



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 39 No. 4

Summer Issue 1984

BACK TO OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY FORTY YEARS LATER COME REMINISCE WITH US



The 83rd
in
Owensboro, KY
August 9-10-11, 1984

THE THUNDERBOLT
Official Publication
83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.

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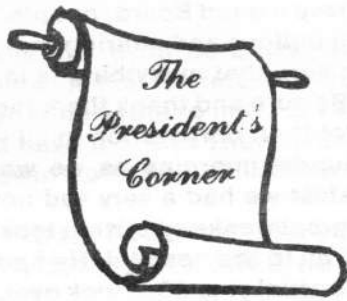
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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan 1947	Charles Abdinoor 1959	Casey Szubski 1970
Jack M. Straus 1948	*Joseph F. Minotti 1960	Charles Altomari 1971
*Shelly Hughes 1949	*Frank J. McGrogan 1961	*Harold H. Dopp 1972
*Julius Ansel 1950	Louis J. Volpi 1962	Bernard O. Riddle 1973
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Lt. Gen. Robert H. York 1956	Albert A. Belvedere 1967	Joseph A. Macaluso 1978
*Harry W. Lockwood 1957	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968	William J. Chavanne 1979
Raymond J. Voracek 1958	Pat DiGiammerino 1969	Samuel Klippa 1980
		Michael Caprio 1981
		Ralph Gunderson 1982



Here we are into June. Reunion time is just eight (8) weeks away. All the Kentucky Chapter members hope you have your reservation into the Executive Inn. If you intend to be among us on the Early Bird Boat ride get that reservation into Manny Goodridge right away. He reports that we have 250 for each trip. When we started this out we hoped for enough to make one trip. Here we are with two trips. We thank all of you and hope you will enjoy it. We had to make two days of the trip to Camp Breckenridge. The Golf Tournament is coming along real well according to Paul Bryars. The women have their program all planned according to Pearl Derickson. They are having programs printed for everyone. They will be available at the registration desk when you check in. Doesn't all this make you want to just pack your bags and get going towards Owensboro.

Your Board met on May 18 and 19 at the Executive Inn to approve the reunion program and meet the Directors of the Executive Inn. They were all well pleased with our choice. We hope that all of you will too. Charlie Schmidt is working on plans to make your Hospitality room a great success. Ames Miller who is president of the Kentucky Chapter, will be there with the Chapter members greeting all of you and making you welcome.

So all indications are "GO" for this reunion. We have our plans pretty well made. We hope you have yours made to attend.

I want to thank everyone for sending me cards and phoning me since I have been sick. Wally and Fran Roberts for opening their home to Mildred while I was confined to the hospital in Owensboro. All the Kentucky Chapter people for carrying on for me and the Board for being so kind. I will do my very best to see you all in Owensboro.

I do want to thank R.C. Hamilton for all he has done to help me out. Last but not most definitely not the least, I sincerely want to thank Bob Derickson, our National Secretary Treasurer, for all the help and guidance he has given me in the past two years to make sure we followed the proper procedures and guidelines in making sure this reunion was a success.

You' all come to the Reunion.

Arthur Doggett
783rd ORD.



Dear Buddies:

Just think we are getting ready to celebrate our thirty-eighth reunion of this wonderful organization. As I am writing this article today it was forty years ago that we were all together in that boat in the English Channel waiting our turn to jump in that water and be a part of the biggest event in history. We all thought about the buddy next to us and we all prayed that we would somehow come through this. Many of us did but a lot did not. Take time this year and come to the reunion in Owensboro, Kentucky. Once again be a part of the 83rd. Greet the buddies some of whom you have not seen for many a year. Time is slipping away from us all and as Pearl and I watched the events overseas this morning on Television I only hoped that more than ever some of you would find the time and put forth

the effort to come on to the reunion. Say Hello. Let us know if you have never attended a reunion before. We want to especially welcome you first timers. All the old timers will bring you up to date. Don't stay home and say "Next Year" because next year may not come for some of us. Make the most of this year.

We hope to see a great many of you on that memorable trip back to Camp Breckenridge. Usually in this article I am telling you what the host chapter did to entertain the board at the May meeting. This time I will try and give you an up-to-date about what the Kentucky Chapter did.

