



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

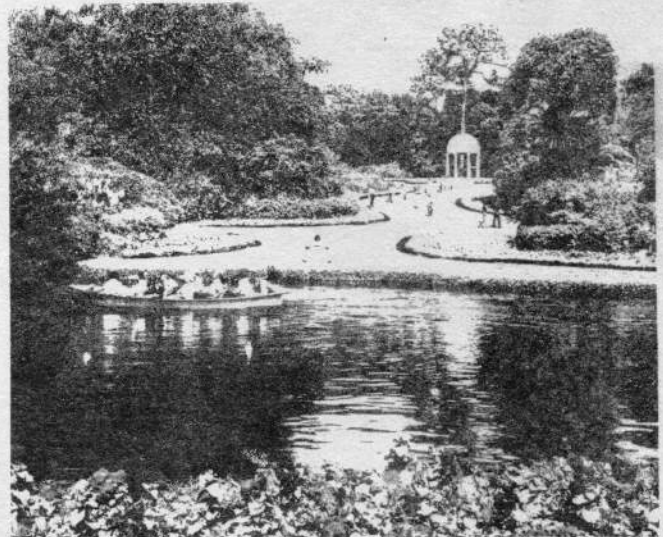
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Spring Issue 1983

West Palm Beach



Family Fun. Southern Style



Florida 37th. Reunion
The 83rd. in '83

THE THUNDERBOLT
Official Publication
83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.

The THUNDERBOLT is written by and for past members of the 83rd Infantry Division World War I and is published at 3749 Stahlheber Road Hamilton, Ohio 45013
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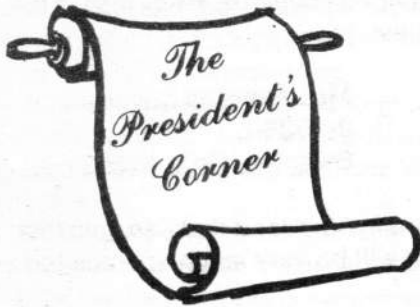
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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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		Michael Caprio..... 1981



Oh, I can't believe it - another issue time has rolled around already and it seems as though I just wrote a letter for the last issue. Okay, here goes:

The Hotel informs us that reservations are rolling in and that's what we in the Florida Chapter were expecting after you saw the superb package we were giving you. Our Chapter ladies are attempting to outdo the men in assembling a program (and confidentially, we fellows have our work cut out for us - God bless those gals.)

I've heard a smattering of comments from up "Nawth" about it being hot down here in August. Gentlemen, it's no worse here than any other northern city at that time of the year. We always have a breeze off the Ocean that you'll really enjoy, and the salt air will do wonders for the sinuses.

We've contacted a few airlines and the consensus is that you can do as well yourselves in group rates by contacting local airline representatives or travel agents since the various areas are served by different airlines. As I've mentioned before, those members not a member of a Chapter, contact the nearest Chapter and I'm sure they'll help you along with their own group. For those of you who are driving, we'll have a local Palm Beach map in the next issue. It is not difficult to find as I-95 is not a great distance from the hotel.

For those of you coming in on Wednesday (or earlier) on't forget the evening at the *musicana* Dinner Theater on

Wednesday night. This is an extra so send in your reservations with \$35.00 for a couple (\$17.50 for single) to: Sylvain Fishman, 501 Coconut Isle, Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33301. We know you will enjoy the dinner and show.

Keep those hotel reservations coming, so you don't forget and wonder at the last minute if you can get a room, remember, your buddy will be there waiting to gab about old times.

On a personal note, I've been trying to get my D-331 buddy, Frank Sharp, into the organization and after 3 years of pressure he finally joined and came to our last chapter meeting. Doggone if he didn't have to have his gall-bladder out right after. It wasn't our company, Frank!

Ralph Gunderson

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

Dear Buddies:

Here we go again. I am just like all of you out there. Just seems like I get one issue over with and it is time to start thinking about the next one.

As many of you know Pearl retired from the University after 23 years of working outside our home and then making sure that the children or myself were never neglected. I sometimes and I know she does wonder how she did all she did. But she did and now it is time for her to enjoy whatever she wants to do, (after she gets her secretarial work done for me). JUST KIDDING PEARL.

In December when the Winter Issue went out and I said we were behind in our membership and would you please send your dues in, we were down about 600 memberships.

When Pearl retired we had cards printed as a reminder and then Pearl addressed them to all of you who had not paid, reminding you of your dues. I am happy to report that quite a few of you sent them in right away. But there are still some who have not sent those dues in yet. PLEASE GO RIGHT AWAY AND SEND US THAT CHECK FOR \$10.00. WE NEED IT.

We have a word that some of the widows are not getting their Thunderbolt. We put a plate in the Widow file as soon as we are notified of a death. If someone will just let us know we don't aim to slight anyone. We hate to get criticized for something that is not our fault.

We have also been told that only a certain click gets anything in the Thunderbolt. Again we say if you write to us and tell us you want a letter or a notice in the Thunderbolt we put it in. This is your magazine. We are here to see that every bit of news that we receive goes in. We can't print it though if you don't write us. We appreciate criticism if it is justified but don't blame us for something that we cannot help. Pearl checks every letter and goes back in the files as far as she can to try and find records of some person. We are keeping in our files now the names of the wife and your phone number so that we can help people out when they call and ask us for something. The Thunderbolt is yours. We just try to make it interesting and up to date with all the news so that you will all want in it.

Remember the REUNION IS COMING UP IN AUGUST. IT WILL BE AT WEST PALM BEACH O AUGUST 18, 19, 20. TRY AND MAKE IT. BUT IF YOU CAN'T MAKE IT, AT LEAST HELP THE FLORIDA CHAPTER OUT BY SENDING IN YOUR AD. GET YOUR NAME IN THE AD BOOK AND LET EVERYONE KNOW YOU WISH YOU WERE THERE. EITHER WAY GET YOUR AD IN. The next issue of the Thunderbolt will have a report on our Board Meeting. Looking forward to a good one.

Hope everyone has a nice spring. The Kentucky Chapter met at Owensboro and started plans for our reunion next year. We will meet in June here in Oxford with Pearl and I as hosts. Any of you out there who would like to attend just contact Pearl or I at 513-863-2199 and we will make reservations for you at the College View Motel. Be glad to have any one of you. **REMEMBER TO GET YOUR \$10.00 dues in.**

Bob

Dear Sir:

I was referred to you by the American Legion, that you might help me. My brother who was killed in the Battle of Bulge in December 1944. P.F.C. Miller Green, "G" 330th, 83rd Division.

Not knowing how, or where he was killed and anything else that a person could tell me.

I know it has been a long time, but never knew how to contact anybody to find out anything.

Enclosed is a stamped envelope. Many thanks for everything. God Bless you.

Mrs. Aloysius Snyder
2-1536-L
Swanton, Ohio 43558

Anybody out there in 83rd land that can help this woman I am sure it will be very much appreciated. Thank you.

Bob

***** COMPANY "D" INFANTRY *****

Hello Buddies:

I suppose that I am trespassing on private property, me being an "H" Company man and writing to "D" Company, but I just felt that in behalf of my buddy and yours, the late Frank McGrogan I had to get a letter off to all you men who were so generous as to take an Ad in the Reunion Ad Book. There are still quite a few names missing, and I am sure that if Frank were here, he would be writing to those of you who haven't responded as yet. Maybe it is because there is so much time before the reunion, but believe me, there isn't any time. The reunion committee needs your help right now. They have a lot of hard work ahead of them and these Booster ads helps lighten the load for them.

As I said before, in behalf of Frank McGrogan I want to thank you for what help you have given. Frank was mighty proud of his Company "D" and I can't say that I blame him, I am equally proud of my Company "H". I feel close to Company "D", because when I first came to the 83rd and was assigned to Company "H", your Company Commander Captain Fritts, was the first Lieutenant that I served under. He was a great Platoon Leader and I am sure that he was a fine Company Commander.

Again, I want to say thanks to all of you who did your part for Frank's sake. Last year when he was so sick, he asked me if I would help carry out the Booster Page for him and I did, this year I did it again in his behalf. Here's hoping to be able to see you all in Florida.

Your Truly
Larry Redmond

Hello Buddies:

Here I am once again, after being held down with two heart attacks and Mary being very ill, although our Doctors

said that we are not allowed to do any traveling, we can't resist visiting with our southern buddies, and we have booked a flight for Friday to fly down to South Carolina to attend a Dixie Chapter meeting.

Back here we aren't allowed to go anywhere, but we made up our minds that it is going to take the Undertaker to keep us from being with our Dixie buddies at least this one time.

We sincerely hope to see you all at the Great Western Motel in Newberry this coming weekend.

I also want to thank and congratulate the Dixie Chapter for their great help in making it possible for us to have a Dixie Chapter page in our Reunion Ad Book again this year. The returns have been very good, and I hope that while I am there in Newberry that I can pick up some.

Mary and I feel mighty proud to be a part of the Dixie Chapter. We have received wonderful hospitality from every member of the Dixie Chapter ever since we attended their first meeting that we were able to attend and sincerely hope that we can be with you for many more years.

Sincerely Yours
Larry Redmond

Hello Buddies:

It must be a sign of old age, but the days seem to slip by so fast, that we hardly get a chance to read our great "THUNDERBOLT" when it is time to get the news ready for the next edition. Yesterday I had a telephone call from our National President, Ralph Gunderson, from Florida and in the course of the conversation he mentioned about his having sent in his news for the "THUNDERBOLT" and when I got off the phone, I picked up mine and checked the deadline date for news and to my surprise it is here already.

Well Fellows, having the opportunity to work with the Ad Book Committee once again, I am more or less abreast of the hard work that is being done by that great Florida Chapter to help make this another memorable Reunion. Although they are more or less a new Chapter in the history of our Great Association, the idea of taking on a Reunion has given them a great incentive and they are working very hard to make us all proud of the Florida Chapter.

