



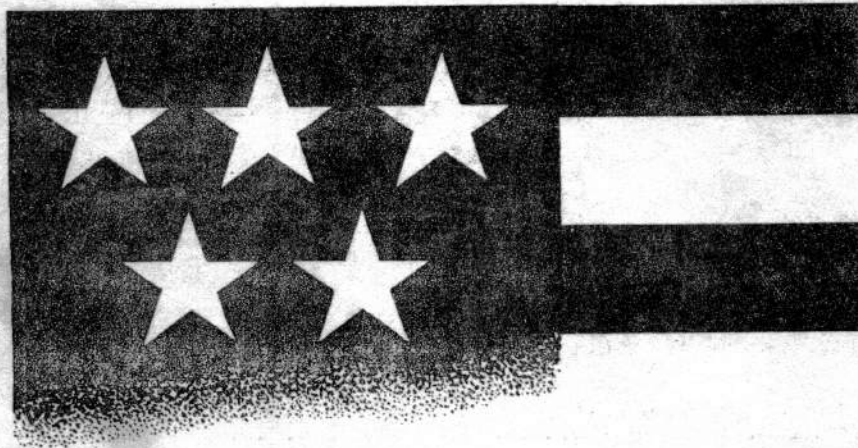
# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 37. No. 3

Spring Issue 1982



MEMORIAL  
Day 1982



**36th. Annual Reunion - 83rd. Infantry  
September 13, 14, 15.**

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THE THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division World War II and is published at 3749 Stahlheber Road Hamilton Ohio 45013  
 EDITOR Robert Derickson

**STAFF REPORTERS**

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| Vito Palazzolo<br>Ambrose Tynan<br>James Emanouil<br>John T. Piscitelli<br>Joe Adam<br>Joseph A. Macaluso<br>George Cooley, Sr. | 20000 Lancaster Harper Woods MI 48236<br>121 Sanborn Ave. W. Roxbury MA 02136<br>185 Littleton Road Chelmsford MA 01824<br>1903 Iseminger St. Phila. PA 19148<br>1753 Columbia Ave. Chicago, IL 60626<br>5353 Pasfeur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122<br>Box 1057 Indian Shores, FL 33535 | Al Undel<br>Lawrence Leonard<br>Keith Echerd<br>Raiph Hamilton<br>Richard M. Sullivan<br>Eugene Persinger<br>S. Bielen | 3784 E. 53rd St. Cleveland OH 44105<br>1360 Preston St. Pittsburgh PA 15205<br>Box 297 Taylorsville NC 28681<br>P.O. Box 374 Marion KY 42064<br>2150 W Buffalo Ave. Tampa FL 33607<br>3013 - 30th St. Nitro, W.VA 25143<br>71 Glenwood Terrace, Fords NJ 08863 |
|---|--|--|--|

**HONORARY PRESIDENTS**

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35 Shephard Ave.  
Providence, RI 02904

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Pat Di Giamberno  
36 East Border Road  
Madlen, MA 02148

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Bernie Cove  
Box 274  
South Fallsburgh, NY 12779

**THIRD VICE PRESIDENT**

James Prentice  
28 Mapleton Street  
Hartford, CT 06114

**SECRETARY-TREASURER**

Robert Derickson  
3749 Stahlheber Road  
Hamilton, OH 45013

**CHAPLAIN**

John T. Piscitelli  
1903 Iseminger Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

**ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN**

Casey Kowalec  
7719 Edgewood Lane  
Seven Hills, OH 44131

**JUDGE ADVOCATE**

John Raikos  
4039 Fir Court  
Indianapolis, IN 46250

**ASSISTANT JUDGE ADVOCATE**

William M. Doty  
123 W. Madison - Suite 1000  
Chicago, IL 60602

**SERVICE OFFICER**

Bemis W. Mikel  
29692 ZR 16W  
Elkhart, IN 46514

**HISTORIAN**

Wm. Kent O'Connell  
183 Acre Lane  
Hicksville, NY 11801

**SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS**

Manny Epstein  
1900 Quentin Rd.  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

Hyman E. Goodman  
P.O. Box 6F11  
Providence, RI 02940

Arthur Waples  
Box 42 Pine St.  
Alton NH 03809

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Mike Skovran  
2447 Reeves Road  
Warren, OH 44483

Mantus Goodridge  
621 Oak Street  
Ludlow, KY 41016

Joseph A. Macaluso  
5353 Pasteur Blvd.  
New Orleans, LA 70118

Robert G. Taylor  
231 Indian Trail Dr.  
Columbville, MI 48121

William J. Chavanne  
7011 Rutland St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19149

**A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL**

|                         |         |                    |      |                     |      |
|-------------------------|---------|--------------------|------|---------------------|------|
| *James C. Hanrahan      | 1947    | Charles Abdinoor   | 1959 | Casey Kowalec       | 1970 |
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| Lt. Gen. Robert H. York | 1956    | A. Herb. Be. Where | 1967 | Joseph A. Macaluso  | 1978 |
| & Harry W. Lockwood     | 1957    | Vito Palazzolo     | 1968 | William J. Chavanne | 1979 |
| Raymond J. Vrsacek      | 1958    | Pat G. Cunningham  | 1969 | Samuel Klippa       | 1980 |

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hi Buddies:

Here it is the 2nd week in March and our reunion will be upon us before we know it. I hope that this issue of the Thunderbolt finds you all in the very best of health. I also hope that you all enjoyed the holidays. While I am at it, I might as well wish you all a Happy Easter.

We of the Greater Boston Chapter have been meeting every two weeks, as there is so much work to be done. We were called to "The Pines", three weeks ago and believe me we were treated royally. Mr. and Mrs. Mike Skovran and Mr. and Mrs. Casey Kowalec, came along with us. I watched Mrs. Kowalec's expressions on her face during the two day stay. She just could not believe it. The management of the Pines are very good business people, and are very, very nice to any 83rd member.

We had a meeting with the management. It was to make up or schedules for our upcoming reunion, in September. We believe that the Schedule of Events, we came up with, will meet with everyone's approval. We will be having some surprises for you all come September. We were told that the reservations are coming in real good and they are very optimistic of a full house. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

I personally believe that this will be one of the very best reunions the 83rd has ever had. I always rated the Philadelphia reunion the best that I ever attended. Well we will be trying to outdo them.

I haven't heard about our membership count at this time. It would be nice if we all worked together to have a membership larger than last year. Just get out your pens and write to your buddies. CONVINCE them just how great our Division really is. Who knows we might see some of them at the reunion.

We will be meeting with the Executive Board, at The Pines, in May. They will either accept our reunion plans or make some changes. They have the last word.

We realize that some things will be changed. But we're not worried. I'll tell you what, if you come to the reunion, you will not have time to take part in everything.

I have no more to talk about at this time except I wish all of you the very best and if you haven't made your reservations do so as soon as you can. The rooms are going very fast.

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.**  
**Mike Caprio, President**

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

It was my good fortune to be at the Pines Hotel, South Fallsburg, N.Y. the weekend of February 19, 20, 1982 upon invitation of the Greater Boston Chapter, the host chapter of the 1982 83rd Inf. Div. Association Reunion. Several meetings were held there between the management of the Pines Hotel, Mike Caprio, our National President, Pat DiGiammerino, Larry Arrigo, Casey Kowalec, Bernie Cove and myself for the purpose of discussing the program for the aforementioned Reunion. A very cordial, constructive and productive meeting resulted with the setting up of a program for this Reunion that I believe will be acceptable to the membership of the 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. Naturally at this early date a few details still remain to be worked out and there will in all probability be some changes made prior to the Reunion, however, the program as it now stands, will be found elsewhere in this issue of the Thunderbolt. We have heard the old "cliche - the best and greatest reunion ever", many times, but I firmly believe this reunion will truly be one of the greatest if not the greatest. Bernie Cove, Maitre D' (Co. D. 331) of the Pines Hotel, Mike Caprio, Pat DiGiammerino will present you a Reunion with a whole new concept and one that you will long favorably remember. Plan now to attend, don't be left out.

The first "unusual" thing that you will notice upon your arrival at the Pines is that when you register for the Reunion you will not be asked to pay a registration fee, all that you will be asked to pay is \$10.00 for your yearly dues to the Association. There will of course be certain reunion expenses that will have to be incurred, but hopefully these will be paid for by any profit realized from the sale of ads for our yearly Ad Book. Therefore this makes the Ad Book more important this year than other years as it will be the only source of income to the Association at this reunion for reunion expenses. Get out and hustle these ads and get them into the Boston Chapter as quickly as you can.

So, if you haven't done so all ready, get your room



reservations into the Pines so that you will be sure to have a room of your choice for a truly wonderful reunion. The Pines management has informed us that the reservations are coming in extremely well, so get yours in and once again, Don't Get Left Out.

See you at the Pines.

Mike Skovran  
Executive Board Chairman

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### SECRETARY TREASURER REPORT:

Hello all you buddies out there:

Here we are almost at the end of this hectic winter. At least we have gotten to see the sun a few days. I tried to send some snow to Joe Macaluso and to Mike Skovran and neither one of them wanted it or would even listen to me. Joe said just keep it with a few other words. But anyway spring must come soon now and then it will be garden time and lawn mowing time, and three acres of lawn mowing is something else also. Can't please some people can you? But Pearl and I have survived the winter and also came through "The day the world was going to end." Pearl tried to convince me to buy her three new pair of shoes. Said if the world was going to end I would not have to pay for them anyway. But at the price of shoes I knew I was not going to be talked into that. But the world did not end and here we are. You and I out there thought that was going to happen a lot of times during that winter we were in Germany. I guess we are made of "PRETTY TOUGH STUFF."

Memberships are coming in a few every day. We have been working on the reminders. Check your membership card. It should read AUGUST 1982, if you are paid up. If not please get your \$10.00 in to me now. There are about 300 of you out there who have not paid yet. WE NEED YOU. Without your membership we will not reach that goal of 1500. Our 83rd was one of the greatest in the war. Let's keep it that way. Put that \$10.00 in an envelope and get it off right away. I REALLY HATE TO SEE PEARL NOT HAVING ANYTHING TO DO. With that I had better close this article and hope she does not see it before it goes to print.

By the next article we will have been to the Pines and can give you a report on what your reunion is going to be like. From all indications it is going to be an all out affair. GET YOUR AD MONEY IN TO THEM. That is their spending money for the reunion. Even if you can't go to the reunion let all the rest of the 83rd know you are thinking about them by getting your name in that book.

Enjoy your nice spring weather and look forward to that hot summer weather. The kind that Pearl loves. HOT:

REMEMBER YOUR DUES. EVERYONE IS NEEDED TO MAKE US NUMBER 1.

Bob  
3rd BN HQ. 329th

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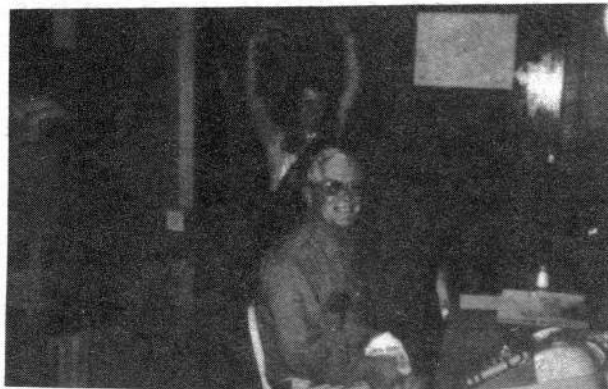
### KENTUCKY CHAPTER REPORT

The Kentucky Chapter held their spring meeting at the Springs Motel in Lexington, Kentucky with about 40 in attendance. Bob and Pearl had their daughter and son-in-law, Cathy and Bruce Danner, and their newest grandchild Leslie with them. She sure did enjoy all the attention. Three months old and every-one making over her. Judy Ritchie, daughter of Ritchie and Theessa came over for the evening. Even the younger generation are growing up. A discussion on the bus trip to the Pines resulted in 24 people wanting to go. We still need 16 more people. So if any of you people in our area are interested get in touch with the Kentucky Chapter. We need to know by our June meeting.

The June meeting will again be a picnic in the Oxford, Ohio area, at Miami University picnic grounds with Bob and Pearl Derickson as your hosts. Reservations should be sent to College View Motel, 4000 Oxford Millville Pike, Oxford, Ohio 45056 or phone 513-523-6311, if you plan to attend. Bring a covered dish. We will have a white elephant sale.

Maxine Hargis reported that Kermit is still in Veterans Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky. We need to keep them both in our prayers and send cards.

Winnie Whelan did a fine job of teaching us new games. Thank you Winnie. A fun evening after a wonderful dinner.



All of you know Theodore Ritchie. Well this is how his family helped him to celebrate his 60th birthday on November 10. His daughter Judy sent me these pictures. You all know how Ritchie enjoyed this. Can't you hear him laugh.





The W. Va. Chapter Report

The West Virginia Chapter had their Christmas Dinner on December 20th at Lum's Restaurant in Nitro, W. Va. and we had a tremendous turnout for this occasion. We also had one new member, Mr. Leon Swiger present at this dinner, and we also exchanged gifts.

Our Chapter has also been having their monthly Dinners, and having a good turnout for them, we are also sending Birthday cards to our members and their wives.

Our Regular Chapter meeting was held on March 14th, at Parkersburg, W. Va. at the Wilmer Cafeteria and we had our usual turnout of members. We discussed our meeting that we are planning to have this summer in Wheeling, but Larry Hoskins, our Vice President was not present to bring us up to date on meeting, we missed you Larry.

Mr. Jim Dunkin, one of our members, discussed starting a project for our chapter members to visit the Veterans home in Barboursville, W.V. We also discussed having our Picnic this summer, and where to go, we had a drawing for a 5-lb Ham and was won by Mrs. Edna Spurgeon from West Union, WV.

At our next Chapter meeting, Mr. John Swecker is planning on a visit to Blennerhassett Island for the members and their families. We will eat our dinner, and have a short Business meeting, then travel by boat to the Island.

We also will have the nominations for Officers for the next year at this next meeting, and our Election, at our September meeting. So keep in your mind who you wish to nominate for the next year.

We have received a letter from Sam Klippa, and he is feeling much better at the writing of this report and he is planning on being with us at our meeting real soon, Sam, you are always welcome at any of our meetings at anytime, and we all love you down here in West Virginia. I have not heard from Bob Derickson for awhile, we are hoping that he is well and will be with us again soon.

We, of the West Virginia Chapter are a closely knit family, and we are getting stronger all the time,

so lets work together, and make it the best.

