveling fire for the third squad to advance along the side of the field ahead, where in turn set up for covering fire to allow the first squad to start the cycle again.

"B" Co. had been leap frogging for over half an hour without meeting opposition, although we passed through fields lined with empty foxholes that were much deeper than the ones we dug. We were ordered to halt and dig in because we had gotten too far in front of our flank companies. It was just as well that we stopped, the far side of the next field was out of sight except for a wooded ridge to our right front. While digging in a tremendous amount of small arms fire rained in on our left. Our men on the left immediately returned the fire as the rest of the company moved to their side to join in. The battle of the century had begun; but an officer who understood the situation called a halt to our firing and contacted "A" Co. by radio to stop their fire. "A" Co. had caught up to us on the left. Fortunately no one was hurt, but we felt damned foolish as we returned to our digging.

A heavy machine gun crew set up in the right forward corner of our field, and our light mortars moved into the fields close behind us. One rifle platoon was stationed in the field behind to provide depth in case of a flank attack. (A lesson learned from "A" Co.). The riflemen curled up in their holes for a noon nap and hardly moved as a tank parked head on against their hedgerow. It was beginning to look like we meant to stay here awhile.

The word was that Tiger tank was dug up to its turret out in the middle of the big field ahead. In a little while a low flying P-47 Thunderbolt went overhead, and after dropping its egg in the field returned home. It had missed, and shortly a silver P-51 Mustang, with a rocket under each wing, streaked toward the same spot in the big field. Climbing sharply, it circled back and went into a dive at the tank. Two rockets streaked from under its wings, and the plane freed of its burden climbed skyward again and circled back to watch the black smoke rising from the tank. Then, with all his wing guns blazing he dove on us. As he came around again, he saw the panels placed on the ground by our tank and roared over us with out firing a shot. Our loss was one field jacket button, and two hundred gallons of sweat.

Moments after the plane left the machine gun and the rifles at the front hedgerow began firing in the direction of the wooded knoll. As the riflemen at the rear hedgerow peeked over to see what was happening a mortar shell ended directly on the machine gun, dispersing the entire crew. Our supporting tank joined in with its cannon, and one of the riflemen in the hole almost under the cannon decided the blast was too much for him, streaked across his field, and dove into a log covered hole just as the mortar shells burst in the trees above him. Hanging from the roof of his shelter was a field phone so he listened in and heard his company commander calling for a fire mission from an artillery officer he addressed only as "Major". The artilleryman was patiently trying to explain that he had expanded his daily quota of shells and could not furnish any support. In a discouraged tone the infantryman informed him that there would be no one to

"B" Bag cont.

support tomorrow if we didn't get it now. The Major left the line to request permission to use additional ammunition. Meanwhile the GI in the foxhole overheard his officer complaining that the phone line was too short to allow him to move up to where he could see the ridge to direct the artillery fire. Peering out of the covered fox hole the soldier could see the phone line tied to an overhead limb. He quickly climbed up on the adjacent hedgerow and hooked the dangling slip loop of wire with the front sight of his rifle and yanked the wire down, and was back in the hole before it hit the ground. Reaching out, he tugged the wire twice and it responded by sliding away toward the forward phone. When he picked up the phone again, the Major had already granted the fire mission and was sending a directing round. Shortly it could be heard tearing it's way toward the wooded ridge. It landed just beyond, and the "B" Co. officer called in the adjustment with the request to "fire for effect". There was absolute silence during the wait for the salvo. It seemed as if all sound had been switched off, even the incoming mortar fire ceased. Then it happened! The outgoing shells screamed over us, a whole boxcar full. Even though it was outgoing mail, we pressed the bottom of our foxholes trying to suppress the sickening feeling the sound always caused in our stomachs. The blast was tremendous, and a black cloud of dust was settling on the charred hill when we looked up from behind our hedgerow. Over the phone there was a simple "Thank You" Major.

Till now we hadn't really noticed it was a most beautiful day, but in their hearts "B" Co. knew this magnificent was a gift from the artillery.

Richard Dickson
"B" Co. 329th

WARREN LADIES AUXILIARY NEWS

Hello Everyone,

I missed getting an article in the last Thunderbolt, published after the reunion, so a belated congratulations to the reunion committee for a job well done.

We haven't been to active since the reunion. We did have a delicious steak fry in September, held at the Ash Field Golf Course and given by the Warren men's chapter. Thanks guys. Of course, without all the little extra goodies, the women bring, we would have just had steak. Only kidding, it was really fabulous. Our thanks to Liz and Mike Skovran, Angie and Joe Phillipone and John Teringo and Dick Kelly for getting it all together.

Our October meeting was held at the home of Vera Venutti, and our November meeting was held at Helen Caparanis home. Both women are gracious hostesses and a good time was enjoyed by all who attended the meetings.

We have completed our plans for our annual Christmas dinner, which will be held at the Cafe 422. All of us look forward to this event every year.

We were saddened by the deaths of Margaret Vorasek's father, Olga Teringo's father, and the brother of John Teringo. Our sincere sympathy goes to both families.

Congratulations are in order to Ann Tomazin and Babe Gautschi on their retirements, and to my husband, Lee Titus, who is counting the days (9 more working days left at this writing) to his retirement. After he retires, I will have to ring more doorbells with my Avon. God willing, all our plans for his retirement, will fall in line.

Our combined Christmas meeting with the Warren Chapter spouses will be held at the home of Pat and John Shamrock, where we will have a short meeting followed by a gift exchange to reveal our secret pal. A covered dish dinner, games, chit chat and liquid refreshments, will end our activities for the year.

In closing, the Warren Chapter Auxiliary wish to extend to each of you and your families the sincerest and warmest holiday greetings. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Birdie Titus

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

from the Florida suncoast via Warren, Ohio. . . .

Lee writes-

"December deadline drawing near for THUNDERBOLT news so heres the Warren news-- etc, etc, -----" (gawd almighty Lee, don't cut it quite so close) ----- THE ANNUAL "BIG-AFTER-REUNION BASH" WAS HELD IN September with the Skovrans, Mike and Liz hosting with the usual fabulous Steaks yea thick and tender and all the Chapter wives "COMING-ON" with their favorite covered dishes. (Made my mouth water for some "Halushki-mit-Kraut" which I know from past experience was in abundance) -- the men held their monthly meeting there and it featured the annual election of Chapter Officers for 1981 and concluded by retaining the 1980 slate for another term -- to wit: R. Gautschi - Prez. -- J. Teringo - Vice Prez. -- M. Skovran - Sec/Tres. -- J. Phillipone - Chaplain -- R. Kelly - Sgt-at-Arms -- J. Shamrock - Ticket Chairman. You did a splendid job in 1980 guys - Good Luck in 1981 (personally I want to congratulate the "GENESSEE KID" who finally made Sgt. wear your stripes proudly Dick) The October meet was held at New Chapter Member Joe Venuttis home with the usual "Food and Fuel" (and lying about favorite Footbal Pool-Picks). November beckoned all to the Caparanis "Dulcedomum" where, again, spiritous and sustenance prevailed and the meeting, at which plans were made for the December Jollity and quickly shoved aside to make more time for N.F.L. Tube Travesty (and more ripping of beaten Football Pools into

Warren Chapter cont.

confetti). December 13. saw the Chapter men treated to another annual christmas Dinner Party by their Ladies followed up by standing around a well stocked Bar for the remainder of the evening (talk about ageing-this same Dinner-Party Affair used to be followed up by conveneing to a well known area Ballroom where the wonderful sounds of the Big Bands of the 40's is played for dancin -- ah well-time must march on). December 2nd, and the Shamrock abode called forth with the Ladies of the Chapter Auxiliary conducting their meeting within the upper confines and the men (where else???) in the Rec-Room with the handy TV and Bar. The meeting was followed by many home made favorite family food Dishes and the traditional Holiday ritual singing of R.J. Voraceks favorite Yuletide song "Up on a Housetop with Ole Saint Nick". This farcial is one that leaves all holding their sides and with convulsive tears of laughter. Lee ends with: Warren Chapter will see a couple more new Retirees. Mrs. Chaz (Ann) Tomazin retired in November and Lee-Beau Titus - you heard right - in January 1981. Hey! Its a nice life if youre as lazy as I. All it takes is a rocking chair, a fishing Pole and an occasional six-Pack. Along with the above there are those that aspire to retirement: To Wit: The Balance of the Warren Chapter. I received a couple of News Clips from "Up Nawth" and congratulations are in order again to John and Pat Shamrock and Lee and Birdie Titus who put on a couple of lavish ceremonies for their respective offsprings weddings that we mentioned in a previous Thunderbolt.