Pearl and I left the house about six o'clock on Friday, May 17. Went to Covington, Kentucky and picked up Charlie Schmidt. His wife, Babe, could not go with us because of family obligations. We missed you Babe. From there we went to the Doggett's. We unloaded our car and packed our stuff all into their car. Left there about 8:30. Drove as far as LaGrange, Kentucky. Mildred and Pearl had to stop at some furniture and craft store. Lucky for Arthur and I it was not opened for business yet. But you know Pearl and Mildred. They talked the gals into letting them just look. And that is all. We went on and stopped at Dale, Indiana for some lunch. Got to Owensboro about 1:00 P.M. and Louise were there waiting for us. By the time we got to our rooms and got settled, Ames and Helen and Larry and Sue were there. So the women and Charlie took off for the Tourist Bureau. Charlie went to see the merchants about advertising and the gals were working on the program for the reunion. They have their program all set up. Printed elsewhere in this issue of the Thunderbolt. We men met with some of the heads of the Inn and got ready for the Board meeting on Saturday. By the time we all met that evening, Stan Bielen was in and we all went to the buffet right there in the dining room of the hotel. Stan has told you all about that in his article. Bill and Bea got in later that evening and Joe and Mena got in about 11. John and Mary Raikos were waiting at the breakfast table Saturday morning. So all your board is accounted for. Bob and Rita Taylor were the only ones absent. We certainly missed them. But we are looking forward to seeing them at the reunion. Rita has promised Pearl and I both that she will be there. Our prayers are with you Rita. Keep your sunnysmile and bless you for being so cheerful. Know she would appreciate a card.

On Saturday your Board worked all day to make sure all the details for the reunion were in order.

You have a good Board, people. They are a very conscientious and untiring group. They want to make sure that everything is in good order for you. Be sure and thank them for all their efforts and for their corporation in all we do.

On Sunday morning as we were all going to breakfast we had a very sad note in our otherwise great weekend. Arthur took sick and had to be taken to the hospital. He had a heart attack. But as usual your 83rd took over. They had paramedics there immediately and rushed him to the hospital. Larry and Sue Leonardi brought Charlie back home. The Inn took care of getting Joe and Mena back to Evansville to catch their plane home and everyone was on their way. Pearl and I stayed with Mildred until Monday. Then she moved to Wally and Fran Robert's home and Monday afternoon we left for home in Arthur's car. We left there about 3:00 and with a few stops we made it home about 10:30 Monday evening. Arthur was moved to the hospital in Florence, Kentucky by ambulance on Wednesday and he stayed there for a week. Home now and says he feels fine. Planning on being at the Kentucky Chapter meeting this week end here in Oxford. So all is well that ends well.

We plan on seeing a great many of you at the reunion. Don't let us down.

There are about 200 of you men out there who have not paid your dues for 1984. Won't you please take care of this so that we can close out our year with our goal of 1500. How many thousands of us were there on D-DAY THAT YEAR SO LONG AGO? Time keeps right on going.

I know this is a long article but I want to get all this in. It has come to my attention that some of you say that you have sent articles in to this office and they are not getting into the Thunderbolt. I want you all to know that everything that comes here goes into our magazine. If when you read your Thunderbolt your article is not in that Thunderbolt call ME, NOT SOMEONE ELSE. I will personally check and see why your article is not in. BUT IT DOES NOT DO ANY GOOD TO COMPLAIN TO SOMEONE ELSE. I AM THE ONE WHO SENDS THE MATERIALS TO THE PRINTER NOT YOUR FRIEND. I try to see that nothing is missed but it does hurt me when I hear that some of you feel that I am not putting your material in the magazine. I promise you that every piece of mail that is intended for the magazine goes into it.

I want to close this with a note of condolence to Bill Doty's family and friends. Bill fought a good

fight and finally lost it on Saturday, June 2, 1984. Elsewhere in the Thunderbolt you will find the last letter he wrote to me. I am sure he would want to have it in the Thunderbolt anyway. May you be in God's hand Bill. We will miss you.

REMEMBER IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION FOR THE REUNION, AND DEFINITELY NOT TOO LATE TO GET THAT 1984 DUES IN.

Thank you all for another great year that you have given to Pearl and I. We love you all.

Bob

***** FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD *****

The five years that I have served on the Executive Board have a lasting experience. In the last Thunderbolt I expressed thanks to those men and their wives for helping me and my wife to get in and out of the areas that were selected for reunions.

In this article I hope to convey a message to the members of the Association and to thank them for selecting such an outstanding group of individuals for me to work with. There is a large number of members in our association, and probably one of the fallacies of any organization, is that all cannot serve as Officers of their Associations. I know that each member in his own right can make an outstanding contribution to the Association. The men that I have served with for the past five years have all contributed to the success of the Association.

