



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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It's Back to **Kentucky in 1984**



The 83rd
In
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August 9 - 10 - 11

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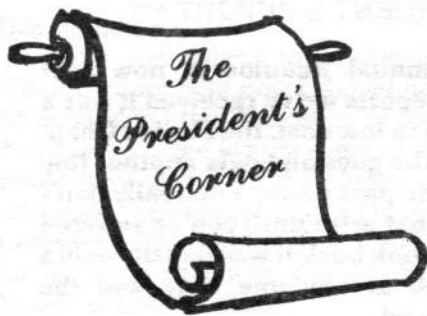
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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan 1947	Charles Abdinoor 1959	Casey Szubski 1970
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Raymond J. Voracek 1958	PatDiGiammerino 1969	Samuel Klippa 1980
		Michael Caprio 1981
		Ralph Gunderson 1982



I am sure as those who attended the 83rd reunion in Fla. found the reunion to be of good taste. The Hotel and the service was very good. I am sure those who attended had a very nice time.

We here in The Kentucky Chapter are getting things in order for the 84 reunion in Owensboro, Ky. Aug. 9th, 10th 11th. I have a excellent bunch of officers for the coming year and they are not afraid of work. We are not going to try and out shine any previous reunions, we simply want you to come and enjoy what we have planned for you and your friends. We are not in the business of competition. I feel you will enjoy the heartland of this country for a reunion and most of us were in training in this general area of Camp Atterbury, Ind. and Camp Breckenridge, Ky. Both camps are not a great distance from the reunion site.

The Executive Inn is located on the banks of the Ohio river and we will be on Wed. nite for early arrivals taking a cruise on the boat at the Inn that is owned by the Inn. We will have more information on this activity in future Thunderbolt's.

I feel honored to have been elected President of the 83rd Association for the year 83-84 and I will do my very best to serve you to the best of my ability. Was one of the first man to come to Atterbury with the 83rd and all the way to Passau. I know this was one of the best unit in WW #2. Have found more men the past year that has never heard of the reunions or about the Association. I still think we can find them and they can enjoy the fellowship we have each year at our reunions. If each of us could just find one man think of what the numbers would be. Give it a try. Hope all of you have a pleasant fall season. We will be planning all winter for the coming 84 reunion.

Take the time to write one of your buddies and tell him about the coming reunion I am sure most of them were in Camp Breckenridge, Ky. We plan at the reunion to visit the old Camp. Not much left there but we can see where we trained and talk about some of the sites and think back about 40 years. Make your reservations early and we feel you will enjoy the reunion in Old Kentucky.

SeeY'll.

Your National President
Arthur Doggett

*** SECRETARY TREASURER REPORT ***

We have just returned from another fine reunion. Pearl and I enjoy them more and more each time. Maybe because in raising our family of two sons and four daughters it kept us busy and we could not always afford all the things we would have liked to do. Now when all of us have reached the age where our children have other interests (which is good) we look forward to August and the reunion with all the friends we have met and the comrades we were with in our younger days. Our big wish is that all of you would be able to attend the reunion. No words of mine can describe that joy and pleasure of meeting each one of you. No matter which chapter puts on the reunion it is a lot of work, but the reward is always there when you see the happiness as we greet each other on the first day.

On the second day when the members who are there meet together to conduct all the business and we realize that now in this great organization of ours that we can talk all our problems out in a sensible way and have no fighting.

Then comes the third day when that impressive Memorial Service to all our friends who have gone on before us is held. No one goes away with a dry eye. We thank God for the privilege of having known the one who are gone and for having the friendship of those who are here. Some of you say you can't attend because it is too sad. Yes, it is sad, but it is also a great privilege and it is the only way we can truly say, "Thank you Buddies. It was great to know you and serve with you". What a wonderful feeling to live here in this country where that can be done.

Then that night we meet in our "best 'bib and tucker" for the banquet. When the officers and their wives march in to the banquet table and you our friends and buddies stand and clap for us. We are proud to serve you and we only hope that none of us ever lets you down. **A FINE REUNION FLORIDA.** Another chapter we have to put in our book of memories. Thanks to all Florida Chapter members.

Won't the rest of you join us at our next reunion? Remember it will again take us back in time. Owensboro, Kentucky near Camp Breckenridge, Morgantown, Sturgis. You wives have to remember those "wonderful rooms" you had at one of these places. Come to Owensboro. Compare your room at the Executive Inn with your room back at that time. We want to tell all of you who were not at the reunion that we closed out the year with 1327 paid-up members. Not bad, but if all of you buddies out there would just send in your \$10.00 dues we would sure be way above that next year when we close out the year at Owensboro. Let's all work hard. By working hard and pulling together we won the war with that determination. Let's see what we can do about our active membership. Pearl and I are both busy. Pearl worked for a week and a half for the University at registration. Then we had all the membership cards to get out for those who had paid-up but did not attend the reunion, plus all those who have been good enough to send in since then. THANKS TO ALL OF YOU PAID-UP PEOPLE. Come on the rest of you. Think of the postage we will save if we don't have to send individual reminders.

\$10.00 WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU FOR THE YEAR. Let's go over 1300 before Christmas. That would be a wonderful Christmas present for the 83rd.

Happy holidays to all of you. Wish I could greet each one by hand and say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Since we can't, Pearl and I thank you for all your kindness and hope all of you are as happy as we two are.

Bob
3rd BN. HQ. 329th

Dear Bob & Pearl,

Enclosed is my report as past president for the next Thunderbolt. From the letters we received and the thank-you's on Sunday the 21st of August we must have had a fine Reunion. It's sort of like a dream to me as I was almost in a trance by the end. I certainly wish R.C. and Doggett the best for next year.

Thanks for your lovely letter. We really appreciated the help you gave us at the Reunion and throughout the year.

Still have a few bills to settle including the hotel and court steno among others. Haven't received the transcript as yet but guess that's normal, last one in.

Several of my "D" boys came down here afterwards and then I was able to have my Reunion. We're looking forward to Owensboro as I'm sure there will be a big turnout. I'm trying to talk some of these boys into joining the Ky. Chapter. Maybe we'll be at the Oct. meeting. No promises though. Just a possible at the present time.

Will close and best of luck to you.

As ever
Ralph

*** PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT ***

Whew! The 37th. Annual Reunion is now past history but from all reports we've received it was a resounding success. At a low cost, the Florida Chapter was able to give the guys and gals another fine Reunion, just as in the past years. You really don't know the problems that arise until you've suffered through it, but as we look back it was usually only a small group affected at any one time and the problems were resolved.

I personally wish to thank your 1st. and 2nd. Vice Presidents, Sam Schwartz and Dave Benick respectively, for the tremendous job they did. Without their help in the planning and carrying out of those plans the Reunion would not have been the success it was. Also my deep gratitude to those members of the Florida Chapter who unselfishly gave of their time at the Reunion in performing the myriad of duties necessary to a successful operation. Many thanks to those of the Chapter as well as those buddies from D Co. 331st. who donated items for our raffles and door prizes. Since I am limited for space in the THUNDERBOLT it is impossible to list all of their names, but they know who they are and have done this because of their admiration and respect for our organization.

To our Ladies - What can I say to express my gratitude - My deepest thanks for your devotion to the organization your husbands' hold so dear. You help make the Reunions as great as they are, so please never let us down.

My thanks to all of you who attended and to those who didn't, we'll all get together in '84 at the Owensboro Reunion for another great one.

Best of health and luck for the coming year.

Ralph Gunderson
Past President

Dear Bob:

Would you by some chance have the address and Phone number of Captain Francis Oliver, Co. "E" and 2nd Lt. Robert Welch also of Co. "E" 331st. We were all captured (30) March 2, 1945 across the Rhine at Duseldorf, Germany.

Walter T. Mott
"E" 331st
P.O. Box 7593
Tampa, Florida 33673

Phone: 813-237-4523

Can anyone help this man out?

Dear Buddies:

I find it very difficult to be writing this article for the T'Bolt because right now I should have been in Luxembourg awaiting the Dedication of the Monument to the American G.I., the biggest event of all in that Country. It would have also been the biggest event I would have attended to represent the 83rd. On Sunday, the day of the Ceremonies, the only thing I'll be able to do is say a Prayer for all those attending, and on my part, just a lot of brooding. Enough said.

Summer has been a very bad one, the heat has done a real job on most of us. The farmers are suffering, our lawns have gone to pot, the gardens haven't done too well and all in all it's been a miserable summer. Seems that all our seasons have done some sort of turn-around.

Good gosh! Another Reunion has just gone by. Seems though it was an extension of the one in the Catskills. Before we know it, the one in Owensboro will be upon us. It's just unbelievable how the time is flying by.

The Florida Reunion, in my opinion, was a huge success. It surpassed the expectations of most of us with approximately 550 people in attendance. I don't think that the Hotel people expected so many to attend. To Ralph Gunderson, Sam Schwartz, Dave Benick and the rest of those hard working Florida Chapter men and their wives, Thank You for a job well done. You are to be congratulated for your efforts and the success of another great 83rd Reunion. Now you have a much better idea of how to operate the next one. RIGHT!

As most of you know, I drove to the Reunion. Had a problem with the car on the way down, went to a certain Garage recommended by an employee of the Hotel, had only part of the problem corrected because they didn't have the time to work on my car. Next day I went to another Garage on the advice of the same person, just to get the Toe-in set so the car would steer properly and got hit with a Bill for \$143.00 and it should have cost about \$15.00. I learned a lesson there and hope that this paragraph will teach you a lesson also. When you are out of State, they got you. My problem still wasn't corrected, and on the way home, I couldn't stand it anymore, went to a Garage in Beckley, WV and for \$48.00, they cured my problem. I spent \$300.00 for something that should have just cost \$48.00. OH MY!

All that aside now. I'm making plans for Kentucky next year. REMEMBER! It is going to be a week early, August 9, 10 and 11. The Pittsburgh Chapter is now making plans for a Bus and all are setting up their Vacation plans for that one. If Arthur Doggett is the kind of 83rder. I think he is, you're really going to enjoy this one. He looks like a man of means and great influence to me. Don't you go and disappoint me now, Arthur.

Charlie Altomari sends a Special Thank You to Emil DiUbaldo for the gift he sent him. Charlie is planning to be with us next year in Owensboro if all goes well.

We are all very happy in the Pittsburgh Chapter, about getting Larry Leonardi elected to the Executive Board. I'm sure that he will serve well during his five year term because he is more than just qualified. He is devoted to the 83rd. and will do a job to satisfy everyone. Congratulations!

Congratulations are in order for "D" 331 on having more members than any other Unit at the Reunion again. We had seventeen (17) members there. I spelled it out this time so there wouldn't be a misprint as last year. I'm proud of "D" Company because we had more members attend than any other Unit for more years than anyone else. This year should have to be even greater, because I know of a couple more members that will be writing to their Buddies to tell them about the fun they have been missing. Letters are the best means of advertising this 83rd., so why don't some of you start by writing to your Company members and maybe one of these days you can show us up. You will also be doing your share to help the Association build up its membership.