This Edition sick-List has Mrs. Bob (Pearl) Johnson in the Hospital and out again.

Our Condolence goes out to our dear Chapter members and their Families: John Teringo upon the death of his Brother Andrew in August; Marge Voracek upon the death of her Father in September; Olga Teringo upon the death of her Father in November.

This is about all for now. We should have some Photos from all the Partying held up in the less than mild clime for the next Edition. Mary Ann and I join in with the Warren Chapter hoping you all enjoyed the Christmas Holiday and wishing all a very Happy and Prosperous and Healthy New Year. God Bless You All.

William Schuster, the son of Norman Schuster, "D" Co. 331st Infantry, was killed in an automobile accident in September, right after our Reunion. He lost control of his car while driving home late one night.

SICK BAY

Many thanks to "A" BTRY. members & other 908th. people who were so kind to send cards & phoned while I was confined in a local Hospital this past Oct. & Nov. Your thoughtfulness will always be appreciated.

Sincerely
Michael Brick

Dear Robert:

In deep sorrow I am reporting the death of Henry J. Roy. He passed away on Sept. 10. 1980. He was from "C" BTRY. 908 F.A.

His wife reported this to me and her address is:

Mrs. Henry J. Roy
RT. No. 3, Box 7355
Belton, Texas 76513

She would be happy to hear from any of Henry's Buddy's.

Sincerely
your Buddy
Francis Rood "C" - 908
RR No. 1, Box 138
CANAAN, CN. 06018

Dear Bob:

I received a letter from the sister of Edward S. Will. Ed passed away on August 28, 1980.

Ed had not been a member of the Association but was in the 1st Battalion Headquarters, 331st Infantry. He retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1972, and lived with his sister at 7281 Bertha Rd. Pasadena, MD. 21122.

Leo Schneider

Dear Bob,

I just had a note from Mrs. Nothnagel, reporting that her husband, Charlie, died on October 18th after a long illness. Charlie served in Battery "C" 324th F.A. Bn., and lived in Perryville, Md.

On the brighter side, Mrs. Irvine and I had a most enjoyable luncheon visit with Bob Smith and his wife, in Napa, California, on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Bob was the Division Artillery S-3 throughout our time in combat.

Best wishes to you and your wife for 1981.

Sincerely
George Irvine
324th. F.A. Bn.

New Jersey Chapter News

Hi Everyone,

As you all know our former reporter Jim Bowie has passed away and I have been chosen to report for the New Jersey Chapter. I first met Jim at our 1965 Myrtle Beach reunion. We became the best of friends and shared much of our lives. Jim was a man of exceptional energy and showed it in whatever he did. He was always ready to help those in need. He was especially concerned about the association and would involve himself in whatever would be for the good of it. He is missed for he was part of us.

We in Jersey who attended the reunion want to send to the Philadelphia chapter our congratulations on the wonderful reunion which they hosted. It was especially great for me to see Wilson and Viola Day and Frank Reichman both from 1st Bn. Hdqs. 331. Wilson and Viola have attended the last 3 reunions. My wife Fran & I have enjoyed how Viola keeps us going, always ready for new places and things to do. Frank Reichmann hails from Ludlow Asbury, N.J. This was Frank's first reunion in 25 years. He has been caring for his mother who has been ill and has not been able to leave her for more than a day. We hope everything goes well for them. We so enjoyed him in the service and the times we have seen him since. Another from our company Mike Skovran on his way to the reunion met with Bill Guiliane in Altoona, Pa. Haven't seen Bill since our Washington D.C. reunion. Hope we get to see you in Pittsburgh. Fred Klein was another of our lost buddies who I have contacted and I hope we can get to see him soon at a Chapter meeting or a reunion. Fred and Family live in Elmwood Park, N.J. close to our meeting place the VFW Post in Garfield. The meetings are held the third Friday of the month at 8 PM. Everyone is invited so come and enjoy your buddies.

Manny Epstein K-331 missed his first reunion ever due to his father passing away. We in Jersey want to express our deepest sympathy to Manny and his family. We also missed Arnold and Beverly Cipperly, they live in Troy, N.Y. but are members of the Jersey Chapter. Arnold has a daughter living in Jersey. On your next visit to her have it coincide with a meeting. We could tip a few for our Buddie on Bus # 4.

Joe DePeri F-330 was able to make the reunion. He it but would like to see more from his company attend. Charles and Mary Sihlanick A-322 FA enjoyed another reunion with their artillery buddies. Don't know of anyone who enjoys the reunions more than Charlie. Emil and Hazel Wheling Hdqs. 330 were also present and enjoyed seeing their many friends. Emil is retired and loves to travel.

Ed and Erna Russell-C-330 had plans to spend a weekend at Eddie's Farm in the Catskills. They have there usually good time wherever they go. I have had a chance to play golf with Ed a few times this year. Ed's hobby is making golf clubs. Don't contact Ed to make any for your if you take a divot. Last time out he was ready to hit a 5 wood to the green, a distance of 180 yards. He took too much ground, the club' head almost made the green - the ball went 10 yards. We had a good laugh over it.

Fran and I were able to go to Myrtle Beach in October to meet with some friends from the 83rd.

Those that made it this year were Ed & Betty Kirgan M-330, Tom & Gail Hensley A-330, Don & Twyla Thiebolt I-330 and Charlie & Lucille Waldrop B-330. Was great being with them, Loved that Fissssssh!, especially the Oyster Roast. You have to see Gail Hensley's reaction to people eating oysters. Dave and Millie Benick A-330 stopped to see us at Myrtle Beach. They were on their way home after visiting with the Bill Bullard's in North Carolina.

That's about it for this issue.

New Yersey Chapter would like to wish you all the Very Best Holidays and New Year. God Bless You.

Stan Bielen 1st Bn. 331

Hello Buddies:

Here we are approaching the greatest Season of the year, the Holiday Season where we extend to all our friends the BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

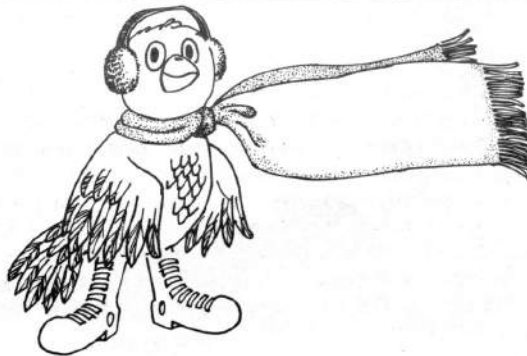
As we approach this Season, and take a minute out to read our World News, we can give an extra thanks to God that we live in the Country that we live in. All over the World their is serious turmoil going on. Here in this Country we do have slight racial discomfort plus burglaries, rapes and murders, but they are minor in comparison to the troubles in other Countries.

Let us all take a minute out to thank God for what we have, and also extend another thanks to our friends and neighbors for being the people that they are. A friendly people that we can stop and talk to or sitand be friendly with.

We here in America are the luckiest people in the World, we have the freedoms that no other Country extends to their people. We can live where we want, go where we want, practice the Religion of our choice, and have our Country run by the men of our choice, we are not controlled by Militaristic force.