It has been my privilege to serve with men like Pat Digammerino, Lou Volpi, Dick Riddle, Mike Skovran, Manny Goodridge, Bob Taylor, Bill Chavanne, Stan Bielen and Larry Leonardi. Larry is the newcomer to the Board and does not have an official meeting under his belt, but he has responded well to the letters that I have mailed out this year. As for the others, each in his own way has made contributions to the Executive Board, and to the Association. They are all to be congratulated for their time and their efforts.

We all did not agree on all of the matters brought before the Board, but it has been very interesting to find out the various ways that they thought the Association should function.

Before going any further I should also include two other names, the two men that have served as Judge Advocate; Bill Doty and John Raikos. Their legal experience has helped the Board make some very trying decisions.

It has been the effort of the Board to increase

communications between the Board and the members of the Association. The Board feels that each member can contribute something to the success of the organization. This can be accomplished only through communications. Telling your buddies that you do not like what the Board is doing and don't like the decisions of the Board, does not solve the problem. Let the members of the Board know your feelings. We are all working toward a better 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Another thing that the Board has been trying to accomplish is to shorten the meetings. We come to a reunion for the sole purpose of spending some time with our buddies. However, it is unfortunate that we must have meetings so that we can discuss our problems. Only in the meetings can we do this. The Board itself, has cut the number of its meetings from three to two at the reunions. Our meetings are better prepared and we feel that we accomplish more in a shorter period of time. Our meetings on Friday and Saturday of the reunions have a tendency to ramble on. We feel that if the President organizes his agenda, and takes full control of the meeting, we can get all of the business before the membership and achieve all of the goals we have set.

I know that in the past five years that the Board has made numerous decisions, we know that we did not please all of the members. I can truthfully say, that we have given each matter our careful attention, and we feel that the decisions that we arrived at were in the best interest of the Association.

The Board has tried to work with each and every Chapter that has sponsored a reunion. We have set certain guidelines that we would like each Chapter to follow in preparing to Host a reunion. It is very important that these guidelines are given specific attention, and that all reports prepared must be filed with the Secretary of the Association.

Speaking of the Secretary-Treasurer, who is also a member of the Executive Board, a special vote of thanks to Bob Derickson for keeping the Board informed as to the functions and the operations of the Association.

It takes a great team to have a great organization and believe me we do have a Great Association.

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to serve you.

This article would not be complete without my requesting your special prayers and best wishes to Rita Taylor, wife of one of the Board

members. She does need the blessings of us all. Here's hope for a complete recovery, Rita.

Joe Macaluso

*** FROM YOUR REUNION CHAIRMAN ***

The time is growing near for the 38th Annual reunion. The motel is filling up. The Early Bird River Cruise will make two (2) cruises on Wednesday night the 8th of August. The Camp Breckenridge Tours will be Thursday the 9th and Friday the 10th of August with a total of 250 people each day. Busses are furnished by the Kentucky Chapter and will leave the motel at 10:00 a.m. SHARP. In order to arrive at the Camp in time for free Lunch by the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center and the tour of the remainder of the Camp.

Dinner and Dancing each night, lounging around an indoor or outdoor pool, ladie's entertainment, Early birds may want a day at Ellis Park thoroughbred Race Track. Enjoy many of the fine restaurants and tours of the malls, etc. We will try to find plenty for you to do.

Golf tournament Friday and Saturday morning at Ben Hawes State Parke, 5 minutes from motel, early Birds may want to get some practice rounds earlier in week. Fees very reasonable. Paul Bryars in charge of tournament.

R.C. Hamilton - Reunion Chairman
"D" 331st

*** 323rd ***

I just had a little chat with John Cardinal Piscitelli on the telephone. John had been sick, but is doing much better and is looking forward to being in the line of march with the 83rd on Memorial Day. What would Al Belvedere be without Piscitelli and Joe Gioia in the Parade!

"Jake" Erwin tells me that he will be in Kentucky in August. I certainly am looking forward to seeing "Jake". He was in Florida last year and I was unable to attend. It will be 40 years since I last saw "Jake".

Eli Kinder, a good Hq 323rd man is now living in Fresno, Calif. He is trying to plan to be in Kentucky in August. We have not seen him since 1945. Larry Boyle sent my address to him and we are now in contact with him.