Those of you that attended the Reunion in Florida, know that I am on the 83rd. Committee for the selection of future sites for Reunions when nobody wants to be involved. On the way down to Florida, Gene Costanzo, John Ruprecht and I stopped at Hilton Head Island for the weekend to look that area over. It's a perfect place for a future Reunion, especially for those of you that just want to relax. Another place I had in mind was Seven Springs here in PA and I do believe that the Pittsburgh Chapter may put in for that one soon. This place would be similar to the Catskills. We still have to go out there and look the place over, get some ideas on prices, entertainment etc.

Our ranks are being depleted. The list of deceased read at the Reunion was a long one this year. The names are only of those we hear about. There are many we will never know about because we have no communication with them or Buddies who know them. If you hear of an 83rd. Buddy who passes away, whether he is a member of the Association or not, let the National Secretary, or John Piscitelli know about it so that we can remember them in our Prayers at the next Reunion. It would help also if you would send along the Obituary from the News Paper. I learned at the Reunion that Walter Cooper of "H" 330 passed away on July 2, 1983. Heart failure was the cause of death. Leonard Starnes of Ft. Wayne Indiana passed away in June, cause unknown. He was in the Infantry, Unit unknown. William E. Austin of "L" 330 died on the 22nd. of July, 1983. He was a local 83rder but didn't belong to the Pittsburgh Chapter.

I don't think its too early to wish all of you "A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR". You'll be reading this in November while you are in the midst of your planning for the Holiday Season.

Remember to make your plans to be in Owensboro next August. Now is the best time because those last minute deals hardly ever work out too good. If you haven't been at the Reunion, pay your Dues now. God Bless all of you. May all of you enjoy the very best of good luck, health and happiness until we meet again.

Sincerely
Samuel Klippa
"D" 331st. Inf.

***** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR *****

Hello Buddies:

Here we are having just completed another very nice Reunion. It is too early to make too many comments about it, because not having had the opportunity to attend, I haven't been able to talk to too many men who were in attendance and able to give me a full idea of what took place.

From what I have learned so far, the boys of the Florida Chapter are to be complimented on a good job, well done. According to the Reunion Ad Book, their program was very well done. As we all know, we are getting older each year and it makes it harder and harder to plan the type of Reunions that we were used to. Many of our Men and their Wives have reached that point in life where they are unable to attend all of the social activities that they once were able to attend, which means that our programs have to be revised a little to coincide with it.

As we mingle through the crowd, we see many faces missing each year that we are used to seeing, many of our men have become physically handicapped and are unable to attend, and many of them have passed on to the great Beyond.

There are many of us who were active and never missed a Reunion but all of a sudden we have started missing them, not because we want to, but because we are unable to go and enjoy the pleasures that there are to a Reunion. To those of you who have never attended, please try to make at least one and meet those Buddies that you haven't seen for so many years. You will never appreciate what the Reunion means until you have attended at least one of them.

As you all know, the next Reunion will be in Owensboro, Kentucky, start planning now to make this Reunion, I am sure that the boys from Kentucky will make you mighty proud that you did attend. There is no greater word in our Dictionary than "Hospitality", and to me a Northerner, I have found no greater word than "Southern Hospitality", we from the North have a lot to learn when it comes to showing "Hospitality", so make at least one trip South and learn what it is.

Having been an Officer in this Association for many years, I want to thank each and every one of you for the support that you have given the Association in the past and made it the Great Association that it is. I now appeal to you once again to do your part in trying to keep it the great Association that it has been for so many years by giving your support to our slate of Officers and especially to our Secretary-Treasurer, he has the roughest job in the Association, trying to keep track of our paid up members, and publishing our great "THUNDERBOLT" we are in dire need of your support financially, so lets get the dues off today, remember it is only \$10.00 per year and be sure to keep us informed of any changes of address, because it is sent 3rd class

mail and doesn't get forwarded, so you not only miss your copy of our publication, but you automatically are dropped from our mailing roster.

Again, in behalf of all of us, remember, this is your Association and the greatness of it depends on you its members. Also, don't be afraid to write so that your Buddies can learn that you are still alive and active in the Association. We badly need names and addresses so send them along. There are still many men who are not on our current roster and you can help put them there.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

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

Hello Buddies:

Well another year has passed and another fine Reunion is over with. From the reports that I have received, the boys from the Florida Chapter should be congratulated for a good job well done. To those of you who have never served on a Reunion Committee, you can't begin to appreciate the hard work that it entails. Setting up the Program and planning it so that everyone can be fully satisfied is a big job. Along with that comes the setting up the Ad Book, this entails a great deal of work. Thanks to you men, the ad book this year was a great success.

I am going to call upon the members of Company "H" 330th to lend a hand again this year in making it a successful year. We need the help of each and every one of you. As you realize, we are all getting older and each year we are losing membership due to death, and also many of our Members are going on Pension which means that they are living on a smaller income and therefore have to make cut backs, consequently the 83rd Infantry Division Association is not a direct necessity to them, so therefore it is something that they have to eliminate from their expenses. I ask each and every one of you who can afford it, to send in your \$10.00 dues today, if you know of a special Buddy who can't afford to send in his dues, make him a gift of a paid up membership.

Also, check among old papers that you have at home and see if you can locate some of those Co. "H" men that I am unable to locate, I can use your help as there are so many of them that I am unable to locate, some of them have moved and unfortunately some of them have died. Lets make Co. 'H' the largest single Unit in the Association.

Sincerely
Larry Redmod

Harry Suman suffered a serious heart attack Sept. 3, He is in Blanchard Valley Hospital, Findley, Ohio 45840. His condition has gone from critical to serious and we hope by the time you read this he will be up and about and up to his old tricks.

***** COMPANY "D" 330th INFANTRY *****

Hello Buddies;

Here we are back from another very fine Reunion and starting to settle down. Although I was unable to attend this year, from the reports that I have had it was quite a success.

I would like to personally thank all the men from Company "D" for their great help in making the ad a success. I had a very nice response and will mail a copy of the ad page to each of you so you can see your names in there.

I had a telephone call from Arthur DelPadre the other night, he is back up home. He has been very sick and not able to do very much but he is going to try and take over the Company "D" ad next year and I sincerely hope that you will give him the same support. Also drop him a line, I am sure that being ill as he is would help pep him up a bit. Write to Arthur DelPadre, 9 Susan Circle, Johnson R.I. 02919. There is nothing better when you are down and out than a card or a letter from a Buddy. I know only too well because I have gone through it.

Again I want to say how proud I am to have been able to take over for the late Frank McGrogan again this year and have the success that I had. I am sure that he would be mighty proud of all of you for the great job you did.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

***** MICHIGAN CHAPTER *****

Having just returned from Fla. and one of the Greatest Reunions. Congratulations to the Florida Chapter members doing a terrific job. Everyone enjoyed seeing each other again after a year being away.

Michigan had a good turn out, but we missed those that did not come.

Jack & Hanky Dougherty, Lee & Dorothy Hictree, Bill Goodwin & lovely Wife, Vito & Virginia Palazzolo, Bob & Rita Taylor.

I was so happy seeing my Btn. Commander Col. Pete Crabel and tears came to my eyes seeing him dancing on the floor with his lovely wife of one year.

This is one of the reasons that I have been coming for 34 yrs. now, always a new face will come up one year or another.

We had a fine turn out from my Co. G, 329 unit this year.

John Cupena, Florentine Casill, Sterling Rubright, Filmore Kohler, Chester Morgan, Bob Brinkman, Francis Murphy, John Fray, Anush Miller and Vito Palazzolo and 2 new fellows that attended their first Reunion. Howard Freitag, Morris Gemple. Also their lovely wives.

We had a very bad scare. Filmor Kohler suffered a mild heart attack in his room, and had to be hospitalized for the rest of the reunion and then home. Bob Brinkman went to the Hospital with him, and stood there until the Doctors told him what had happened to him. Sterling Rupright also went to the Hospital, and keep him Company during the day. His wife and son had to come to Fla., and stay till he was able to be moved back home im Baltimore, MD.

As of this writing I hope he has come out of it well and hope to see him at the next Reunion in Kentucky.

Virginia and I really enjoyed going out with the Philly Gang, to Dinner and Boat ride, and also exploring the different towns near by. Ponifano, Ft. Lauderdale, Hollywood, Boca Ratan, etc.

When we left West Palm Beach, we went with Bob & Rita Taylor to their beautiful home in Colony Cove, Fla. we went out to a beautiful Restaurant called Picarellis, on Rt. 41 and had a real good dinner, and returned to Bob & Rita's home and they asked us to stay the night with them. In the morning we had a real country Breakfast, and were on our way to nearby Sarasato, Fla. where we spent another 3 days with a cousin of ours. Then we took another 3 days to get home.

I'll close for now, and looking forward to Kentucky next year.

Hope everyone arrived safe and well at home. God Bless all.

Vito Palazzolo
Co. G 329



Manny and his prize

*** DIXIE CHAPTER ***

WHOOOP-EE!! What a fine Reunion the Florida Chapter put on, Ralph Gunderson and crew did a fantastic job, I said the South would rise again, like all Reunions they get better and better. We from the Dixie Chapter send our thanks and appreciation for the nice time you Floridians showed us. The hotel was tops and the service great. It could not have been better, again thanks for taking the time to show us a good time it was great.

The Dixie Chapter will meet in Newberry, S.C. Oct. 8th. 1983 at Newberry Inn. Looking for a good turn out, be there!

It is always saddening to announce sickness and death, the Dixie Chapter has had their misfortunes. O.J. (June) Watkins wife Ermalee, has underwent a serious Operation. Don't have full detail as yet, Johnnie Ball has been in the Hospital more than a week and is out now. But going back Sept. 1st for surgery. Clarence West's wife Lucille is still having back problems from time to time, Roger Wilson's wife Alta has been nursing her 90 year old mother for some time, had to cancel Florida trip. Dale and Rose Hoosier were at the Reunion they lost a daughter April 11th 1983. Bill Laughter has not been feeling well, but he made the Reunion. Dick Riddle and wife Lessie were present, Dick has been on the sick list for several months, although he is on the road to recovery.

Dennis Dunn and wife Elizabeth have had their part of sickness, Dennis said things were stable at present, Archie Matlock's wife Mae is in the hospital having test run for Kidney Stones. Archie said he was doing fine. He had several Heart problems. Lacy Satterfield's wife Melba lost a brother in July. Charlie Cole was down in his back at the Reunion said he was going in the Hospital soon as he returned home. Carol take care of Charlie.

Our prayers go out to all, Jesse Pirkle and Carolyn have not been able to attend any meetings, since last March when Carolyn fell at Newberry S.C. and broke her hip and arm. Jesse lost his Mother and five weeks later lost his Father. Everyone at the National Reunion sends their Sympathy and wish a speedy recovery.

Ed and Kitty Thomas Daughter Mary Ann became the Bride of Lt. Comm. William F. Keifreder, July 16th 1983, making their home in Norfolk, VA. Mrs. Billie Glenn widow of the late Jake Glenn was at the Reunion with her Granddaughter Tammie. We were happy to have their Company.

Due to all the sickness in the Dixie Chapter lessened our attendance for the Florida Reunion. But was told we had the largest Attendance ever in the Dixie Chapter History, thanks to all who was able to attend, and so sorry the others could not make it.