Our next meeting will be at The Wilmar Cafeteria in Parkersburg, WV. on June 20, 1982, at 1 P.M. Let's make this meeting the largest that we have ever had. Remember, a large chapter is a strong chapter, and we need each and every one of you to be present.

Well, until we meet again, may the Lord bless you all real good.

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

P.S. We missed another of our Vice Presidents, Harold Crouch and Wife Bootsie, at this meeting.

#### WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER CHRISTMAS PARTY





The Starting of the W.V. Chapter at Nitro, W.V. 1978. L-R: Eugene Persinger, Samuel Klippa & Don Pettry. Absent was John Govenor. He was there, but not on the picture. We had 14 men at this meeting.

#### New Jersey Chapter

Our meetings are held every month at the VFW in Garfield, the third Friday at 8 P.M. Now that we have nice weather we would like to see more of you attend. It's very easy to get to, as it's located on Outwater Lane which runs off Route 46. Our meetings are informal yet keeps us in touch with one another throughout the year, thus keeping us closer to the association.

Some of our members haven't been feeling well. Dave Benick and George DeFillips we hope are well and recovering from their illnesses. Dave's problem was angina while George had a serious heart attack. Hope both are well enough to attend the reunion. For those of you that don't know them, at the reunion, look for the two with the biggest smiles, thats them. We also want to wish Emil Wheling's buddy Bill Klender wishes for a speedy recovery. Emil didn't tell me what was wrong with Bill.

Frank Reichmann (1st Bn.Hq. 331) wrote to tell me his mother passed away Feb. 16, 1982. Frank always took good care of his mother as she was the only family he had. We send our Deepest Sympathy to our good buddy. Frank wants you to know, he will be at the reunion. Hope Franks' going to the reunion inspires our good buddy Fred Klein to make his first reunion. Try it once and I assure you will be back for many more.

At this writing Charles Sihlanick is in Florida for his annual visit. Probably having a ball visiting family and buddies from A 323. Charlie wanted me to write that his best buddy Lance Brown passed away recently.

We received our annual "State of the Family Message" from Arnold and Bev Cipperly at Christmas. It says "They will be at the reunion this year". It will be nice to see them again as it has been too long that we last saw them. Another we would like to see again is Vito Lascari. Vito is in the Moving Business and is a Volunteer Fireman in Lodi. You can spot Vito as he rides a red jeep on the way to fires.

Joe DePeri informed me that his son Angelo is in the Navy's Submarine Service stationed in Hawaii. Of course Joe has plans to visit him. The entire Jersey Chapter has volunteered for the dangerous mission to accompany you to Hawaii, providing your paying of course.

You golfers working on your game? We should have a ball having a golf course all to ourselves. Our good buddy Ed Russell is probably out every chance he gets readying his game for the Golf Tournament at the reunion. We need you to beat out John Capranis whose won all the trophies from previous tournaments. I'm pulling for you Ed, never forgave John for calling me out in a softball game back in Gandersheim, Germany. Could be John was prejudice as we were planning on going to the Worlds Fair in Knoxville sometime in June. Might be able to see some of you in that area.

Just to comment on the last issue of the Thunderbolt, we missed out when we didn't use the photo Tom Hensly sent in as our CENTERFOLD!!!!!!

That's it for now, wishing you all well.

Stan Bielen  
1st Bn. Hq. 331



Dear Bob:

I received word from you that the article that I am sending to you would be published in the Thunderbolt. I will describe the facts exactly how the capture of Hill 48 happened before and during the capture. It was known to the Germans as Fortress Paula. Also the capture of Colonel Von Aulock which some GI's called the "Mad Man" of St. Malo.

August 15, 1944

The town of St. Lunaire was captured by the 1st Bn 331st and was receiving heavy shell fire from the fortress on Hill 48, which was about a mile from the town, and also heavy shell fire from the island of Cezembre in the bay. In an abandoned concrete Pill Box a telephone was ringing incessantly. Bn. Headquarters was notified. Lt. Clevenger BN S 2 and PFC Reichmann German speaking member of Bn. Intelligence Section made their way to this Pill Box, where Lt. Clevenger told Reichmann to call up the Germans, and tell them to surrender. I grabbed the phone and cranked the handle. It was answered. Who is there? I answered that this is the Americans, that you are surrounded and to surrender. He said I cannot do that I am only a sargent. I told him to get his commanding Officer to the phone and spoke to him. The German told me to hold the phone and he will get in touch with this officer. I translated all this to Lt. Clevenger who smiled and said "Good work". About 2 minutes went by and an officer started to speak. What I wanted and where was my location. I told him that his forces were surrounded and that he was to surrender. He replied that he had no authority to do this. While this conversation was going on our Fighter planes were bombing the island of Cezembre. I asked him if he could hear the bombing of the island? He said yes! I told him the same thing was going to happen to his positions. He had a change of heart and said that he would get in touch with the commandant. He hung up the phone with the promise he would call back. When I told Lt. Clevenger, he said to stay and he would notify Bn Headquarters. A few minutes went by and the phone started to ring. As I picked up the phone the brass were coming in the Pill Box where I was. The German on the other end of the phone started talking. He said he was Colonel Von Aulock, Commander of the German Forces. He wanted to know my name and rank and where I was located. I did not pay any attention to his demands. I repeated my demands for his surrender. He then replied that he refused to speak to anyone beneath his own rank. A Colonel near me asked what was going on. I told him what Von Aulock had said. I was to ask the Germans if they had an English

speaking officer. They had one and he spoke excellent English. Then our Colonel started to talk to this officer. There was another phone near by and I picked that up and listened to everything. Our Colonel spoke and demanded the surrender of the fort. The Germans wanted to know whether we would take the German wounded over to our side because they were short of medical supplies. It was agreed that the wounded would be brought to the American side and that the litter bearers would also become American prisoners. A time limit was set for one hour. We watched with our field glasses as the wounded Germans were transferred to our side. After this was completed I was ordered to call the Germans and they were asked again to surrender. They refused and the Colonel said they would die like rats in a trap. The Germans replied that they would die like soldiers. That ended the talk. All hell broke loose again. Our artillery and tanks threw everything we had on the German positions. I felt tired and laid down to rest. I fell asleep. Someone woke me and said to go forward that Capt. Jackson wanted me to call the Germans because they had stopped firing at our positions and he wanted to know why. When I called on the phone I could not get an answer. I heard a lot of yelling going on in the fort, but no one came to the phone. Meanwhile our side stopped firing also. Capt. Jackson said it looks like they have a white flag stuck in the ground near the fort. He said that we would have to go up there and find out. He then found a white sheet and tied it around his carbine. The four of us started to go up to Hill 48. Capt. Jackson with his flag of truce held high for everyone to see that he had his bodyguard, a radio man and myself. The path was heavily mined so we had to watch our steps. As we came near the German position we saw and passed the Germans in the trenches not 30 feet away. Capt. Jackson said for us to not pay any attention but to keep on walking. Then we came to a bar wire enclosure, went through the gate and saw a bunch of Pill Boxes. They were filled with British soldiers who cheered us as we passed by. As we came near the fort we saw smoke coming out of the entrance and heard explosions within. The Germans came streaming out of the tunnel choking and gasping for air. As we stood there and watched an officer came running toward us. He was hatless and in a loud and excited voice said that his men needed oxygen. They were suffocating. It was Colonel Von Aulock I replied that the oxygen was on its way up here. Colonel Von Aulock and Capt. Jackson saluted each other. I then asked him why he had not surrendered when he had the chance. He replied that he fought at the battle of Stalingrad, and that as a German officer he had his orders, and could not surrender. He wanted to know



how I could speak such good German and I said that we had schools in America. He said that the white race was exterminating each other. Major MacDonald from the 2nd Bn then arrived. All of a sudden I heard a command in German. I spun around and there I saw a platoon of young German soldiers standing at parade rest. At a wave from their leader, they burst into song, Singing as loud as they could. Major MacDonald said, "What is going on?" I recognized the song. I had heard it occasionally on Movieton News and also on the radio, back in the states. They were singing the Horst Wessel, a Nazi song. There we were seven G.I.'s surrounded by the German's and listening in amazement to the singing and in the background we could see the smoke pouring out of the fort and hear the muffled explosions within the fort. I then started to follow Capt. Jackson, but Major MacDonald said that he needed me. The singing had barely ended when a radio man came running over to us and out of breath yelled that the American fighter planes are on their way here and are going to bomb the area. Major MacDonald said to tell everyone to vacate the area at once. I sprang on a huge rock and raised my rifle in the air and yelled at the top of my lungs "Achtung!" All eyes turned to me and I yelled we must vacate the area at once. The American Fighter bombers are on the way to bomb this area. If you ever saw a Western movie of a cattle stampede, well this was one similar only these were real people. As one man they all turned and raced down the slope as fast as they could. Later that night Capt. Jackson came for me and together we went to the 1st Bn Commander, Lt. Colonel Patterson where he shook hands and said we had done a good job.

**PFC Frank Reichmann**  
1st. Bn 331st



**Little picture of 1st Bn 331st at Simbach Bavaria Germany. Special dinner for Intelligence Section June 1944. Left to Right: Klein, Reichman, Jons, Kohlman, Bielen.**



**Larger picture. Somewhere in France 1944. Headquarters Co. 1st Bn. 331st. 3 on right identify unknown. In front left: Kasuba & DeFrancisco. In rear left: Herring, Free French fighter, and Reichmann.**

As this column is being written the weather is giving all of us here in northern Ohio a feeling for spring and summer. The weather is in the low fifties and the sun is shining brightly. Although during the past most miserable winter we have had here in quite a few years, some of us got away from it all. El Presidente John Teringo and spouse, Joe Phillipone and his doll, John Caparanis and Helen, and yours truly with my Margaret escaped to Florida and other warmer places.

John was sent on a scouting mission to scan the area for the 1983 Reunion, Joe went looking for golf balls to use this coming season. Cap practiced up for our challenge matches at the PINES Reunion. He and Beau Titus are our Co-Captains in golf and will meet all challenges (if the price is right.) I traveled by car via New Orleans and spent a very enjoyable time with Joe Macaluso and Meena. They hosted us at a superb fish dinner at Lake Ponchatrairie and showed us parts of New Orleans we had not time for in 1979. From there we stopped to see George and Mary Cooley in Clearwater Florida, and spent a very good time with them. Mary served her usual delicious Italian cuisine and Geo poured the drinks. The only flaw was I had an attack of gout for the third time in eight years and could not really hoist them with big Cool as we usually do but all in all it was wonderful.

Our schedule of meetings for the winter months were January at John Teringo's February at Babe Gautsche, March at Joe and Vera Venuti's. All men and spouses played excellent hosts, and the Venuti's put out a real Irish dinner for the only Irishers in our Chapter Dick and Millie Kelly. Fine Irish food (Lasagna,

spaghetti and meatballs antispasto, etc.) very good. April meeting is at Lee and Birdie Titus's, and then we go into our summer season. May, June, a combination golf and picnic outing, July an outing at Paradise Lake, hosted by Titus, Gautsche, and Voracek. August another golf outing, and September the Pines. All 83rd people are welcome at any of these. Just contact someone for time and place.

In February we had an additional party hosted by Lee Titus's sons and daughters and thirteen grandchildren - he is the CHAMPION. Gautsche's became proud grandparents for the third time, and yours truly for the eight. All Grandpa's proud and holding up well. Lee was celebrating his big 60 birthday and retirement from Terex GM. Charlie Tomazin also announced his retirement although somewhat reluctantly. It was sort of forced but welcome anyhow. Wife Ann has plans to keep him busy.

Mike and Liz Skovran made another trip to the Pines and came back praising the facilities more than ever. Our very capable President of the Board urges all to get there reservations in now. Warren Chapter is reserved 100 percent. We also have a bus going that is completely sold out. All are looking forward to a fine time plus a different type of affair, plus a five day rest. The Warren Gang will have a C.P. the same as always and are looking forward to seeing our old friends.

George (Cheese) Belay is due to go to Cleveland Clinic for a check up in April. He is feeling fine but has to have this done. All other health reports from members are A Okay.

In closing, hope you had a Happy Easter, or Passover, or anything else.

Good Health to all,  
R.J. Voracek

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### PITTSBURGH CHAPTER REPORT

*Well here we are vacationing the month of March down in this Beautiful Florida sunshine, and I'm trying my darndest to write this column and beat the deadline to send this in to the Thunderbolt. Many of you can understand how it is to start to do something for the tenth time and still not get anything accomplished. My intentions are good but the distractions are greater and my will power is not too strong right now. The temperature is hot, the sun is bright and the sand and surf are calling.*

*Anyway -- getting back to reality; at the last Pittsburgh Chapter meeting, one of the many discussions on the agenda was the upcoming reunion*

*and how we are going to get there. Seems to be much interest to charter a bus.*

*Our latest committee report proves that this is a convenient way to go. The price would be so reasonable that it may be very hard to pass up. Since the Pines is in an out of the way locations, a lot of us would prefer not to drive or fly this time. The bus will probably leave Pittsburgh on Sunday morning and arrive at the Pines in the late afternoon. After the reunion we will depart Friday in the early afternoon and arrive back in Pittsburgh that night. Bus traveling can be a lot of fun too. The distance is not so great that it will be so tiring a ride. It will be good times when we all sing a few bars of "Roll out the Barrell" and the Pennsylvania Polka", while enjoying liquid refreshments and eating those beautiful Italian ingredient sandwiches, that the Pittsburgh Chapter CP has always been famous for. We might even need a day to recuperate after we get there.*

*Lou Kanen has been temporary secretary since Steve Blasko is on an extended vacation here in Lakeland, Florida. Lou and his new bride Janet tied the knot in Lag Vegas on January 15 and we congratulate them and wish them both many happy years ahead.*

*We DO understand why Lou wants to give up the Secretary job at this time. The least we can do is to help our new bridegroom cut back on SOME of his ENJOYABLE activities. Ed Ruess has graciously volunteered his services for the Secretary post until Blasko returns.*

*On our trip down here, Sue and I enjoyed an overnight stop in Concord, North Carolina spending some time with "A" Co. buddy Bill Bullard and wife Billie. It was wonderful to get together again, bread bread and rehash the August reunion. While there, we telephoned another "A" Co. buddy, Onney Villarreal and wife Celia, whom Sue and I visited last month when we drove to Falfurrias, Texas, along with Bill and Billie all the slides and pictures taken while in Texas. We enjoyed more than a weeks stay with our gracious hosts, who took us everywhere and showed us everything worth seeing. We met most of Onney and Celia's wonderful family and many of their friends. They really made us feel like we were family too. We can never thank them enough for all the beautiful memories of our January reunion.*

*While we're here in Florida, we'd like to visit Dave Benick (A-331) and wife Millie who have retired from New York City to Del Ray Beach. Charlie Caven (A-331) and wife Lu from the Pittsburgh Chapter are vacationing in that area too. We may just have one more small reunion there.*

*To end this on one more happy note; Al Sues and Anna May have become grandparents again. The third time must be the charm since this one is the first boy. He arrived February 6 to happy parents Carol and Al Jr.*



*That's all til next time. Greetings from the land of sunshine. God bless and keep you all well.*

Larry Leonardi  
(A-???????)