Each year we have men that ask the same question, "What can I do for the good of the Association", well gentlemen, there is a lot that you can do. One is to keep paid up on your dues, another is to try to get a former Buddy to join, if you can't talk him into joining, pay his dues and let him learn what a great Association we have by being able to receive a copy of the "THUNDERBOLT" so that he will have the opportunity to read something about a former Buddy that he cared about. And last but not least,

at Reunion time we appeal to each and every one of you to lend a helping hand by taking an Ad in our Reunion Ad Book. To those of you who haven't had the opportunity to work with a Reunion Committee, you don't realize the importance of this book. The more ads that we can get in this book, the easier it makes it for the Reunion Committee to further their plans. Granted we all can't afford the price of a full page ad, but even if we were able to get a thousand Booster ads, that would be an additional five thousand dollars that they would have to work with, so let each and every one of us sit down to-day and write a check for an ad of some sort, that is your way to do your part for the Association. Remember this Association doesn't belong to just the Officers, it is your Association also, so get in there and take an active part in it.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

*** COMPANY "H" 330th INFANTRY ***

Hello Buddies:

Here I am once again to brag about Company "H" 330th. Over the years we have led almost every Unit in the Association with Booster Ads for the Ad Book. This year I sent out as many letters as I have every other year, but somehow, I am being left down by a certain few. Maybe it is because you think that it is too soon to send in an Ad, well let me tell you something, it is never too soon, but before we realize it is too late, so let's get the pens going, I do love to get letters from every one of you, but right now, I am more interested in getting checks, if you can't remember the amount it is only \$5.00, and I am sure that you can afford that. As I said in one letter I wrote, this is only the price of a six pack of Beer, but to the Reunion, it will help buy many six packs that will help make it a bigger and better reunion.

To those of you who were original Company "H" men, I am sure that you will remember Duane Huelskamp, he was a Sergeant that was in the original Cadre. I received a letter the other week telling me that he had recently passed away. I had another surprise the other night, I was in bed when the phone rang and there was a strange voice on there, he thought that I wouldn't remember him when he mentioned part of his name, it was none other than Sgt. Leo Fish, who was another Cadre member. He called me from Minnesota, it was great to hear from him. He said that at one time he had a complete Company Roster, but somehow he lost it. He is like me, still looking for names and addresses, so if you have any, send them to me along with your \$5.00 Booster ad.

Well Buddies, I suppose that I had better get this letter in the mail, because the deadline date is only a couple of days

away. How about starting to plan now to be at the Reunion in Florida, try to make it and see how many of your old Company "H" men there at the reunion, you will recognize. Remember we are all getting older, our days are getting shorter, pretty soon we won't be able to make a reunion and will be sorry that we never did. You can't imagine the thrill it is to attend until you have been there.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

NEWS FLASH

To the best of my knowledge, prior to our going overseas, there were some men transferred from the 63rd Infantry Division to the 83rd Infantry Division.

This is to inform you men that the 63rd Infantry Division has an Association the same as the 83rd Infantry Division has, and this year they will be holding their Annual Reunion at the Hilton Hotel, in Valley Forge, Pa. July 27th to the 31st. For further information contact their National President, Irvin Schlocker, 935 Princeton Ave. Phila., Pa. 19111.

Larry Redmond

The American Ex-Prisoner-of-War Association is seeking all former POW's for membership in our National Association. We have been instrumental in getting the POW Bill made into law, and this legislation has re-opened the door for many veterans who have previously had their claims for Service-connected Disability and/or compensation disallowed. For the location of the Chapter nearest you, please contact: Bill Menninger, 5009 N. La Madera Avenue, El Monte, Ca. 91732.

IS IT A SIN TO BE PATRIOTIC?

Some people call me "Old Glory," others call me "The Star Spangled Banner," but whatever they call me, I'm your Flag - the Flag of the United States of America.

Something's been bothering me and I thought I might talk it over with you because it's about you and me.

I remember sometime ago, people lined up on both sides of the street to watch the Parade; and naturally, I was seen in every Parade proudly waving in the breeze.

When your Daddy saw me coming, he immediately removed his hat, placed it against his left shoulder so that his hand was directly over his heart....Remember?

And you....I remember you standing straight as a soldier. You didn't have a hat but you were giving the right salute. And little sister....not to be outdone, she was saluting the same as you with her right hand over her heart....What's happened? I'm still the same old Flag.

Oh! I have a few more stars since you were a boy and a lot more blood has been shed since those Parades of long ago. But now, I don't feel as proud as I used to. When I come down your street, you stand there with your hands in your pockets. I might get a small glance and then you look away - I see children running about and shouting - they don't seem to know who I am.

I saw a man take his hat off and look around; he quickly put it back on. Is it a sin to be patriotic anymore? Have you forgotten what I stand for and where I've been - Anzio, Guadalcanal, Korea, Vietnam!!! Take a look at the memorial honor rolls of those who never came back and kept this Republic free - one Nation under God. And remember when you salute me, you're actually saluting them.

Well, it won't be long and I'll be coming down your street again. So when you see me - stand straight - place your right hand over your heart - and I'll salute you by waving back. And then, I'll know that you remember.

Samuel Klippa
(I don't have the writers name)

REUNION CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

In our last Florida Chapter get together we had a great showing with most of our members present. We really made good progress for our upcoming 37th Reunion. We have several surprises in store for you and we are very excited about them. We want to make this a memorable occasion and we need all of you to participate.

As I wrote before we are giving you a lot for a little. The price is right for the official three day stay, and the new Hyatt Hotel is going all out to please. Such as complimentary busses to and from the airport, and also transportation to the beaches and shopping. Free parking is available if you drive your own car. The banquet is no extra cost and entertainment costs will be nominal in the registration.

Please send your reservations in as soon as possible so you can stand up and be counted. We also need cooperation with our ad book so help us get in as many ads as possible.

Looking forward to seeing you all and feeling sure you will have a bang-up good time.

**Sam Schwarts "C" 3310th
Reunion Chairman**

Dear Bob:

I'm sending a couple of new members dues. Peter Testa, "D" & "F" 330th, and Lawrence Barbato, "I" 329th.

Barbato and I with our wives have been friends and neighbors for many years. We all get together every so often for a social evening with our wives as hostess's. In January we had Larry and his wife Millie at our home. Over coffee I told Larry about our outfit going to Florida for our annual reunion. Larry replied, "I wish my outfit would do that". I ask him what outfit were you with? He replied, "83rd Infantry Division." I almost fell out of my kitchen chair. As I replied "I" 329th and he said "That's right."

His face came to me that instant that I remember seeing him in the Ardennes. Coincidence. Living a few feet away from each other all these years, and never mentioning our 83rd. Check out your neighbor. He might be a Thunderbolt drinking coffee with you.

**SEE YOU ALL IN FLORIDA
John T. Piscitelli**

P.S. Asking all our chapter members to send in their \$5.00 Booster ad to Lawrence J. Redmond, 132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083.

*** KENTUCKY CHAPTER ***

We have just completed our Spring Meeting at Owenboro, Kentucky where we had 47 persons in attendance. Included were two new members and their wives. They are Leroy Johnson and Ralph Burnett. We're looking forward to having them take an active role in our group. We met at the Executive Inn, where our 1984 Reunion will be held, and found that not only is this a very lovely hotel but their management is going all out to support us.

Our President, Arthur Doggett says that with the program he's planning you'll all enjoy yourselves. He is also planning a surprise.

I'm sure it's not age but some of our group have had some problems. Wilson Day spent a few days in the hospital as did Theodore Ritchie, Jeanette Jones (wife of Owen) is in the hospital now and Ames Miller is being operated on today. Cecil Walters is also having some problems and in talking to Bill Chavanne he informed me his wife Bea isn't too well. We hope and pray for a speedy recovery for all of these folks.

Dates and locations of future meetings have been established. The next will be on June 4th at Oxford, Ohio and will be hosted by Bob and Pearl Derickson. The following meeting will be held on October 22nd at the Roadway Inn at Columbus, Indiana. This is being hosted by Ames and Helen Miller. Get your reservations in to either Bob and Pearl for the June meeting or Ames and Helen Miller if you would like to attend either one of these. We're extending an invitation to all of you to come and meet with us at these meetings.

Manny Goodridge
908th

*** BOSTON CHAPTER ***

The Boston Chapter had been doing very well this year with very good attendance at all our meetings during the winter months.

We have a membership drive going on now and this has been very successful from every state in our area. In 1985 at the Pines in South Fallsberg, New York, the Boston Chapter will be number one!

Hy Goodman was elected the President of the Boston Chapter succeeding Romeo Maynard who has been

holding that office for several terms. Romeo did a splendid job and his wife Livie has also done alot for our chapter. I am sure that they will continue their good work for us.

Romeo Maynard has been very sick. He recently had an operation and is now making a marvelous recovery at his home in Westport, Massachusetts.

In the last issue of the Thunderbolt, Stan Bielen said that Charlie Sihlanich wondered why my wife never goes to the 83rd reunions with me. Well, one of the three young girls is my wife. She was a child bride when I married her. Ha! Ha! Stan, tell Charlie our hair has not turned to Silver yet. I was very glad to hear that Charlie is so active at the Jersey Chapter meeting. Casey Szubski from Cleveland Chapter told me Charlie Sihlanick was a very quiet fellow too.

I will have to call on the Godfather out in Cleveland Chapter to straighten them back to good health. We certainly hope everyone is making a good recovery. Al Uridel said he was out fishing. "Al" I have some good BOSTON FISH STORIES TOO! Hope everyone will be much better when the Cleveland Chapter meets again.

Rumors in Boston say that Joe Macaluso is on a diet. My only answer to that is that Leonard Prelutsky shows he sticks to the diet. Leonard, your buddy John from this area remarried and is living on the North Shore. I will try to find his address for you.

Larry and Fran Arrigo went to Hyannis, Massachusetts for a three day weekend. When they returned home they found 20 inches of snow to shovel before getting into the driveway!

Lucien Eli has been quite ill lately and is now in a nursing home. The Boston Chapter wishes Eli well and we will be up to visit with him.

I forgot to mention in the last issue that we enjoyed chatting with John Huston and his wife from the State of Maine. Boston hopes to see more of you folks in the future.

The grapevine tells us that Virginia Palazzolo was in an automobile accident. Hope everything is OK by now.

Gin DiDiammerino's brother Henry passed away recently after a long illness. Our sympathy goes out to the family.

Our March meeting was today at Fran and Larry Arrigo's home. There was a very large crowd. I had to leave early due to a meeting and memorial mass of the Emerald Society. I am sure that they had a most successful meeting. I stayed to hear how the men were doing on the membership drive. I was very pleased at the report. It was hard work, but so far it has paid off for us in Boston. Thanks to the men and women who did all this work for the Boston Chapter.