Jack Knight and Dallas Williams are doing well in Portland, Oregon. I must phone James "Buck" Taylor since I have not heard from him recently.

Romeo Maynard and his wife were in a bad automobile accident. They received some bad injuries, however, Livvy and Romeo are making a good comeback and hope to be at one of the Boston Chapter Meetings in the near future.

Victor Bravman had a very bad year, but also has

made a great recovery.

Tom Papile had a hip operation which he hopes will be the end of his ailments for awhile.

Bill Shaner has been doing well in retirement, along with Don St. John. They keep the City of Altoona, Pennsylvania alive.

In March the Tynan's went to Florida on vacation. I must say that Bob Costello and Walter Harding, along with their wives, were very nice to Nancy and myself. Florida life agrees with them very well.

Captain Morgan and John Pollack are going to be traveling overseas for D-Day. They will have some news for us at reunion time about France, Germany etc. Of course, this time they are going first class.

Nancy and I will be on our way to Ireland on 16 June for fifteen days, so I will be talking Gaelic like the Long Island Irishman, Kent O'Connell when I get to the reunion in Kentucky.

Les Taylor writes, but he never gives me his Golf scores. I hope he doesn't stay in the Club House since his retirement.

Willie Snodgrass keeps me well informed with news about his family and the men from the 323rd who I don't know. Willie, I do appreciate your help.

Medling from Battery "B" should be one of the highlights at the Kentucky Reunion.

I regret to inform you that Eddie Cass, John Medeiros and Otto Koivisto passed away during the past three months. All three were from Hq Battery.

Otto Koivisto I had not seen for ten years. I had quite a chat with he and his wife at that time.

Eddie Cass was close by so we were quite friendly over the years. However, Eddie had been in poor health in recent years.

Johnny Medeiros ran a business in Everett, Massachusetts. I used to see him on occasions and had the opportunity to really get to know his wife and family.

Our condolences go out to the families of these men.

I want to thank the men who supported the Memorial Page for the Ad Book.

See you in Kentucky in August.

Amby Tynan
323rd Reporter



Two loyal Kentucky Chapter members: Owens & Jeanette Jones.

**Chaplain's
Steeple**



Dear Buddies:

Since our Winter Issue of our Thunderbolt magazine, I received (22) names of our deceased buddies, that have gone from us since our last reunion, from their families and friends. We pray for all of those, their loved ones, that they left behind. We pray as we strive to carry on the name of the 83rd Infantry Thunderbolt Division, that they all loved so much. May they be with God always.

Their names and outfit are as follows:

Phil Derecola	"H" 331st
Harold Dalbey	"H" 330th
Charles Nevius	"H" 330th
Al Flavio	"HQ" 324th F.A.
Otto Koivisto	"HQ" 323rd F.A.
George K. Willis	"HQ" 323rd F.A.
Edward Cass	"HQ" 323rd F.A.
John Medirous	"HQ" 323rd F.A.
Col. Edward G. Allen	2nd Bn Hq. 330th
Russell Sonju	83rd Army Band
O.L. Dalton	A.T. 330th
Charles E. Morgason	"A" 908th F.A.
Minor R. Minor	"HQS" 329th
Myron H. Miller	"K" 330th
Alexander Tyson	"A" 908th F.A.
Paul Cico	"F" 330th
Phil Deresla	"F" 331st
Milton Berger	Dentist 329th
Robert Criswell	None given by his wife
Donald G. Ervin	"HQS" 2nd Bn 331st
Leon G. Hall	"G" 329th
Frank Balcerz	None given
Paul Shoop	"A" 308th Engineers
John P. Richard	"C" 323rd F.A.
Charles Currier	"H" 330th

Dear Buddies as I have been writing our deceased buddies names for our obituary column on this Sunday, June 3, 1984 I've been listening and watching T.V., honoring 40 years that we were waiting for "D" Day and our preparations for going into combat.

Thinking back to those days, and all our falling comrades, in those five battles that we were in throughout Europe - and now here we are in peace time - 40 years later, and our list sounds like a Battle casualty report. Sixty two good men have left us since our Florida reunion of 1983-84.

Lord! we shall always remember them, yesterday-today-and always. We pray that you'll always keep them all at your side. We'll pray for them here on Earth, as we know that they will pray for us in Heaven, and we know as we truthfully say "Old Soldiers will never die". AMEN.

Well Buddies, God willing we have another reunion in August. We pray that the Good Lord will slow our casualty for our coming reunion. See you in August.