A-331 men at reunion. Top L to R: Feig, Guzik, Caven, Leonardi, Benick.  
Bottom: Bukllard, Villarreal.



The happy newlyweds, Lou and Janet Kanes



A-331 wives attending Pittsburgh Reunion  
Top: Mrs. Bullard, Caven, Guzik, Feig, Wible, Barr and Mrs. Firke.  
Bottom: Mrs. Villarreal, Hopta, Lanza, Benick and Mrs. Leonardi.

## FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

The Florida Chapter met on February 13, 1982 at the Ramada Inn-West in Orlando. Meeting was hosted by Bill Herhuth, Hq. Btry, 324th and seventeen members with their ladies and a number of snowbird guests of members. Two new members, Dick Ammon, A-331 and George Naylor, F-331, joined at the meeting bringing our membership total to 55 (Y'all keep on comin'). Ralph Gunderson, D-331, Committee Chairman for the National Reunion in 1983 gave the membership an up-date on plans in progress for the event to be held at the Marriott Hotel in Fort Lauderdale on August 18-20, 1983. He issued a call for volunteers to assist in the myriad of duties associated with such a venture. A buffet style dinner followed the good meeting with a few hours of fellowship and war stories, some believable, others not.

Please change the mailing address for the Florida Chapter to 910 Clanton Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33603.



Part of the Boston Chapter at one of Their Business Meetings.



A group of the 83rd Men at The Pines in New York.



## SOME THOUGHTS FROM ME

Here we are fast approaching another reunion. As usual we are planning and looking forward to New York so much. Thank you Boston Chapter for making this possible. So much has happened and there is so much I would like to say. First of all the confidence you all gave me by allowing me to serve on the Board for 5 years. This was very special to me. The 83rd men and women are tops in my life and have given me and my family friendship and love we will always hold dear. Thank you so much for letting me be a part of it and contribute whatever I could to keep it the very strong Outfit it is today. We now have a Grandbaby. Our daughter, Jackie, gave birth Oct. 21 to a beautiful GIRL. Lessie went to Houston Sept. 21 and came home Dec. 2. So you see I have also learned to live alone. Didn't like it but I did. The birth was very difficult but you should see OUR BABY!!! All is fine now.

Our Dixie Chapter is just perfect and going strong. The Christmas Party in Gatlinburg was the usual "Grand Weekend." Had a meeting in Greenville in October. I want to thank The Chapter for the beautiful plat they presented me. Our next meeting will be in Burlington, N.C. All the men and wives work so hard to get these meetings organized. My thanks to all.

My love and best wishes to everyone. Let's keep this 83rd the great Association it is. I will give my best. Give your support to ALL your officers. And especially to Bob Derickson. **They need and deserve it!**

*Hope to be in New York. If President Regan doesn't get us out of this recession, I may just get a one-way ticket. Why didn't someone tell me Old Age was going to be this tough?*

*Remember the Dixie Chapter Ladies have Cookbooks for sale. Just plain Southern Cooking, but oh so good. If you are interested write to Lessie Riddle or Florence Jackson at Rt. 1, Box 264, Oliver Springs, Tennessee 37840. You won't be sorry.*

*My best to all*

*Dick Riddle  
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 329th*

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## GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER

As this issue of the Thunderbolt goes to press there are many things that come to my mind. First is membership. We must encourage the unpaid members to pay their dues. Also, try and get new members which some do not even know we have this 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Let's all Help for better years that are coming. One more important item is Ads for the re-

union book. This, along with our yearly dues, keeps money in our Association that will take care of expenses. If everyone helps, it will be greatly appreciated by the Boston Chapter Committee.

We have written letters for your help with the events that will be coming in regards to putting on the 1982 reunion. Most of the 83rd Association membership and friends are doing a good job. Thank God for that.

Send in your reservations for the coming September 1982 reunion and be assured of a room. This year it is a new kind of a reunion for us. I have never been up the Pines Hotel in the Catskills, so I know just what they tell me. The rooms are going fast, I am told.

The reunion committee from Boston were up to the Pines Hotel on February 20th along with my friends Casey Kowalic and Mike Skovran from Ohio. The Boston Chapter Committee tells me everything is going smoothly. I am reading the activities now for the coming reunion which is still incomplete and it certainly looks wonderful for us.

Boston had many meetings since the last issue of the Thunderbolt with Pres. Romeo Maynard doing a fine job along with his wife Livy doing the same with the ladies. These kind of people are what makes the Boston Chapter the greatest of them all.

I was not at the last meeting because of poor health. However, I was told by many members by phone that Gin DiGiammerino had a real Valentine Party. We really miss Paul and Dot Gunderson who are spending the winter in Florida. We hope to have them at the April meeting. It is nice of Jim Prentice and Arthur Waples and others that travel so far to all our meetings.

The weekend of February 20th, Nancy and I were in Phillie to see the Mummies along with Jim Prentice from the Boston Chapter and Vito Palazzola of the Michigan Chapter. I stayed for the weekend with Ai and Ann Belvedere. They were really wonderful to us. They made our stay there better than we expected. A Tip of the Irishman's Hat to both of them.

After seeing the Mummies, we went to dinner with 40 more people from the Phillie Chapter and a good time was had by all. I sure hated to leave Phillie.

Pat DiGiammerino told me that Donald Schwartz passed away in Spain of a heart attack. Over the years Donald and I have been good friends. I was really sorry to hear this news.

Well, I will have to call it quits to make the deadline on March 10th.

AMBY TYNAN

## FROM THE OLD OFFICE

Dear Buddies:

I almost forgot about getting this article out, because I just finished reading the last issue last week after getting home from a Vacation in Florida. It seemed kind of strange to be reading about Christmas, and now to be writing about Spring.

First I'd like to bring you up to date on some of the news that has been sent to me, but should have gone directly to the Editor. The following message (I thought) was sent in previously, but I guess I goofed somehow:

"I would like to make a special request from your Organization concerning Military History. On August 12, 1944, my father, the late P.F.C. Robert C. Caine was killed in action in France. I am very much interested in any of the battles he might have fought in or any information on his unit and division. He was with the 329th Infantry, 83rd Infantry Division.

"I'm trying to contact with anyone that might be still living that was in my fathers unit. On September 24, 1945, my natural mother, Mrs. Harriet A. Caine had to give my brother and me up for adoption. I no longer go by my birth name, Clarence W. Caine. It is now Lydal W. Kellogg. My correspondence would now be under the Kellogg name. If you have any information at all about my father, please write to:

Lydal W. Kellogg  
Sooy Road RD #1  
Vincentown, NJ 08088

Mr. Ackley C. Schuyler is writing a narrative that will include mention of the 83rd. Infantry Division in combat in Brittany in August of 1944. It is a story about six prisoners (Mr. Schuyler) who were freed by our Division and the man who was commander at the time was a Major Shaw. If any of you can identify the Major's Unit or give his mailing address, please write to:

Mr. Ackley Schuyler  
1853 White Plains Road  
Bronx, NY 10462

Mr. Ackley wants to hear from anyone who remembers anything at all about the event which involved the German 77th Infantry Division. It was at Hill 26 in the vicinity of St. Brieu, Brittany.

Get out your pencils and see what you can do to help the above people with their requests. You might find it very enjoyable to corresponding with them.

Here is some of the bad news that I received. Melvin Reisser of "A" 331st. Infantry, passed away after having two By-pass Operations. He never left the Hospital once he entered. He leaves behind a wife and two children. This news was given to me while I was in Florida. He was not in my files.

This one really shocked me. Captain Mac called my house while I was in Florida to pass on some bad news, and my wife held off in telling me until I got home. Don

Schwartz of "G" 331 passed away in Spain. He and his wife went to Europe with me in September and planned to stay all winter. When I was taken off the plane in Iceland to be hospitalized, they got off with me so I wouldn't be alone and took care of me. I never forgot that and thought it was a real sacrifice they made for me. Don and I were room mates in Philly last year and I got to know him quite well. I never thought that there was anything serious wrong with him. He just wanted to enjoy his vacation in Europe. I'll miss him very much, as will all his Buddies in G. 331st.

George Komlos of "D" 331 lost his brother in February. Albert Suess of "G" 331 lost a sister. Andrew Churpak of "D" 331 lost a brother-in-law. There have been many reports on illnesses among our Chapter members, but we can expect much more of this in the future because we are getting old. Like one of our Buddies always wrote: "It's later then we think."

I've been getting a lot of mail with questions about the Pines Hotel in the Catskills of New York. It certainly looks as though this is going to be one of the great ones with many friends of our members wanting to go along. The Pittsburgh Chapter has sent in all their reservations in already and had them confirmed. Hope all of you have gotten yours already so that you won't miss out. Several Chapters are planning to hire Buses for the trip and we have already made the arrangements. See you in the Catskills for a great time.

Did you ever see a winter season as bad as this one? Boy! I'm sure glad it's coming to an end. Snow and more snow. Freeze and more freeze. Terrible winds. By the time you read this, the sun will be shining (I hope) and everyone will be enjoying gardening and cutting the grass. I don't remember a time in my life when we had so much bad weather.

By the time you read this, our Spring Dance will be over with and we will be planning our Picnic for June. If any of you are in the area at the time, please drop in and enjoy the Pittsburgh Hospitality. Even if it rains, we have a Hall to go to so don't let the weather keep you away.

There isn't anymore that I can think of for this column. Address lists are still available for your Units if you request them. Writing that personal letter to a Buddy is still the best advertising we have to strengthen our 83rd. Don't forget to get those Dues in and maybe sign up one of your Buddies.

Wishing you all the very best of good luck, health and happiness, until next time, So Long and God Bless all of your. Take care.

Samuel Klippa  
"D" 331st Inf.



**"A" BTRY 908 F.A.**

**MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS**

**Looking for a good turnout of "A" BTRY men at the Pine's this year. Old top kick Palasky is doing real good. Don't forget our buddy Mike Brick, who has been in and out of the hospital quite a lot lately. Drop him a line and let him know you are thinking about him. Let's go "A" BTRY, and PAY YOUR DUES and make your reservations at the PINE'S.**

**Be Looking for you**

**John Clevenger  
"A" BTRY 908 F.A.**

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**CO. "H" 330th INFANTRY**

Hello Buddies:

The time has come for me to get another letter written for the "THUNDERBOLT" for you men from Co. "H" 330th. As you look at your calendar you can see that we are into the third month of 1982, and before we realize it, the time will be here for another great Reunion. Once again I am appealing to you men who served with me in Co. "H" 330th, (the best Damned outfit in the 83rd), to start making plans to be with us in South Fallsburg, New York in September.

This Reunion is going to be a little different than the Reunions of the past in as much as there are a lot of special features and attractions to enjoy. Start making your plans now, and if you haven't sent your Reservation as yet, please do it to-day, because Reservations are pouring in fast and before we know it, choices of Reservations will be limited and you may not be able to get what you had expected. Contact your Buddies and try to send them all in together so that you can get accommodations as close to one another as possible.

Right now I am getting my usual letter made up to send to you asking your help to obtain a full page Ad in the name of Co. "H", so far I have had some generous donations sent in which will help a lot, when you receive your letter, please answer me as soon as possible so that I may get them turned in. If you can't remember how much you sent in last year, just remember that anything over \$5.00 will be greatly appreciated. Let us try to have the largest Ad in the book, and let us get enough donations so that we can include the names of our Deceased Buddies, they can't contribute, but they can be remembered.

Your Buddy  
Larry Redmond

SNOW---SNOW---and more SNOW!!!! I don't suppose that we here in Michigan have had any more or any less than the rest of the Northeast part of the United States but it sure seems like we have been doing nothing else but fighting with Mother Nature since last Christmas. We of the Michigan Chapter hereby demand an immediate cessation of the snows and a return of blue skies, lots of sunshine and warmer temperatures. SO MUCH FOR THAT PIPEDREAM.

For Chapter news, it gives us great pleasure to report that Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hetrick got back from Florida in time to become Grandparents again. Their son, Richard and daughter-in-law, Mary are the proud parents of Erin Marie Hetrick. She checked in on January 16, 1982 weighing in at 5 lb. 2 oz. Lee and Dorothy are pretty happy about it all. We were wondering what would possess them to leave Florida in the middle of winter to come back to Michigan but we're certain this special event made the trip worthwhile.

Jack and Hankie Daugherty are still waiting for their next grandchild but that didn't stop them from getting into the Florida act. They spent a couple weeks wandering around enjoying the sunshine. They did visit Dom and Betty Spano in Ocala. Domenic was a member of our Chapter prior to moving to Florida. He seems to be in good health enjoying the southern climate. He thinks we Northerners are nuts for staying up here. Looking at the snow outside, I would have to agree with him. If one of the Southern Chapters would like to sign Dom up for membership, contact Jack Daugherty and he'll pass on the Address, etc.

Vito Palazzolo celebrated the first anniversary of his retirement by going to Philadelphia to visit with Lou and Lucy Volpi. In addition to meeting with the Philadelphia Chapter they also took in a Mummers Show. They ran into Amby and Nancy Tynan and Jim Prentiss and used the occasion to start up a small reunion. It seems that Vito and Virginia have fond memories of the 1981 Reunion. On this trip to Philadelphia, they stopped in at the Reunion hotel on the way East and also on the return trip. They either have some great rooms in Pittsburg or some great activities going on in the rooms!!!

Speaking of retirement, Ed Zerucha is going to take the big step on May 1, 1982 at the YOUNG age of 66. Seems like the company he works for is closing up shop, moving out of town, etc. and Eddie decided that enough of that stuff. So now that he's going to have so much time on his hands we'll have to put him in charge of a membership drive or something else for the good of the Chapter. By the way, Ed and Jean are very proud of their son, Tommy. He has been involved in computers, analysis, programming and that kind of technical stuff for a couple of years now. Within the past week, he



started to work for Ford Motor Company in that specialty. Sounds like a nice job --- nice pay --- nice fringes. We wish him the best!!