Our last meeting was at Burlington, N.C. June 4th 1983. Our President Lacy Satterfield was well

pleased with the number turn out, Lacy you did a good job.

Don't forget the Christmas Party at Gatlinburg, Tenn. 1st week in December all come have a great time.

Johnnie Harvey Ball
Reporter

Life passes by so quickly
that's why we live so fast.
We try to do all we can
long as our life may last.

We have so much we try to do
but some will never be done.
We will finish what we can
if not all that we've begun.

Life is filled with Danger
we are fortunate to grow old.
But Life has not been in vain
if God has saved our Soul.

Our Lives are nearing fulfillment
but Lord you've been so kind.
To let us live to grow old
and enjoy a wonderful time.

Dixie Chaptre Chaplain
Haran R. Martin

Hello Buddies:

Another year has rolled by, another Reunion, (which we missed) and we all grew another year older, and I don't have to remind anyone of that do I?

Our Good Buddy Al Lacinski is having a rough time, we are all hoping & praying for a speedy recovery for him. Also Jim Lindsey & Lou Donnelly were screwed up with bad backs, these youngsters are over doing something, but they are now up and about.

My good buddy Rollie Warner is busy with his house and yard, I don't know where he gets all the ambition, he also pushes a big semi around all day, the guys endurance has no bottom. I get tired just listening to him tell me what jobs are finished and what he has on the agenda.

Got a card from Goldie Goldman and he is already talking about the Pines, he had better start thinking about Kentucky in "84". This one should be well attended also, as we have a lot of folks living within driving distance.

Saw Ralph Malec's friend and inquired about his condition, Ralph is not doing too well, he is not able to drive anymore as his eyes are very bad, due to a diabetic condition, and a messed up cataract operation.

That planned trip to Europe sure sounds great, but circumstances prevail, it's not the cost, that's not prohibitive, it's other things such as one's health and well being that throws the wrench in the machinery.

Sorry to hear about Joe Nuzzi passing away our deepest sympathy to Joe's family, Joe was a Warren Chapter member.

Our next meeting will be at the home of Ed & Dolores Josek, and that falls on the 3rd Sunday of Sept. We have a good time no matter where our meetings are held, the 83rd members all know how to entertain and what we like to do best, eat and indulge.

Bob, I sent an enclosed self addressed envelope with my last report, requesting the Chapter's pictures to be returned, as they go to our historians collection. I know you are busy as a cat with a diarrhea so I will be patient.

There isn't anything new happening so I'll close wishing everyone the best of Holidays now as the next issue will be too late.

Stay nice, and if you must, fight nice, and get your dues paid.

Respectfully
Al Uridel
Cn. Co. 329

*** G COMPANY 331st INFANTRY ***

Although the reunion was in the far south this year, G Company still managed to make a good showing, not as good as some of the other 331st units, but we still managed to get about seven members. For those of you that did not attend, you missed a good one. The Executive Board thought that we would have only 450 people at the reunion, the number was close to 600. The hotel was sold out its Registration and some members of the 83rd were sent to the hotel down the Road.

Those in attendance: Piette, Constanzo, Walsh, Suess, Tuttle, Macaluso, and a new one Dickerson from Hartford, Conn. Bob Piette spotted the name and looked up the individual. Dickerson was an original member of the Company, and was in the Second Platoon that was trapped across the Swamp on the 4th of July. He brought us up to date on his activities. It seems that he was in the Hospital for 4 months, and was sent to the 4th Division, and saw action in the Hurtugen Forest Area and was wounded the second time. It was good to see him

again, because I had often thought about those members in the First and Second Platoon, that were trapped on the 4th. Dickerson, also told me that Lloyd Yeary was sent to the 106th Division and was captured by the Germans in the Bulge.

I had some information on another of G Company's original members a Custer Santora, living in Philadelphia, about 2 blocks from John Piscitelli. I hope to have his address soon.

I think all of us should start in making our plans for the 1984 reunion in Owensboro, Ky. It is more centrally located and we should look forward to an excellent turnout. I have one more year to serve on the Board, and after that we can start getting our G Company meetings together. It has been a privilege serving on the Board, but it does tie up your activities.

Capt. Mac.

*** THE LOUISIANA CHAPTER ***

First, the three members of the Louisiana Chapter that attended, the reunion in West Palm Beach, want to express our congratulations to the Florida Chapter for an excellent reunion. The members and their wives worked extremely hard to put on a successful reunion. They had a tough act to follow, and they came out with flying colors. Good Work, Ralph.

We were only three in number, but I can assure you that all three of us had a wonderful time. For those members of the Chapter, that could not attend, you missed a good one. Set your plans for next year because it looks as if we will have another good reunion in Kentucky next year. Remember, the dates for next year are changed and we will be there on the Second Week end of August instead of the usual Third Week end.

Called Leonard to report on the good reunion, he informed me that he has had some eye problems and was unable to attend. I have had no report from the other members.

At present I am getting some dates and some places lined up so we can start making our quarterly meeting once again. I hope in the future to get some of the other members to attend.

I failed to mention the three members that were in attendance Labbe and his wife, Armand and his wife, Macaluso and his wife.

Joe Macaluso

*** NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWS ***

What a great reunion!

All the members and their wives would like to thank Ralph Gunderson and all the Florida Chapter for the wonderful time we all had. Thanks again Ralph. The New England Chapter was well represented with Capt. Jack Masters, the Champey's, Petittis, Francullo's, Brennan's, Rossi's, Smith's, Davis's, Emanouils, Farisc's, McCartin's, Herman's, Marysz's, Wooldrige's, Merrill's, Panoro's, Helligan's and Al Torteylio. If I missed anyone I am sorry. As for myself and the fine members and our wives of this Chapter, it is just a great feeling to see all our old members and their wives at these reunions, what a year makes. We may be older but we still look good.

After reunion the Francullo's took off to EPCOT Center in Disney World and as we were about to enter the Spaceship Earth we look to our left and there was Ann and Al Belvedere of the Phila. Chapter also coming to see EPCOT. So we spend the whole day together seeing all the attractions and it was a great time. Al & Ann we enjoyed your company. We hope you had a safe trip home as we did. One thing Mary and I missed was the Brennan's, as after all our reunions we would take trips together, but this year we did it alone missed you Dot & Jim.

Oh yes, Lou Rossi, Al Belvedere said that you are some kind of a guy full of hell, ha ha. Lou Rossi is thinking of starting an Italian Club with in the 83rd as there is so many Italians and the Saturday night banquet would be spaghetti and meatballs. Ha, ha.

Also taking a vacation after the reunion to Disney World was Nina and Mike Petitti, Jim and Georgia Emanouil, Charlie and Ann Helligan. Hope you enjoyed it as we did, But boy was it HOT.

Now we will be looking forward to Kentucky next year and with our new President Arthur Doggett and his Chapter for a great time at the big E. I know it will be a good time as it is a beautiful place.

Our report from sick bay:

John Donahue is not able to travel long distance and he send his regards to all his buddies Hq. 1st Bn 329. See you at our meetings John, old boy. Also Arthur DelPadre is very sick and was not able to make the reunion, we missed you Art get well soon. if any of you D. Co. 330th members would like to write or send a card his address is:

Arthur DelPadre, 9 Susan Ci. Johnston RI 02919. Thanks. Also John Donahue 4 Chadwick Rd. Burlington, Ma. 01803.

P.S. Bill and Betty Davis are also touring Fla. and sightseeing and working there way North.

Also on Sept. 24 the Brennan's are giving away there last daughter Christine in marriage to Dean Duckworth. Dean and Christine wish you all the Luck and happiness in this world.

Oh yes, just came my old Buddy Billy White. Mary and I and the New England Chapter missed you. Get

well, see you in Old. Ky. Your Buddy Nick

Well that is it for now
Your Buddy Always
Nick Francullo
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th



Capt. Jack Master and his gang



Emanouils and Helligan's



Smiths & Farisa's



The Panero's



The Davis's



Nina & Mike Petiti and who is he?



Dot & Jim Brennan



The Marysz's

In July before we went to the reunion, I received a note from one of our unfortunate buddies who would have liked to have been at the reunion with us. His name is John Fabry, "I" 330th. John has had the lower jaw removed because of cancer. It is very hard for him to travel away from his home because of blending his food. He would like to hear from his buddies of "I" 330th or anybody else from the 83rd. We will always be thinking of you John. Thank you for writing to us. May God bless you and your family. We wish you a Happy Holiday and a very pleasant New Year.

Bob and Pearl

*** WARREN CHAPTER NEWS ***

Before I bring you up to date on the recent activities of the Warren Chapter from June thru August, I would like to write a few lines to inform the many friends of Loyal Pangle from Flushing, Michigan, A Co. G 331st Inf. member and a valued friend, of the Warren Chapter that Loyal is now at home, after a four month stint in the Flint hospital. His recovery has been slow, but at least he can get up a few times through the day. Wife Kate has been his right arm thru this ordeal and is the best nurse I have ever seen. Babe and Theresa Gautschi and my wife Birdie and I went up to see them August 13 & 14 and it was a wonderful weekend for us. Loyal has asked me to thank all of you nice people for the many get well cards he received. He appreciates it very much.

MEETINGS

JUNE AND AUGUST: The men played golf in the morning by a meeting of the chapter and a delicious picnic lunch prepared by our lovely wives. The men grabbed all the available lawn chairs to stretch out, drink beer, booze and shoot the breeze well into the afternoon.

JULY MEETING: Our annual meeting at Paradise Lake at the trailer site of Babe and Theresa Gautschi. The men played golf at a local golf course, while the ladies prepared the picnic lunch, but just after we returned from golf and Gautschi and Voracek started the barbeque--the rains came, but we all struggled thru the meal and enjoyed it very much. It was quite a sight though, to see about twenty people standing with picnic plates in hand, under a twenty foot long awning, trying to eat their own food.

Except for the July outing, our permanent chairmen of the picnics at Smelkos golf course, has been Joe Phillipone and assisted by Ted Halubka and Bob Johnson. A tip of the old hat to these men for doing such a fine job, year after year

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to Mary Nuzzi and her five children, over the loss of husband and father, Joseph Nuzzi - August 22, 1983. Joe was a member of I Co. - 331st Inf. and had been ill for about a year. He was a charter member of Warren Chapter and a valued friend to all.

CONGRATULATIONS TO 1ST TIME GRANDPARENTS

Mike and Elizabeth Skovran -- Grandson, Andrew David Skovran, born Feb. 17, 1983 - parents - Mr. and Mrs. David Skovran.

Joseph and Angie Phillipone - Daughter Peggy and husband Larry Grainer presented Joe and Angie a grand-daughter, Katie Lynn, born August 21, 1983.

Since the next issue of the Thunderbolt will not be published for a couple of months, all members of the Warren Chapter and our wives, wish to extend to all you nice people, our best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Good health, good luck and happiness to one and all for 1984.

Lee Titus

*** WEST VIRGINIA REPORT ***

The West Virginia Chapter had their regular picnic at Ridenaur Park in Nitro, West Virginia on July 17, 1983, with plenty of food for everyone. We all enjoyed ourselves and everyone had a wonderful time.