As we approach the Christmas Season, let us extend to one another our BEST WISHES for sincere Health and Happiness, and let us start the new year with that warm feeling of friendliness to one another. May GOD BLESS you all.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond
Co. "H" 330th



G COMPANY 331ST INFANTRY

I have had some contact with members of the company since the last article. This always seems to be the busiest time of the year, but we should all take time to think of our buddies that we served with. Sometimes, I get irritated with some of the individuals that served during the Vietnam Conflict. They claim that they have a hard time adjusting after fighting that war, and that war had taken too much out of their lives. I am sure you feel as I do, that we had a hard time adjusting after World War II, but we did not use that as an excuse. We went about our way, and buckled down to the new way of life in a peaceful world.

Had a call from Mort Gaynor. Mort feels that I don't enjoy his calls. When I don't receive those calls then I start to worry, so Mort keep up the calls, I enjoy every minute of them.

Titus and I enjoyed a short call. We are trying to line up the company so that we will have an excellent turn out in Pittsburg in 1981. My only hope is that some of you men that are signed up as members of the Association, will see fit one year to take time out to attend. I can assure you that you will enjoy yourself. A short note in the last Thunderbolt from Joe Kuzma, informed us of the death of Benny Vecchione. I was sorry to hear that, because although Benny did not fare out well in the army, I can assure you that he was one of the backbones of G Company. He was always good for a laugh or two, and I am quite sure that the men of the company enjoyed his cooking. I can remember a couple of incidents overseas with Benny. front in Normandy, they were laughing at Benny, because he fired his rifle and what he said was that an 88 shell came through the Kitchen tent. Sure it was funny, the shells came in so fast that you would never be able to hit it with a rifle shot. But later in the war, when we were in the Bulge, I no longer laughed at Benny. I was standing behind a house when the Germans were firing the 88's and just before the projector hit the ground I was able to see it.

Another incident took place in the Brittany Peninsula, when we were in a defensive position. I was out checking the lines one morning in the second platoon area, when a German just out in front of us and demanded a surrender, McAbee took care of him. After leaving that area I started across the field alone to the next position, violating the buddy system, Benny came running up to me and chewed me out, letting me know that I was not to go out alone in that area. His keen eyesight spotted a German about to jump out of a foxhole in front of us. I was thankful to Benny that day, and from that time on, I always had someone at my side.

With the Holiday Season closing in on us I would like to extend the best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year not only to the men of G Company, but to all of our buddies in the Best Division Association, THE 83RD ASSOCIATION.

Capt
Mac

MICHIGAN CHAPTER REPORT

By the time that you Thunderbolts read this the holiday season will be long past, however we here in Michigan do hope that your holiday was a good one and that we will see you all in Pittsburg before another New Year rolls around.

The Michigan Chapter held the first of its new quarterly gettogethers on the second week-end in November at the Valley Plaza Inn in Midland, Michigan, and we really had a great time. Yours truly was among the last to arrive Saturday afternoon and the party was already well under way in the Jack Daugherty suite. And this party continued, with time out for a business meeting, a dinner, some bowling, and some billiards, until about 2 A.M. Then at 9 A.M. on Sunday we met for breakfast together before departing for home. All in all it was a wonderful weekend party and we look forward to our next one which will be hosted by the Nick Barbu's and Jack Daugherty's in the Detroit area. Tentative plans call for the spring meeting to be held in the Lansing, Michigan area and we hope that more of you people from near that area will make plans to attend. You'll be notified of the time and place.

We are happy to announce that we've added 2 new names to the Michigan Chapter roster. Attending the Michigan Chapter Midland meeting for the first time were George Bossler of the 324 F.A. and Bill Goodwin of L-329. George and Bill both hail from Lansing, Michigan, although they were not acquainted until now. We look forward to their active participation in the Chapter in the future.

At our annual election of officers this reporter lost out in a hard fought battle to retain this position of Chapter Reporter, so your next report will come from Vito Palazzolo, who has done an excellent job in the past in this same position. Instead, yours truly will act as President in the coming year, Bill Goodwin is Vice President, Jack Daugherty is Treasurer, and Dee Hetrick will continue as our Secretary.

Our great white hunter, Bruce Winchell, came back empty handed from his annual trek to the north woods this year. Bruce must be losing his aim for it isn't often that this happens to him. In the meantime, wife Jean flew to Alaska for a first hand visit with their new Granddaughter.

And by the time that you read this we will have in our midst 2 new retirees. Lee Hetrick will retire from his job as a tool engineer at the Burrough Corporation, and Vito Palazzolo will retire from the J.L. Hudson Company, one of the nation's larger retail department store chains. I know that you will join all of us in the Michigan Chapter in wishing these fellows a long and happy retirement.

Because of bad experiences with the weather at this time of year in Michigan, our Chapter decided to forego our annual Christmas party for this year. It seems that in recent years adverse weather conditions have been a factor in our attendance at winter functions because of the distances that many have to travel. And as we grow older we're less inclined to brave the elements. Perhaps in the future we should consider a Thanksgiving party instead.

So long for now, and look for Vito Palazzolo's Michigan Chapter report in the future.

Bob Taylor
B-329

Class learns ins and outs of suitmaking



EXAMINING THE 16 separate components that go into a pair of trousers are tailoring course participants, from left, James Earp, Clarice

Clemens, Heien H. Underwood, Blanche Youmans, Algussie M. Pye, Eleanor Macon, Carrie Lee, Pearl Brown, instructor Al Belvedere, Phyllis

Stinney, Evonia Cam, Joan Fleming, Joseph Bucci, Delores Williams, Juanita Cooper and Lurlean Ellison.

How does one spot a quality tailored garment when shopping?

Note first whether the edges are thin. They should be, even where you would expect the seams to pile up thickly at their junctions.

And a good garment has straight seams and straight edges all over. There are no crooks or puckers.

Linings are always loosely put in so they do not interfere with the drape of the garment.

Buttons are sewn with a "neck"—not too tightly—to avoid puckering at the base. Buttonholes are handmade. They are soft and flexible, not hard.

Fifteen Directorate of Manufacturing employees are now learning such fine points of the art of tailoring, but not just from the point of view of a shopper. Rather, they are learning to MAKE quality gar-

ments. The group meets each Tuesday and Thursday to build on a foundation of knowledge gained through the course, which began Sept. 16 with such basics as how to hold the

Yet while the course work is serious, Belvedere tries to make it enjoyable.

"The class is a lot of fun," said student Clarisa Clemens. "The three hours just fly by."

The students, who were selected from 116 applicants (there are six alternates), receive one and one-half hours administrative leave for each class. The second half of the class falls after normal quitting time.

Ms. Clemens, who has a quality assurance job in the factory, said the knowledge she's gaining already

is helping her on the job. "Knowing how a garment is put together helps a lot when you are reading and interpreting written specifications," she said.

It is the beginning-to-end knowledge of the tailoring process that Belvedere feels will be especially helpful to the students. "There aren't too many people around today who know tailoring this way," he said. "In industry, most workers are specialists. They might make pockets, or sleeves, but someone who knows the whole suit is rare," he said.

needle.

Instructor Al Belvedere, a retired assistant production manager in DPSC's factory, is taking the employees step-by-step through the 136 separate procedures that go into making a suit of coat and pants.

The students will make, and practice, each of the components of the suit, from the lining to zippers to the pocket flaps.

The course is divided into four phases spread over four semesters and two years. The first phase includes the seven basic hand stitches; the second, the making of

a pair of trousers; and the third and fourth, the making of a coat.

The course was specially designed by Belvedere to fit the needs of the Directorate of Manufacturing and its employees. Items made in the course are part of the Army green dress uniform.

Belvedere, as a custom tailor who once made uniforms for the highest ranking officers in the military, has geared the course to help students advance to available assistant tailoring positions and to help them qualify for management positions as well.



INSTRUCTOR BELVEDERE discusses slitch patterns with Joan Fleming.