The Bill Goodwin Clan is heading for Florida around March 26th. They'll try to get rid of the winter blahs by spending a couple weeks in the warm sunshine and on the sandy beaches.

Nick Barbu is making like a bachelor for who knows how long. His Wife Sylvia, left for West Palm Beach, Florida on March 2nd --- no firm plans for coming back --- one of those I'll see you deals. He's even trying to loose some weight. This has to be his golden opportunity.

The Chapter Christmas Party at The Canopy Restaurant in Brighton was such a success, the Chapter decided to have the spring meeting at the same place on Sunday March 21st. There will probably be more discussion on the 1982 Reunion. So far there seems to be a very enthusiastic outlook on the number of Michigan Chapter members planning on attending.

SEE YOU THERE !!!

#### REPORT FROM THE LOUISIANA CHAPTER

I finally made an effort to get things rolling in Louisiana once again. A letter was sent out to all members of the Chapter to see if we could schedule a meeting in the near future. A meeting will be held at the Hilton Hotel in Baton Rouge, La on March 20 from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm.

I realize that information will reach some of the men after the meeting has been held, but it is a new start and we do hope to create some interest, so that future meetings can be held. As of now we have at least four of our members and their wives are planning on attending the reunion at the Pines Hotel in September. For those that have not made reservations, you should do so as soon as possible. 340 People have already registered as of this date and that is a good turn out for so early in the year.

For all members of the association, I know that there are a number of other members of the 83rd that live in Louisiana, if you have addresses or any information on these men, drop me a line and I will contact each of them.

I received a reply from Mr. J.D. Smith, that her husband Colonel J. Denson Smith, a member of Division Headquarters, had passed away in October of 1980. Col. Smith had retired from a position as Law professor at LSU.

Two letters sent out were returned to me. If you have a current address on Clifton Loup, or Thomas Miia of Abbeyville, please send it to me at 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, La. 70122.

Joe Macaluso

#### Hello Buddies:

Hope everyone survived the terrible winter that we up north have experienced and as of now, it's not over yet.

Our January meeting was held at the home of Bob and Bernice Grobelny and as usual a lot of our members braved the elements and attended. The Grobelny's did their usual good job of providing the necessary ingredients for a good meeting. Our February meeting was held at the home of Ed and Dolores Josek. They too did a remarkable job of hosting a good affair, good food and good booze. That made for an enjoyable day, we welcome any member to avail himself and host a gathering.

Rollie and Millie Warner moved into their new home a big double to accomodate their daughter and granddaughter. Rollie and Millie worked hard getting the place in shape and have more work in store for them.

I heard that Hank and Phylis Giersz had a son hospitalized. He is back home and recuperating. Get well real quick, kid.

Our planned bus trip to the Catskills has fizzled out -- can't fill the bus so we had to cancel out. Too many members want to go their own way. So what the hell, we'll all drive at our own leisure.

Our new slate of Officers for "82" are as follows:

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| President    | Earl Lindsey  |
| Treasurer    | Walt Meczka   |
| Secretary    | Casey Kowalec   |
| Sgt. at Arms | Rollie Warner   |
| Reporter     | To be appointed this coming meeting at Szubski residence. |

No further news to report. I'll enclose a few more ways to let you know that you're getting old.

You're 17 around the neck-42 around the waist, and 95 around the golf course.

You look forward to a dull evening.

Your mind makes contracts, your body can't meet. Your favorite part of the newspaper is 20 years ago today.

So long for now - stay nice, play nice, and if you must, fight nice.

Al Uridel  
"CN" Co. 329th



Dear Bob:

Enclosed is a check for \$10.00 covering my husband's dues for 1981-82. I'm sorry we're late.

We enjoy the Thunderbolt but we are a little disappointed not to see much about 322nd F.A. Service Battery. All of the people are strangers to us. My husband doesn't know any of them but after reading about them so many times it almost seems that you know them. Maybe we'll see you in New York. We're thinking about it.

Thanks,

Mrs. Michael Hovanec  
for Michael Hovanec  
30 Meadowbrook Road  
Stratford, Connecticut 06497  
Service 322nd F.A.

Here you are men write to this man, (you men of Service 322nd.)

Hello Buddies:

Here we are once again, time to get our letters into the Editor in time for the next issue of the "THUNDERBOLT", I have often heard it said that as we grow older, time flies by faster and I am beginning to believe it. It only seems like a few days ago since we received our last issue of the "THUNDERBOLT", and here it is time for the next issue to go to press.

Well Fellows, right now it is time to devote our thoughts to our coming Reunion, and of the work still to be done. We owe a deep expression of thanks to the fine group from the Greater Boston Chapter for the work they have done so far in the planning of this Reunion. The work of putting on a Reunion gets harder each year, and especially since we have had that demon inflation enter into it. As we sit and think of Reunions of the past and how much our Registration fee was and what we were able to get, and what we have to pay now for what we get, we are well aware of what that word Inflation means.

At a Reunion several years ago our Hospitality Room was our main thing on the program, but today the expense of a Hospitality room is almost triple of what it was then, so that is one of the many things that has raised the cost of Registration. Another big thing is the cost of our Annual Banquets. The Annual Banquet is one of the main parts of a Reunion, but with the high cost of food, it is almost comparable to a White House Reception. Let us all lend a hand to our Reunion Committee and do our part by taking an Add in the Reunion Add Book, let this extra money help defray some of the expense. Send your Add in today, lets not wait for tomorrow.

Sincerely  
Larry Redmond

Dear Bob,

Am I still listed K.I.A. or M.I.A. In checking my file of "T-Bolts," I find the last copy I have is Vol. 36, Vol. 4 - Summer '81. This is the Vol. following my "KIA announcement.

Also, the next issue was to list the battle of St. Malo 11-8-44 (2½ days) where I won the Bronze Star. (Kent O'Connell report).

Am enclosing a photo taken 1 year after cerebral hemorrhage. Am recovering by bits and pieces, but then I was in U.S. Hospitals for almost 14 mos. following Dec. '44.

Geo Green and Al Faedi called, so did the "Black Beret" - belated "Happy Holidays"

REB

SKY BOOKS INTERNATIONAL  
48 E. 50th ST.  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022  
AFTER THE BATTLE  
ISSUE # 33  
ST. MALO

Send \$4.00

P.S. Ladies name was Rosemarie, she was very nice on the phone. There are many pictures - now and then. Memories! (?)

P.S. Now using my home address:  
John M. Folsom  
1624 Highridge Circle  
Columbia, MO 65201



Johnny "Reb" Folsom daughters Kathy # 32 and Debbie New Years Day '82. This X-mas that almost wasn't, 1 year later.



"REB" FOLSOM X-MAS '81

## 323rd REPORT

Since my last report, I received several letters from the men of Hq. Battery, which believe me was really a shock for me to hear from some of them.

My good friend Erwin Erhardt has been trying to help me out with prices of items for our coming reunion. Its wonderful to have such a good buddy and his real nice wife, Norma. Thanks to both of you.

Captain Robert Costello sent me a nice check along with his letter from sunny Florida. He does not write often but he sends a good letter when he does. Bob was with Headquarters Battery but went to Baker Battery for the action. He is retired now having fun in the sun in Florida.

Harold Michael wrote me over the holidays. I see by Harold's pictures that his wife must be an excellent cook. Ha! Ha! (I should talk. Huh!) It is always good to hear our officers who were so good to us are doing well. Lt. Michaels trained his Survey Crew well for they keep me up to date with the news since 1945. Norm Siefing and Al Garipey have died since then. However, I have heard from Suilman who is partly retired.

G.K. (Kenny) Willis wrote me letting me know how the fabulous Willis Brothers are doing. Ken's OLDER BROTHER R.D. (Don) Willis is retired now. Kenny is still a Civil Engineer with the South Carolina Highway Dept.

Orlo Hoover has been spending the winter in Texas this year. Orlo had a heart operation (yes he did have one) and is now recovering.

John Pollack writes that he is doing very well. We all enjoyed seeing John and his son at the 1981 reunion.

Norman McCormack and his lovely wife Anita are grandparents again. Their daughter Robin had a baby girl on December 30th, 1981. My wife Nancy was talking with the McCormacks on the telephone. They are going on a Florida vacation for the month of March.

Enjoyed hearing from Dallas Williams with a picture of his son wearing a Williams T Shirt. Too bad they are not in XX Large. If so, I would give you some advertisement in the Boston area. Dallas and Jack Knight are close friends out in Oregon.

Bill and Lois Shaner are going to the Worlds Fair in May. Don and Amy St. John are also doing some traveling around. Boys, I am a little behind on my letters to Altoona. I wrote a latter to Bob Brumm in Michigan. I just got an address on him. I have not heard from him as yet.

George Connors has not been around Boston lately. Tommy Papile is doing fine.

I was talking on the phone to George Polites wife. George has been very sick since last November and is now waiting to be operated on this month. George has been having some hard times. His Mother died in December, which we were sorry to hear. George we all hope things will be good for you in the months ahead.

Red Frawley from A Battery had a heart attack a while back. I just tried to get him on the phone but got no answer.

I certainly enjoy hearing from William "Jake" Erwin on the holidays. Jake someday you and I will get together.

The weekend of February 20th I had dinner with John

Piscitelli and his family at the J.R. Restaurant at Penn. Motel along with Joe Gioia. They told me not to tell Dom "The Godfather" Christopher that they bought all the drinks. Thanks boys for a good time.

I must ask you fellows from Hq. Battery to send me a couple of dollars for the Memorial Page in the Ad Book for the men that have died. TRY NOT TO FORGET.

Until the next issue.

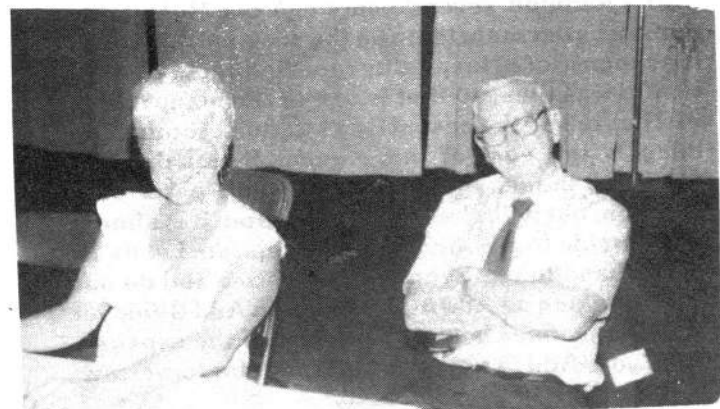
AMBY TYNAN



Lois Shaner. Joyce McCouch. and Nancy Tynan.



L to R: Shaner, Tynan, McCouch, Nellies and Granauo



Dave and Nancy Nellies



## 783rd REPORT

### THE 783rd IS ALIVE AND WELL

Who said it could not be done. There are still many of our buddies waiting to be found. With the help of Arthur Doggett and my little old phone we have found 66 men of the 783rd company. We had seventeen men at the Pittsburgh reunion and from the reservations coming in for the September reunion we will have many new faces in attendance. 1st. Sgt. Jones was found in California and Glenn Vinning, Charles Garrison and Ed Perko are now among the informed.

Lt. Gilman flew in from San Francisco and treated my wife and I to a delicious dinner at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. After thirty five years what an historic place to talk about historic times and furing a snow storm at that.

If you haven't done so already get your September reservations in. Ray Downing, Gene Bond, James Jones and Bill Appleby are challenging one and all for the championship of the New York links.

**"Rags" Rangnow  
783rd ORD.**

**Here it is Bob. Keep up your good work.**

Dear Mr. Derickson:

I would be most grateful if you could insert the following notice in your newsletter:

For a comprehensive history of the Battle of the Bulge, I would appreciate hearing from anyone who can provide an account of his personal experiences. I myself am a veteran of the battle.

Thank you indeed for your assistance.

Sincerely,  
Charles B. MacDonald

Dear Bob:

I would like to thank you for publishing the notice of the 329th Reg. Hqs. Co. picnic in the last issue of the Thunderbolt. The picnic will be held Sunday June 27th at Roger and Eileen Lemasters home, 7490 W. National Road, New Carlisle, Ohio. All 329th Hqs. men are cordially invited to attend. For more information contact: Roger Lemaster, 7490 W. National Road, New Carlisle, Ohio 45344. Ph. 513-882-6323 Orval Ellis, 922 Motz Street, St. Marys, Ohio 45885 Ph. 419-394-3862.

Roger Lemaster

## GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

The Phillie Chapter and their ladies had their Christmas party at the Drexel Brooke Club in Drexel Hill, Pa. Quite a few of our old timers showed up. The Jim Logues - The Ponzio's - the Holan's - Bill Bugh's plus all the regulars and their wives. A great time was had by all.

The raffle was won by the following:

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| First prize  | Michael Brick |
| Second prize | Ambrose Tynan |
| Third prize  | Jim Kincade   |

At our election of officer's the printers left out Al Belevedere's name as Philadelphia Treasurer and inserted mine and omitted the Chaplain's office.

On February 20th our chapter had their annual string band and dinner outing. We wish to thank each and everyone for the great response and attendance. Especially Vito and Virginia Pallazullo, Ambrose and Nancy Tynan, Jim and Dolores Price and Jim Prentice. All of these out-of-towners for attending our affairs.

Also attending Lou and Lucy Volpi, Al and Ann Belevedere, Al and Mary Fisher, Joseph and Mary Gioia, John and Margaret Daum, Fred and Rita Belevedere, Augie and Laura Flagella, Frank and Ida Orsini, Anthony and Loretta Petito, John and Josie Piscitelli, Joseph and Olive and Annamarie Ponzio and many others. It was amazing the response we received from our old members and families.

Maybe now we of the Philadelphia Chapter can say we're back in stride. Hope to see more of our delinquent members in the coming months.

Frank McGrogan of "H" 330 has been to the Hospital quite a few times this past year for treatments. Mary Redmond has also been hospitalized. Mary Fisher is now home recovering from a serious operation. Larry Redmond is to be admitted to receive a pace maker. Our prayers are with them all for a speedy recovery. Hope to see them all soon.

Due to the severe winter and icy conditions, President Joe Gioia fell and broke his wrist, Al Belevedere slipped on the ice and hurt his back. Joe Ponzion fell on his ----- and your's truly twisted his ankle and I was laid up for a week.