One of our chapter buddies from our basic training in Camp Atterbury, Indiana to the Shores of Normandy, passed away on July 1, of this year. He was Mr. Kenneth Maier, from Cambridge, Ohio. We had a memorial for him.

Ezio Alicandri and his wife Frances drove down from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to be with us. Enjoyed having you Ezio and Fran. Ezio and Ken was my Company "D" 329th buddies. We were machine Gunners (Heavy weapons company).

On September 11th, we had our regular chapter meeting at the Best Western McCoy's Motor Lodge in Ripley, West Va. We had a fine turnout for the meeting. Robert Derickson, our National Secretary-Treasurer was our speaker for the evening. He gave us a lot of information on the 83rd and how to hold a National Reunion. We enjoyed having Bob and Pearl with us. Bob also brought another couple from the Kentucky Chapter with him. Gale and Irene Baker. Glad they could all come. We had our two \$5.00 drawings at this meeting. Ezio Alicandri from Pittsburgh won one and Mrs. Esta Pettry from St. Albans, V.Va. won the other one.

Our plans for the Wheeling, W.Va. meeting for this time did not come about, because we could not get rooms and a meeting place for the date we had planned for our meeting. We are still planning on going to Wheeling, sometime next summer, probably in June. We still are having our regular meetings and dinners. Having a wonderful time.

Sam Klippa could not be with us at this meeting, as he was not feeling well and was still resting up from the reunion. We missed you Sam and hope that you can be with us in the near future.

We had the election of Officers at this meeting, and retained the same slate of officers as last year. We would like to invite any 83rd member to be with us at any of our meetings.

We will be having our next meeting on December 4, 1983. The place of the meeting will be announced later. We will also be having our Christmas dinner sometime in December.

*This is all the news that we have for this time. Be good,
and May the Lord Bless you all real good.*

*Eugene Persinger
"A" & "D" 329th*

West Virginia Chapter



IN MEMORY OF HEIDI

Some of you might wonder who was Heidi, some of you knew. She was our beautiful friend. She went almost everywhere with us and we could not have asked for a better companion. She was smart, obedient, friendly, lovable and tough if she needed to be. She went to the Kentucky Chapter meetings with us and she even went to a few National Reunions. She was a German Short Hair Pointer and we were very proud of her. We had to have her put to sleep in West Palm Beach and we did so on the day the 83rd Infantry Division had their Memorial Service. Wilson and I were two very sad people in West Palm Beach. Now that we are back home, her memory lingers on.

Thank you for caring and for your support.

Wilson and Vi Day



Jim Burton

Drexel Honors Graham With Key "D" Award

Earl H. Graham, president of Philadelphia Suburban Water Company, received the Drexel University Evening College Alumni Association Key "D" Award at the Association's annual banquet held this past March.

This award is intended to recognize outstanding service and loyalty to Drexel, the engineering profession and the community. It is given annually to an alumnus whose overall record best displays the advancement of the Evening College and the Alumni Association. It was first presented in 1933 to recognize significant performance for the Evening College Alumni Association.

In receiving his award, Earl recognized the support provided by his parents in insuring that he was properly motivated to acquire an education and pursue a career. He thanked the Lord for watching over him during the war and up to the present. He paid tribute to his wife Evalyn for "putting up with him" while he pursued his evening school education and his career, and for the fine job she did in raising their daughter and maintaining a comfortable home.

Earl expressed his gratitude to Drexel University for the education he received and recognized the contributions that Drexel has made to PSWCo., in that six officers and six others at the mid-management level are Drexel graduates. Further, six employees are currently attending Drexel.



EARL H. GRAHAM (right) President of Philadelphia Suburban Water Company, accepts the Drexel Key "D" Award from John Johnson, member of the Alumni Committee. Mr. Graham was presented the plaque at the annual awards dinner dance held in March at Aronimink Golf Club.

Enclosed is a picture: Earl H. Graham Co. "A" 308th Eng's. Another 83rd man we can all be proud of.

Sent in by: Bob Nordblom, Hq. Co. 1st BN 330th INF.

*** CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE ***

At our memorial service in Florida there were forty-six (46) of our comrade names read off at the roll call for our deceased buddies for the past year, 1983-84. As you know our roll call of names have grown constantly as we get older. Quite a few discussed with us and some of the officers about abolishing the names at our ceremonies.

Most of us decided to keep calling the roll of names. Without those names it would not be a proper ceremony. I myself feel it deep inside me when one of our well known buddies name is called. I am sure if they can look down on us, they will be proud of us. Through all the memories and tears that we all shed at our ceremonies: We thank each and everyone of our buddies - all men, women and children for a job well done. GOD BLESS THEM ALL.

Our prayers go out to our own Philadelphia chapter as one of our members Fillmore Kohler "G" 329th had a heart attack at the Florida reunion. To him and his family we pray for his swift recovery.

Our prayers go out to Joe Zentz "I" 329th on the passing of his brother. Joe and his wife June flew home

from the reunion. Our prayers go with them.

Our good friend Henry Glista has been in the hospital the past nine (9) months or so suffering a muscular disease called polyomyositis. Henry served with us in "C" 323rd. We are asking all our artillery gang to drop Hank a letter or card. Henry Glista, 230 Collins Street, West Seneca, New York. 14224.

We all know what it is like to be bed ridden. Henry has really had it. I thank you all. I know you will contact him. Well buddies, God willing we'll all meet in Kentucky. Come August 1984.

Dear Buddies:

If you cry at our memorial services--don't feel bad--Casey Kowalic, Ralph Gunderson, and myself will cry along with you. God bless you.

Chaplain
John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd BN.

DEATH NOTICES

These death notices came to the office after the Summer Issue of the Thunderbolt was published.

The entire 38rd sends their sympathy to the families.

Richard E. Brouillette A.T. 331st Elkhart, Indiana
9/2//82 word from wife
Walter W. "Pepsi" Cooper "H" 330th
7/2/83 word from Ned Smith
Charles Currier "H" 330th Erie, Pa.
4/6/83 word from Ruth McBeth
Harry Hines "M" 330th
5/24/81 reported by Gale Baker
Luther H. Daley "CN" 330th Jackson, Miss.
6/2/83

May I as your editor say something personnel about this next death. This man and I were the best of friends from the time we were inducted and met at Camp Atterbury, Indiana until the end of the war. Then as with a lot of us we separated and went to our homes and families. We lost track of each other and then when I was elected Secretary-Treasurer of this great outfit I received a letter one day from Don and from then on we corresponded and always hoped that we would get to meet again. But God willed otherwise. Don had a heart attack. Then when I sent a reminder card this spring to his wife Renee she wrote back that Donald had passed away last summer. That is what we tell all of you members go see someone whom you were close to. I wish I could have seen him. Next year when names are read on the roll call I know I will shed a tear for this friend and I won't be ashamed or feel so sad to stay away.

Donald L. Greenfield 3rd BN. HQ. 329th Long Beach,
Calif. 6/28/82 word from his wife Renee
Hollie E. Helbringer 329th Inf. Buffalo, N.Y.
7/22/83 word from Grace Brick
Edmund Kasmerski Lake Silkworth
4/22/83 word from Louis Coopey
Kenneth Maier "D" 329th Cambridge, Ohio
7/1/83 word from Eugene Persinger
Stanley A. Sliski "C" 330th
3/19/83 word from Roselee Nitch whose husband
Claude was a buddy of Stan's
Quentin Pease 324th Girard, Kansas
7/13/83

Don't forget the 1984 European Tour to Europe, celebrating the 40th Victory Anniversary of World War II. It may be our "Last Hurrah."

Henry Neilson
P.O. Box 1347
McAllen, Texas 78501
July 31, 1983

Mr. Robert Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Dear Bob:

I have just read the letter to you in the Summer Issue of the "Thunderbolt" from Carmi Lockhart of the death of Thomas R. Judge, Company "B", 331st Infantry. It always saddens me when I learn of the passing of one of our Comrades-in-Arms with whom we shared the hardships and hazards of combat. My condolences to Mrs. Judge-her husband was quite a man.

The ambush and mortal wounding of Captain Daniel Moore, of which Carmi Lockhart writes, are burned in my memory. I was on my way to the head of the column to find out why it had stopped, when I saw the litter jeep carrying Captain Moore on a stretcher on its way to the rear.

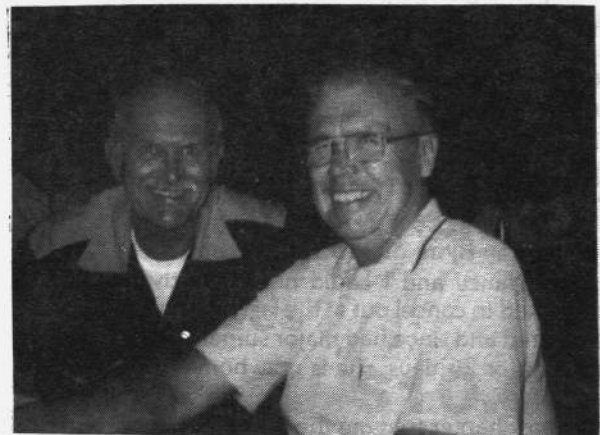
I had great admiration and affection for Danny Moore, so you can understand my determination to wreak havoc on the enemy responsible. I have never seen men so shaken -- and at the same time incensed. All I had to do was issue a few instructions and the full fury of Company "B" exploded in action. It was furious, devastating and of short duration. Incidentally, Company "B" took a considerable number of prisoners.

I shall never forget the loyalty and affection of the gallant men of Company "B" for their fallen Commanding Officer, and Thomas A. Judge was one of those brave and gallant soldiers with whom it was my privilege to serve.

Since I do not have Carmi Lockhart's address, would you either send this letter to her, or insert it in the "Thunderbolt" for the remaining members of Company "B" to read? It may reawaken old and treasured memories.

Sincerely,

Henry Neilson



*** 323rd FA REPORT ***

This will be a short report as time is going fast. I am sorry I was unable to attend the reunion in Florida. Pat DiGiammerino told me I had some real buddies there (Jake Erwin, Walter Harding and Harry Herman) who I hope to see next year.

I was just talking to Tom Papile and Dave Nellies on the telephone. Tom Papiles is going to have a hip operation in the near future. Also, he is about to become a grandfather. Dave Nellies lost his brother-in-law. I was sorry to hear that his mother had a serious operation.

Buck Taylor just phoned from Modesto, Ca. We had quite a chat. He is doing fine.

It's really nice to talk to everyone even if it is a short period.

Thanks to Bill Shaner and Don St. John for calling and inquiring on my wife Nancy's condition while she was hospitalized.

Thanks to the Hq. Battery men for the donations for the Memorial Page this year.

NOTE TO JOHN PISCITELLI...I am doing a good job watching Tony Piantedosi for you. Helen and Tony have been very nice and have also been keeping an eye on us.

Well that is all for this issue.

I hope everyone has a nice Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Amby Tynan

*** GREATER BOSTON CHAPTER REPORT ***

We had our annual cookout at Pat and Gin DiGiammerino's home which we have before every reunion. Most of the cooking was done by Larry Arrigo's brother-in-law Jim Dunn of the James Dunn and Son Co. in West Roxbury which is one of Boston's finest meat markets. Jim did an excellent job at the open fires. Incidentally, Jim is from the 88th Division. The attendance was much more than we expected. Hy Goodman and Romeo Maynard did one excellent job perfecting the Boston Chapter's game of Bocci. We are waiting for a game at a later date with the Philly Chapter.