When I finished last time I had just arrived at the 121st General Hospital in England. I never did find out exactly where it was but it was near the Welsh border.

I was having a devil of a time trying to get any sleep. At first I couldn't sleep and then I was afraid to go to sleep as just as soon as I did I would be back in the hedgerows fighting. For two or three nights I was given some kind of sleeping pill that didn't do me any good so the doctor changed it to Sodium Amytol (I believe that is the way to spell it). After four nights of that I was switched to chloral hydrate. That is what the old time bar tenders used for a 'Mickey Finn'. I was in a small room across the hall from the Nurses office and from the wash room. I mention that now because they both came into play a little later.

At the end of ten days I was able to walk around alright so I asked for some clothes. The ward was notified that I was to be at the office of the Commander of Detachment of Patients at thirteen hundred. I was there about 12:45 and when I walked into the office I found myself in a room separated into two sections with a counter running across half of the room and a low railing with a swinging gate in it closing off the rest and with a large desk on the other side of the railing inside of the gate. There was a chair in the corner on my side of the railing so I sat down to wait for the C.O. Several other officer patients came in and shortly after 1300 a little red headed Lieutenant came through the door in a hurry, on through the swinging gate and sat down behind the desk. Without bothering to even look at us he told us to come back at 0800 the next morning to get our clothes. This brought on the following conversation between him and myself.

"Lieutenant", I said, "We can't be here at 0800 as we have to be in our wards then for sick call." (See, this darned typewriter did it again.)

It was his turn again. "I don't see why you can't. I put out an order to that effect. Clothing would be issued to patients at 0800."

"Lieutenant", I said. "I was told by your office to be here at 1300 to draw clothes. I had yet to see the time that a field grade officer would have to come back a time under those circumstances and I certainly had no intentions of setting a precedent."

"Well, I don't have anything but enlisted mens clothing."

"What do you think we were wearing on the other side of the Channel - Pink's and Greens with a beaver fur cap?"

"Well! Do you have any insignia to put on? I don't have any officers insignia."

"Lieutenant, if I had anything to put insignia on I wouldn't have to be here asking for clothes."

The outcome of all of this was we got our clothes and I walked out of there looking like the G.I. est G.I. you ever saw.

I started to visit the wards to see if I could find any of our men there and on my way I ran into Nurse Ryan who was a nurse supervisor in our section of wards. She asked me how I was and I told her that I felt like a

new man again now that I had some clothes to wear. She said that was fine and I went on my way. I returned to the ward for a few minutes about three o'clock and found 'Sunshine' (that was our name for our ward nurse, Nurse Benjamin) waiting for me. She said, "Major White, Nurse Ryan was here and told me to tell you that you were to turn in your clothes to be locked up." I told her in turn that I had seen Nurse Ryan earlier and that everything was alright and not to worry about it. I then took off again.

Not long after I again ran into Nurse Ryan. Again we talked for a few minutes and again I told her how good it felt to be wearing a uniform again. We then went on our respective ways.

At the end of another hour I returned to the ward to find 'Sunshine' waiting for me. "Major White", she said. "Nurse Ryan was back here and told me to tell you that you were to turn in your clothes to be locked up and that if you didn't you were to report to Lt St Clair." I was fairly sure later that 'Sunshine' knew what was going to happen when she told me that. "I'm to report to Lt St Clair?" I asked her. "If there is any reporting to be done you can tell him to get over here and report to me."

He didn't report and I didn't report and I kept my clothes although, to play safe I put them under my mattress that night.

That evening a Captain from the Eighth Division and an air corps warrant officer took me over to what they called the Officers Club. Officer patients weren't allowed to have anything but beer. Only hospital staff were able to buy liquor. That was alright with us and the 3 of us sat at a table talking together while we put away two cases of beer. At 2300 we were on our way back to the ward feeling no pain and singing 'Roll me Over' probably slightly off key. There was a new night nurse on duty in the ward that night and she heard us coming when we were still about three wards away. As we started to turn into my room, she called us into the office and proceed to read the riot act to us. We must have looked like three little boys standing in front of their teachers desk. We were trying to keep straight faces and to look repentant until she looked up at me and said: "Major! Aren't you ashamed of yourself." I looked down at her and with I imagine a silly look on my face, slowly shook my head in a negative manner and said "Nooma-am" That finished it.

The two them got me into my room and were going to help me get into bed when the Warrant Officer asked if anyone had anything to drink. My glass of chlorate which was setting on the small table beside my bed. I said, "Yes I had something. Help yourself." and pointed to the glass. Being colorless and mixed with water it looked like a glass of gin. At least that is what I figured he must have thought it was. At any rate he picked it up and tried to do a chug-a-lug with it. The darned stuff tastes like the devil and he dropped the glass and staggered across the hellway to the wash room. He just made it inside the door when we heard a crash and hurried over to see what had happened. He was flat on the floor and out cold. The captain and I managed to

get him ready and put him in bed. When we picked him up, it was the first time I ever saw a man so stiff that you could pick him up by his head and feet and not have a bend anywhere. As soon as we got him squared away I went back to my room and was asleep almost as soon as my head hit the pillow. The two of them had given me something that the doctors had not been able to do - a chance to relax.

I had been able to obtain some insignia from other officers in the ward and a couple of days later while I was making my rounds of the wards I stopped in one where there were two or three 83rd men. As we were talking, other men joined us and we had a good bull session going when I happened to look up and see a nurse standing back on the edge of the group. She must have thought that she was going to hear something that she shouldn't. When she saw me looking at her she got kind of red faced and said "Major. What happened to you." I said, "Nurse, you have heard about the hedgerows over in Normandy, haven't you? All of your fields over there are bounded by ditches and banks. Trees are growing in the banks and berry bushes or other types of bushes are planted growing between the trees. I went diving over one of the banks and got my arm all tangled up in briar bushes." "Gee! Major", she said. "That's to bad." and then she moved away.

We immediately got back to talking again and after a few more minutes I looked up & that same nurse was back listening. I called to her, "Nurse! Im in a heck of a fix. I submitted a letter to receive a Purple Heart. Now, you know that a Purple Heart is only given for wounds resulting from enemy action. I have just received my letter back with about ten indorsements on it and the gist of it all is that I have to be able to prove that those briar bushes were planted by the Germans, because if they were planted by the French it would not be the result of enemy action and I would not receive my Purple Heart." "Gee, Major", she said. "That's too bad."

Three days later I was scheduled for a skin graft operation on my right arm and the night nurse was to give me a morphine shot at 0600. She did, but apparently she had neglected to put it on my chart. The day nurse came on duty and finding nothing to indicate that I had received my shot and it was nearly time for me to be taken over to the operating room and my litter was left outside for a few minutes while the doctor was finishing getting ready for me. I was happy as a clam and was lying outside on my litter singing up a storm. They finally got me in and put me on the operating table. The anesthetist started to give me sodium penathol and as she stuck the needle in my arm told me to start counting. "I don't want to count," I said. "Alright, then, what do you want to do?" she asked me. "I want to sing", I answered. "That's alright then" she told me, "go ahead and sing." I went out singing the Marine Corps Hymn, 'Semper Fidelis.'

When I came out of the anesthetic I found that my right arm was extended straight out to my side and tied

to a board that exted across under my back. It was after that I got to meet my doctor who happened to be, believe it or not, a Major White. He had been through the African campaigns with an evacuation hospital and had been assigned to the 121st shortly after its arrival in England. The hospital itself had just recently arrived from the States taking the place of the 16th General which was on orders to France.

I was very fortunate to have him for my doctor as with his experience he understood combat casualties and how we felt about things. That was the main problem with the other personnel of the hospital. They were regarding us in the same manner that they did for their standard stateside G.I. patient.

I will call it quits for now and tell you more about the 121 in my next edition.