**NEWS BULETIN.** When the ice is on the ground all us old fogie's from W.W.II should not be out walking around.

Also my 12 year old grandson Mark Petito enjoyed our string band and dinner program. He can't wait till next year. He loves the 83rd and all Thunderbolts.

**AMEN.** See you all at **THE PINES**  
John T. Piscitelli  
"C" 323rd. F.A.

DIRECTIONS TO THE PINES HOTEL

**NEW YORK CITY  
NEW JERSEY &  
METROPOLITAN AREA  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

NEW YORK THRUWAY TO INTERCHANGE 16 (HARRIMAN) & THEN WEST ON 17 (QUICKWAY) TO (TOLL FREE SUPER HIGHWAY TO EXIT 105B - PROCEED TO VILLAGE OF SOUTH FALLSBURG. TURN LEFT AT MOVIE THEATRE, ONE MILE TO THE PINES.

VIA GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE: ENTER NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AT INTERCHANGE 14 (SPRING VALLEY) - PROCEED AS ABOVE.

NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE: CONNECTS WITH GARDEN STATE PARKWAY AT INTERCHANGE 10, PROCEED AS ABOVE.

WASHINGTON: ENTER NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AT INTERCHANGE 1 VIA DELAWARE MEMORIAL BRIDGE. PROCEED AS ABOVE.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE...THRU BERKSHIRE EXTENSION TO N.Y. THRUWAY...SEE BELOW DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED FROM ALBANY.

**ALBANY AREA**

TAKE NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY SOUTH TO KINGSTON INTERCHANGE 19-PROCEED SOUTHWEST ON ROUTE 209 (APPROX. 25 MILES) TO ELLENVILLE, TURN RIGHT (WEST) TO WOODBOURNE, TURN LEFT (SOUTH) ON ROUTE 42 TO SOUTH FALLSBURG. AT MOVIE THEATRE TURN RIGHT 1 MILE TO THE PINES.

**CHICAGO, DETROIT  
AND OHIO POINTS**

INDIANA EAST-WEST TOLL ROAD AND OHIO TURNPIKE INTO THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE. CONNECT WITH NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AT INTERCHANGE 6. CONTINUE NORTH ON N.J. TURNPIKE TO INTERCHANGE 6. CONTINUE NORTH ON N.J. TURNPIKE TO INTERCHANGE 10, WHERE YOU WILL ENTER THE GARDEN STATE PARKWAY. SEE DIRECTIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED FROM THIS POINT ABOVE.

**PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

ENTER N.Y. STATE AT BUFFALO-DRIVE EAST ON N.Y. STATE THRUWAY. AT INTERCHANGE 36 SYRACUSE, TURN SOUTH ON NEW RTE. 81 (TOLL FREE SUPER HIGHWAY) TO BINGHAMTON: DRIVE EAST ON RT. 17 (QUICKWAY) (TOLL FREE SUPER HIGHWAY) TO EXIT 105B. TURN NORTH ON RTE. 42 TO SOUTH FALLSBURG, AT MOVIE THEATRE TURN LEFT 1 MILE TO THE PINES.

**PROVINCE OF QUEBEC**

ENTER NEW YORK STATE AT CHAMPLAIN PORT OF ENTRY. PROCEED ON NEW ROUTE 87 NORTHWAY (TOLL FREE SUPER HIGHWAY) TO INTERCHANGE WITH NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AT ALBANY. PROCEED AS FROM ALBANY.

**CONNECTICUT**

ROUTE 1-84 TO MIDDLETOWN EXIT 4W GOING WEST. PROCEED AS DIRECTIONS FROM NEW YORK CITY ON RTE. 17 (QUICKWAY) TO SOUTH FALLSBURG.

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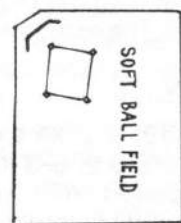


# the Pines

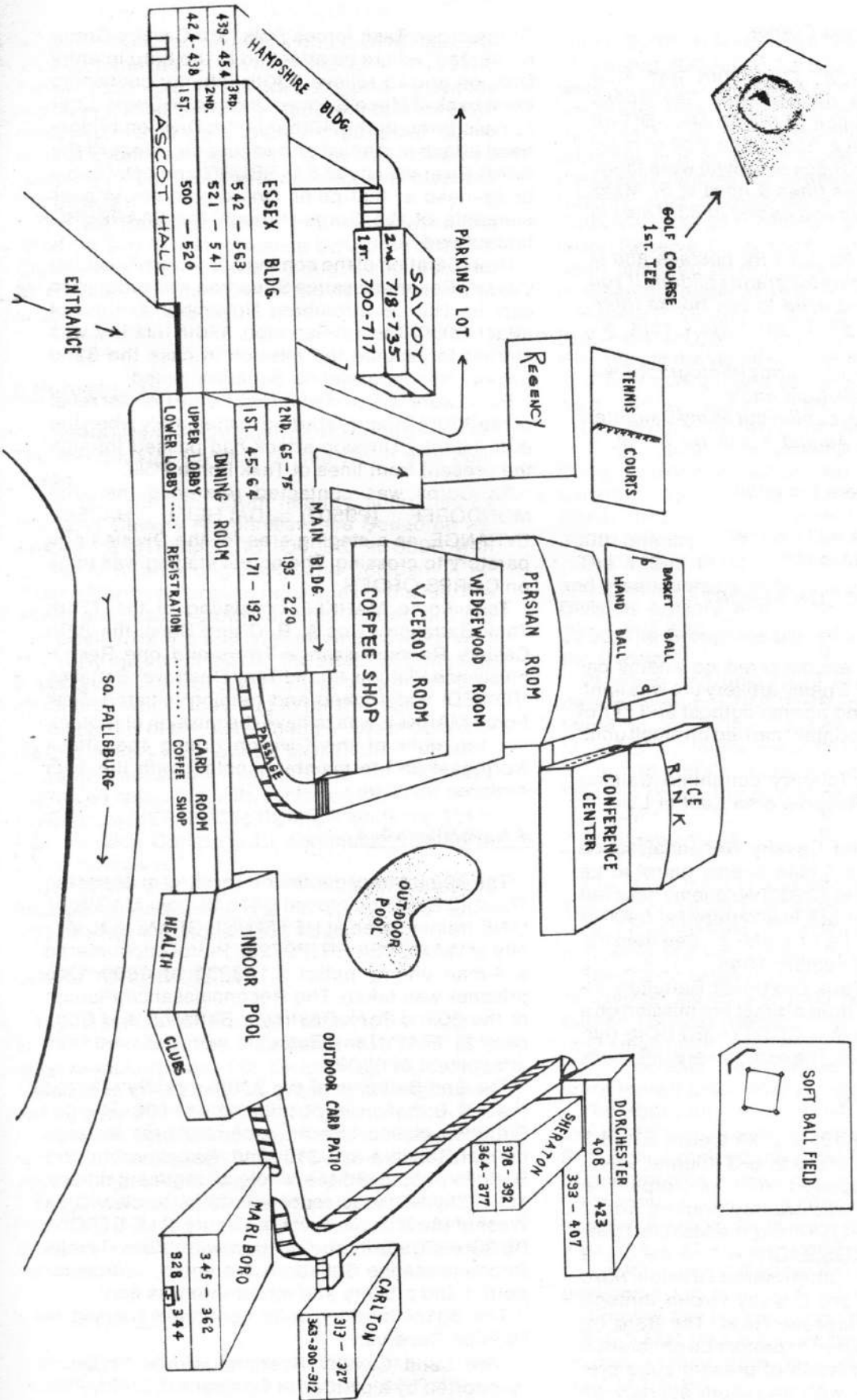
Tennis Courts



GOLF COURSE  
1st. TEE



SOFT BALL FIELD



### Historians Corner

Johnnie Reb Folsom "A" Co. 330th was kind enough to send me a booklet from Sky Books International on our Action at the St. Malo-Dinard area. It is extremely well written and will be of more than passing interest to those of us who were there. It includes many pictures (then & now) of St. Malo, maps, and other pictures and names of 83rd men in action there.

The booklet cost \$3.00 + .75 for postage and is worth reading and keeping for grand children. If you wish to have a copy just write to Sky Books International Inc., 48 East 50th Street, New York, NY 10022.

Im finally running out of the army Photographs will see if more are available from uncle.

(I hope I can make the reunion but as my Daughter is getting married in August I will be broke in September.)

"We were the best"

Wm. Kent O Connell  
83rd MP

### AFTER ACTION REPORT

#### November 3, 1944

The 330th Infantry encountered no enemy patrols during the period. Enemy artillery fire was light. The regiment continued normal outpost and patrol missions. Units not in contact carried on small units training.

Units of the 331st Infantry continued training activities in Division Reserve area East of Luxembourg.

A patrol of the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron contacted a 3-man enemy patrol at Le Stromberg (Q001980) at 1230. Two enemy believed killed. A coordinated attack was ordered at 0900, 4 November, to capture Le Stromberg. (See item 72, G-2, G-3 Journal, 3 November 1944).

Company 3, 802d Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached to the Division, fired a direct fire mission on a mine shaft opening vicinity CONTZ-LES-BOIS during evening 3 November. The results were unknown.

### OPERATION UNICORN

Field Order Number 12, HQ XX Corps, dated 3 November (See Item 129, G-2, G-3 Journal, 2 November 1944) was received from XX Corps. The 90th Infantry Division was ordered under cover of darkness night of D (D-1) to cross the Moselle River in vicinity of KOEWNGSMACHER and secure a bridgehead and pass 10th Armored Division, 83rd Infantry Division and 3rd Cavalry Group through bridgehead over the Moselle River. The 83rd Infantry Division was ordered to protect Luxembourg and contain enemy in North of present zone prepared to concentrate with maximum secrecy on

Corps order. Task forces Polk (3rd Cavalry Group reinforced) was to be attached to the 83rd Infantry Division and to relieve 330th Infantry containing West bank of Moselle River. Division on Corps order to pass through the 90th Infantry Division bridgehead attach northeast and secure crossings of the SAAR River vicinity of SAARBURG and establish a bridgehead at that point. On corps order to pass elements of the Corps through the SAARBURG bridgehead.

In preparation of the coming operations the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron was ordered to capture Hill Le Stromberg November 4. Time of attack 0900. The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, was alerted to assume the mission in case the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron failed.

Plans were initiated with Task Force Polk for relief of the 330th Infantry starting immediately when the 90th Infantry Division attack had passed through the present front lines of Task Force Polk.

XX Corps was contacted reference the area MONDORFF (P9502), DALHEIM, HASSEL EVRANGE, as a staging area for the Division preparatory to crossing. The actual staging was to be on CORPS ORDER.

Task Force MARKLE consisting of the 774th Tank Battalion (-Cos A, B, C and Serv), the 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and one Reconnaissance Platoon, 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion (TOWED) was formed and training initiated. Task Force MARKLE was to have the mission of protecting the right of the Division during the attack Northeast and to maintain contact with the 10th Armored Division.

#### 4 November 1944

The 329 Infantry continued to patrol in its sector. The 2nd Battalion closed 041645 from MAGINOT LINE training area at HETTANGE GRANDE to vicinity of WAXHWEILER (P9725). Patrol encountered a 4-man enemy patrol (L103332 at 0800. One prisoner was taken. The Reconnaissance Platoon of the 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion and Company D, 774th Tank Battalion were relieved from attachment of 0800.

The 2nd Battalion of the 330th Infantry relieved the 1st Battalion in position at 041100. The 1st Battalion closed into an assembly area in Regimental Reserve at 1210. 2nd Battalion and 3rd Battalion occupied the whole of regimental front. 1st Battalion made reconnaissance to clear area West of the Moselle River in vicinity of LE STROMBERG (Q0096) in conjunction with 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. No enemy patrols reported and artillery and mortar fire was light.

The 331st Infantry units continued training in Division Reserve.

The 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron supported by a platoon of Company B, 308th Engr.



Battalion launched an attack on LE STROMBERG at 0900. Lead tank of the force was knocked out on narrow road. The attack was stopped by enemy mortar and small arms fire. Many anti-tank and anti personnel mines were encountered. Small gains, against estimated enemy force on one reinforced company on Le Stromberg, were consolidated and troops dug in for the night.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry relieved the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron at 1950. Consolidated the gains made, dug in, and prepared to resume the attack at 0800 November 5, to capture Le Stromberg.

#### 5 November 1944

The 329th Infantry continued patrolling in its sector. The 8th Infantry Division on the North was contacted.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, supported by the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron assaulted LE STROMBERG (Q0096) at 0800 with Company K attacking South and Company A attacking Northeast around the slopes of the hill. The attack progressed slowly against mortar, artillery and small arms fire and over ground covered with mines. By the end of the day the attack of Company A had progressed to (Q001953) and Company B to (Q006965) where they dug in for the night.

Company C of the 331st Infantry was attached to the 330th Infantry and moved to MONDORFF (R0401) at 1530. The 330th Infantry (less 1st Battalion) continued patrolling of its sector on the MOSELLE RIVER from MERTERT to REMICH while the 331st Infantry (less Company C) continued training in Division Reserve.

The 324th and 174th Field Artillery Battalions fired seven concentrations on TRIER and MARKUSEBERG starting at 1800 hours.

#### OPERATION UNICORN

The 81st Field Artillery Battalion (155 Howitzer) and 174th Field Artillery Battalion (155 Gun) (SP) were detached from the Division by VIII Corps, attached to the 422nd F.A. group and the group in turn attached to the Division. Battery 3, 16th F.A. observation Bn. (Sound and Flash) was placed in support of the Division. No. VIII Corps Artillery units were to be employed east of the MOSELLE RIVER.

The Division plan of operation (UNICORN) See Item 134, G-2, G-3 Journal) due to its Top Secret classification was given verbally to the regimental commanders.

#### 6 November 1944

The 329th Infantry continued to patrol along the MOSELLE RIVER without incident. The 1st Bat-

talion, 330th Infantry, captured and secured Le Stromberg (Q0096) at 1100. Several casualties were caused from mines and booby traps. Engineers who were supporting the attack were shelled by mortar fire while clearing mined road blocks and adjacent mine fields. XX Corps was notified of the successful termination of this operation. The 331st Infantry, with Companies A and B, 774th Tank Battalion attached, continued training in the Division Reserve. Company C (reinforced), which had been attached to the 330th Infantry, reverted to regimental control at 1440.