Vera Caprio has retired from work so we had a large cake for the occasion. Good Luck to you Vera.

Ed Cormier is doing a very good job as the Boston Chapter Chairman of the Beano Committee. The next Beano party will be held at the Jamaica Plain Veterans Hospital. Edgar is from A Company 331st Infantry.

Flora Bjork won the door prize at the meeting. She is the lovely wife of Ray Bjork of 330 H Company.

I am sorry Nancy and I could not make the Florida reunion. We had to cancel out at the last minute as Nancy was hospitalized and since had major surgery. After being in the hospital for 26 days, she is now home and on the road to recovery.

The Boston Chapter told me the Florida Chapter went

all out for everyone. I only wish I could have been with you. Thanks for a wonderful reunion.

Pat DiGiammerino was surprised to see his buddy Jake Erwin from Sugar Grove, Va. at his first reunion. Jake said he will be in Kentucky next year.

We are still taking orders for the Boston Chapter shirts. Anyone interested should contact one of the Officers of the Chapter.

This reporter understands that the large group that traveled home together from the reunion helped celebrate the birth of Pat and Gin DiGiammerino's new grandson, Mark Robert.

Also, the Boston Chapter was disappointed that our past president Mike was defeated for the Executive Board. Congratulations to Larry Leonardi who we know will do his best in the many years ahead.

We are sorry to report the loss of Mike Amicone's wife. Our Sympathy goes to Mike and his family.

Also we were sorry that Joe and June Zenz had to leave the reunion because of the sudden death of Joe's brother. Condolences to Joe and his family.

This is all for now as I am trying to make the deadline.

Amby Tynan
Boston Chapter Reporter



Mike Caprio, Larry Arrigo, Hy Goodman, Romeo and Livvy Maynard.



Harry Herman, Phyllis Scott, Gin DiGiammerino



Jake Irvin - attending First Reunion in Florida.
Harding-Mailman from HDQ. BTRY.
Pat DiGiammerino



Enjoy your Retirement, Vera Caprio

Box 442 A R.D. #1
Perkiomenville, Pa. 18074
September 2, 1983

Dear Bob:

Co. "A" 308th Engineers had a good turnout at the Florida reunion. As you can see by the picture we were ten members strong. Most will probably show up at the Reunion in Owensboro next year. We also have reason to believe that a few more will attend that didn't make it this time.

I write to about fifty former A Co. members, and receive about twenty replies. I am still working on the other thirty-odd who have not replied. I have reason to believe they still are interested in the old outfit.

The picture left too right kneeling: George Settle, Leroy Scott, Mike Liber, Owen Wellman. Standing left to right: Larry Arrigo, Joe DeMarchi, John Gallo, Joe McMillan, Paul Gundersen, Paul Scagnelli.

I hope you can use this picture.

George C. Settle



2nd platoon of Co. "M" 330th Inf. part of the fellows at the Nashville reunion.

Front: Baker, Ebert, Ely, Fowler, Back row: Johnston, Eubank, Wheeler, Wade, Ashe, Coulder. 5 of this group were PW's all taken at the same morning Dec. 11, 1943.

Remember your

Dues

\$10.00

LOU VOLPI IS BACK ON JOB AT NARBERTH HOAGIE SHOP

"Volpi is back," reads the sign in front of the Narberth Hoagie Shop. For those who know Lou Volpi, the man who owned and operated the restaurant on the corner of Woodbine and Iona Avenue for 24 years before he sold it five years ago, that is welcome news.

Lou bought the restaurant back at a sheriff's sale last Spring. This place was not meant for anybody but me, it seems.

The restaurant is now being run by the family. That includes my wife, Lucy, my daughter Linda Coppola, my nephew Frant Toti, a cousin Marie Hanlon, and two close friends, Kas Weber and Bunny Nardi.

I rolled back the price on coffee to 30 cents because I think the working people deserve a break, and I fill the cup up again and again at no extra charge. The working people are the customers the restaurant appeals to the most. It's a down to earth restaurant. A working man's haven.

How does Volpi feel to be back in the restaurant business again after being retire for five years.

I am 63. I want to get out. I want to set my kid up. If Linda works hard, she'll have something in five years. I just want to get my \$110,000 back and give it to my daughter.

SOUNDS LIKE OUR LOU.



BACK ON THE JOB AT the Narberth Hoagie Shop is Lou Volpi.

*** NEW JERSEY CHAPTER ***

Hello Buddies,

Just another great reunion for those that attended from the New Jersey Chapter. We want to congratulate Ralph Gunderson, Sam Schwartz, Dave Benick and a great organization, the Florida Chapter, for their great effort putting on this reunion. What amazed me, was the enjoyment they had shown even with a" the hard work that goes with putting on a reunion. Thanks for a great reunion Florida.

Those attending from New Jersey Chapter were - Emil and Hazel Wehling, Charlie Sihlanick less the better half. Mary can't fly due to an ear problem, The Skurkas, The Guziks, Manny Epstein whose hoping someday to put an S after his name. Fran and I shared a table with Wilson and Viola Day, Cookie and Mary Seneca, their son James, Emil and Hazel, Manny, Bill and Gloria McCartin, and on banquet night Kenneth Scott with his wife.

Those of you who were in 1st Bn. 331 will remember Col. Scott as the Battalion Executive Officer. The last time he attended a reunion was in 1948. It was great seeing you again Ken and hope to see you at future reunions.

Some of us stayed on a few more days. A group of us went to the 391st Bomb Group Restaurant for dinner Sunday evening. The following day the McCartins and Bielens drove down to Ft. Lauderdale for the River Cruise, then on to the top of Pier 66 Hotel where they have a revolving lounge offering a beautiful view of Ft. Lauderdale. We enjoyed the week we spent with you all so much that catching the People's flight arriving at 3 am in Newark brought no complaints from Fran.

Those of you who would like to attend our meetings can do so by coming to the VFW on Outwater Lane in Garfield every third Friday of the month at 8 PM. I have heard some of you express your preference to have our meetings elsewhere. Come to the meetings and maybe we can come up with a plan to accommodate you. This chapter is yours, so get involved and enjoy the many good times with men who have so much in common as yourselves.

Congratulations to Dave and Millie Benick on their becoming grandparents again. Their daughter Donna had a girl August 23.

Frank Reichmann has his house up for sale. His plans are to get a place in Florida for the winter and get a smaller home here. Rumor has Frank abandoning bachelorhood. How about that!!!

That's it for this issue wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year.

Stan Bielen
1st Bn Hq 331



*** 783 ORDINANCE COMPANY ***

My how this summer has flown, can't believe I'm writing on reunion of 1983. Well let me tell you it was a well planned and well run affair but like all events these days there was good news and bad. We'll get the bad out of the way first. Both Q. Boyett and Percy had made plans to attend their first reunion and had to cancel at the last minute because of sickness. Q. suffered another heart attack and when I talked to his son he was resting comfortably but they were trying to transfer him to a Birmingham hospital. By now I trust good "old" Q. is resting at home and I'm positive he will enjoy a note from one and all. Percy is ok and he says nothing is going to stop him from coming to Arthurs reunion next year.

Now for the good news. Both Hobart Belt and Ed Perko were present and accounted for. Likewise they are both in good health. Ed has been retired for eleven years but keeps busy butchering meat for himself and neighbors. Ed's wife got sick right before leaving so he brought his brother to help out in case of a hijack. Hobart says he keeps in such good shape (don't look like he's a pound over his 1944 weight) by cutting the Florida lawns without wearing a cap! Joe Stubber, Carl and Alyce (bathing suit) Fredericks, Isodore Labbe, and "Boss" Lucille, Arthur Doggett and his much better two thirds, Mildred were all happily present with yours truly who was in a hotel down the highway. . . This is as good a time as any to plug for next years reunion. I didn't think anyone was going to Florida and even though I had oil for the lamps, they turned me away from the inn. Believe it or not I've had next years reservations in my hands for the past two weeks, so learn from my foolish mistake and get that letter in NOW!

The best news from the reunion is "Olde" Arthur Doggett is the new President of the 83rd. What an honor for him and us. He did himself proud at the reunion and I know the Division will likewise be proud of him come next August. Dog's program is just about made up to the last detail and its a real good one. Not only will he have top notch entertainment but he has also engaged "the Pro" Bill Appleby to run a few of his square dance sessions. Owensboro is a real top notch vacation spot and its going to be all right there for us and the wives to enjoy so write NOW!!

Other good news. Thanks to Joe Stubber's Tenn. maneuver list I was able to find **Troy Bishop**. Troy's in good health, retired, spent 20 yrs. in the service, went back in the air force and is enjoying himself at 15819 Van Eaton Circle, Biloxi, Miss. 39532, Phone 601-392-4822. He was shocked to hear from me, asked about many of you and would like to hear from his old buddies. Also found Bill Lucas in Southwest Penna. thirty miles from Pittsburgh. I told him what we were all about and he said "I just stay at

home". He asked for Doc Pfeifer and I told him he was still the life of the party to which Lucas replied, "Yeah, we'll I never will like him, he promised me a Sgt.'s rating and he gave it to Ameduri!" and thats what is known as the all time 783rd grudge! Bill did gime me some information though, Leonard Reinsperger died some ten yrs. ago and Bill Stubber is in the New Orleans area.

Hats off to Aubrey Wilcox for the nice add he put in the Florida reunion book. How about next year we as a Co. buy a page?

Reese Phillips reports he is happy and healthy retired and the railroads are still running on and off the tracks.

Last but never least, Paul Byars wants a retraction. Seems Paul has given up golf and is now into country and western. I'm sure glad he's into something new for the last time I played golf with Paul he was really having a hard time getting it up on the green and he never got it in with par strokes.

Write me more news, until then,
Rags Rangnow

Dear Bob:

We have just returned from a fantastic Company "M" 330th reunion at Montgomery Bell State Park near Nashville, Tennessee. Nearly ninety (90) people were there, thirtyeight (38) couples, the rest in single's.

On Thursday, August 25th a buffet dinner and get together was enjoyed by all. On Friday a business meeting and a trip to Nashville for a guided tour and the Grand Old Opera was enjoyed by most of our people. I think everyone was a little tired as they left at 3 p.m. and returned at 2 a.m.

On Saturday many of the Company were off to a great day at Opryland. Then of course one last bash on Saturday night.

Several of the fellows came to be with us for the first time in thirty-eight years. It was great to see everyone.

Our thanks and appreciation to Jim and Martha Fowler for making this reunion so fantastic.

Our prayers and love go out to our fellow members who are too ill to attend. Our next reunion (held in two years) will be in either Kentucky or Georgia. Hope to see everyone in "85".

Sincerely,
Elmer and Sharon-Chip Reuter
"M" 330th

P.S. from Secretary Treasurer;
Maybe we can work on these people and get all of them to attend the National reunion. I think Gale and Irene Baker are doing their best. Thanks to all of you for recruiting new National members.