Arthur Waples has been doing alot of work trying to get money for the reunion AD book. Arthur is leaving for a Florida vacation tomorrow.

Ray and Flora Bjork have their daughter visiting from Oregon with their lovely granddaughter. It was a quiet home you had Grandpa! Flo is really glad to have June home again on vacation.

As I am writing this report, Nancy is reading about trips to Ireland. I think we will be making a trip there soon--at least I hope so! I am sure we are going somewhere when Nancy starts reading the Travel Section in the Sunday Paper.

Bob Hunnewell won a television set a month ago and has not taken it out of the box! He is planning our trip to Florida by Air. As a Company I 329 Infantry man, he has come a long way. Huh!

Well that is all for now.

Amby Tynan
323rd

BOSTON CHAPTER HAS T-SHIRTS LEFT OVER FROM THE REUNION AT THE PINES. CONTACT A BOSTON CHAPTER MAN IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ONE.

Many Boston Chapter members had a good chance to sit and visit with Bernie and Jeanie Cove from the Pines Hotel.

The Cove's were paying a visit to Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino.

All Bernie and Jeanie requested was a visit to Filene's Basement and they were taken there. Bernie couldn't be pried loose, everytime they started for the exit, they lost Bernie, something else had caught his eye and Jeanie would yell "Bernie" and they would find him among the suit racks.

Then a visit to Quincy Market, for lunch and sightseeing too bad the weather didn't cooperate, but they had a good time anyway.

In the evening some of the member's and wives of the Boston Chapter took them to Anthony's Pier 4 restaurant for a lobster dinner.

Bernie and Jeanie, the time went by so fast, too fast and there was so much more to do and see - next time!

The men are already making plans for the 1985 reunion at the Pines and it is already shaping up.



Jeanie Cove enjoying her New England lobster.



Bernie and Jeanie Cove enjoying home made Spaghetti (La Machine-Bernie)



A Sing-a-Long with Richard Armstrong, at Boston Chapter meeting.



Dinner at Anthony's Pier 4



Enjoying Dinner at Anthony's Pier 4



Pat DiGiammerino, Bernie Cove, Mike Caprio, Fran Arrigo, Vera Caprio, Jeanie Cove and Ginny DiGiammerino.



Fran Arrigo and Bob Hunnewell dancing to Richard Armstrong's music, at Boston Chapter meeting.

A SMALL NOTE FROM BOSTON CHAPTER

Amby Tynan had to leave the meeting early on Sunday and missed a good time. Richard Armstrong had brought his accordian and after the meeting and supper, we had a good old fashioned sing a long.

Talk about luck running in one family. When the monthly drawing was drawn, Pat DiGiammerino's name was drawn, but he refused, because he had brought it, then Ginny's name was drawn, finally the gift was won by Romeo Maynard.

Hy Goodman - Pres.
Boston Chapter

*** TO THE DIXIE CHAPTER: ***

In behalf of Mary and I, we wish to thank the Dixie Chapter for the great Hospitality shown to us this past weekend, when we went down to attend their Chapter Meeting. To the Members of the 83rd Infantry Division Assn., if you want to learn what the word Southern Hospitality means, we suggest you attend a Dixie Chapter Meeting and you will soon find out. We are especially grateful to O.L. Cook who met us at the Airport and returned us back there. Everyone there treated us wonderful and made us feel at home with them.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

*** CLEVELAND CHAPTER ***

We here in Cleveland are all in good health for a change -- nobody is laid up as seems to be the case lately. Ed and Jo Glinka were hospitalized a while back "but always on the ball" Ed, never mentioned a word to me nor anyone else. Your's truly spent 10 days in the hospital -- prostrate problem, but the "Roto Rooter Man" took care of me. I'm fine now, don't have to run to the bath room every 10 minutes like before, what a relief it is. The Cleveland Chapter held our annual meeting February 20th at the Walt Meczka residence, and as is their custom, Walt and Mary did it up "real brown" for us. The food was superb, the members in a good frame of mind, and the booze helped to make it a joyous event.

We have a couple of new names on our slate of Officers for a change; electing a brand new slate is impossible as a lot of our members refuse to get their feet wet. Our governing body for the year 1983 is as follows:

President
Tresurer
Recording Secretary
Sgt. at Arms
*Newly elected

Ted Szymanski*
Walt Meczka
Casey Kowalec
Henry Tresziak*

Reporter for 1983 looks like I have it again as nobody else wants to be bothered.

"Hey!" Just think in about 6 months from now, will be reunion time and as usual, the main topic of our meetings is "Reunion". Casey Syubski is going to Florida in March to check out the deal that we are to get. There seems to be some confusion about what the deal entails, but I suspect that more details will surface in the future Thunderbolts. There seems to be some concern about the heat at that time in Florida, but if you stay indoors, the heat can go to those that enjoy it. We know that it can get hot there at that time of year, as we already had the experience a few years back and survived, only this time the ocean will be available to fish and swim in. Me, I want to do some fishing, nothing relaxes one more than fishing.

Our March meeting will be held at the home of Dom Christopher's sister, and we are in for an Italian treat -- real spahetti and sausage and the trimmings. We don't get to do this too often but the wait is worth it. Dom and his folks really splurge for us and we appreciate the change.

That's it for this issue, so I'll close wishing every Thunderbolt and his family the best of health and happiness for 1983. Make your plans for Florida, plan on having a good time as we never fail to enjoy our Reunions.

STAY NICE AND IF YOU MUST, FIGHT NICE.

God Bless
Al Uridel
"CN" 329th

Dear Bob:

I am sending you my 1983 dues. I really enjoy the Thunderbolt very much. I have been to several Division reunions and was wondering if you could write a few lines about "M" Co. 330th reunion which is held every two (2) years. 1983's will be held in Montgomery Bell State Park near Nashville, Tennessee. It will be held on August 25, 26, and 27, 1983.

Contact Jim Fowler, P.O. Box 5013, Anderson, South Carolina 29623.

Thank you
Elmer Reuter
"M" 330th

**37TH ANNUAL REUNION
AUGUST 18 - 19 - 20 1983
83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOC.**

WEDNESDAY, August 17

6:00 P.M. MUSICANA DINNER THEATER
6:00 P.M. Dinner and Show \$17.50 per person

THURSDAY, August 18

10:00 to 2:00 P.M. REGISTRATION
2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Ice Cream Social and Style Show
(Ladies only)
1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room
6:30 P.M. Dinner and **SURPRISE PROGRAM**
9:00 to 12 Dancing Cash Bar

FRIDAY, August 19

8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. BREAKFAST
10:00 A.M. to 12 noon BUSINESS MEETING
10:00 A.M. Ladies Shopping Tour
1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Hospitality Room
6:30 P.M. Dinner Caribbean Night
9:00 P.M. to Midnight Dancing Cash Bar

SATURDAY, August 20

8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. Breakfast
10:00 A.M. to noon BUSINESS MEETING
2:00 P.M. MEMORIAL SERVICE
4:30 P.M. MASS
6:30 P.M. BANQUET
9:00 P.M. DANCING Cash Bar

SUNDAY, August 21

8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. BREAKFAST

As your Committee has negotiated such a fantastic package deal for you the reservation fee will be moderate.

Rick Fletcher, 66, dies; Tracy artist for 22 years

By Joanne Springman
Sentinel staff writer

WOODSTOCK — The artist of the famous "Dick Tracy" comic strip, Richard E. "Rick" Fletcher of Woodstock, died this morning in Memorial Hospital. He was 66.

"Dick Tracy is a very significant comic strip, running in more than 500 papers daily and Sunday," said Don Michael, editor of the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate. "Obviously, it will take a while to find someone of Rick's calibre to replace him."

Michael, whose company syndicates the strip nationally, said today, "Rick Fletcher was one of the best professionals I ever worked with. He was dedicated to his craft."

Because Fletcher worked ahead, Michael said there are several weeks of advance material ready for publication. In the meantime, Michael and his colleagues will seek a successor to the man who took over drawing the adventures of Dick Tracy from his creator, Chester Gould of Woodstock.

"Rick had done the lettering and the background drawing for me for several years," Gould said today. "When I retired, I recommended that he get first chance at drawing the strip, and I have been very interested in his progress. I was very sad to hear of his death."

Fletcher started his career at age 18 as the one-man art department of *Tri-City Star* in Davenport, Iowa. He had no formal art training but learned his craft by studying art books in the public library of his native Burlington, Iowa.



Rick Fletcher

His career was interrupted by World War II, in which he attained the rank of captain and received the Bronze Star while serving with the U.S. Army in five European campaigns.

After the war, Fletcher joined the advertising art staff of the *Chicago Tribune* and studied comic strip technique under the Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Carey Orr.

From 1953 to 1965, Fletcher drew the well-known historical strip, "The Old Glory Story" for the Tribune Syndicate. Written in collaboration with Athena Robbins, the strip received several awards from national patriotic organizations. Many of the artist's original pages are in museum collections around the country.

Fletcher started working with Gould as his assistant on the Tracy strip in 1961. The assistant artist created Tracy's "two-way wrist television" which debuted in April 1964.

"I worked with Chet for about 15 years. That's why I moved to Woodstock, so we could work closely together. We used to have story conferences every Monday," Fletcher told a *Daily Sentinel* reporter last summer.

"When Chet retired, I took over as artist on Dec. 26, 1977, and the Tribune Syndicate hired Max Collins as the writer. Every week, he sends me his scripts and I draw around them to meet the weekly New York deadline," said Fletcher, who worked in the studio of his Bull Valley home.

"I'm shocked and saddened by the death of my valuable collaborator," said Collins, speaking from his home in Muscatine, Iowa. "Rick's contribution to the Tracy strip is inestimable. He brought his dedication for research and his masterful draftsmanship to a great strip."

"In the six years we've worked together, I could have asked for no finer artist," Collins said.

Fletcher called Woodstock "a great place to live" and last summer created a memento for his adopted home in the form of a special button for the Woodstock Jamboree.

One day, while casually talking of the button as a substitute ticket for the event, Fletcher said, "I visualized an idea on the spot and made a quick sketch then and there."

Ever the artist, Fletcher said, "the secret of good design is simplicity," and he knew his idea would be effective because it was simple.

Thereafter, the design was developed into the official entry button, which now is a memento of the artist as well his ideas.