Battery B, 453rd Anti Aircraft Battalion, attached to the Division, shot down two ME 109 Airplanes (German) in the vicinity of (P965184) at 1527 hours. The pilots were seen to parachute over German held territory East of the MOSELLE RIVER.

Task Force MARKLE continued to train with special emphasis on communications. The 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron occupied positions on the flanks of hill vicinity of LE STROMBERG HILL after its capture by the 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry.

The 422nd Field Artillery Group Headquarters and Headquarters Battery were attached to the Division Artillery and closed in MONDORFF at 2200. The Group was placed in general support of the Division.

Planning and briefing of Regimental Commanders for operation UNICORN continued. Plans were made to move the Division Command Post to MONDORFF for the initial phases of the operation. Efforts to obtain more artillery support for the Division during the operation were continued.

#### 7 November 1944

The 83rd Infantry Division continued to patrol East to the MOSELLE-SAAR RIVERS. The enemy was contained East of the two rivers by aggressive patrolling and outpostting along the river lines.

The 329th Infantry patrolled and outposted the regimental sector and held positions already occupied. Training in lessons from combat experience (and small units problems) was continued for units not in contact. Three Russian prisoners of war surrendered to Company C during the evening.

The 330th Infantry contained the enemy east of the MOSELLE RIVER by active patrolling. The 1st Battalion organized and held LE STROMBERG with two companies on the position and one in reserve. Each company had two platoons forward and one in support. Arrangements were made to de-mine the area. The Cannon Company received 200 rounds of 105mm counterbattery fire in vicinity L042232 between 1030 and 1115. No casualties resulted. During the day no enemy contact was made.

The 331st Infantry, in reserve, proceeded with normal training from assembly areas in vicinity LUXEMBOURG.

The 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron maintained outposts on the flanks of LE STROMBERG.

General EISENHOWER and Lieutenant General BRADLEY visited the Command Post from 1710 to 1755.

The 774th Tank Battalion performed maintenance and conducted tactical training. The tank companies experimented with the M2 Demolition "Snake" and trained with the tank dozer. Troops were instructed in booby trap removal.

## OPERATION UNICORN

The Division issued Field Order 34 (See Item 130, G-2, G-3 Journal) for the operation. The Division (reinforced) was to continue containing the enemy in present sector and, less containing force crossed the MOSELLE RIVER through the 90th Infantry Division bridgehead, attack north, destroy the enemy between the SAAR and MOSELLE RIVERS and seize a bridgehead over the SAAR River in the vicinity of SAARBURG.

The Division Artillery Commander, the Regimental Commanders, Commanding Officer Task Force MARKLE, with staffs, were given a final briefing on the order to include the movement to the staging area, crossing the river and the initiation of the attack to the north.

Permission was granted by XX Corps to move the Division Command Post to MONDORFF after 0300 (D plus 1).

### 8 November 1944

In the 329th Infantry sector the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon contacted the 80th Armored Infantry Battalion, 9th Armored Division, on the left, while the 3rd Battalion made contact with the 330th Infantry on the right. The regiment continued patrolling. The 2nd Battalion was held in regimental reserve. During the day a regimental command post exercise was held in the area.

The 330th Infantry encountered slight enemy activity during the day. Minor regrouping was initiated with Company A relieved by Company C at LE STROMBERG HILL at 1925. In a minor patrol action Company K fired on an enemy patrol of three men vicinity (L029163) at 0025. After daylight two men of this patrol were captured. They stated the third man was killed. Enemy artillery and mortar fire was light during the day.

The 331st Infantry remained in position as Division Reserve.

The 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron continued to occupy positions along the river line and maintained contact with Task Force POLK and 330th Infantry on the South and North flanks, respectively.

## OPERATION UNICORN

D Day for the Third Army arrived with the XII Corps and the 5th Infantry Division opening the attack from the bridgehead already held across the MOSELLE RIVER South of METZ. The weather was bad with considerable rain falling.

The Division passed to operational control of XX Corps at 1200.

The Division Artillery Command Post opened at MONDORFF at 1400. The Division Artillery was prepared to support the 90th Division bridgehead. Battery A, 285th Field Artillery Observation Battalion in direct support of the Division during the coming operations.

Orders were received to assemble one Regimental Combat Team (331st) in staging area night of (D plus 1) (D plus 2) (9-10 November). The second Regimental Combat Team (330th) was to be assembled in the staging area as soon as practicable thereafter. The movement of the 330th Regimental Combat Team hinged upon relief of mission along MOSELLE RIVER by Task Force POLK.

The 1139th Engineer Combat Group was to be prepared to relieve the 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron of Task Force POLK on the South from 95th Division boundary to LA KISSEL approximately 1200 (D plus 1), 9 November. This would speed the relief of 330th Infantry by Task Force POLK. The remaining cavalry squadron (43rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron) would be relieved piecemeal when the 90th Infantry Division attack, (D plus 1) 9 November, had passed through the Line of Departure held by that squadron. The squadron was to infiltrate to the rear through the columns of the 90th Division, assemble and complete relief of the 330th Infantry.

Instructions were issued to the 32nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron to assemble all available elements vicinity of SCHRASSIG in order not to interfere with movement of Division to staging area night of 9-10 November.

### 9 November 1944

## OPERATION UNICORN

The 90th Infantry Division crossed the MOSELLE RIVER vicinity KOENIGSMACHER with two regiments abreast at 0300. The initial crossing was a complete surprise to the enemy with only the third wave coming under small arms and automatic weapons fire. The river continued to rise and the weather continued bad. Bridging operations at MALLING and CATTEROM commenced at daylight.

The Division Command Post closed vicinity LUXEMBOURG and opened at MONDORF at 1200.

Task force POLK was attached to the Division as of 1200. The 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self propelled) attached to Task Force POLK was less



Company A and with Company A, 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion (Towed) to cross the MOSELLE RIVER in support of the Division. The 802nd Tank Destroyer Battalion (Towed) less Company A, and with Company A, 705th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self propelled) attached, was attached to Task Force POLK for employment on the West side of the river.

The relief of Task Force POLK along the river from 95th Division bridgehead North to 83rd Division bridgehead proceeded without delay. Task Force POLK started relief of 330th Infantry at 1420 and completed at 2140.

The 331st Infantry started movement into the staging area at 1800 and completed the movement at 2300.

The 330th Infantry started movement into the staging area by echelon at 1425 as soon as elements were relieved by Task Force POLK. Movement was completed at 1100, 10 November.

Company C, 81st Chemical Mortar Battalion, was detached from the 5th Infantry Division, and attached to the 83rd Infantry Division effective 2400, 10 November. C-3 stated that due to present condition of the river and height of the water that actual movement of the company would be delayed as it could not be brought West of the river in the 5th Division area.

The Division Artillery Commander received word at 2000 that one battery of 155mm Gun (self propelled) would be available to the Division later for employment across the MOSELLE RIVER.

Task Force MARKLE continued training. The Task Force was to stage from present areas in crossing the river.

The 908th Field Artillery Battalion in support of the 90th Division bridgehead destroyed an enemy tank after obtaining three direct hits. The Division Artillery maintained continuous air patrol from 0700 to 1730.

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### G COMPANY

The new year, 1982, has come in with a bang. The economy is not good, the weather has been terrible, and things in general, do not look good. However, we should take a positive attitude and keep going forward-brighter things are ahead. We should all look forward to a good year.

On a sad note, we lost one of our fine G Company men, when Don Schwartz passed away in Marbella, Spain on February 14. Beau Titus had received a call from his brother notifying us of his death. I want to thank Mort Gaynor for taking the day off from his work to attend the services for Don in New York. I had contacted John Rund and notified him of the death, but John was not able to take off to attend the services.

Even in his last days Don had kept his wits about

him. He and his wife had made reservation to attend the reunion at the Pines Hotel in September. His main concern was to see the expressions on the faces of the individuals as they eat their first Kosher breakfast.

I have talked to Beau Titus and Mort Gaynor a number of times, we are looking for a good turn out in September at the reunion. All of the New England boys in G Company should make plans to attend and once again enjoy the companionship of their WWII buddies. In a few weeks I will write to all members of G Company in order to keep our group active. I am not sure that we will have our usual company ad in the Program this year. I will probably send in a small ad, because I do have some funds left over from last year. However, next year 1983, we will probably go back to our ad in the program book.

I heard from quite a few of the fellows during the Christmas season, and all seem to be in good health.

The New England group is making large plans for the reunion, a note from Pat indicates that 340 people have registered as of March 1. I know the Yankees in our outfit felt that the Southern boys were losing out on some of the finer things in the States. I am looking forward to find out what I have been missing out on all these years.

Capt Mac

Dear Bob

**I am sending you a picture of 1st Sgt. Wagner of Co "B" 308th Engr. Bn. Along with T-5 Joe Skubon who drives the truck that pulled our bulldozer. Maybe you can publish it in the Thunderbolt.**

**Yours in comradeship  
Harry A. Humphreys**



**HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION**

**APO 83, U. S. Army**

**GENERAL ORDERS NUMBER 190**

**4 September 1945**

**UNIT CITATION**

Under the provisions of Section IV, Circular 333, War Department, 22 December 1943, and as approved by the Commanding General, Third United States Army, the Second Battalion, 329th Infantry is cited for outstanding performance of duty in armed conflict with the enemy from 12 December 1944 to 16 December 1944.

On the morning of 12 December 1944, Second Battalion, 329th Infantry Regiment from positions in the Hurtgen Forest, Germany, initiated an attack toward Duren, with Gurzenich as its objective. In two days of bitter fighting it advanced three thousand yards. It traveled through a dense, heavily mined coniferous woods, constantly menaced by deadly artillery and mortar tree bursts and heavy machine gun and small arms fire. For twenty-five hundred yards it traversed an open plain against an enemy firmly entrenched astride the only axial road, and in the face of converging fire from the wooded areas to both flanks, and in the face of direct observation by the enemy. It suffered severe casualties but its men never faltered, carrying on with a determination that forced a fanatical foe to give ground although possessing every advantage of terrain, disposition and observation. Arriving at the edge of its objective after dark on 13 December it secured a toehold in the town. Its position was precarious. It occupied a salient deep into enemy terrain, its only contact with friendly troops being over a three thousand yard stretch of heavily mined road. It had no heavy materiel with which to defend against an armored attack because of the mined condition of the road. Men worked heroically clearing mines under constant heavy interdictory fire and before dawn friendly armor and supply vehicles came to the aid of the beleaguered garrison. For the next two days the Second Battalion courageously struggled to clear the town of a determined defense which utilized every basement and window as a pillbox. It withstood heavy concentrations of artillery fire and repulsed heavy infantry and armored counter-attacks. By dark of the 15th it completely controlled the town. Before dawn of the 16th a terrific artillery preparation shook the town for fifty minutes, completely blanketing Gurzenich. Then the enemy struck. German infantry and self-propelled assault guns moving under cover of early morning fog succeeded in penetrating the town. A vicious hand to hand fight raged for two hours in houses, streets and courtyards. Assault guns and tanks fired high velocity fire at point blank range. Several wounded men ran out of the Battalion Aid Station and joined the fighting despite their wounds. The effect of the indomitable fighting spirit of the Second Battalion finally made itself evident. Those of the enemy not killed, wounded or taken prisoners were routed and their offensive spirit completely broken. Battalion losses in the four days action were one hundred sixty-two killed, wounded or missing. It inflicted losses on the enemy of an estimated two hundred fifty killed and five hundred eighty taken prisoners. Three enemy assault guns, two tanks, four anti-tank guns and three mortars were destroyed. Two assault guns and two tanks were damaged, and an undetermined amount of enemy small arms and equipment captured or destroyed. Thus, as a result of the unwavering fortitude and aggressive fighting spirit of the men of the Second Battalion, 329th Infantry Regiment, from 12 to 16 December 1944, a determined enemy was forced to abandon his Roer River Bridgehead and relinquish terrain which would have proven extremely valuable to the enemy in connection with any contemplated large scale offensive across the Roer River. The unflinching devotion to duty and superb courage displayed by each man of the Battalion reflect the highest traditions of the Armed Forces.

**BY COMMAND OF BRIGADIER GENERAL MONTAGUE:**

**C. L. BOYLE,  
Colonel, GSC,  
Chief of Staff**

**OFFICIAL:**

**N. P. COWDEN,  
Major, AGD,  
Adjutant General**

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**"C" Plus 1025 to 329th Inf.  
TAG (3)  
CG, USFET (2)  
CG, XII Corps**

**CG, TUSA (12)  
Central MRU  
37th MRU**



HEADQUARTERS NINTH U. S. ARMY  
Office of the Commanding General, APO 339, U. S. Army

330.13 GNMCS

15 March 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

THRU: Commanding General, XIX Corps, APO 270, U. S. Army.

TO: Commanding General, 83d Infantry Division, APO 83, U. S. Army.

1. I am informed that E Company, 331st Infantry, 83d Infantry Division, was the first unit of any troops participating in Operation "GRENADE" to officially reach the Rhine River, at 0930 hours 2 March. I can assure you that I share your pride in this accomplishment, characterizing as it does the splendid record of the 83d Infantry Division since it began operations on the Continent.

2. The report on Operation "GRENADE" leaves no doubt that your Division distinguished itself in this successful and decisive action. I was particularly impressed by the expeditious manner in which the Division, once committed, quickly reduced and cleared the key strongpoint of Neuss, elimination of which permitted the successful continuation of the Corps and Army advance northward along the west bank of the Rhine River.

3. Four times during the last seven months, the 83d Infantry Division has been carried on the troop list of the Ninth Army: First during operations in the Brittany Peninsula; second briefly in Luxemburg; third during the early stages of the critical "Battle of the Bulge" in December; and lastly during Operation "GRENADE". During each period of association, I feel that the Division has added to its long and distinguished record. It gives me extreme pleasure at this time to express my appreciation of the splendid work done by the Division during Operation "GRENADE" and I desire to personally commend every officer and man of your organization.

/s/ W. H. SIMPSON

Lieutenant General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

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XIV

*Commendations and Citations*

HEADQUARTERS VII CORPS

Office of the Commanding General, U. S. Army

201.22

23 January 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO: Commanding General, 83d Inf. Div. APO 83, U. S. Army

1. As the 83d Infantry Division comes out of line after three weeks of continuous offensive operations in the Ardennes, I wish to express to you and to the officers and men of your division my appreciation of the job the 83d Division has accomplished during this period.