New Members that attended the Florida Chapter Reunion

Charles Hoffman	"A" 331st	Orlando, Florida
Andrew T. Balconis	"K" 331st	Palm Beach, Florida
Ondee L. Dickerson	83rd Signal	Kittrell, North Carolina
Cheter A. Kolman	"F" 331st	Baltimore, Maryland
Edward Perko	783rd ORD.	Hillard, Wisconsin
J.T. Pentecost	"B" 331st	Port Orange, Florida
Michael Albaneso	"C" 308th ENG.	Columbus, Ohio
Joe B. Hayes	"A" 330th	Dalton, Georgia
Ralph B. Johnson	"B" 330th	Valdosta, Georgia
Charles M. Day	"B" 330th	Odin, Illinois
William Jake Irvin	"C" 323rd FA.	Sugar Grove, Virginia
Ralph J. Blank, Jr.	"C" 323rd FA	West Palm Beach, Florida
Stanley B. Gardner	MEDICS 329th	Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Milton L. Aliff	"G" 330th	Roanoke, Virginia
Robert L. Livingston	"D" 330th	West Palm Beach, Florida
Thaddeus Dluski	"F" 330th	Pompano, Florida
Kenneth L. Scott	1st Bn. Hq. 331st.	Plantation, Florida

I am sure there are others. If anyone was missed on this list please forgive us. If your name is not on the list please write to me here at the office and I will get

it in the next issue of the Thunderbolt. These are the names of the men who signed up as being at their first reunion.

Bob Derickson,
Secretary Treasurer

*** PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS ***

We the men of the Philadelphia Chapter wish to thank the Florida Chapter for a job well done. Credit goes to our good buddies Ralph Gunderson, Sam Swartz, Dave Benick and Bill Drugash for a job well done. Bless them all and to Sylvain Fishman for the work he did getting everyone of the early birds settled for the Wednesday evening show. West of New York to all Florida Chapter members Well Done. Again, Thank you.

Our Philadelphia Chapter is well on the way preparing for our trip to Owensboro, Kentucky. If possible we are going by bus. A lot of us have too many ailments to be driving long distances anymore. The bus is the best and most reasonable for those with fixed incomes. See you all in Kentucky. Take your "hoe down shoes and levi's". Bill Appleby - 783rd ORD. will be calling.

On September 3, Philadelphia Chapter had the honor of attending the wedding of Anna Marie Ponzio and Rodney Scott Caulkins. Anna Marie is the daughter of Joe and Olive Ponzio of "L" 330. Rodney is the son of Reverent and Mrs. Rodney L. Caulkins. The reception was held at the Colledgeville inn, Colledgeville, Pennsylvania.

When Anna Marie was four (4) years old, the 83rd Infantry Division had a contest for all girls under five (5). Anna Marie won the title -- Little Miss 83rd at a Boston Massachusetts reunion. We celebrated at Hamilton, Massachusetts. We all took pictures on top of General Patton's tank. The years are really passing by. We wish to thank Al Belvedere and all members of the Honor Guard for a job well done.

May the good Lord give us all time to meet again and many with many reunions in the future.

YOUR BUDDIE
John Piscitellie
323rd F.A.



Memorial Service

*** FLORIDA CHAPTER ***

We have just arrived back from our 37th Reunion in West Palm Beach, and from the praise we received from many of the boys and their wives, I'm sure they all had a good time. The men and their wives of the Florida chapter worked very hard to keep things going smoothly. A lot of credit has to go to our wives who donated numerous things which were handmade plus all the work selling at the boutique and the raffles. A special thanks we have to give to Walter Marshall who donated the large clock and was won by Gene Costanza of Pittsburgh. It was great seeing such a large turnout at this Reunion and there were quite a number of new members that came to this Reunion for the very first time.

I would like to thank everyone in the Florida chapter for a job well done.

At this time we have some sad news to report. Hugh Davis who was a very active member of our chapter has passed away. Our deepest sympathy goes to his wife Dot. We also missed our very good buddy Dave and his wife Ruth Feig because of Dave's illness. Get well soon and hope to see you at the next reunion or perhaps they can attend one of the Florida chapter meetings. Also missed Celia Villarreal and LaVerne Ammon at this reunion.

The Florida chapter is meeting on Nov. 11th and 12th at the Best Western Motel in Ocala, Florida. We are planning a week-end at this place. If any 83rd boys are in this area, we will be happy to have you spend the day or week-end with us.

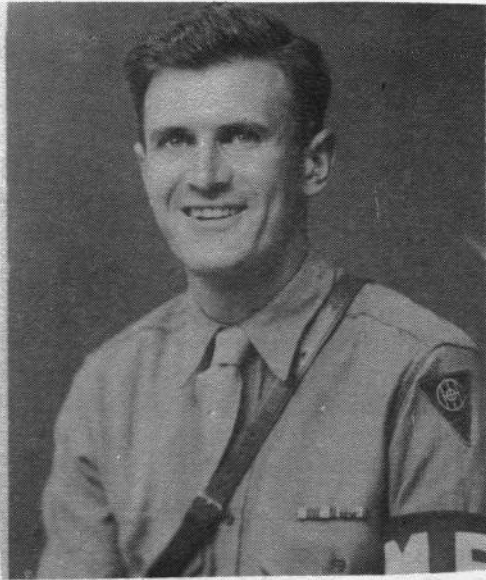
We are very happy to report our daughter Donna gave birth to a baby girl named Brooke Joy. She held out until two days after our reunion which made us very happy.

As usual Co. A 331st was well represented at this reunion and also picked up two new members.

Dave Benick
Co. A 331st



Memorial Service



*** HISTORIAN CORNER ***

Dear Buddies.

This is the balance of the report on the 83rd Military Police Platoon.

I've included our Unit Citation.

My picture was taken at Vilshofen, Germany. That Florida was really something wasn't it?

We Where The Best
Wm. Kent O'Connell
83rd M.P.

*** PITTSBURGH CHAPTER ***

What a great reunion! Twenty members of our chapter who were there will attest to that.

Congratulations to Ralph Gunderson, Sam Schwartz, Dave Benick and members of the Florida Chapter and also their wives who gave time and effort to make this one of the finest reunions we have ever had.

And, there can be nothing any better than getting together with all our 83rd friends at least once a year. I hope those that missed this one will make plans to be in Owensboro, Ky. next year.

Was happy to see A-331 well represented but, very much missed this time were Dave and Ruth Feig. Dave has a ticker problem and is scheduled for a by-pass operation in early October. By the time you read this we pray Dave will be well on the road to recovery.

It was a pleasant surprise to have Colonel and Mrs. Crabill with us to celebrate our 37th reunion. Couldn't resist taking a picture of the Colonel doing a fancy dance step or two with the Mrs. on night of the banquet. He's quite a man!

The Pgh. Chapter held its regular monthly meeting on Sept. 4. There were many favorable com-

ments made about the reunion and it was noted that there were thirty-seven members, wives and relatives at the Hyatt representing the Pgh. Chapter.

Other items discussed were upcoming plans to march as a unit in the Veterans Day parade and also our forthcoming Christmas Dinner Dance.

News Items: John Marek (AT-331) and Eunice announced the arrival of their 5th grandchild on July 30, John Allan Marek Jr. Two happy people, Chuck Caven (A-331) and Lu recently became grandparents for the first time. Their daughter, Kim and baby, Jennifer are doing fine.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to thank the Pittsburgh Chapter and all who have made it possible for me to attain the honor and privilege to serve you - the finest group of men I will ever know.

Larry Leonardi
A-331



From left: Lucky winner, Gene Costanzo and Sal Scicolone, Walt Marshall, Dick Riddle



Colonel and Mrs. Crabill

OPERATIONAL CASE # *Est 9a*

VH *C. Goodson*

25 April

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON
83d Infantry Division
APO 83, U.S. Army

Eto
1

1 December 1944.

SUBJECT : Action Against Enemy Report.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Thru Channels)

1. In compliance with letter from Headquarters 83d Infantry Division, Office of the Commanding General, APO 83, US Army, file 319.1/401 subject; Action Against Enemy, Reports After/After Action Reports dated 20 July 1944, the following report is submitted;

During the month of November 1944, the Platoon and Provost Marshal's Office were located in the City of Luxembourg (P-831125), With the exception of 9th to 11th November 1944 inclusive when both sections were located at Mondorf, Luxembourg, (P-940016).

Total number of Prisoners of War processed through the Division PW Cage was 151. This total does not include Prisoners processed through Medical channels. The Division PW Cage was established in the City of Luxembourg.

On the 12 November 1944 this unit assumed responsibility for the maintenance of law and order in the City of Luxembourg, security of Radio Luxembourg and guarding of Prisoners of War used in connection with propaganda broadcasts.

George Ogilvie
George OGILVIE,
Major, C.E.P.,
Commanding.

1 Incl:
Journal for month of November 1944.

319.1/401 1st Ind.
HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION, APO 83, U.S. Army, 21 December 1944.

TO: Commanding General, VIII Corps, APO 308, U.S. Army.

Forwarded.

For the Commanding General:

N. P. Cowden
N. P. COWDEN,
Major, AGD,
Asst Adj General.

1 Incl. n/c



4805

(Appendix No. 1, to After Action Report, Military Police Platoon, 83rd Infantry Division, APO 83, US Army, dated 1 January 1945.)

NARRATIVE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1944

1. The entire Military Police Platoon, for the period 1 December to 6 December 1944 were engaged in maintaining law and order in the City of Luxembourg. This included mounted and dismounted patrols, two 24 hour patrols were maintained. The Division was engaged in holding a line west of the Mosel River and as a consequence few prisoners were processed during that period.

2. On the 4 December 1944 3 officers and 41 enlisted men proceeded to Krewinkel, Germany (K-9841) for the purpose of relieving the Military Police Platoon, 4th Infantry Division. Thirteen traffic control points were established.

3. The remainder of the 83rd Division Military Police Platoon, were relieved of responsibility in the City of Luxembourg on the 6 December 1944, and proceeded to Mausbach, Germany (K-971409). The Division Prisoner of War cage was established at Vicht, Germany (K-9639). A Straggler Line was established at the Regimental Rear Boundary. The number of traffic control points were increased to 20.

4. The Division was engaged in clearing the enemy in the Duren section west of the Roer River. The number of prisoners of war increased, and the following plan was established for the evacuation of prisoners:

One 2½ ton truck with two Military Police and one ¼ ton truck with three Military Police as escorts were attached to each regiment for the evacuation of Prisoners.

During the month of December 1944 a total of 2,032 prisoners of war were processed through the Division Prisoner of War Cage.

5. In Germany, the Provost Marshal's Office was in close proximity with both the G-4 office and the Military Government Section. In the case of G-4 office, traffic information was readily disseminated far in advance of scheduled moves within and through the Division area.

Liason with the Military Government office aided in control of Civilian traffic, enforcement of curfew and other regulation.

6. On the 26 December 1944 the Military Police Platoon was ordered to move to Havelange, Belgium (K-225019), the unit arrived there on 27 December 1944. The Prisoner of War Cage was

established at the Railroad Station in Havelange. Traffic Control Points were established on the main supply routes and security posts were established on other main routes.