Fletcher's survivors include his wife of 36 years, Beverly, daughter Kathryn Sue Werrbach of Woodstock, son R. Ross Fletcher of Scottsdale, Ariz., and granddaughter Sara Jane Werrbach of Woodstock.

Dear Buddies:

Here we are into March 1983. Forty-one years after Atterbury, W.W.II. Time is really flying by. Our Philadelphia Chapter is getting prepared for our trip to Florida, and for our Memorial Service's to Honor our deceased buddies. We pretty well ironed out everything possible at all our meetings and socials.

Our annual string band was held in February in Philadelphia Convention Hall. In the evening we all travelled to our main line to the General Wayne Inn in Merion, Pennsylvania. A great time was had by all. Our dinner at the Fran O'Brien was cancelled out at the last minute, their lease ran out and wasn't renewed.

Lou and Lucy Volpi went to a lot of trouble trying to get another place but at such a late notice everyone turned them down, except the General Wayne Inn. God Bless Lou and Lucy and the Mait're D for doing such a great job.

The Gioia's, the Hoolans, The Martin's, The Pugh's and Josephine and myself closed up the place. Plenty of dancing after dinner until 2 a.m.

Thanks to the Belvedere's and to their guests, and to the Volpi's and their guests for honoring our chapter with their presence.

Quite a few did not show up from the outlying areas, due to our 22inch snow storm dig out. It looked like the Battle of the Bulge, with Bull Doziers instead of Tanks.

Again Good Buddies and God Bless all Thunderbolts, wives and children, and all good and bad people.

John Piscitelli - Reporter
"C" 323rd

*** WARREN CHAPTER NEWS ***

On Dec. 12th the lovely wives of Warren Chapter members took the old soldiers out to Cafe 422 for our annual Christmas dinner and cocktail hour before dinner and as always treated us like Generals. We furnished the refreshments after dinner and the usual bull sessions prevailed until it was time to go home, which is about the time that the young people are just starting out for their night on the town.

MEETINGS - Our first meeting of the New Year was held at the home of Millie and Dick Kelly. The girls were in the kitchen at their meeting and the men in the living room; then we all got together for some great food and more booze.

The February meeting was held at the home of Vira and Joe Venuti. Great food and booze. The usual bull sessions seem to center around Social Security and retirement, however, we heard about the switch in reunion headquarters for 1983 and all

agree that the West Palm Beach deal sounds okay. I'm sure the Warren Chapter will be well represented there.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO - George and Louise Bellay. George lost his brother Mike in December and Louise's brother Edward passed away in January.

Angie and Joe Phillipone - Angie's mother passed away in Kentucky late February after a long illness.

SICK CALL - Joe Nuzzi - One of our former chapter members and a squad leader with I Co. 331st Inf. is very ill and still remains in North Side Hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. I'm sure he would appreciate a get well card from his friends. Send cards to his home at 1537 Longfellow Ct. N.E., Warren, Ohio 44483.

CORRESPONDENCE - George and Mary Cooley now living in Corpus Christ, Texas writes that they miss the old gang in Warren. We miss you guys too. Our get togethers just aren't the same without the Cooleys.

John Caparanis was pleasantly surprised a few weeks ago to receive a phone call from one of his friends from B Co. 331st Inf. Neville Brand, a Hollywood actor who played the part of Al Capone in the movies. Brand was a sergeant in Lt. Caparanis' platoon.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

We took a poll at one of our recent meetings and discovered that among other great achievements of our chapter members, we are also a very prolific group. We have 18 members, 16 of which have produced 53 children, 50 grandchildren and two more on the way. Voraceks lead the group with 6 children, followed closely by Caparanis; Kelly's and Johnson's with 5 each. The Titus' are the grandparents deluxe with 14 grandchildren followed by Voraceks with 8, Kellys and Johnsons with 6 each and Chamrocks and Caparanis' with 5 each.

Well all you nice people that's all from Warren for now, so until next time, good health, good luck and happiness to one and all.

Lee Titus
Chapter Reporter

**It is nice
to be important.
But more important
to be nice.**

***** FLORIDA CHAPTER *****

The Florida Chapter met on Jan. 29th 1983 at the Holiday Inn in Weeki Wachee, we had a most interesting and successful meeting, and many of us made a week-end of this meeting. There were 55 in attendance at our meeting, including Bob Taylor and his wife from Michigan, who has now joined the Florida Chapter. Bruce Winchell and his wife from Michigan, Charles and Lu Caven, from Pittsburgh, Jules and Agnes Desgaines from Pittsburgh and Larry Leonardi, from Pittsburgh.

Our National President Ralph Gunderson and our reunion chairman Sam Schwartz gave us an update on our reunion in August. If things go the way we plan, you can expect another great reunion. Please get those ads in to Bill Herhuth, to help us financially put on a successful reunion. As of Jan. 29th we have 51 paid up members and dues are still coming in.

Since our last meeting in November, Millie and I have become proud grandparents of another baby girl, named Kimberly Nicole. As usual we are looking forward to seeing all our good buddies from A-331 st.

Sue and Larry Leonardi were visiting her sister in Daytona Beach, and were on their way to Miami to visit a niece, they stopped for a day at our place, where we had a wonderful day together. They left the next day for Miami and more sightseeing. If you want to see two happy people look at Fritzzy and Sam Schwartz, their son who was in California, has a new and better job in Daytona Beach, Fla. It is now just a short ride to visit their son. That's all the news for now until the next issue.

**Dave Benick - Sec'y - Treas.
Co. A - 331 st**

*** NEW JERSEY CHAPTER ***

Hello Buddies,

There is a touch of spring in the weather here. We had a very mild winter so far, the winter was very wet though, didn't allow us to get out to the golf course very often, but it did keep heating costs down.

Big news here is my son Ken (those of you on the '79 trip to Normandy met him) is getting married May 14 to Mary Hendrie. The families are very busy preparing for a large wedding (250 guests, 2 bands, etc.) We're all excited as he is our first to get married. We wish them a long life of peace and love.

Asking Emil Wehling (I spelled it right this time) for news gets the reply "nothing new". Just thought I'd put that in so you know he is at every meeting of the chapter.

Frank Reichmann spent the winter in Florida on orders from his doctor. The doctor felt the sun would benefit him. The reports we got was they had much rain and cool temperatures. Also Ed and Betty Kirgen went down to escape the Illinois winter. They wrote saying they were enjoying their stay at Ft. Walten Beach.

Our congratulations to Dave and Millie Benick on their becoming grandparents again. Son Bob's wife Nancy gave birth to a girl, Kimberly Nicole. That should get them to come north more often, baby-sitting, and proudly too.

Father McCartin wrote us, he is preaching in Florida for a number of weeks. Has to have pull with the "Big Man" to get the right assignments. Hope he can make it down for the reunion.

Our prayers are for Rose Polcari for a speedy recovery. She is the wife of Bucky our devoted buddy at the VFW in Garfield.

Manny Epstein called to report all is well. He called Larry Redmond also. Larry told him both he and Mary are coming along fine. We're all so happy to hear that, sure is good news. Manny told me Leo and Shirley Schnieder moved into their new home. We want to wish them the best of luck. Hope we can see both of these fine couples at the next reunion.

Fred Klein called to inform me he will make a meeting soon. Fred travels a lot for his job and he loves it. I don't remember Fred being that anxious to leave one foxhole for another during the war. Could it be the digging involved? I'm still trying to get him to travel to one of our reunions.

My last report was responsible for getting two E Co. 330 buddies together, Milton Pruitt from Allentown, Pa. and Joe Skurka from East Brunswick, N.J. I'm happy to know some people read my article. That's a dig for my good buddy John Caparanis.

When making your plans for travel to the reunion, you might look at Peoples Express Airline. They serve many cities in the north into West Palm Beach at a considerable savings.

That's it folks, wishing you all well.

Stan Bielen

***** HISTORIAN'S CORNER *****

Dear Buddies:

Thank you for your confidence in me by re-electing me your Historian.

The personal letter sent to my mother was from the 69th Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. I found it going through some old papers and pass it on.

It is self-explanatory and I hope you'll get as big a kick out of it, as if it were sent to your parents from where ever you trained.

If they only knew what we were getting into--the great accommodations, wonderful food, etc, etc, and the personal attention we received from our officers and non coms. (Did you ever dig a deep hole to bury a pebble, -- were they all sadist's).

The other letter is also self-explanatory. Do you remember its coming soon after we became free and human again?

The start of our great 83rd Organization--where have all the years gone?!!!

The last is a copy of my final pay check from Uncle Sam. Do you think they were trying to tell me something?

I would like to write a report for the Thunderbolt on our meeting with the Russians in April of 1945 at the Elbe River.

However, I will need all the written assistance you can give me from those at the Truman Bridge, to the meeting with the Russians and those released G.I. prisoners at that time. I may be biting off more than I can chew. It will be quite a project and will take time and work.

The idea started when Lou Volpi sent me the address in Leningrad of the lead Russian tank Commander who met us, or better you. I was in Calbe and met them there.

I have been corresponding with this "the" then young officer (in 1945 we were all young) from the 6th Elite Guards Division. To say the least his letters and pictures have been more than interesting--more about this in a future report.

So buddies--it is up to you if you'd like a complete case I can make it/report.

Think it over and search your memories (good or bad) and send pictures too, then all your individual stories in print. It was your war!

It will be 40 years ago in 1985!!!

WE WERE THE BEST
William Kent O'Connell
83rd M.P.

P.S. Aside to Amby Tynan--I got your tip, "Up The Irish!!!"

Tuesday, June 22, 1943
Camp Shelby, Mississippi

Mrs. Kathryn O'Connell
3620 168th St.
Flushing, New York

Dear Mrs. O'Connell:

Your son has been assigned to the second platoon which is under my direction as platoon leader. For the past several weeks we have been working together and getting acquainted through a program which is planned to develop and strengthen him in order to protect himself and produce his best efforts.

Offtime program is given over to clean recreational activities and we have a day room for reading and games and service club for other activities.

I want to assure you that he is being properly fed, well housed and physical health cared for. I hope to know him better during our association, but I know that cheerful letters and cards are always welcome and enjoyed by him as mail call is our most popular pastime group.