2. Fighting under the most severe weather conditions yet encountered on the Western Front, with little or no shelter from driving snow and freezing cold, the division advanced almost twenty thousand yards in the First United States Army's drive against the north shoulder of the German salient. In the critical stage of the attack to break across the Langlir—Ronce River and through the heavy woods to the south, the 83d Division made two consecutive night attacks and fought continuously without let-up for three days in order to open the way for the final drive of the 3d Armored Division to cut the vital Houffalize—St. Vith road which spelled disaster for the entire German position north of the Ourthe River. The officers and men bore the fury of the elements as well as the vicious fire of the enemy's defense and overcame them both.

3. The 83d Division can well be proud of its record in the Ardennes counter-offensive which may prove to be the decisive battle on the Western Front. Please convey to your officers and men my hearty congratulations and best wishes for your future success.

/s/ J. LAWTON COLLINS

Major General, U. S. Army, Commanding.

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Here we are again to give you Thunderbolts a birds eye view of what the New England Chapter has been doing since our last writing.

As you all know, it has been a tough winter and everyone has been staying close to home. However, we did have our Christmas Party at the Marriott Inn in Providence, Rhode Island on December 12, 1981, and before I go into what we did, we of the New England Chapter would like to thank our President, Jim Brennan and his lovely wife, Dot, for setting up this fabulous weekend that we spent there. I also want to thank my wife, Mary, for the great job she did making the favors and any contribution of liquor or goodies made by any of the members was also appreciated. Those who attended were as follows: From Massachusetts we had Jim and Georgia Emanouil, Nick and Mary Francullo, Charles and Ann Helligan, Spike and Gloria McCartin, Dutchy and Helen Smith, Lou and Emma Rossi, Bill and Jeanette McKee and John Donahue who had planned to attend had a setback and had to cancel. We missed you John! From Connecticut we had Mike and Marie Champy (Mike was just recovering from a bout with pneumonia), Mike and Nina Petitti; from New York, Karl and Ingrid Burkhard (Karl, I hope your Christmas tree was decorated to your liking when you got home) and from Rhode Island we had Jim and Dot Brennan, Warren and Sue Boucher and Al and Ann Tartaglia. Joe and Helen Petrucci couldn't make the party, as Joe was committed to play that night, but he showed up for a bit of Cheer in the wee hours of the morning, about 2:00 A.M. just when we were winding down.

We all arrived at the Marriott about 2:00 P.M. on Saturday afternoon. We had a nice suite where we set up our bar and munchies and had ourselves a ball. Some of us enjoyed the pool too. About 5:30 everyone retired to their rooms to dress for the evening and at 7:30 we gathered again in the Washington Room for dinner, which was excellent. Later in the evening most of us spent some time in the Lounge and a little later we all congregated again for a visit from Santa, who of course was yours truly. Sunday morning everyone had breakfast at their leisure and left for home about 1:00 P.M. It was a most enjoyable weekend and we are all looking forward to a repeat performance some time in the future.

We are just marking time now for the good weather so we can get on the road again for our get-togethers. Talk about the ground hog going back into his hole - well, we have done just about the same thing this winter. We just don't like to come out again in the evening once we get home. Are we getting old???

On January 9th Mary and I took a ride to the Brennans and spent the weekend. The night turned out to be stormy, but we went out for dinner and dancing at the Venetian Garden with Joe Petrucci's "Goldenaires". We had a great time. At that time Joe told us that Helen's mother was being released from the hospital, but could not be alone anymore, so Helen had given up her job and they were making arrangements to have her stay with them so that Helen could take care of her. We hope things are working out.

During the last ice storm Lou Rossi slipped on some ice in his yard and bruised his hip, but it didn't stop him from working. It's hard to keep an "Old" man down.

I was talking to Captain Jack Masters at our last reunion and he had a true story to tell me which I would like to share with all of you. It is very unique. Jack's relatives all belong to "H" Co. in three different wars from the U.S. Civil War to World War II, beginning with Charles T. Russell Drummer Boy H. Co. 5th Md. Infantry. (He was Jack's Grandfather's brother on his mother's side - a great uncle). Also, he was too young to be an Infantryman at the age of 12 so they made a drummer boy out of him; George R. Russell H. Co. 13th Pa. Infantry Spanish American War. (He was his mother's brother - an uncle to Jack; Jack R. Masters H. Co. 330th Infantry 83rd. Dv. World War II, Jack commanded Co. H. from reactivation through World War II. Jack also had a Grandfather on his mother's side, Henry O. Russell, Co. G. 2nd Inf. Md. - he served in the Civil War - as you can see he missed "H" by one letter.

Captain Masters, you should be very proud of your background, it is a rare coincidence. Thanks for this story.

This is all the news New England Chapter can supply for now. We are just waiting now for our spring get-together in May or June which could possibly be as far away as New York.

Your Buddy  
Nick Francullo  
H. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th



**Taking it easy**  
**Bill McKee, Sue Boucher, Marie Champy, Spike McCarten.**



**A great looking table**



**What a great time**  
**Dot and Jim Brennam, Loue Rossi, Mike Champy**



**L to R: Bring in the food. Lou and Emma Rossi, Helen and Dutchy Smith.**



**L to R: Warren Boucher, Spike McCartan, Glorie McCarten, Karl and Ingrid Burkhard, Mike Champy.**

**Robert Derickson**  
**3749 Stahlheber Rd.**  
**Hamilton, Ohio 45013**

**Dear Buddie:**

**I hope you are well and happy. I want to thank you on behalf of all the readers of the Thunderbolt for the magnificent job you are doing for the 83rd.**

**I would like to have an article printed in the paper for my company because I would sure like to hear from them and perhaps in the forthcoming reunion. some of them could come and we could renew our acquaintances.**

**God bless you and many thanks.**

**Sincerely,**  
**Vincent Muro,**  
**Company "C" 330th Infantry**



Company "C" 330th Infantry

Dear Buddies:

The Thunderbold is a great magazine and I enjoy reading it and especially look for news from someone from my company. I would like to hear from any buddies who serves with me during my service years.

I am planning to go to the Pines in September, and it sure would be great if all of us could be there and renew our old acquaintances.

Please write to:

Vincent Muro  
139 Wolverine Street  
Staten Island, N.Y. 10306

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DIXIE CHAPTER REPORT

We had a great Christmas party. Haran Martin opened our meeting with a prayer. We had a great dinner. Then a "sing a long" with Ronnie Sullivan leading the group. We were glad to have our two new members. We took up a collection for Arthur Early who had lost his home.

I's Happy to report our sick in and around Winston are better.

Our next meeting will be March 20, 1982, in Burlington, North Carolina. It will be our first meeting in that area. We hope everyone will turn out for it.

Reporter  
Johnnie Ball

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CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE

John T. Piscitelli

Dear Bob:

I appreciate you sending me the obits on our buddies -- on behalf of our buddies -- on behalf of myself and our Philadelphia Chapter we wish to thank you for the good work you are doing as Secretary Treasurer and for the Thunderbolt. It is a tough job and we all appreciate it. Thank you again.

John T. Piscitelli

We have received the following notices of our deceased buddies from Bob Derickson and from other members wives and families.

Major General

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| George W. Trousdale | 453rd A.A.A.     |
| Richard B. Scheck   | "B" 329          |
| Stanley Schwarts    |                  |
| O. Leonard Pedigo   | 329th            |
| Elmer Weemhoff      | "K" & Hqs. 330   |
| Joe Todaro          |                  |
| Emelien Pelletier   | "C" 908          |
| Robert P. Allard    | "M" 329          |
| J. Jess Bowers      | 783rd Ord.       |
| Domenic A. De Santi | DQ's 324th F.A.  |
| Victor S. Ecklund   | HDQ's 324th F.A. |
| Robert Goetz        | "L" 329th        |
| Ed. B. Thomas       | "B" 329th        |
| Don Schwartz        | "G" 331          |
| Edward Zeciski      | "G" 329th        |
| Paul Vitantonio     | "D" 330th        |
| Norman Glaze        |                  |
| George Avevill      | "M" 331          |
| Ira E. Boyer        | "F" 329th        |

So far 17 of our men or more have left this world since our last reunion. May their souls through the Lords mercy always rest in Peace. Amen.

OUR PRAYER:

O God Lord of Life and Death, as we, put our deceased comrades name's in our Thunderbolt obituary column we think of those who have lost loved ones. Stand by them in their loss, support them in their grief, and comfort them in their lonliness. This we ask through Jesus your son our Lord! AMEN.

Dear Bob:

Your assistance is requested in compiling a comprehensive list of Infantrymen who have earned the Third Award of the Combat Infantrymen Badge. The roster of these triple CIB holders will be presented to the Infantry Museum at Fort Benning, Ga.

All Infantrymen who hold the Combat Infantryman Badge with two stars are requested to send their name and grade in which retired, together with a copy of the order for each award to: Colonel Donald A. Seibert, USA Ret. 525 Southwick Drive, Fayetteville, North Carolina, 28303. If orders are not available, please provide the designation of the unit with which serving when each CIB award was earned and the approximate dates in combat. The information will be used to complete a Roll of Honor for the Infantry Museum. Kindly notify anyone you know who holds the CIB with two stars and ask them to send the necessary information.

It would be appreciated if you would publish this letter or the information in the paragraph above in your newsletter. Many thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely,  
Donald A. Seibert  
Colonel USA Ret.

THE EIGHTY THIRD IN TENNESSEE  
By Chaplain W.H. Webster

'Twas in the summer of Forty Three  
They roamed the hills of Tennessee  
On the first maneuvers of the Eighty Third  
That 'bouncing' outfit that kept their word.  
The Blues and the Reds there played at war.  
But knew what they were preparing for.

They played the game and made it real.  
And never 'griped' when they missed a meal.  
Some vowed they would 'go over the hill'.  
But the end of the week found them 'in there' still.  
Those dough-boys sweat and ate the dust  
Kicked up by tanks, which they always cussed.  
Some got too hot, and some 'passed out';  
But then the 'doc' would bring them about.  
And the Chaplains' words of cheer and smiles  
Seems to lighten the load and shorten the miles.

Some days they rode, but most times they walked  
Twenty miles or more, but never squawked.  
Muscles grew hard and faces turned brown  
As they 'picked them up and laid them down':  
Fifty minutes with a full field pack  
Then take a break flat on your back.  
"Alright, GET GOIN' ". The sergeant would yell.  
"On your feet, let's hit the trail".  
Hardly time for a smoke it seemed  
Before that hard boiled sergeant screamed.

"Chow time at last", the private sighed.  
"Another mile and I think I'd have died".

Then settling down into relaxation  
He opened his lunch with great expectation.  
"Aw nertz, the same old cheese and dog".  
He grinned, as he leaned against a log.  
"When I was back in the old hometown  
'Cheese on rye' had a pleasant sound:  
But when this is over and I get a break  
I'm gonna eat nothing but chicken and steak.  
Though the dog and cheese was not so hot.  
Yet, when you're famished they hit the spot.  
And you quench your thirst and think It's fine  
Though the water tasted like iodine.

So on they went day after day,  
Running and "bouncing" into the fray.  
Flanking, withdrawing, "seeing it through".  
At the end of the week came time for play.  
If you were lucky and got away.  
Some washed clothes, wrote mom a letter.  
And looked to see if the chiggers were better:  
Cleaned up equipment, wet from the rains,  
And always some played certain games.  
Some would start a crazy rumor,  
But that was part of army humor.  
"We're going there", We're going here,  
Maneuvers cut short, no water I hear.

So week after week they battled it through  
For there was a job ahead to do.  
In years to come when the war is won,  
And they spin some yarn to a wide-eyed son,  
They'll say as they wink like a wise old bird,  
"I, too, served a hitch with the Eighty Third".

Hello buddies.

Here comes an appeal for help.

As you know it takes a heap of planning to run a reunion,  
along with that it takes a lot of cold cash.

To have a great reunion, we need a successful program  
book to help defray the costs. So, I'm asking all of you to do  
your part in obtaining ads. We try to obtain ads from  
businesses, friends and our own members, anywhere from  
a full page to a booster ad. It might mean a little work, but  
the results could be in a better reunion. The price of the ads  
has not increased. I don't think it's asking too much for  
each member, to send in some type of ad.

Send them in early, as they play an important part in our  
reunion plans.

Enclosed you will find a self addressed envelope to  
Amby Tynan  
121 Sanborn Ave.  
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Make all checks payable to the 83rd Reunion  
Committee.

Sincerely,

Pat DiGiammerino  
Reunion Chairman

**36th ANNUAL REUNION PROGRAM**  
**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1982**

|                     |                    |                         |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 2:30 P.M.           | CHECK IN TIME      | LOWER LOBBY             |
| 5:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M. | HOSPITALITY ROOM   |                         |
| 7:00 P.M.           | DINNER             | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 9:00-10:30 P.M.     | DANCING            | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 10:30 P.M.          | SHOW               | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 10:30 P.M.          | MUSIC              | WEDGEWOOD ROOM          |
|                     | DANCING AFTER SHOW | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 12:00-1:00 A.M.     | LATE SWIM          |                         |

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1982**

|                     |                             |                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:30-8:00 A.M.      | EARLY BREAKFAST FOR GOLFERS |                         |
| 8:00 A.M.           | BREAKFAST                   | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 9:00 A.M.           | ALL HOTEL FACILITIES OPEN   |                         |
| 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. | REGISTRATION                | LOWER LOBBY             |
| 1:00 P.M.           | LUNCH                       | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 3:00-5:00 P.M.      | HOSPITALITY ROOM            |                         |
| 7:00 P.M.           | DINNER                      | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 9:00-10:30 P.M.     | DANCING                     | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 10:30 P.M.          | SHOW                        | PERSIAN ROOM            |
|                     | DANCING AFTER EVENING SHOW  |                         |
| 12:00-1:00 A.M.     | LATE SWIM                   |                         |

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1982**

|                     |   |                         |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 7:30-8:00 A.M.      | EARLY BREAKFAST FOR GOLFERS                       |                         |
| 8:00 A.M.           | BREAKFAST   | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. | REGISTRATION                                      | LOWER LOBBY             |
| 9:30 A.M.           | MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING                            | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 1:00 P.M.           | LUNCH   | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 2:30 P.M.           | GOLF TOURNAMENT                                   |                         |
| 3:00-5:00 P.M.      | HOSPITALITY ROOM                                  |                         |
| 6:30 P.M.           | DINNER  | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 7:45 P.M.           | BOARD BUSES FOR 83RD NIGHT, MONTICELLO RACE TRACK |                         |
| 9:00-10:30 P.M.     | DANCING   | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 11:00 P.M.          | SHOW  | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 12:00-1:00 A.M.     | LATE SWIM   |                         |
|                     | DANCING AFTER EVENING SHOW                        |                         |

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1982**

|                 |                             |                         |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7:30-8:00 A.M.  | EARLY BREAKFAST FOR GOLFERS |                         |
| 8:00 A.M.       | BREAKFAST                   | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 9:30 A.M.       | MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING      | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 1:00 P.M.       | LUNCH                       | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 3:00 P.M.       | MEMORIAL SERVICES           | BALL FIELD              |
| 4:30 P.M.       | MASS                        |                         |
| 6:30 P.M.       | COCKTAIL PARTY              | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 7:45 P.M.       | 83RD BANQUET                | DINING HALL, MAIN LOBBY |
| 11:00 P.M.      | SHOW                        | PERSIAN ROOM            |
| 12:00-1:00 A.M. | LATE SWIM                   |                         |
|                 | DANCING AFTER EVENING SHOW  |                         |



INCOME  
1981 REUNION - PITTSBURGH, PA.