The Prisoner of War cage closed in Havelange and opened at Buissonville, Belgium (in the 329th Infantry area). The Provost Marshall's office was located at Nettine, Belgium (P-238905).

7. On the 29, 30, and 31 of December 1944 the traffic section established traffic control for the movement of the Division to a new sector. On the 31 December 1944 the Military Police Platoon closed at Barvaux, Belgium (P-411969). The Prisoner of War Cage was opened at Hotton, Belgium (331st Infantry area). No prisoners have been processed at this cage.

(Ltr subject: Action Against Enemy Report, dated 1 February 1945)

APPENDIX NO. 1

1. During the month of January 1945, the 83rd Infantry Division was engaged in the Ardennes Counter Offensive. During this period the most important duty of the Military Police Platoon was traffic control. With information from the G-4 section and traffic control officer, traffic control points and information booths were established in the Division area, particular attention was given "D" route which was the designated MSR for the 83rd Infantry Division during this period. During the bad weather period our patrols were very active in keeping the roads clear and also reporting any noted deficiencies which could be repaired by the engineers. All security and straggler points were also operated as TCP's greatly increasing traffic control in the area.

2. The Division Prisoner of War Cage processed and evacuated eight hundred and four (804) prisoners during the entire operation. Two quarter-master 2½ ton trucks, plus two guards for each truck aided in evacuating prisoners from regiment to division, and after processing, evacuated them to an Army enclosure

3. The 84th Infantry Division, relieved this Division on the 21 January 1945, at 1400 that date the entire 83rd Division Military Police Platoon closed at Hamoir, Belgium. Upon arrival the Police Section took over the police functions of Hamoir, Belgium and also other towns within the Division Service area. The traffic section of the Platoon established eleven (11) traffic control points, including two information booths.



GEORGE OGILVIE,
Major, C.M.P.
Commanding

1 Incl:

Journal for month of January 1946.

Incl. No. 1:

1. During the month of February 1945, the 83rd Infantry Division was not in contact with the enemy. The Military Police Platoon were concerned mostly with platoon training. Police of towns, traffic control points and security guards were also in operation.

2. Training of the Police Section of the Platoon consisted of lectures on Straggler Control, Police of Towns, reporting of all violations, use of Military Police Forms. All personnel of the police section were familiarized with existing regulations concerning treatment of Prisoners of War, guarding and evacuation of PWs.

3. The traffic section of the Platoon, utilized road patrols in addition to their fixed traffic control points, no traffic problems were presented during the month.

For the benefit of the new men in this section, classes were held stressing the use of hand signals in traffic control. Practical use of batons at night and review of "Do's and Don'ts" in traffic control.

4. The Platoon also participated in problems such as Defense of the Division Command Post.

On the 22 February 1945 the Division moved to new areas, the traffic section posted the routes in accordance with new traffic plans.

5. The following listed men of the Platoon were decorated with the awards indicated:

Evans, John C., Pvt. 33613006 - Silver Star (Posthumous) per GO#35, Hq. 83d Infantry Division, dated 21 February 1945.

Wells, Charles A. Sgt. 15084740	Bronze Star
Kocjancio, Frank, Pfc., 35913667	Bronze Star
Keminski, Walter A., Pfc., 33339054	Bronze Star
Regan, Daniel L., Pfc., 36818933	Bronze Star
Gill, Ivan, Pfc., 38287584	Bronze Star

The above awards per GO #4, except Sgt. Wells, GO#33, Hq. 83d Infantry Division.

(Ltr. subject: After Action Report, MP Platoon, 83d Inf. Div., APO 83, US Army dtd 2 April 1945 cont'd)

NARRATIVE REPORT

During the month of March 1945 the Division Prisoner of War Cage processed 2179 prisoners. In the early part of March a displaced persons camp was also operated by our Police Section, but this was later turned over to the Military Government Section. No problems presented themselves in the transportation of prisoners to Army or the evacuation of prisoners from Regiment to Division.

After our troops had reached the Rhine River, the police section aided C.I.C. in rounding up all civilians of draft age, to be screened. A large number of Wermacht members were discovered.

After the occupation of Heuss, Germany, military police were sent there to aid Military Government Detachments in controlling civilian movement and also enforcing their laws and regulations.

The traffic section of the platoon established traffic control points on MSR's and temporary posts were established on all Division moves. It was found most practicable to utilize the Regiments Provisional MP Platoons for posting their own unit's route from the Release Point to the assembly area. The route from the IP to the RP was always posted by our Military Police. Since most bottlenecks occurred where units left the main route to enter their new area, the above plan aided greatly in keeping traffic moving the entire way.



Our new President, Arthur Doggett and his wife Mildred.

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON
83d Infantry Division
APO 83, U.S. Army

2 April 1945

SUBJECT: After Action Report.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Thru Channels.)

1. In compliance with Memorandum No. 83, Headquarters Ninth United States Army, dated 27 February 1945, subject as above, the following report is submitted:

a. Location of Platoon for month of March 1945

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ARRIVED</u>	<u>DEPARTED</u>
Aldenhoven, Germany (F1883)	1 March 1945	3 March 1945
Buttgen, Germany (F213892)	3 March 1945	21 March 1945
Roht, Holland (K691805)	21 March 1945	28 March 1945
Scheffbahn, Germany (F164944)	28 March 1945	29 March 1945
Buehholt, Germany (A298368)	29 March 1945	30 March 1945
Stockwiese, Germany (A651520)	30 March 1945	31 March 1945
Ludinghausen, Germany (A801526)	31 March 1945	---

b. Strength of Platoon:

- (1) Officers - 4.
- (2) Enlisted Men - 130.

c. Roster of Officers:

- (1) Ogilvie, George, O-445623, Major-Provost Marshal.
- (2) Naiser, Raymond J., O-1314822, 1st Lt.
- (3) Paape, Elmer W., O-310339, 1st Lt.
- (4) Chard, La Mar T., O-1557888, 2nd Lt.

d. Decorations and awards for period:

- (1) Naiser, R. J., 1st Lt., O1314822 - Bronze Star.
- (2) Abney, W. A., Pfc, 34915880 - Bronze Star.
- (3) Beck, Joe M., Pfc, 39290377 - Bronze Star.
- (4) Gorra, Robert J., Pfc, 32998819 - Bronze Star.

e. Operations for the period:

- (1) See attached narrative reports.

CLASSIFICATION
CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
GEORGE OGILVIE,
Major, C.M.P.,
Commanding.
Henry J. Smith, April 15, 1945
DOWNGRADING COMMITTEE

013
Mar 45

2 Incls:

Incl 1 Narrative report.

Incl 2 Journal.

~~SECRET~~

MILITARY POLICE PLATOON
83d Infantry Division
APO 83, US Army

2 May 1945.

SUBJECT : After Action Report.

TO : The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C. (Thru Channels)

1. In compliance with letter, Headquarters 83d Infantry Division, file 319.1/401 dated 11 April 1945, the following report is submitted:

a. Locations of Platoon for month of April 1945.

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>-ARRIVED</u>	<u>DEPARTED</u>
Ludinghausen, Germany (A-802527)	31 Mar 45	1 Apr 45
Walstedde, Germany (B-043517)	1 Apr 45	1 Apr 45
Beckum, Germany (B-215505)	1 Apr 45	3 Apr 45
Delbruck, Germany (B-571522)	3 Apr 45	4 Apr 45
Bad Lippspringe, Germany (B749549)	4 Apr 45	5 Apr 45
Horn, Germany (B-835645)	5 Apr 45	5 Apr 45
Steinheim, Germany (B-935640)	5 Apr 45	7 Apr 45
Rischenau, Germany (C-065658)	7 Apr 45	8 Apr 45
Eschershausen, Germany (C-309717)	8 Apr 45	10 Apr 45
Freden, Germany (C-488722)	10 Apr 45	10 Apr 45
Langelsheim, Germany (C-787748)	10 Apr 45	11 Apr 45
Heudeber, Germany (D-140718)	11 Apr 45	12 Apr 45
Cochstedt, Germany (D-530710)	12 Apr 45	13 Apr 45
Galbe, Germany (D-782755)	13 Apr 45	- - - -

b. Assigned strength of Platoon.

Officers - - - - 5
Enlisted Strength 126

c. Roster of Officers.

Ogilvie, George	O-445620	Major	Division Provost Marshal.
Naiser, Raymond J.	O-1314822	1st Lt.	MP Officer.
Paape, Elmer W.,	O-310339	1st Lt.	MP Officer.
Chard, La Mar T.	O-1557836	2nd Lt.	MP Officer.
Clark, Larry W.,	O-179865	2nd Lt.	MP Officer.

d. Losses in Action.

Alcock, Berry H., Jr. Pvt. 1/cl. 33048952 KIA

e. Operations for the month of April 1945.

See narrative report.

George Ogilvie
GEORGE OGILVIE,
Major, C.M.P.,
Commanding.

2 Incls;
Narrative report
Journal

AUG 14 1945
4805

HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 83, U. S. Army

GENERAL ORDERS)

17 September 1945

NUMBER 200)

AWARD OF THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE. . . . SECTION I

* * *

I- AWARD OF THE MERITORIOUS SERVICE UNIT PLAQUE--Under the provisions of Section I, WD Circulary 345, dated 23 August 1944, as amended, the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque is awarded the 83d Military Police Platoon of Headquarters Company, 83d Infantry Division, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks, and achievement and maintenance of a high standard of discipline from 1 December 1944 to 31 January 1945.

* * *

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MACON:

C. L. BOYLE
Colonel, GSC
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

/s/ N. P. Cowden
/t/ N. R. COWDEN
Lt Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

Rt. 1, Box 64
Richlands, N.C. 28574
31 May, 1983

The Things that happened to me while I was in the hospital in England the first time so I thought I would tell you how I left it to get back to the Division.

When the skin graft that I had on my right forearm was taking hold alright, I was to take therapy for the arm in order to strengthen the tendons and muscle that was left. I had the P-38 that Toss had given me in the Evacuation hospital in France so instead of squeezing rubber balls I got the P-38 out of the tore room and began trying to squeeze the trigger. At first I would cock it and then try squeezing the trigger as hard as I could. I would do it by the hour and it took me about four days before I was able to get enough pressure so that the hammer would fall. Believe me, I was one happy person when that happened. Of course this didn't complete my work as I had to be able to fire it as a double action pistol which meant squeezing the trigger all the way through with the hammer down. This took me about another week or ten days but when that happened I knew that I was about ready to go back across the channel.

The skin graft on my arm was raw still but my surgeon had taken the stitches out. I was fortunate in that though the 221st General had just arrived in England shortly before I got to it and though most of the staff were 'Stateside' my surgeon had been through most of the African campaigns. I told him one day that if I didn't get out of there soon I would very probably be getting into a mess of trouble. His answer to me was 'alright, just keep the graft greased and if you can't find anything else use Burma Shave'. Two days later I was on my way.