With best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours

Frank E. Trippensee, 2nd Lt.
Company C, 272nd Infantry
Platoon Leader, 2nd Platoon

To all members of the 83rd Division:

I know that many times since you left the 83rd, you have wondered where Tom, Dick or Hubert were. Well, we have waited long enough-- let me tell you what we have done.

A group of eleven former Thunderbolts decided to find out if other members were interested. We mailed out 3000 questionnaires covering many questions such as - Association? Yes or

No, Dues, Reunion (place and date), etc. From these we found 1000 were interested and we decided to go ahead.

This letter is going out to approximately 33,000 men who were on our records.

LET'S FORM A DIVISION ASSOCIATION!

If we do we can review the old friendships, find out where others are, have a reunion and fight the familiar battles again. There are so many things we COULD DO.

-- HERE IT IS --

As a result of the summary of what 1000 of us answered it was decided to:

- 1 Form an association with annual dues of \$4.00 (This may be too much but, if so, it can be reduced at the yearly meeting after an operating fund is created).
2. Publish a monthly newspaper.
3. Have an annual reunion --
 - a. Place: Cleveland, Ohio, for 1947
 - b. Time: Friday and Saturday, August 15 and 16
4. Matters to be discussed and voted on at reunion --
 - a. Adoption of bylaws and constitution
 - b. Annual election of officers
 - c. Speakers on Veterans' matters, national subjects of importance
 - d. Program for 1948 for Division Association
 - e. Any other subjects to be brought before the meeting
5. Have a helluva good time together again.

The Infantry Journal has kindly offered to assist us with organization details, printing, compiling mailing lists and the monthly newspaper which should be off the press either in March or April with initial copy.

If you know of any former member of our Division who has not received a copy of this letter, have him request same from 83rd Division Association, c/o Infantry Journal, 1115 17th Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Division Histories -- There are approximately

1100 extra copies of the Division History, "Thunderbolt Across Europe", on hand at the Infantry Journal. The price is \$ 0.75 which will help pay for the printing and mailing of these letters.

Just one thing more and then we'll sign off. Let's make this the best damn division association in being -- anything else would not be fitting tribute to the finest division the Army has ever known.

Necessary forms are enclosed for your membership application. Best regards to you and yours. SEE YOU IN CLEVELAND IN AUGUST!! Headquarters and registration desk will be at the Hotel Carter. Several hundred hotel room have already been reserved. Wire the hotel for reservations.

For the committee,

C. B. FERENBAUGH
Brigadier General, USA
Military District of Washington

FINANCE



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UNITED STATES ARMY
FINANCE OFFICER

255

***** DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS *****

Our first quarter meeting of the Dixie Chapter was held at the Newberry Inn here in Newberry, S.C. on Friday and Saturday, March 11th and 12th. We were well pleased with the attendance at this meeting having 58 attending the banquet on Saturday night. About 20 came in on Friday which was an honor to me for having such a good turn-out on Friday. Everyone seemed to have a real good time. We were well represented by the different states, some attending from Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, and North Carolina.

One of the highlights of our meeting was having Larry and Mary Redmond fly into Columbia to attend our meeting. They were met at the Columbia Airport and came to Newberry for our meeting. Larry and Mary both looked real good, and it was a pleasure to have them with us. As you know Larry and Mary have both been very ill, and had to miss several reunions and meetings.

Our president, Lacy Satterfield, entered the hospital in N.C. on Wednesday, and was unable to make our meeting. Some others that had made reservations had to cancel out because of illness.

There was sadness connected with our meeting. Carolyn Pirkle, wife of Jessie Pirkle fell breaking her hip and arm. Talked with Jessie today and she was undergoing surgery at the time I was talking with him. She is in Clayton General Hospital, Riverdale, Ga. 30274 - Room 417. Their home address is Rt 1, Box 14, Rex, Ga. 30273.

Also received word that one of Dixie Chapter members, H.T. McClain, Jr. died in St. Petersburg, Fla. on January 23rd. He was from Knoxville, Tenn. but spent winters in Florida.

Am enclosing a few snapshots taken at the Dixie Christmas party in Gatlinburg, Tenn. in December.

Also enclosed is a picture taken of my former C.O. of Co. F, 330th., Tom Broadfoot. The one picture is Roger Finch and Tom taken overseas during the war. The other is a recent picture taken of Tom since his retirement, he lives in Cranston, Rhode Island.

The other picture was taken during the war in Belgium. gnt it might be interesting to let you people see what some of us looked like at that time. Johnny Braz from Honolulu, Hawaii, Roy Marsh from Salt Lake City, Utah, and myself. Quite a change, huh!

Our next meeting of the Dixie Chapter will be held in Burlington, N.C. June 4th.

O.L. Cook, Jr.
Reporter

Picture of 329th Reg. Hqs. men at picnic at home of Roger Lemaster last June.



Kneeling left to right:

Frank Fauver, Noble Johnson, Henry Bezeski and Danny Newell.

Standing left to right:

Wilber Cowgill, Kenny Miller, Joe Tabor, John Raikos, Virgil Thobe, Orville Ellis, and Roger Lemaster.

329th REG. HQS. COL picnic will be held this year on June 26th at Virgil Thobe's home. All 329th Hqs. men invited. Virgil Thobe, 8202 St. Rt. 119, Maria Stein, Ohio 45860. Phone: 419-925-4661



Roger Finch & Tom Broadfoot



John Braz, Roy Marsh, O.L. Cook



Tom Broadfoot



Haran Martin, Billie Glenn, Lacy Satterfield



Florine and Frank Jackson



Minnie and Johnny Wells



J.L. & Joyce Baker

***** WEST VIRGINIA NEWS *****

Our meeting was held March 13th. at McCoy (Best Western Motor Lodge) Ripley, W.Va. After partaking of their fine food, everyone adjourned to their spacious hospitality room.

Meeting was called to order by President Eugene Persinger. There was a good turnout, with twelve member's present and eight of their ladies.

With us were two guest from the Pittsburgh Chapter, Sam Klippa and Mr. Descain. Thanks fellows for coming, always glad to have you. Also Mr. Walter Kirchner, who we haven't seen for some time was present.

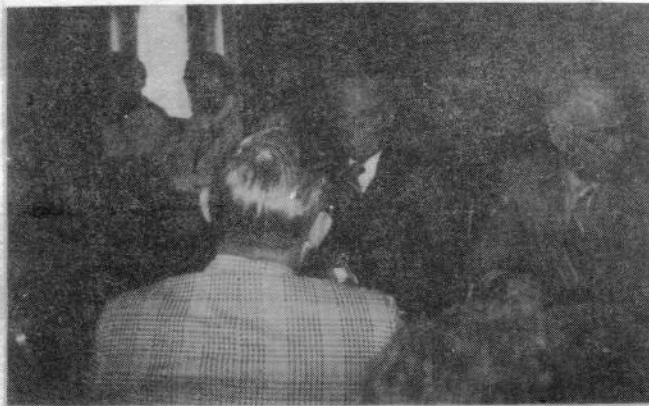
A thank you note was read by John Shepherd from The State Vets. Home for all the goodies that was donated by our Chapter.

Sam enlightened us on some "DO'S" and "DONT'S" for our Chapter Discussion of our Summer Activities and a report by Larry Hoskins on a future meeting in Wheeling are yet to be finalized.

Happy Birthday to Larry Hoskins March 13th.

Door prizes were won by Mrs. Tressie Hunt and Mr. John Sweiker. Enclosed photos by Helen Persinger.

Thats all for now
John Shepherd
(Reporter)



*** PUBLICITY DIRECTOR'S REPORT ***

First of all, I wish to congratulate my friend, Lee Titus, on getting drafted as scribe, again. I remember back in '54 and '55 when he did a great job for the #1 Warren Chapter and later as Publicity Director, he and the Warren Chapter was always making sure everyone stayed on the ball. So, I'm sorry, Lee, my writing in the fall issue of the "Thunderbolt" sounded as if I was demoting Col. Macaluso. The message I was trying to express, was my appreciation to both men for assuming command of the "troops" (they have been doing this for years on their own) which in my opinion, is very good, as it makes the service more military.

As for who was leading each contingent of "troops", I didn't have time to notice as I was up front marching with the Philadelphia Chapter Color and Honor Guard and was kept busy taking orders from my own commander, Al Belvedere. The Memorial Service is an important part of the reunion and has been well organized by the many chapters over the years. My thanks go to the men and their wives who come from all over the country to participate and attend the Memorial Service, in which we, the living, have the privilege of honoring and paying tribute to our own, the deceased members of the 83rd.

As for the publicity, notices were sent out in January to the following military organizations and the UPI; the VFW, DAV, American Legion, Army Times, Retired Officers, Purple Heart, Jewish War Veterans, TROA, AUSA News, The Army, and Reserve Officers Assn. As I stated before, these notices are sent in and printed at the discretion of the editors. They appear once and only once, so you members have to check the reunion notices every month from March on, to catch the notice of the reunion. The editors of these magazines get many notices of reunions and therefore can only print them once. We are most grateful for printing them and its a free service.

If any members belong to other organizations and

would like to have a notice listed in their magazine, just send me the name and address of who to send it to or give it to me in Florida, and I'll be glad to see that its published. Speaking of Florida, it looks like the Florida Chapter has lined up a great reunion for us, so I hope we give them our support and have a great turn-out.

Jim Prentice

Hamilton, Kansas 66853
4 January, 1983

Mr. Robert Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Dear Mr. Derickson:

Enclosed you will find my application for membership in the 83rd Infantry Division Association along with a check for \$10 to cover dues for 1983.

I joined the 83rd in late October, 1945 while the Division was still in Bavaria. I was a 2nd Lt. at the time and was assigned to Service Company of the 331st Inf. which was in the little town of Birnbach. Col. Bob York had the regiment and Lt. Col. Henry Neilson was the Ex O. Eniar D'Jernes, then a 1st Lt. was the Regtl. MTO and my boss.

When the 83rd moved to Austria I was transferred to Hqs. Co. 1st Bn in Enns as Bn MTO. Parkman Tyner was Bn Adjutant and CO of Hqs Co, Major Scott was the Bn CO and the communications officer, who also was my roommate, was Dick Coulter. My first contact with the 83rd came while I was a member of OCS class #7 in Fontainebleau, France; Charlie Denbrock was my platoon's bird dog.