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Advance from Association                 | \$ 500.00           |
| Early Bird Party                         | 885.00              |
| Cash Entry at door to Affairs            | 315.00              |
| Registration Desk                        | 30,147.00           |
| Raffles                                  | 1,530.00            |
| AD Book                                  | 5,627.00            |
| Bolo Ties and Pendants                   | 325.00              |
| Bingo Income                             | 530.00              |
| Dues for one Member                      | 10.00               |
| Cash Return from AD Book Chairman        | 4.50                |
| Donation from Association for Cheese Bar | 1,000.00            |
| Donations from Individuals               | 51.00               |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                      | <b>\$ 40,924.50</b> |

CHECKS PAID OUT

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 101 - Bingo Materials                                 | \$ 60.00            |
| 102 - Deposit for Night at the Races                  | 100.00              |
| 103 - J. Donahue for Dues to Association              | 10.00               |
| 104 - J. Ruprecht for Board Meeting expenses          | 50.00               |
| 105 - Cash - printing, postage, U.P.S. and Misc.      | 173.57              |
| 106 - Bus Deposit for Night at the Races              | 50.00               |
| 107 - Marriott Hotel for Liquor Purchase              | 2,426.13            |
| 108 - Orchestra for Wednesday and Thursday            | 450.00              |
| 109 - Bugler for Memorial Services                    | 30.00               |
| 110 - VOID  |                     |
| 111 - Liquor Store for additional Liquor              | 648.65              |
| 112 - Advance Dues Payment to Association             | 3,000.00            |
| 113 - Orchestra for Friday and Saturday               | 690.00              |
| 114 - Suite Expenses                                  | 135.00              |
| 115 - AD Book Printing                                | 1,582.50            |
| 116 - Convention Bureau Secretaries                   | 193.50              |
| 117 - Marriott Hotel Advance Payment                  | 23,000.00           |
| 118 - Chips and Pretzels for all nights               | 67.92               |
| 119 - Race Track and Bus final payment                | 807.90              |
| 120 - Tickets for all events at Reunion               | 27.56               |
| 121 - Forms from the Printers                         | 46.38               |
| 122 - Refund to Pittsburgh Chapter for pre-paid items | 282.63              |
| 123 - Tips to Hotel Help                              | 75.00               |
| 124 - Trophies for job well done (Hotel)              | 123.39              |
| 125 - Board expenses - Phone, Postage, Printing etc.  | 503.22              |
| 126 - Bingo and Raffles return to Pittsburgh Chapter  | 2,210.00            |
| 127 - Marriott Hotel - Final Payment                  | 131.05              |
| 128 - Balance of Dues to Association                  | 602.00              |
| 129 - Refund of Advance by Association to Pittsburgh  | 500.00              |
| 130 - Profit to Association                           | 2,936.89            |
| Bank Checking Account charges                         | 11.21               |
| <b>TOTAL PAID OUT IN CHECKS</b>                       | <b>\$ 40,924.50</b> |

*Samuel Klippa*

**DEPOSITS**  
**1981 REUNION IN PITTSBURGH**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 11/3/80 - Advance from Association                               | \$ 500.00 |
| 3/13/81 - ADS plus \$11.00 Donations                             | 151.00    |
| 4/9/81 - AD Monies   | 443.00    |
| 5/26/81 - ADS plus \$25.00 Donations                             | 1,498.00  |
| 6/9/81 - AD Monies   | 240.00    |
| 6/29/81 - ADS including \$4.50 return from Ad Book Chairman      | 758.50    |
| 7/13/81 - AD Monies  | 899.00    |
| 8/3/81 - AD Monies   | 1,605.00  |
| 8/11/81 - AD Monies  | 65.00     |
| 8/20/81 - ADS, Raffle, Early Bird Party & Registration           | 11,546.00 |
| 8/20/81 - Early Bird Party and Lamos Donation                    | 307.00    |
| 8/20/81 - Registration, Refund and Raffles                       | 8,773.00  |
| 8/21/81 - Registration, Refund, Raffles and Bolo Ties & Pendants | 6,206.00  |
| 8/21/81 - Registration   | 2,134.00  |
| 8/22/81 - Registration, Raffles, Bolo's and Beer Party           | 1,751.50  |
| 8/22/81 - Registration and Raffles                               | 2,017.50  |
| 9/4/81 - Early Party, Bingo and Association Donation             | 1,680.00  |

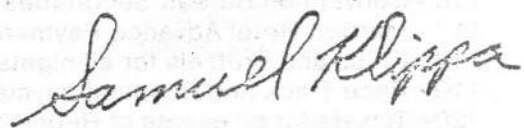
**TOTAL DEPOSITS \$ 40,574.50**

**ACCOUNT ERRORS 350.00**  
**CORRECTED TOTAL \$ 40,924.50**

Three checks were sent to the Association to close out the Account:

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Balance of Dues                                | \$ 602.00                |
| Refund of advance by Association to Pittsburgh | 500.00                   |
| Profit to Association                          | 2,936.89                 |
|  | <b>TOTAL \$ 4,038.89</b> |

Cost of printing and recording of the Business Meetings Minutes will be deducted from the profit after Bob Derickson pays the bill which was very late in being forwarded. The final profit should be just over \$2,600.00.



**36th Annual Reunion of**  
**83rd Infantry Division**  
**So. Fallsburg, N.Y.—Boston Chapter**  
**September 13-14-15, 1982**

PLEASE, circle the size of AD you prefer.

|                    |                    |                       |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>FULL PAGE @</b> | <b>HALF PAGE @</b> | <b>QUARTER PAGE @</b> |
| <b>\$60.00</b>     | <b>\$35.00</b>     | <b>\$18.00</b>        |

**BOOSTER ADS are \$5.00. Make check payable to: 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. and send to:**

**AMBROSE TYNAN**  
**121 SANBORN AVENUE**  
**W. ROXBURY, MASS. 02132**  
**Phone: (617) 327-3588**

*SEND YOUR ADS EARLY, as they play a very important role in our program.*

## ONE DAY IN BRITTANY PART II

At this time "B" Co. was situated on the edge of town of LaBalue, waiting for regimental direction to move. During the lull the men filtered thru to the front of the house to get a glimpse of what lay ahead. Directly across the street was a large white stone house with black shutters, located in back of a pair of elaborate iron gates, and a long brick wall. In fact both sides of the street was lined with brick-walls, a sort of stone hedge-row country. Could this be trouble for us?

A sargeant of the first platoon tapped one of his BAR men and two riflemen to "come along". They ran across the street to the back of the white house. The yard was big and the wall on the right had a large hole in it, made by an artillery shell. With out a word the sargeant crossed the yard and looked thru the hole. He motioned to his men to follow, and leaving two of his men at the hole to cover him, went thru the wall with the BAR man. They were in a barren field about two acres in size that was entirely walled in. They started toward a wooden door that opened into the street, and stopped short as two Germans rose up from behind some dirt piled against the side wall and headed toward the same door. Our sargeant called and the Germans whirled about, training their weapons, a machine gun and a rifle, on the GI's and demanded they surrender. The Sargeant, speaking their language, explained that they were surrounded, and that they must surrender. Each disbelieved the other and continued to argue. The BAR man couldn't believe what was happening and impatiently told the sargeant he was going to shoot. He was told to hold his fire and the argument continued. The BAR Blazed...and missed. The Germans dove behind the manure pile next to the wall, and each time their helmets showed the BAR would put them down with a short burst. About the time the second magazine was emptied the rifleman came running up with a mounted rifle grenade and just as the German machine gunner was coming up again, the grenade went off. It exploded on the wall next to the German and flipped him backward. The three man had their weapons ready for the second German to appear, but instead a white handkerchief supported on a little twig shakely arose from behind the pile. When called he came out holding his wrist. A sliver of steel from the grenade was neatly lodged in his left wrist. Tall and blonde, he was still only a youngster. After knocking his helmet off and checking his pockets he was hastily escorted across the street back to "B" Co. It seemed as if the whole company had collected here, even the mortar men were there. Looking for a medic they passed the Chaplain, who was explaining to the company commander that he found one of our men and a German prisoner sitting under a tree showing each other how to field strip their

guns, while draining three bottles of wine the GI had in his shirt. Eventually a medic was found for the young prisoner and the riflemen started back toward the white house across the street, but they were intercepted by the officers. The officers were interested in knowing if an artillery barrage was necessary before sending the company into the town, and they wanted the BAR man and a couple riflemen to probe a ways into the area. It didn't seem like much of a request so the three took off without hesitation. They hurried across the street to the doorway in the wall, and went directly to the rear wall of the field. Passing the manure pile, where the German was still lying, the BAR man commented that he couldn't explain why he didn't shoot thru the manure to get him. No one offered an answer, but they all knew it was because the German was given one last chance to surrender. They looked thru a hole in the wall, and could see the back yards of a row of apartment houses. In the shadows of some trees there was some movement, and after watching awhile the BAR man slipped thru the wall and cautiously headed toward the trees. He found an over grown bomb shelter. Signalling the riflemen to come over, he positioned himself to cover the entrance. When ready he called quietly down the shelter. Immediately two Frenchmen appeared, one small and wiry, wearing the beret and sweater; one portly, wearing a shirt and suit with no tie. When asked where the Germans were, they pointed in opposite directions then began to argue with each other. Suddenly the little one took the BAR man by the sleeve and led him to where a row of large trees paralleled a wall for about fifty feet, forming a cool shady lane. In line with the trees at the far end, was a little stone garden house, and as they entered the land a figure stepped into the lane from the little building. He held a rifle, but signalled for the BAR man to come to him. The Frenchman vanished. Not wanting to go thru "the surrender act" again the GI opened fire, and stepped in line with the trees. The figure at the far end dove forth trees also, but fell on his weapon and never entirely reached the protection of the trees. As the BAR man crouched behind a tree he spotted some movement in the little stone house and called back for the bazooka team to come up. He directed them to place a round in the garden house. They fumbled interminably with the starting wire, then finally the rocket streaked into the house. The safety pin hadn't been removed so there was no explosion. They were about to fire a second round, when three figures ran out of the shed and fled down the lane in a single file. The BAR man raised his gun, confident one round would drop them all, and squeezed the trigger. The weapon failed to fire because an empty cartridge case was preventing a new round from feeding into the chamber. Quickly removing the case and working the bolt, he raised the gun again just as the runners turned out of sight at the end of the wall. He pursued



as fast as he could, but they were gone. Looking into the little stone shed on the way back he found it was piled for feet high with small packages of dynamite. They picked up the wounded man, and after calling down the driveway that they were coming back, hustled the man to the medics. He had been hit in the lung, and even in that condition, when asked who was going to win the war, he answered "the Germans".

Richard Dickson  
"B" 329th

Dear Bob:

I wrote a little article that you might possibly use to stir up additional interest in the coming reunion at the Pines Hotel. I told Bernie Cove of the hotel that I was going to write this-----

### RECONNAISSANCE OF THE PINES HOTEL

As a former exec. officer of Cn. Co. - 329th inf., it was my duty in WWII, to reconnoiter each advance of our company, and so, like a good soldier, when I read that our Assoc. will be holding its next reunion at the Pines Hotel in the Catskills, my wife and I as a patrol, went to the Pines for four days over the New Years week end, to look over the area.

You all remember how great it was at the Warren, Ohio reunion, to have everybody in one location - well, at the Pines we will have the hotel for ourselves. Not only a hotel for eating and sleeping but a complete set up with indoor and outdoor swimming and tennis, golf ect ect. Dancing and free shows every nite and daytime activities for both sexes. Everything you would want is available.

The FOOD - yes the food in the Catskill Hotels especially in the Pines is enough to make you want to start dieting NOW. You can literally order every item on the menu and the menu is varied enough to give you everything from Jewish Soul food to Italian and Chinese dishes. Our own Thunderbold member Bernie Cove is the maitre d of the dining room. He and I talked about the coming reunion and he is making some exciting plans for all of us.

If you have never been to one of the great hotels like the Pines in the Catskills, you are in for a marvelous and exciting treat. Plan your vacation around this reunion. Lets get each individual company working on their memberships to make this the biggest reunion yet. Cannon Company - 329th Inf. lets get together, the years are going by very fast.

Mort Goldman



Taken in Paris, France - Gilbert Selman on left, the other was in my Co.



Taken at Camp Atterbury - Gilbert Selman - 1st. on right would like to hear from any of these guys.



Taken in Paris, France - 1st on left- Gilbert R. Selman, 2 next to me were in G. Co.



Taken in Paris, France - 1st on right back row: Gilber Selman, Two others I recognize but dont know their name

**REUNION WILL BE IN SOUTH FALLSBURG, N.Y.  
SEPTEMBER 1982. THE DATES ARE: 13, 14, 15.  
START MAKING YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND THE  
36TH REUNION.**

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**BOLO TIES AND NECKLACES**  
we are temporarily out

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**Dues are \$10.00 for 81-82.  
Due now for those who have  
not sent them yet.**

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

**Robert Derickson  
3749 Stahlheber Road  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013**

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## **BULLETIN**

When you move and change your address, **PLEASE**, send me your change of address. It does no good to mail you a Thunderbolt at your old address. **The Post Office WILL NOT forward Third Class Mail.** It will just go to waste. With the cost of printing and postage this is very costly to the Association to have even one go to waste. Send your address change to the Association Office and not to someone else. Thank you all for your cooperation. **Send old and new address.**

Bob

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