With my best regards to all Thunderbolts,

Sincerely,
Bill White
the 'Mad Major'

REPORT FROM THE LOUISIANA CHAPTER

We have not scheduled a meeting since our reunion, but we hope to have some type of meeting in January 1981, so that we can bring our members up to date. I have asked for a roster of the paid up members so that we may contact them.

I have talked with Leonard, Bidner and Smith all are still interested in the association. Laurence Armand seems to be fine after his operation, he hasn't returned to the hospital in some time.

Talked with Mrs. Kohler, she informs me that Haley has not been feeling well, he has been in and out of the hospital a number of times this year, and makes regular calls to the Doctor's office. We are looking forward to having the Kohler's join us in Pittsburgh in 1981 and in Fallsburg, N.Y. in 1982. Keep up the good work Haley.

Members of the Louisiana Chapter wish to extend to all members of the 83rd Association the best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Joe Macaluso



W. VA. CHAPTER CHRISTMAS DINNER

We had our Chapter Christmas Dinner, on December 21st, and we had a real good turnout. We had some to our dinner, that have not been with us for a long time, and we enjoyed having them with us. We bid farewell to John Governor and his wife Virginia, as they are moving to Lynchburg, Virginia. We will miss them very much.

We also had four of our Chapter, that had Birthday's at this Dinner, and we had a cake, and sang Happy Birthday to them. We also gave Christmas Presents to each other at this Dinner. Mr. Don Pettry, our Secretary-Treasurer is going to retire, after the 1st of January, so that he can spend more time in the Business of the Chapter.

We received a nice Christmas Card and Letter from Sam Klippa, our National President. (He is Mr. 83rd to us here in the W. Va. Chapter. For he is the one that comes down here to W.Va. and got us started in our Chapter.) We of the W.Va. Chapter, are trying to organize, to get most of our members out to the Reunion in Pittsburg, this August. We would love to have the Reunion here in West Virginia in the near future.

Well this is about all the news for this time and wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May God Bless each and every one of you all.

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

P.S. I am also sending a few pictures: taken at the Dinner.



Exchanging Christmas Presents

L-R: Esta Pettry, Don Pettry and Arthur Blankenship.



John and Virginia Governor



Happy Birthday

F-R L-R: Helen Persinger and Mary Hunt.

B-R L-R: Evelyn Shepherd and Chauncey Hunt, Jr.



Cutting the Birthday Cake

L-R: Virginia Governor and Helen Persinger

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER REPORT

We just had another meeting of The West Virginia Chapter yesterday, December 7th, and it was one of the best that we have ever had. We had almost as many out, as we had at our Charter Presentation two years ago. Our very capable President Mr. John Shepherd was ill, and could not be there. Mr. Larry Hoskins, one of our Vice-Presidents took over the meeting. He done a tremendous job, and we all congratulate him, on a job well done. Our Speaker of the hour, Mr. Hershel (Woody) Williams, made a real nice speech, concerning the world situation, and concerning Balance of Power between the U.S. and Russia. He also spoke of the need for the Draft, of which we all were in favor of. Woody was made an Honorary Member of our Chapter.

We are loosing one of our very capable members, Mr. John Governor, who has worked very hard in organizing our Chapter. He was my right arm during his year as our Secretary-Treasurer, and we will miss him and his wife Virginia very much. I will be enclosing his new address at the end of this report. The Chapter presented John and his wife with a going away present. We also had the exchange of gifts at this meeting.

We had one new member, Mr. Kenneth Maier, from Cambridge, Ohio. He was a Buddy that I received my training with at Camp Atterbury, and my wife and I had a real Reunion with him and his wife Martha, during the meeting. It had been over 36-years since we had seen each other, and he is going to try to make it to more of our Chapter meetings.

This is the first time, that we have had all our Officers present except our Pres. at one of our meetings since we received our Charter, and we are full speed ahead on having one of the best Chapters in the Organization. It is hard work but we enjoy it very much. We are still having our regular monthly Dinners, and we will have our Christmas Dinner, at The Bonanza Restaurant in St. Albans, on Sunday, the 21st of December, at 1 P.M.

We had a member at this meeting from all over the State, Mr. Clarke Johnson from Martinsburg, drove over 300 miles to get there, and that is real support. We are trying to work it out where we can meet every two months instead of every three months, except during the Winter months.

We are organizing now to make a good Landing in Pittsburgh, at our National Reunion in August.

This is a thought that John Governor gave to me. (one thought about retiring, some of you I never will see again on Earth, those I will see in Heaven. We all have been through Hell together fighting with the 83rd Infantry Division, and May God Bless all of you).

Our next meeting will be at The Wilmar Cafe-

teria, Parkersburg, W.Va. on March 15, 1981, at 1 P.M.

I will close the report for this time, and may God Bless you all.

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

Mr. John Governors Address:
John S. and Virginia Governor
1711-Rivermont Avenue
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503
Telephone-1-804-528-5159

P.S. We are enclosing some pictures, and we have three of your Ohio Buddies in our Chapter.



Front Row - L-R: Larry Hoskins, Don Pettry and Clark Johnson.

Back Row - L-R: John Swecker, Harold Crouch, Charley Spurgeon and John Governor.



L-R: Martha Maier, Kenneth Maier, Eugene Persinger and Helen Persinger.



L-R: Jim Dunkin, and Hershel (Woody) Williams, Congressional Medal of Winner.

Dear Bob:

I just received my first issue of The Thunderbolt, and really enjoyed reading it. I only found out about the 83rd. Inf. Div. Association through an article in our local paper last summer.

I am proud to be a member, they are a great group of men.

I was wondering if you or anyone else can furnish me with an address of the following men:

(LT.) Donald Lebo - Platoon Leader
1st Platoon E Co. 330

Last address I had for him was Harrisburg, PA.
Wentzel - Squad Leader 1st Platoon E. Co.
330th. from Mich.

Joseph Desimone - Platoon Medic (1st Platoon
E. Co. 330th.) Moorestown N.J.

I have a picture, which was taken of our Platoon after the war (Jun. 45) which often makes me wonder about these fellows. I would appreciate hearing from anyone else who was in the first Platoon during combat. Jan. 5 to May 8. 45.

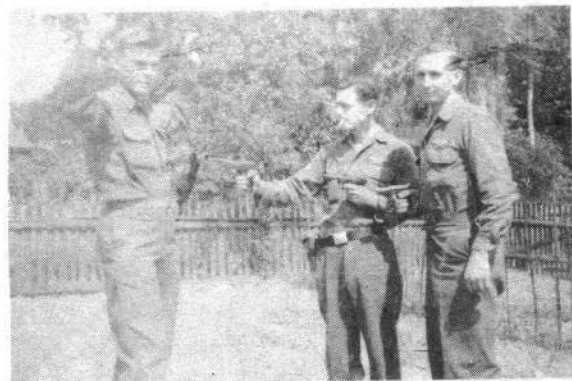
Thank you.
Milton Pruitt
2730 Mosser St.
Allentown, PA. 18103

Dear Robert,

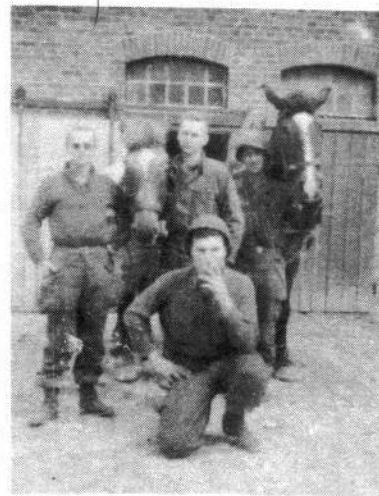
I thought I would send you some pictures for the "Thunderbolt's" next issue, if you can put them in by then. They were taken between the Bulge and the Elbe River.

George Naylor stopped by to see me after the reunion in Philadelphia. We had a pleasant time together discussing old times and faces, and when I showed him the pictures I had, he thought it would be a good idea to send some into the magazine to see if some could be printed. Of those that I can identify, I have the names on the backs. I hope they turn out well and if possible after you are finished with them, you can return the pictures to me.