Some of the swell fellows who drove vehicles and worked in the Motor Pool in Enns were: "Pete" Schultz from Larnard, KS, Pete was a transfer from one of the armored divisions with whom I'd soldiered at Ft. Knox, Gilman Parker from Anna, Ill.; Paul Watson from Muncy, Pa.; William Klook, Ronco, Pa.; Ed Hayes Jr. Tamaqua, Pa.; Charlie Duncan, Atlanta, Ga.; and AIDhooghe, Parsons KS, who was D Co's Motor Sgt. There were quite a few more of course, but 37 - 38 years dulls the memory a little.

The 83rd was deactivated while a lot of us were stateside on R & R and when we returned to Austria (it wasn't all that easy to get away from USFA)

several of us ended up in the 5th Inf. Regt. Lt. Col. Neilson had the 3rd Bn at Camp (Lager) Glasenbach, I was his MTO, Don Call was the S-2, Jimmy Sparano (83rd via the 99th) was the SSO, Capt "Pat" Patterson had L Co, and Capt Nels (Mick) Mikkelsen was the DP Officer (S-5). The summer of '46 in and around Salzburg was G O O O D duty in spite of the best efforts of Hollywood Harry.

I finished my military service at Ft. Knox. "Red Dog" D'Jernes had somehow wangled a job as Rations Officer on the Hqs staff of the 3rd Armd Div and when I came back from Europe the two of us conned his boss, the G-4, into giving me a job as Red Dog's assistant.

No one in the 83rd ever called me Bob; Barney or Mort were the nicknames I usually answered to. It would sure be great to hear from any or all of those swell people again. My address is Route #1, Hamilton, Kansas 66853 and my phone number is 1-316-678-3443.

Sincerely

Robert M. Ross

Robert M. Ross
Route #1
Hamilton, KS 66853

P.O. Box 177
Fairfax Station, Va 22039
10 March 1983

83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.,
c/o Mr. Robert Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Dear Sir:

Can you assist me in locating a Bernard Schopp, who during World War II was a member of the MP Platoon, 83rd Infantry Division? The reason for this request is as follows: In July 1977 I met a tourist from the village of Hovelhof, which is near Paderborn, Germany. Since my division (the 30th Ind. Div.) passed just north of there in April 1945, we spent some time discussing the events of WW II in that area. A few days ago, I received a letter from this gentleman with a copy of a note enclosed which is quoted below:

April 7, 1945

"To whom it may concern:

In the town of Hovelhof (sic) there exists a serious condition. The Russians from Stalag have looted all the homes and have threatened to burn the town tonight. I am stationed at a Russian T.B. camp and have spent three or four hours here this afternoon. I have taken weapons, bayonets and knives from them. This condition should be attended to immediately."

**/s/ Pvt. Bernard Schopp
MP Platoon, APO 83**

In his letter, my German acquaintance went on to relate that this note was taken to Paderborn by a villager on a bicycle (and presumably delivered to an element of the 83rd Division) whereupon reinforcements were promptly dispatched and Hovelhof was saved from destruction. The writer of the letter further states (a direct translation) that "The town of Hovelhof would very much like to thank Bernard Schopp in the event that he is still alive. If you could help us find B. Schopp, we would be very grateful."

Yesterday I called the Army's Military Personnel Center. A person in that agency informed me that if I had Schopp's service number, the Retired Record Branch located at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana might be able to give me his last known address. Without that, it would be impossible to trace him. I thereupon obtained your address from another contact, hence this letter to you.

If you could provide information on Mr. Schopp's present address, or, if this is not known, his service number from records of the division, it would be very much appreciated. (I also wrote to Army Times asking that they run an item in their "Locator File" requesting that Schopp contact me.)

Sincerely,

THOMPSON L. RANEY
Colonel, USA (Retired)

P.S. from Bob

Can anyone help this man? I have searched my records and I can find nothing for him.

THE MAN WITH THE MUSKET

Soldiers pass on from this age of renow
This anti-hill commotion and strife,
Pass by where the marbles and bronzes look down
with their fast frozenges of life.
On out to the nameless who lie neath the gloom
of pitying cypress and pine;
Your man is the man of the sword and the plume
But the man of the musket is mine.

I know him! By all that is noble, I knew
This commonplace here/name
I've camped with him, marched on with him,
fought with him too,
In the swirl of the fierce battle flame!
Laughed with him, cried with him, taken a part
of his canteen and blanket, and known that the
throb of this chivalrous prarie boy's heart
was an answering stroke of my own.

I knew him, I tell you! And also I knew when he fell on
the battle-swept ridge, That the poor battered body
that lay there in blue was only a plank in the
bridge over which some should pass to fame
That shall shine while the high starts shall shine!!!
Your hero is known by an echoing name.
But the man with the musket is mine.

I knew him! All through him the good and the bad
Ran together and equally free;
But I judge as I trust Christ will judge the brave lad,
For death made him noble to me!
In the cyclone of war, in the battle's eclipse
Life shook out its lingering sands,
And he died with the names that he loved on his lips,
His musket still grasped in his hand, Up close to the
flag my soldier went down
In the silent front of the line
You may take for your heros the men of renown
But the man of the musket is mine.

Written by H.S. Taylor
Century Magazine, July 1886

This was sent in by George Settle of Perkiomenville,
Pa.

*** CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE ***

Dear Buddies:

Since our last issue of our Thunderbolt, our following buddies have gone on to their Reward. God has greeted these men with open arms. May he give to each of their families and all of their friends the peace of understanding and enfold all with his love. We pray to the Lord to keep them with him always. We pray that their souls and all the souls of our faithful departed comrades, families and friends will rest in peace, through the Mercy of our Lord! Amen.

Karl Schmittel Serv. 908th F.A. Stow, Ohio,
wife Katherine from John
Leroy McManaway, HDQs. 3rd BN. 329th, Mauldin. S.C.
wife Marva, from John
Henry Giersz, No unit, Do not know, from John

I received notice of Henry Giersz passing away. No unit or return address. Again please sent Unit # and whether illness or death.

These next three came to the office from Sam Klippa. George Fedorko, Hdq. 908th, Belle Vernon, Pa. Kelso Fisher, "B" 308th Engineer, Reinolds, Pennsylvania Lawrence Kunzelman, "H" 331st reported to Sam by Suess, Lawrence passed away Dec. 29, 1982.

The following death notices came to the office and was too late to get to John for his report.

Jack F. Farrell, Reg. Hq. 330th, passed away Nov. 6, 1982 in Cincinnati, Ohio, was buried in Spring Grove Cemetery. This came to us from Carlos E. Morris.

Bedford Foster, Hq. 330, passed away July 11, 1982 in Fort Pierce, Florida. This came to us from his wife Carol Foster.

Roland E. Eaton, "I" 331st, of Lancaster, Ohio passed away on January 27, 1983. This word came to us from his wife Mrs. Roland Eaton.

Harold Cox of "A" 308th. We have no address for this man. Word came to us from George Settle.

Carlos Morris sent us word of the death of Capt. Frederick B. Cook, Company Commander of HQ. 330th.

We had word from quite a few of our men of the sudden death by accident of one our active men Frank Mamgum, "A" 908th F.A. of Modesto, California.

Bill Conley, (RED Eye) S. Sgt. of "C" 329th Boston, Mass.

passed away October, 1982. This word came to us from Vito Palazzolo.

David M. Lutz, "D" 329th, of Springfield, Illinois, passed away very suddenly on February 21, 1983 while on a hunting trip. This came to us from his wife Mrs. David Lutz.

William T. Oliver "F" 331st., of Chicago, Illinois. Received this word from his family.

Henry Sheehan, MEDICS 329th of Spindale, North Carolina. This word received from his wife.

H.T. McClain passed away January 23, 1983 of a heart attack. "I" 330th. This came to us from Ralph Gunderson and from the Dixie Chapter.

Storm swamps area, kills 3 hunters

Frank Mamgum was on of them

The windy winter storm that smashed its way through Central and Northern California Saturday apparently killed three Stanislaus County duck hunters on Modesto Reservoir.

It also dropped more than two inches of rain on Stockton to flood hundreds of streets and intersections and overtax city storm drain pumps. Vehicles were stalled at many locations.

More heavy rain, possibly more than on Saturday, is forecast for the Stockton area today.

Stanislaus County sheriff's deputies said the three duck hunters drowned because their boat capsized in the wind. A fourth hunting partner, Donald Miller, 59, managed to swim ashore. He is in stable condition in a Modesto hospital. All of the hunters were from Modesto, but their names were not

Our illness list contains:

Meadows Minich in Hospital for By-Pass.

Casey Kowalec in Coronary Unit.

Dick Riddle in V.A. in Augusta, Georgia for Tests. We pray for all of them for a Speedy Recovery.

Our good friend Eleanor Uridel, wife of Al, "CN" 329th, also in a coronary unit. Hope to see them all in West Palm Beach, God willing in August.

BUDDIES IN NEED

Carlos E. Morris, P.O. Box 1007, DeLeon Springs, Florida, 32028HDQS 330th, and "L" 330th, needs help for a claim for the V.A. Anyone who served with him would you PLEASE CONTACT HIM.

Also Robert Walker, Sr., 2247 5th Avenue, Council Bluffs, Iowa, 51501, "D" 330th, needs help for a claim, from any buddy that served with him in the Hurtgen Forest.

That's what the Thunderbolt stands for to help our Buddies and to keep the old Soldiers going strong. Amen to that.

Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd F.A.

Dear Buddies:

Received a call that Virginia Pallazola was involved in a very serious auto accident, involving a car coming from the other lane and hitting her car head on as she tried to swerve away from it.

Our prayers to her for a speedy recovery and to Vito to help her to recover.

John

*** NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER ***

Well, March 10, 1983 is upon us again and we must have the news in for the Thunderbolt.

The New England Chapter had their yearly Christmas Party on Dec. 4, 1982 at the beautiful Marriott Inn in Providence, Rhode Island and it was a great success. It was a weekend affair, Saturday to Sunday noon. We had fifteen members and their wives in attendance. Our Hospitality Room was a big hit,

with plenty of food and liquid refreshment and again, the New England Chapter would like to say "Thanks" to Jim and Dot Brennan for setting up this yearly event. Just great!