While trying to figure out how I was going to do it, I decided I would head for the 10th Replacement Depot at Warminster. I made it out of the hospital about four in the morning heading for the train station and in about an hour I was on my way. When I arrived at the Depot, I told them that I was reporting for duty from Hospital and that my orders were being sent to them. I was asked where I had been hit and I told them in my right shoulder with a shell fragment. They then told me to raise my arms over my head and I couldn't get my right one up. When I took off my shirt so that they could look at it they naturally saw my forearm heavily bandaged and the doctor took the bandage off. When he saw the raw graft he told me that I was limited service and I said, 'the Hell I am, I'm full field duty! After some yelling back and forth he told me to go in to see the C.O. of the Depot and when he saw my arm he and I got it back and forth with him saying I was limited service and me saying that I was full field duty. Finally he said that he was tired of these hospitals sending men back to duty in the kind of shape that I was in and he picked up the phone and tried to call the hospital. I thought that I had the works coming then

but Thank God for the British telephone service. I stood at attention for what seemed to be at least a half an hour while he was trying to get his call through. He finally hung the phone up and told me to go on and get squared around with a bunk

As soon as I got a billet, I started to see how the Depot was sending the casualties back to France. There were quite a number of men there who were just released from hospital and being returned to duty. They were made up into groups, that were called packages, consisting of 200 hundred men and a half dozen junior officers, getting them re-equipped and sending them on their way. I found one such package that was nearly ready to go so I told the Lt. in charge that I had been sent over by Depot Hq to help him out. The men had to draw their web equipment, helmets, weapons, go through the gas chamber, get paid, and be ready to leave. As usual the dear old replacement system had to do things the hard way so the men were paid in British pounds, shillings and pence. Then all of their money had to be exchanged into occupation francs. When they lined up to draw their gear I fell in at the end of the line and came out the other end with a bedding roll and a helmet along with a musette bag, web belt, first aid packet, canteen, etc. When they went to draw weapons I was at the tail end again and came out with a .45 pistol and a Tommy gun. I cleared the way for the Lt who was acting C. O. and he thought it was darned nice of the Depot to have me help him out. By the next afternoon the package was ready to go on and had even completed familiarization firing for their weapons. They were scheduled to entruck the next morning at 0700 so I showed up at the entrucking point with my gear on hand asked the Lt if he would have someone get my bedding roll for me.

When the trucks arrived I climbed up into the cab of the first vehicle as soon as everyone was loaded and I was on my way. It was about 1600 when the train pulled into Warminster heading for the 17th Repl. Depot. The Depot was about three miles out of town. I told the Lt to start the men out and that I would go on ahead and get the Depot ready for them. I then commandeered a jeep and driver (I never did find out who they belonged to) and proceeded on ahead. When I arrived I found several other packages just milling around. Some had been there several hours and were still waiting to get tents.

I started hollering for the Depot Commander, said that I had a package on its way out from the station and that I wanted hot chow for the men as soon as they arrived. It was drizzling a bit when the package pulled in and tents were assigned and the men then taken immediately to the messhall while the others still had'n't gotten their tents. The cooks had been getting ready for us and when the men started through I stood at the head of the line and watched them go. They were getting fresh eggs, toast, bacon, jam, fried potatoes, and coffee fresh off the stove. As

the last man started through, I picked up a tray and followed. For some reason or other I was always ending up at the tail end.

While I was eating, a Depot officer brought over a war correspondent, introduced him to me and asked if I minded if he talked to the men. I told him to go ahead as all of them were going back for seconds and thirds and they were the ones who could tell him what it was like. He started talking with some of them but after a short time came back to me. He told me that he had orders to Third Army Hq's and would be going over himself. I found out that he had been with a bomber unit and had actually made seventeen missions with it. I asked him what he wanted to see and he said everything he could so that he would know what it was like on the ground. I then told him that if he went to Third Army, he would see what they wanted him to see and write what they wanted him to write and was that what he wanted. I then said that I was on my way back to a front line unit and if he wanted he come along with me. I figured it would be as easy to get two back across as it would be to get one.

The following morning we were on a train heading for Southampton. When we arrived on the docks I saw some Red Cross girls there so I told the Lieutenant to give me his package lists and I would take care of them while he ran the men down the line for coffee and doughnuts. It was simple then. Taking the lists with me I located the Transportation Officer, told him that I had the lists for the package, and that there were a couple of names to add to it. Then I wrote Ham's name and my name at the bottom. (I forgot to tell you that he was Hamilton Green, a correspondent for the American Legion magazine and the King Syndicate)

Back to the Lt and started him heading up the gangway. As the last one started I said "Come on Ham" and picked up my bedding roll and started up the gangway after them. Not too long after we were unloading on Omaha Beach and starting up the trail to the top of the cliffs where we ended up in a large assembly area where the casualties were broken down into Army groups. Finding out that the 83rd was in Third Army I told the Lt that he was on his own now and that was as far as I took him. With Ham in tow I checked in to a group that was just entrucking for a Third Army Depot and Ham and I climbed aboard. It wasn't too long before we arrived and the men who were already there were forming long lines across the fields for chow. This consisted of "C" rations heated up in GI cans of water being heated with immersion heaters. When Ham started in about how hungry he was I told him that I was going to show him how we did it in the Infantry. We passed several fields until I found one with a half dozen GI's about a fire at the far end. I moved in a short ways toward them and dropped my gear. Ham dropped his and was immediately moaning about how hungry he was. At that time I saw a Lt come over the Bank and start talking to the men. I knew that he was

saying something about us but just stayed sitting on my bedroll. In about five minutes he came over to us. I introduced ourselves to him and was told that he was in charge of that area and would we like something to eat. I thought that Ham's tongue was going to fall out his mouth as we walked over to the group around the fire. A sergeant, sitting on a box when we came up, reached into the box and pulled out one of the biggest steaks I had ever seen. He asked us how we liked our steak cooked and dropped it onto a grill. With another look at me he reached into the box once more and came out with a bottle of Calvados. He said "would you like a drink, Major," and before he could get it all out I was reaching for the bottle. After a couple of big swallows I passed the bottle to Ham. I forgot that he had been spending his time with the flyboys drinking Scotch and other mild liquors. Seeing me tilt it up he must have figured there couldn't have been much to it so he tried to take a big swallow. I thought his eyes were going to bug out of his head and that was part of his initiation as being an infantryman.

I found out that the 83rd was in VIIth Corps and we were fortunate in being able to catch a truck convoy heading for their before we had even opened our bedrolls. Upon arrival at the Corps Depot, we hadn't much more than set our gear down when a column of men started by us. I asked what unit they were from and someone called back "83rd Div." Their trucks were just a short way down the road so I told Ham to grab his gear and come on. There was a little corporal (and I don't mean Napoleon) as truckmaster. I asked him if he had room for a couple of more. Looking at me with a grin he asked if I was Major White. When I said yes, he said they had been told that I was on my way back and to be on the lookout for me. He delivered me directly to Division Hqs.

I reported to General Macon as being back for duty from hospital and introduced Ham to him. That was the start of a three months stay for Ham with us future Thunderbolts. I then hunted up the 330th liaison officer and was just climbing into his jeep when a runner found me and said that General Ferenbaugh wanted to see me. I was looking forward to rejoining the Regiment and hoping to get back with the 3rd Hn which I was told was on its way to Brest. I told the General that I was just getting ready to leave for the 330th and he told me that I wasn't going back. Instead, I was being sent to the 331st as Bn Exec for the 1st Bn. I reported to Major Scott the next day and that started me off in a new ball game.

Bill White
The Mad Major



38th Annual Reunion of 83rd Infantry Division

Owensboro, Kentucky - Kentucky Chapter

August 9-10-11, 1984

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Convention Rate: For 4 days and 3 nights lodging (August 9-10-11, 1984), \$240 per couple, includes double occupancy room or \$120 per person in a double occupancy room, or \$170 per person in a single occupancy room. Included are 6 catered meals, 3 breakfasts and 3 dinners. Lunches are on their own.

Standard Rate: For additional nights other than the convention dates of August 9-10-11, 1984 will be \$40.00 per room per night.

Room charges, such as restaurant, lounges and other purchases are not included in the above convention or standard rate.

If rooms requested are not available, we will provide at next available accommodation and/or rate. A \$25.00 deposit per room is required to hold your rooms. Reservation must be cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival date before deposit can be refunded.

CHECK IN TIME: 1:00 P.M.

CHECK OUT TIME: 12:00 NOON. Extensions will be permitted when possible, depending on room availability for that date.

38 ANNUAL REUNION
THUNDERBOLT



EARLY ARRIVALS

Arthur Doggett, R.C. Hamilton and all of their committees are planning a two hour boat ride on the Executive Queen for Wednesday evening. More details will be in the next issue of the Thunderbolt. Start making your plans now. Wednesday evening August 8, 1984.

September 14, 1983
Baltimore, Maryland

Hi Buddies:

I've just returned from the longest reunion of my career. August 17 to September 2. Of course only August 17 and 18 were at the wonderful Hyatt. The rest of the time was at the Good Samaritan Hospital. They treated me fine there for my minor heart attack, but there is no place like home to rest and recuperate.

I'm still a little weak and suffering some side effects from the heart medication, but my doctor said that will go away in a few weeks, when my system gets used to it. I'm on a 1000 calorie diet and starving to death. Ha! Ha! I've lost 15lbs but the doctor wants me to lose 10 or 15 lbs more. The important thing is I've kicked the cigarette habit after all these years.

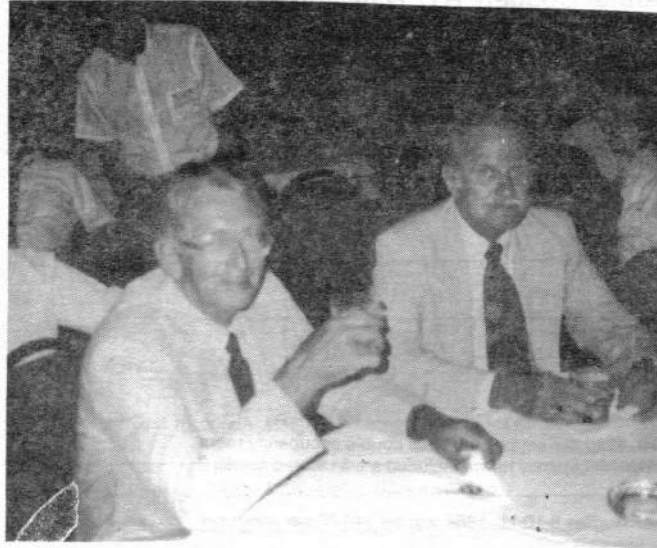
Sure would like to thank everyone for all the cards and letters of encouragement, and a special **THANKS** to my good buddies, Bob Brinkman and Sterling Rubright for all they did for me in my time of need.

Filmore E. Kohler
"G" 329th

Baltimore, Maryland

From all your 83rd Buddies and their wives and families we are glad you are home and doing well. We are glad your trouble is one we can talk about and wish you well.

Bob



Our very own Kent O'Connell and his buddy Bob Barber. If some of you don't know these two, make their acquaintance. They are delightfull. Kent is our Historian. Bob is his "Bodyguard".

Reunion will be in **Owensboro, KY**, August 1984. The dates are **August 9, 10, 11, 1984.** Start making your plans to attend the 38 Reunion.

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82-83 DUES ARE DUE NOW !!!!

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

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.**

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