Sincerely
Richard J. Shershenovich



L-R: LaParre, Givens, Phelps. Front: Johnson.



L-R: Thompson, Wonko, Givens.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER REPORTING

Hello Thunderbolts:

First of all we of the New England Chapter as always wish everyone of the 83rd Division Association had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our New England Chapters Christmas Party will be held in Rhode Island at the Venetian Garden in Warwick on December 13, 1980, so it will be to late for the December 10th dead line, so we will write on this the next issue in March 10. We expect a very good turn out at this sit down dinner and dance and a big hand for setting it all up goes to Joe Petrucci and Jim and Dot Brennan. Thanks Joe, Jim & Dot.

Our October get together was held at the home of Lou and Emma Rossi (A-322 FA) Lynn Mass. and a great time was had by all, but we missed Spike and Gloria McCartin. Now that the boat is out of the water Spike we will be looking for you.

On November 9th our meeting was held at the home of Duchie and Helen Smith (H.Co. 329) Lynn. Jim and Dot Brennan could not make it due to Jim working. Spike and Gloria McCartin (H.Co.-330) had a wedding to go to. Our biggest miss is our President John Donahue (1 Bn-Hq 329). John is not up to snuff as yet but we are all pulling for him. Take your time John, the job is still yours. John also tells me he is to be a Grandfather again in March, Good Luck Grand-Pa.

At this meeting at the Smith's the girls had one of there own and this is what they came up with: Lou Rossi was voted the most YOUNGEST, Jim Emanouil voted the most SEXIEST, Nick Francullo voted the most AVAILABLE, and Duchie Smith the most ACTION. So you see the girls had a very though job of it.

By the way Lou Rossi -- tell me again that story of those strawberries that you had at work. We all enjoyed it very much Ha - ha - ha!!!

Also just received word that Duchie and Helen Smiths son James E. Smith Esg and Paul R. Keating Esg have formed a partnership in the General Practice of Law in Lynn. Good Luck Jim.

As always we must come to the end on all things and this is it.

Your Buddy always
Nick Francullo
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Hi Bob: Hope this finds you and your wife A o.k. I am writing this in bed. On Nov. 19, 1980 delivering Mail I slipped on some ice and fell down 5 flights of stairs and broke two ribs, so I will be out of work for awhile. Take care.

Your Buddy
Nick Francullo



L-R: House, Jess Cullen



L-R: Johnson, Civilian, Civilian, Shershenovich, Civilian.



L-R: Francis Al, Garrigan Lasinsky ?



Group that visited "The Pines" in the Catskills



Duchie tells it like it is.



Just a beautiful setting.



Duchie Helen Jim & Mary



At the Rossis home and a good time it was



Just to much to eat and drink

323rd. Report

Nancy and I are back from Ireland. We had a marvelous vacation, in fact, Nancy says she is going back again in two years.

I talked to Armand Maurier's wife on the telephone and she told me he had died several years back.

We were up to Dracut, Mass. to see George Polites and his lovely wife. It was really wonderful being with these nice people for an afternoon. George called Billy Metillinous, who was very happy to hear from both of us. We were talking about the local boys from the New England States getting together for a little party next June. Don Willis was to Boston some years ago and we had a real blast at George's house.

Les Taylor has done a little research for me so I could try and locate some more of the men from the 323rd. Thank you for your help Les, I can always depend on you.

Last October 12th weekend Bill Shaner, Don St John and Eddie McCouch spent a few days together in the City of Altoona. (That's where the TRAIN goes through you know.) They had an excellent time at the LEMON DROP. I was sorry we could not make it but Nancy was ill at the time so with regrets we had to stay home this time. They always give us a good weekend in Altoona. I am looking forward to them coming to Boston after the winter months.

I have seen George Conners at the Boston Chapter. It is really good to see him and his wife at the Boston Meetings.

Romeo Maynard and his wife had a get-to-gether at their home in Westport, Mass. We all had a marvelous evening. Many thanks to Romeo and Livy for all the goodies.

Captain Bob Costello reported that he is now living in the Sunshine State. He was very glad to hear that I made contact with Captain Ralph Morgan and Frank Wirth.

Erwin Ehardt has a birthday coming up on January 1st. I will be calling him on the telephone to wish him a happy birthday. I will also try to get Grandpa Norman McCormack to call him too.

Well boys, that's all for this issue. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I will ask John Cardinal Piscitelli to say a few prayers for you.

Amby Tynan
323rd.

BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS

Boston had its September meeting at Vera and Mike Caprio's home. Nancy and I had just returned from Ireland that day, however, we continued on to Providence to attend this meeting. The food and drinks were really top shelf. Everyone had a wonderful evening until the early morning hours. Many thanks to Mike and Vera.

The next meeting was in October at President Romeo Maynard's house. Some of us had a hard time finding it but everything turned out very well. Jim Prentice and Pat DiGiammerino had just arrived back from New York and told us what a wonderful place the Pines was in the Catskills for a possible sight for 1982 reunion. We also had our regular business for the month. Livie Maynard put out a lot of chow and we all enjoyed putting it away. Lots of thanks to the Maynard family for a job well done.

The December meeting and Christmas party was

held at Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino's house. I was "Number One" that night being that I was Santa Claus. I must say those 83rders are getting to heavy to be sitting on my knee, however, the women are getting much lighter which was much appreciated by Santa. One benefit Santa had was being seated in the main dining room with all the food. Gin almost caught me tasting a few things but Santa was too fast. After everyone chowed down, we got back to the nomination of officers for 1981. We had a lot of laughs with Mike Caprio telling a few Post Office jokes. George Conners also told one and one was enough George.

There has been a lot of talk going around Boston about Howie Barlbom being a very poor Chef. It is said, he makes the worst cheese sandwich that one could ever eat. Now Howie, a real nice man from 908 F.A. Bn. told me if you came to Boston he would be only too happy to teach you the know how about making Chowder. Incidentally, Stuart Hitt invited us down to his place for some Chowder this week. Ha! Ha! Mike Brick was another good man from 908 that is on the Hitt list. Mike, we could only find out good things about you. I certainly hope both you and Howie, along with your wives, have a nice Holiday.

After all these years, Frank McGrogan is trying to buy a Hospital. Mary tells me you also like the women doctors as well as the nurses. The Boston Chapter hopes that you will be back home in good health to read this report.

At the end of the Boston Chapter Meeting, we talked about going to the Catskills for our Boston Reunion in 1982. We tabled it for now as we are looking into it for the best interest of the 83rd Association, which always comes first in our hearts. This is what every man in the 83rd Infantry Div. Association should think about. We will have more on this in the next issue of the Thunderbolt.

Ray Bjork has grown himself a beard. He is really playing the Grandfather act all the way.

Larry Arrigo and Paul Gunderson from the 308th Engineers were showing pictures of themselves back in the big war.

Well I will have to get this report in the mail to make Bob Derickson happy.

Amby Tynan
Boston Reporter

DIXIE CHAPTER REPORT

Hello Buddies:

I didn't make a report for Oct. we had a good meeting at Statesville with about forty some members present with Billie Glenn and Leslie Riddle winning prizes.

We have just had our Christmas Party at Gatlingburg with over a hundred present. We had several visitors but some of our members and friends are sick and in the hospital. We hope they will soon be back with us. We had a visit from Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus.

Mrs. Thelma Whitford gave several Readings and the Country Kings Band lead us in singing Christmas Carols and other songs and dance.

Johnnie H. Hall
1265 Opportunity Rd.
Winston - Salem, N.C. 27105

Dear Bob:

I just received a letter from John Piscitelli who informs me that Colonel George M. Shuster's surviving wife, Dorthea Shuster, passed away recently, and he suggests that I take care of the "obituary" for the Thunderbolt.