The couples who attended were Nick and Mary Francullo, Emma and Lou Rossi, Helen and Dutchy Smith from Lynn, Mass., Spike and Gloria McCartin from Lowell, Jim and Georgia Emanouil and Charles and A. Helligan from Chelmsford, Bill and Betty Davis from Newburyport, Harry and Inez Benedetti from Springfield, Dot and Jim Brennan from Warwick, Warren and Sue Boucher from Westerly, R.I., Ann and Al Tartaglia from Johnston, Marie and Mike Champey and Nina and Mike Petitti from Connecticut and Ingrid and Karl Burkhard of Carmel, New York. We also have a new member who attended his first Christmas Party as well as it being his first time with us and we showed him a good time. He is Joseph Lichacz and his wife Helen of Taunton, Mass. Welcome Joe and Helen - we hope to see you at all our gatherings in the future. We missed seeing the DelPadres, McKees, Capt. Jack Masters, the Petruccis, and all of our members of the New England Chapter who were not in attendance. We know how hard it is to travel at that time of the year because of the weather. When we arrived on Saturday the weather was great, but by the time Sunday morning rolled around we had about 3 inches of snow. Boy, it was slippery going home, but we all took our time and all arrived safe. Thank God! This is why we say about New England weather-"If you don't like it wait a minute, it shall change."

We were sorry to hear about Joe Petrucci losing his brother Frank on December 9, 1982. The New England Chapter members extend their sympathy.

John Donahue, our staunch 83rd New England Chapter member is coming along, but its very slowly. He dropped me a line to say that his uncle 92 passed away in January. Very sorry John.

Hey you 83rdrs in Pa. What the hell kind of a ground hog to you have out there? He did not see his shadow which is a good sign, but we got more snow and cold then we want. He should have stayed in his hole.

Jim and Dot Brennan have their daughter, Bernadette and her dog Dusty home for three months while her husband Mike is in special training for a new plane. He will be flying a C131. They will be stationed at Maguire Air Force Base in New Jersey and he will be flying to various parts of Europe. They are also busy with the plans for Christine's wedding in September.

Well, this is all the news I have for now. Until the next writing, God Bless!

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



What were we talking about?



Having a ball Christmas Party



Bill and Betty Davis



Sue and Dot taking a break



Boy does this look good



Father McCartin, Mary Francullo



Mike and Nina Petitti

*** 232rd FA ***

Boy, is this year going fast. Nancy and I are making plans for a vacation trip. We are talking about going back to Ireland again, however, it is still in the talking stage.

We surprised Lois and Bill Shaner by going to Altoona, Pennsylvania for their 40th anniversary. You should have seen the look on their faces coming into the Irish American Hall -- it was well worth driving the 1000 miles to attend this wonderful event. Their daughters, Sandy and Sharon, and son, Gerry, left nothing out in this celebration. One of the famous singers was Donald St. John. Many of the 323rdrs remember him back in Camp Atterbury, and he has not changed a bit since then. Talking with 83rdrs from this area and we all wish Bill and Lois all the best for another 40 years.

While I was in Altoona, Bill and Lois told me that they had taken a trip to Atlantic City and cleaned it out of money! I am sure that is what they said.

I had a nice letter from Kelly Wallace of Union Fork, Virginia. Kelly was asking for everyone and also sent a check toward the memorial page in the reunion book. I hope you Headquarters men will also send me a check toward the memorial page. Last year alot did not send anything and I made up the difference. So, get your donations out today!!

My wife, Nancy, was talking to George Polite's wife Ivette on the telephone last night. George had not been feeling well, but at this time he is doing much better. I will be going up to visit him this month.

Leslie Taylor tells me that he is going to retire in June. He sure must have made his million dollars! Les will spend most of his time playing golf and maybe a little tennis. Good Luck to you Leslie.

I telephoned Jim "Buck" Taylor, but he was not home. Margaret said that he had to go back to the office. His wife and I had quite a chat and she told me that "Buck" is doing very well.

Dallas Williams wrote me awhile back. Dallas and Jack Knight get together once in awhile to talk over old times. I bet they really can tell some good stories!!

I have heard from Maury Candido and Tony Piantedosi of Charlie Battery and they are doing well. I have not heard much from others.

Tom Houlette wrote me a nice letter. Tom, I would like to see Bruce Deem, Erwin Erhardt and John Centrullo meet along with you out in Ohio. You fellows are not too far from each other. So why not give it a try -- maybe at a baseball game!

Dave and Nancy Nellies have been very quiet out in Mentor -- also Americo George. It must be the last

few years showing -- Huh!

At this writing, I read in the Boston Globe that the wife of Victor Bravman passed away suddenly. Condolences go to Victor and his family.

Well, Gang I have to get this in the mail. Send me a couple of dollars for the Headquarters Memorial Page.

Amby Tynan
33 FABN



Bil & Lois Shaner, daughter Sandy



A few of the grandchildren



Lois & Bill Shaner Hq. 323

Dear Buddies:

The past three months, since the last deadline, have certainly sped by for me because there has been so much happening here at our house. Sickness has been the big problem. For the first time in some forty years of marriage, my wife has had to be Hospitalized for Surgery. It was a hectic time in our lives, but all has turned out for the better and she is recovering very well.

The weather this Winter has been so beautiful. Except for a few days of cold and snow, we have been having better weather than some of our Southern States. It's good for us old people that don't like to shovel snow anymore.

Before I forget, a correction is necessary. There was a misprint in the last Thunderbolt. Somebody left out a figure. "D" COMPANY OF THE 331ST. HAD 24 MEMBERS AT THE REUNION IN THE CATSKILLS, not 4 as was stated. I'm sorry Mr. Titus, to have to disappoint you. I told "Mac" how many we had at the Reunion and we have a group photo with 23 of us in it. One member went home early and he is the only one missing. I'm proud of "D" Company because over the years, nobody has broken our records in attendance and I'm sure we will do it again at West Palm Beach. We're working on it. Guess you'll just have to try harder if you want to take our place as "NUMBER ONE."

At the Reunion in 1982, many of our members asked me if I was planning any trips to Europe in the near future because they were interested. In the last Issue of T'Bolt, I mentioned my plan to be in Luxembourg in September. This is when C.E.B.A. will be dedicating the Monument to the American G.I. My plan was to go there by ship, but since then I have learned that the cost would be over four thousand dollars. That is absolutely out of the question and it's back to the Plane if I can make proper arrangements for myself to be cared for.

To date just eight people are interested and I'll be getting the information out to them as soon as possible. Drop me a line if you are interested to go along.

Hope all of you are making plans early to be at the West Palm Beach Reunion in August. Reservations are coming in fast I am told and you may be left out of the main Hotel. This is absolutely the best price we ever had for a Reunion and should get a lot of our members interested. Pittsburgh is already making plans to go as a group by air or by rail. We are seriously thinking about going by rail because most of us have traveled that way since the War. It should be scenic and very interesting.

In the Pittsburgh Chapter: Doris Campbell, the

wife of Wilbur Campbell of "D" Company 331, was hospitalized for surgery on her ear. She is recovering at home and doing quite well. Ted Lozowski has missed many meetings in the past year because of illness and we wish him the very best and want him to return soon.

George Fedorko of Hq. 908 F.A. passed away but no details are available. He lived nearby, but never was a member in our Chapter. Charles Altomari reported that Kelso Fisher of "B" 308 Engineers passed away recently. No details were available in his case either. Al Suess reported that Lawrence Kunzelman of "H" 331 passed away on the 29th of December, 1982.

Good News! Marlene Beth Navish, the daughter of Charles Navish (deceased) of "I" 329 was wed to Patrick Joseph O'Leary at St. Colman Church in Turtle Creek recently. She was given in marriage by her brother Dennis Navish. Her sister Susan Navish was the maid of honor. We want to wish her every success in her marriage. Good luck to both of them.

Navish-O'Leary



Mrs. O'Leary

My good friend Larry Leonardi is in Florida the past couple of months to get some of that sunshine

that hasn't been there. He would have received more up here. He will be doing the Pittsburgh article from there and we are hoping he will get some photo's in for your viewing. Chuck Caven is also in Florida, along with our Secretary Steve Blasko who lives there in the Winter time. Steve will be back to his duties next month.

In case you get to read this before our Spring Dance at the Alpine Club in Monesson on May 7th, why don't you join us for a great time. There will be good food and plenty of booze for all. It's one of our better affairs and well worth attending.

This weekend, I'll be going to Ripley, WV to attend the West Virginia Chapter meeting. They are planning a meeting for June in Wheeling and we are hoping this one will draw all those in Northern West Virginia into the fold. They are planning to get Warren, Cleveland and Kentucky to join them and make this a sort of Mini-Reunion. If any others are in the area, join us in the fun.

Our membership has dropped recently for some reason and I believe the members just aren't writing to their Buddies as in the past. Let's get those pens out and get back "On The Ball" with your correspondence. Tell your Buddies to get those Dues in to the Secretary and keep the 83rd climbing. It's one of the very best in the Nation and one you can all be proud of it. Don't let us down.

I can't find all the notes I was saving for this article, so I'll just stop right here for now. Best of luck, health and happiness to all of you. God Bless you all.

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

Sir:

Since I got out of the army December 9, 1945, I have not heard from anybody since then. When I put my ad in the D.A.V. Magazine, I got more letters than I ever thought I would from all over the U.S.A. You know how I felt when I got them. After being shelled and all the other fire in the Hurtgen Forest in Germany for 5 days and 5 nights I got hit. I was B.A.R. man at the time. Went back by ambulance then by train from Belgium to Paris. They flew us from there to England. Got back to Company on February or 1st of March. Crossed the Rhine on up to Magdeburg and across the Elbe when it was ended. Hope you made it O.K. I know you was all there someplace but I haven't heard from anybody that was with me in France, Luxembourg and the Forest. I saw some of them get killed and wounded. When I got back to my Company there was only our rdadio man and my 1st. Lt. there that I knew and they were hit to. Well getting back to our business, here I am

sending you \$10.00 for to join you guys and the "Thunderbolt". A man named Romeo C. Maynard wrote to me and told me about you. I didn't know there was such a thing. I am a life member of the D.A.V. and belong to the V.F.W. Some other guys that wrote to me told me about it to. If it is like they say I will love to get it. Some time ago I had a heart attack that stopped me cold. Three months ago I had another one but I still have 50% of my heart keeping me going. You can bet this old dog face ain't about to give up. I can't go anyplace by myself but I can still walk and write letters. I am getting tired now and will have to quit writing.

You take care and sign my up. I will answer all letters I get.

Sincerely
Robert J. Walker, Sr.
2747 5th. Avenue
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501

P.S. If I had to do it all over again I would have been right there.

Word has just been received here in the office from Manny Goodridge that Theodore Ritchie, "K" 331 st. of Paris, Kentucky was operated on for Lung Cancer last week. He came through the operation okay and is expecting to go home to recuperate. Best wishes Ritchie. Let him hear from you fellows.

DEATHS

Cecil Roberts, Eastlake, Ohio A.T. 329th passed away August 17, 1982. Word from his brother.

Lewis Henry, Tygh Valley, Oregon, "A" 329th passed away March 19, 1983. Word from his family.

Duane Huelskamp, St. Louis, Mo. "H" 330th passed away January 6, 1983. Word from his wife to Larry Redmond.

Hi Bob:

Sure good to beat your deadline with room to spare. Hope this isn't too much material but I just felt obligated to all.

I admire you for your good job and try to keep "COL" Doggett in line.

Warren Rangnow

REBIRTH OF 783RD CONTINUE

This is geeting to be quite a story as each of our new found buddy's begins to rekindle their friendships. I'm going to let them speak for themselves.

Que Boyett - lumber business, now run by son in law. Que's been retired 20 yrs., two heart attacks and open surgery. Ok now with four grandchildren. "I'm looking foward to the day when we can all be together."

Ted Leash (Not Leach) - doing ok in Trenton, N.J. glad to hear about us and "I'll try to make a reunion".

Frank Szalontay - nice long letter and Frank will be seen shortly, another golfer. He and Percy Mohon have talked by phone and Frank also wrote to Gene Raynolds.

Gene Reynolds - called me twice and was so glad to get all the info. on the fellows. He is coping with throat cancer and contacted John Forster.

John Forster - after a scare at Christmas & hospital stay John is coming along again, stout of heart and strong of mind. I have talked to wife Dot and its sure good to hear the encouragement in her voice. John was so grateful to hear from so many of you.

Bill Appleby - my next door neighbor, doing fine. We live one mile apart and have only talked by phone, that's because he's only in Philly one night a week but we have both had time to plant John Forster's Christmas tree seeds.

Percy Mohon, Labbe and Boyett - have all been in touch and I'm sure by now they have all met again for the first time. Naturally these three boys from the rainy south are looking forward to Fla.

"Mac" McMillan - was really surprised to hear from Boyett and they also are hoping to get to Fla. in 83.

Herman Hackstock - reports in, in good shape, cutting firewood, hoping to see the new guys this year.

Glenn Vining (drop the two N's) - remembers Gene Reynolds spending at that time in the barracks because they couldn't find big enough shoes. They are now both in Col. and will be getting in touch.

Gene Bond - enjoying his retirement and trying to forget his N.Y. Pines golf showing.

Herschel Weaver - still smiling and sure to show at a future reunion. Anyone who gets to Wash. D.C. look him up, he's right across the river.

Paul Bryers says, - "the four days of the reunion passed all too quickly and I enjoyed your wife." I don't understand. Paul and I were on the golf course every day and then he was bushed!

Tom Reilly - says, "thanks for the great correspondence" and I know some of you have since heard from Tom. I'm sure we'll be seeing Tom even if its back at the Pines.

Marcel Amrhein - got a letter and photo, "I'm still the same fellow, just a little older. Believe it or not Joe Stubber and I got together and what a time we had.

Lt. Gilman - finally ha, a nice long letter. Ivan is still a very busy V.P.I. He must be as he watched the last shuttle launching from that sector. His wife Patty also landed in Lebanon the same day that the Marines did for the birth of their second grandchild, on Ivans birthday! To top that, their first grandson was also born in the middle of a war on grandmoms birthday. Some story! Ivan is looking forward to Doggetts Kentucky and the Pines. "By then I will have helped greatly to pay for your Soc. Sec." How do you like this guy?

Joe Stubber - is worked up about being found and hopes to get to Fla. and "would never miss Doggett's reunion. He was naturally shocked to find Armheim living just 16 miles away. How sweet it is.

Bob Burns - all settled in new resident at Port Huron, Mich. Working part-time with funeral director. Bob always was the nice quiet type but I never thought he would bury us.

*** PITTSBURGH CHAPTER ***

"Col" Arthur Doggett (My right hand but I am left handed) - writes EVERYONE and has really been working on the 84 reunion. He and Milly are extending the Fla. reunion with a week cruise. Dog, will need it!

Ed Perko (zip 54493) - another good letter and photo. Ed had a general store and feed business for 27 yrs. "Made a few bucks" and now lives on a farm. by your photo you fellows are all bigger and older. How about that! Did you notice that Carl?

Carl Fredericks - likewise wrote Ed Perko. They are only 20 miles apart and will be getting together soon. Carl and Alyce hope to make all reunions.

Aubrey Wilcox - grateful for all the material and is looking forward to the reunions.

Lloyd Grayson - Lloyd has been the champion of the re-birth of the "783rd togetherness for 1982". He has called no less than twelve of the fellows at least once and he has called me at least four times. He also had printed two photo's 8 by 10 of the 783rd coming on to Omaha. He sent me six copies and in turn I have sent them on to you who were in them. Lloyd and Gilman have found they are only 150 miles apart and plan a get together. Lloyd has a bad case of emphysema that has confined him physically but his heart has gone out to everyone else. He and I both hoping he can make it to old Dog's Kentucky reunion.

My P.S. I am thrilled beyond words to hear how many of you have contacted one another. Lets take the time to keep it up.

Rags Rangnow

Dear Mr. Derickson:

I am sorry I didn't get to send the money sooner. My husband Elias J. Hatem hasn't been feeling to well. I just got him home just the week before Christmas. So if you would be kind enough to let his friends know he got their Christmas Cards. I did not get to send any cards at all.

He could never make the reunion.

Thank you
Mrs. Hatem

Elias J. Hatem, 908th F.A. 70 Dey Street, Apt. 306, Patterson, New Jersey 07503. Send Elisa another card men. Sure he would enjoy hearing from you again.

This will not be a very informative Pittsburgh news report because I have not attended the last two meetings. Sue and I have been enjoying our stay here in Flagler Beach, Florida the past couple of month escaping the colder climas at home. Our days have been full of warm weather activity and also a lot of leisure non-activity. My plan was to come here and get back into shape. To exercise, jog, take long hikes on the beach and eat much less was supposed to do the trick. It was great for the first few weeks and I really tried. Unfortunately, the food intake slowly out distanced the exercise and I got nowhere fast. Soon we'll be heading north again and I'll still be in this same old body.

It was a pleasure to attend the Florida Chapter meeting held in Weeki Wachee on the week end of January 29. It was nice to be made welcome by old friends and also by some new ones whom I didn't know prior to this meeting. The Pittsburgh Chapter was also represented by guests. Charlie Caven and Jules Desgain with their lovely wives Lu and Agnes. The Cavens are temporary Floridians, living near Stuart these winter months. The Desgains were vacationing for a week or so to visit relatives, see Epcot and also made special arrangements to attend the Florida meeting.

Was unexpectedly delighted to see "A" Co. buddy Dick Ammon and wife Laverne. Didn't realize they are spending the winter away from their Indiana home. And of course, getting together with Association V.P. Dave Benick and wife Millie was like reunion time all over again.

The meeting was conducted by Chapter Pres. Bill Herhuth who graciously welcomed and introduced each of the out of state guests. National Pres. Ralph Gunderson reported excellent progress so far and Dave Benick also said that they are working hard to get the best possible financial advantages from the Hyat Hotel.

Everyone is very enthusiastic. However, it was stressed that we do need help from all of us to purchase or obtain ads for the program book. So please, you who read this, loosen up your check books and send in an ad if you can. It's for a good cause, and don't forget it's tax deductible.

All in all, there were about forty-four attending. To name just a few more: Executive Board member Bob Taylor and Bruce Winchell with their wives. I didn't know they had migrated from Michigan.

Later in the evening some of us got together to shoot the bull and lift a few. It was enjoyable to hear the stories related by 2nd Batallion Co. Granville Sharpe and Bill Nickel of Co. F-329. Caven, Desgain and I were laughing so hard, we nearly dropped

our drinks.

Walter Marshall hand-crafted a beautiful clock which he donated. It was raffled off and I wish I had the winning ticket. I'm submitting a picture of the lucky winners and hope I'll be forgiven for misplacing the names for the picture.

Don't like to end on a sad note but regret to report the passing of Lawrence Kunzelman, H Co. 331st on Dec. 29, 1982. A Pittsburgher, but he was not a member of the Pgh. Chapter.

Also, our condolences to Salvatore Scicolone whose mother passed away in December.

'Til next time, keep well.

Larry Leonardi
Co. A - 331

Note: 3 pictures enclosed for publication.



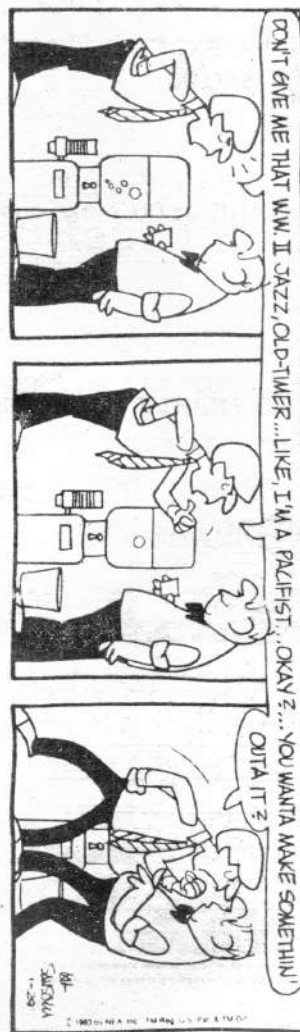
Dave and Millie Benick at Florida Chapter dinner.



The lucky winner of hand-crafted clock made by Walter Marshall.



L to R: Jules Desgain, Chuck Caven and Dick Ammon.



The Born Loser



37th Annual Reunion of 83rd Infantry Division
West Palm Beach, Florida - Florida Chapter
August 18-19-20, 1983

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83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOC.
37th ANNUAL REUNION
AUGUST 18-21, 1983

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HPB-23

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Robert Derickson
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