I first knew Lt. Col. Shuster when I first joined the 330th Inf. at Camp Breckenridge at the time he was Regimental Executive Officer, and he impressed me as a very dignified and efficient officer. Later, Col. Shuster commanded the 3rd Bn., 331st Inf. and he remained in that position through the invasion and until he was wounded in action on July 4, 1944 in the "big Attack". He was placed in command of the 3rd Bn. about midnight in December, 1944. The main portion of the Battalion was "cut off" in Strauss, but Col Shuster insisted on joining the main portion of the Battalion that same night and was escorted into Strauss by patrol in a roundabout route. Col. Shuster remained with the 3rd Battalion as the Commander throughout the balance of the Huertgen battles, the Ardennes battles, and the crossing of the Rhine and the dash across Europe. He was courageous under fire and never lost his dignity except when he lost a hand of poker.

After the war, Col. Shuster returned to his home in Narbeth, Pennsylvania and resumed his civilian position as an engineer with the Philadelphia, PA. Power Company.

After the war, by visiting Col. Shuster in his home, my wife and I both became very fond of he and his lovely wife Dorthea, and later they visited us in Macon, at which time we had a mini-reunion with we two and Walter Ashmore, formerly with 3rd Bn. 330th, and Phillip Simmons, formerly, 330th Inf. After Col. Shuster died, Dorthea and my wife continued to correspond regularly and swapped books. We enjoyed two more visits to her homeplace, the last in 1974.

Col. Shuster bequeathed to me all of his wartime memorabilia, including his history of the 3rd Bn., 330th.

Col. Shuster's wife, Dorthea, was a wonderful person, and made Col. Shuster a loving and devoted wife and was his constant companion in his declining years.

May their souls rest in peace.

Sincerely,
Andrew W. McKenna



L-R: John, Beryl, Frank, Daniel

I learned of the 83rd. Infantry Division Association, and "THUNDERBOLT", about two years ago. The names published in "THUNDERBOLT", and the master list supplied by Mr. 83rd., Sam Klippa, I was able to contact other Buddies, that I served with. We had planned to meet half way between our towns some time in the future. I would be leaving WEST VA., in a few weeks, time was running out. I sent my Buddies a note expressing my regrets we were unable to get together, but hopefully some day in the future. Was I surprised, Dan McCarthy, phoned me, he was coming to Charleston that weekend - 375 miles one way. I phoned Beryl Carpter, explained the situation, he replied I will be there, 175 miles one way. I also phoned Frank Sarver, 90 miles one way, sure I will meet you. I just couldn't believe these men could find the time on such short notice to visit me. Over thirty five years, my "Comrades", "Mess Mates", Men showing a real "ESPRIT DE CORPS", Men that had smelled the powder. Been under the fire, and saw the spilled blood of our Buddies.

A small reunion that I will never forget, the camarade between us, has developed into a strong bond. We talked for hours (I never discussed the War before) about Camp Atterbury, Manoeuvres in Tenn., Dan and I joined "M" Company about that time. Transferred from Company "I" 331st.

Back to old memories, talked about Wales, the Flash Flood, Normandy, Hedgerows, the cause way, 2,500 Planes, the break out, the different Campaigns (five). We must have had a "GUARDIAN ANGEL" to survive. Most important our Buddies from Company "I", and "M", that didn't return, may they rest in peace. Even though you may not have ever ran a machine gun nest, knocked out a tank, captured Hitler. In my eyes, and heart every man that participated in that War is a hero, and nothing less. Dan brought his wife Ann, a delightful person, Beryl had his Son (served in Vietnam) a fine young man, Sarver came alone.

Saturday night for dinner we were joined by Eugene Persinger, Ex. President of THE WEST VA. CHAPTER, and Don Petry, our Sect. Treas., of W.Va. Chapter. You men have given me something money can't buy - YOUR FRIENDSHIP, which I shall be forever grateful. May your shadow never be less!!!

John S. Governor "I" & "M" 331st.
1711 Rivermont Ave.
Lynchburg, Va. 24503



CLEVELAND CHAPTER REPORT

Hello Buddies;

The Holidays are almost upon us and this article must be in, to be honest about it, it damned near left my thoughts completely.

Our Sept. & Oct. meetings were held at the Bob Grobelny residence and as usual Bernice & Bob took good care of our Chapter in the way of food & refreshments.

The November meeting was held at my home, 31 people in all, the bill of fare was a good old fashion sour kraut, dumplings & pork dinner. My wife and I didn't spare the horses, lots of dumplings were made. Eleanor made batches 3 days in a row. Casey Kowalec provided the meat, we cooked same. Eleanor Szubski made a pot of kraut. I think most enjoyed the dinner at least we heard no negative comments from anyone. Mike & Liz Skovran dropped in and stayed for dinner, main reason was to clue us in on what transpired at the Catskill meeting. The Skovran's gave us a real satisfying report and just fanned the flame of our enthusiasm. We want the Catskills Reunion very much.

Our sympathy to the Chester Czech family in the death of Chets' father who passed away in the Cancer Home.

For once I can report no serious illnesses in our group, however we can expect some as we are getting older than we realize and we are not immune.

Our annual Spirits Raffle is only a couple of weeks away and the sales are not as brisk as they once were. However, we won't be hurting as we are still operating in the black for the year. Every meeting our members are assessed \$2.00 a single, \$4.00 a couple, to cover the cost of refreshments & snacks, that way our treasury is not depleted. It is working for us, we don't have to bother with a lot of raffles etc. (try it you'll like it.)

This being my last report for this year, we of Cleveland want to extend the Season's Greetings to all T Bolts wherever you are.

Your dues are ALWAYS DUE, so, fight nice, play nice & pay nice.

See you all in Pittsburgh
Al Uridel

GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

Dear Buddies,

this year we had to call off our annual Banquet due to a greater guarantee of tickets, of which we could not meet. A few of our Chapter members asked me to call a special meeting which I did, and

they decided to call off our Nov. and Dec. meetings, and to start off anew in Jan. 1981. A great discussion was had to try and better our Chapter, and to help better our National Ass'n.

For the coming year, all helpful hints and criticism's were welcomed. The only thing wrong with any Organization are the one or two who always want to be Dictators and those few who write poison Pen letters always with hints, and not

mentioning names. I don't want anyone to send these letters or say anything evil to me about any 83rd member to me. If you can't talk good about a Thunderbolt, don't speak to me. We're to far along in life to worry about Nitwits and trouble makers.

As of now quite a few of our Buddies are pretty ill. Some of us very seriously. Our Chapter member Frank McGrogon D-330 is being prepared for a throat operation. Cheer him up with a letter and, a Prayer. The mother of Ann Belvedere wife of Al K-331 was operated on both eyes she's on the way to recovery. Frank Toti's brother of Lucy Yohpi has been very ill. Our prayers are with him. On his way to recovery. Well Buddies, wives and families, when you receive this Thunderbolt, Christmas and New Year will be passed. I pray they were happy and good. See you all in Pittsburgh, PA.

Phillie Reporter
John T. Piscitelli
C-323 F.A. Bn.

Remember Buddies, Thunderbolts stick together.

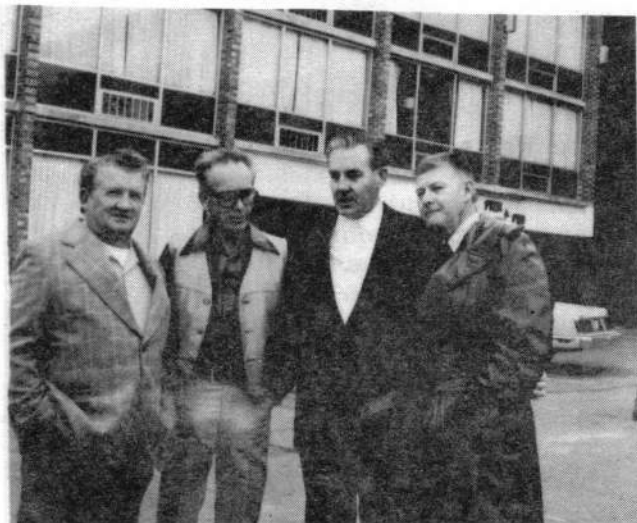
Ralph put this item about Mary after Frank McGrogon. Mary Redmond wife of Larry H-330 has been pretty ill, due to Arthritis, we hope she's up and around soon.



Greater Boston Chapter
Listening to Jim Prentice explain his trip to "The Pines"



L-R: John Governor, Beryl Carpter, Frank Sarver, Dan McCarthy.



L-R: Beryl Carpter, Frank Sarver, Daniel McCarthy, John Governor Co. "M" 331st.



Group at Romeo Maynard's home.

Hello Buddies:

I am writing this letter so that it will reach the many that I have missed. I am sure that most of you men in the Association know Frank McGrogan. He has been a member of the Association since its formation, and has served as well as a President and a Member of the Executive Board.

Right now, Frank is in the Parkview Hospital, Castor & Wyoming Aves. in Philadelphia, 19124. Frank went in for some tests and check up, and it was found that he had a Hiatal Hernia and Esophogas problems, so in checking there showed a Malignancy. They talked to him about taking out-patient treatment instead of an operation. Being the Frank McGrogan that he is, he told the Doctor that he would rather have the operation than putting it off. They operated on him a week ago and they removed quite a bit of his stomach and part of the Esophogas ten days ago, yesterday they found that he was not getting enough oxygen so they operated again and this time put in a Tracheotomy in the throat. He is quite bad at this time.

Please, as real 83rd men, please send him a card, he needs the help of all of you to keep up his Morale. By the time you read this, he will be home, so send it to his home, 7236 Battersby Street Phila., Pa. 19149. May God Bless You All.

Larry Redmond

Dear Sir,

I'm trying to locate a Buddie who was in my outfit in WW II Hdq & Hdq Co. 1st. Bn. 330 Regt. 83rd Inf. Div. Name of LT. NEBEL also known as LT. NEBO. Anyone with information as to whereabouts or knowledge of some, please contact:

CHARLES R. COLE
1901 S. BOEKE RD.
EVANSVILLE, IND. 47714

Picture enclosed.

Sincerely yours
Charles R. Cole, Sr.



In France Summer 1944 Hdq & Hdq Co. 1st Bn. 330th Regt. 83rd Inf. Div.



Greater Boston Chapter Women



Greater Boston Chapter Men at Romeo Maynard's home.

The Executive Board has approved a Logo with the Black and Gold colors the same as our Division Patch. Any 83rd member may purchase this identification Badge individually, by sending to the Rosco Industries, 7449 Washington, Suite 507, Forest Park, Illinois, 60130

The price of the Logo is \$2.60 plus \$.50 for mailing. This price is the same for men and women.

	83rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION NAME _____
	CITY _____
	UNIT _____

FOR MEN

	83rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION NAME _____
	CITY _____

FOR WOMEN

A Chapter may make one consolidated order and there will not be any mailing costs.

CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE
JOHN T. PISCITELLI
CHAPLAIN

We pray for our deceased Leader and all of the following comrades that served with him and us. May they through God's Mercy always rest in Peace. Amen.

GENERAL MACON
83rd Inf. Combat Commander
During W.W. II

EDMOND ST. LAWRENCE
C - 329- Inf.

MERE (TINY) MASER
Ct Service - 323 - F.A.

JOHN OUELETTE
H-330 - Inf.

JOSEPH TODERO
Unit ?

BENEDICT T. VECCHIONE
G - 331 - Inf.

JOHN W. DOUD
Hdqrs. Co. - 331 - Inf.

ULRICH SCHULER
D - 331 - Inf.

HENRY ROY
Belton Texas
Died Sept 10, 1980
member of 908

This was reported by Russ Davey, New Philadelphia, Ohio.

ROBERT GOETZ
6616 Hosmer Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44105
He was a cook in Co. L 329 Inf.

This was reported by Vernon Collihan, 810 John St. Portsmouth, Ohio 45662.

I received a letter of thanks from the niece of General Macon:

Dear Chaplain Piscitelli,

The Sympathy and kind and generous comments about General Macon from all men of the 83rd. Div. are appreciated by his Family. May God Bless you, and all members of the 83rd Inf. Div. Ass'n. of W.W. II.

Sincerely Mary Prior

May we all say thank you Mary Prior, and God Bless you.

We pray for the following deceased relatives of our comrades: Betty Derecola wife of Phil - H-331. Mother of John Vannicola H&G to. - 330. Mother of Ann Tessitore wife of Vince - C - 323. Brother in Law of Josie Piscitelli - wife of John - C - 323. We pray that the good Lord keeps them at his Bosom for all Eternity. Amen.

Again we wish to state please send in the Unit or Regt. No. with the names of our deceased comrades, thank you.

Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli
C - 323 - F.A. Bn.

**ACCOUNTING FOR 34th ANNUAL REUNION
83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN.**

Receipts

Total Money from Raffles.....	1350.00
Program Book & Special Contributions.....	5698.00
Bolo Ties.....	315.00
Registrations.....	28006.00
Shirts.....	110.00
National Advance.....	500.00
Hospitality Rooms.....	300.00
Pittsburgh Chapter Dues for 37 Members.....	222.00
Wednesday Night Receipts.....	227.50

Total Receipts..... 36,728.50

Disbursements

Printing of Program Book.....	1076.00
Ad Book Expenses.....	196.00
Printing of Strip Tickets.....	70.00
Bob Derickson.....	2106.00
Dues for 314 Men @ \$6.00 each, plus Pittsburgh's check for 37 Members	
Reimbursement to start Reunion.....	500.00
Bolo Ties.....	314.00
Liquor - Hospitality Room and for the President's Suite	1318.83
Beer, Soda, Snacks - Hospitality Room.....	304.53
Paper Goods, Plastic Cups, Rolls of Tickets..... for Raffles	89.35
Court Steno for Business Meetings.....	462.50
Typewriter Rental.....	39.75
2 Typists for Registration Desk.....	191.25
Gratutities for Typists.....	30.00
Flowers for Corsages and Head Table.....	184.44
Printing of extra Hotel Reservation Cards.....	15.73
Marriott Motel.....	23492.50
8/20/80 - Reception	
8/21/80 - Dinner/Dance	
8/22/80 - Block Party/Dance/Beer	
8/23/80 - Banquet/Dance	
Showcase Associates.....	2600.00
Prizes for Roulette Wheels.....	100.00
Orchestra's.....	1230.00
Wednesday night	
Thursday night	
Friday night	
Saturday night	
Tips and Gratutities.....	350.00
Mailing Expenses, Postage, Phone Calls, Etc.....	140.00
Memorial Candles for Services.....	7.50
Bank Charges.....	9.79
Misc. Expenses.....	688.14

Total Disbursements 35,516.31

Total Receipts..... 36,728.50

Total Disbursements. 35,516.31

1,212.19

Less Bolo Ties Diff. 19.00

Total Profit 1193.19

**BOLO TIES
AND
NECKLACES**

\$4.50 each plus 50 c mailing

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

REUNION WILL BE IN PITTSBURGH IN AUGUST 1981. THE DATES ARE: 20. 21. 22. START MAKING YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE 35TH REUNION.

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

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Charles Sihlanick
2 Elizabeth Ct.
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

A-322 P. 1

★ APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP FOR 1981 ★

★ NAME (please print)

★ ADDRESS

★ CITY, or TOWN & STATE.....

★ OCCUPATION or BUSINESS.....

★ Phone Number

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

★ DUES \$6.00 PAYABLE TO: *ROBERT E. DERICKSON*

★ CO. _____ *3749 Stahlheber Road*

★ REG. _____ *Hamilton, Ohio 45013*

★ DATE..... SIGNATURE