CHAPLAIN

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

Additions to the Chaplain's Steeple

William Doty - Word came to us on Monday afternoon June 4, 1984 that Bill had passed away on June 2, 1984. We could not get to the funeral because of the lateness in getting the word, but some of the 83rder's got there. Bill fought a good fight and lost a leg. Bill was our Judge Advocate for many years. He will be missed by all of us. Bill was with the 323rd.

Dear Sirs:

I would like to inform you of the death of my dear husband Julius Kosik on April 19, 1984 of a massive heart attack following a short illness. He was a veteran of World War II, a sergeant in Company "B" 329th M.P. of the 83rd.

Mrs. Julius Kosik
1126 E. Ohio Street
Tuscon, Arizona 85714

Ray Peters - 83rd M.P. Word received from Mrs. Ray Peters and Arthur Riech passed away on March 13, 1984.

James P. Ryan "F" 331st - Word received from his wife Sadie that Jim passed away on April 25, 1983.

Dear Mr. Derickson:

This note is to notify you that Lawrence A. Weber, "Larry" died on March 6th. I notified the Florida Chapter of the 83rd Division, assuming that you too would be notified by them.

Please remove his name from your mailing list. Sorry not to have written to you sooner. Larry belonged to the MEDICS 331st.

Sincerely
Edith E. Weber

Henry T. Lynagh "G" 330th - Word received from wife Nan that Henry passed away on May 10, 1984.

William H. Culp, passed away on November 4, 1983. Word received from his wife Betty. Member of the 83rd Recon.

Dear Bob:

After mailing in our deceased Buddies list, I had sent in a good buddies name of John Ricard of "C" 323rd F.A. I went for my radiation treatments and when I returned home, Bill Chavanne called, that Rita Doty was trying to contact me. She wanted to let me know that Bill had passed away. Bill, John and I were the best of friends since the day we met. John Ricard from Camp Atterbury and Bill Doty in the Hurtgen Forest. It was a great loss to all of us from Charlie Battery to lose two (2) good buddies in two (2) days. A loss to us and to our great 83rd outfit. We all pray for Rita Doty and Avis Ricard and their loved ones that they left behind. We pray the good Lord to keep them always. May their souls always rest in peace.

AMEN

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

***** PHILLY CHAPTER NEWS ***
BROTHERLY LOVE
LIBERTY**

Dear Buddies:

I wish to thank each and everyone of our 83rd Infantry Division Association for the dozen's of get well cards that I received while I was in the hospital - upon the discovery of a cancerous tumor in my right lung. I'm now getting daily radiation treatment and therapy for the next 6 to 8 weeks. Again thanks for the many phone calls - too numerous to mention.

To me and probably to everyone else my best friends are still the 83rd Infantry Division men and their wives. God bless you all.

Love
John T. Piscitelli

Well dear and old friends, as we go along in life, a lot of our friends are leaving from our world.

Our love to Al Uridel on the passing on of his wonderful wife - God go with him in his bereavement.

Our prayers to Rita Taylor on her illness and a quick recovery. Also to Jim Price we pray for a quick recovery after his heart attack and as he prepares for a triple bypass.

A quick recovery to Larry Redmond after a prostrate operation.

Also a welcome back to Norman Shuster after his hip operation.

To Bernard Medelsohn after treatment for his heart condition.

Also to Bill Doty we pray for him after the loss of his leg. As Joe Ponzio "L" 330th Infantry told me in the hospital. "Piski, you're an 83rd Thunderbolt. We can beat anything with the help of God.

Our Memorial Day Parade was a great one despite the inclement weather.

Most of our men couldn't march because of illness. Jim Prentice as always came down from Hartford, Connecticut and served on our firing squad.

Present were Larry Redmond, Bill Chavanne, Bookie Mendelsohn, and our President John Daum. His wife, Margarete was rushed to the hospital for double pneumonia. Also present was Joe Gioia, Lou Volpe, Anthony Giannini, Bill Pugh, Manny Lima and Al Beveledere. A few other Buddies who were veterans donned our shirts and helmets, Belts and leggings and marched with us.

After the parade and ceremonies, our chapter had open house with our hosts Lou and Lucy Volpe at their restaurant in Narbeth, Pennsylvania.

The greatest thrill I ever had or received, was after I gave benediction. Our Commander of our Honor Guard and Rifle Squad, Al Beveledere called them to attention and with the American Legion, and other units, they presented arms, to me which I never expected. Again I thank each and every one. Bless them all.

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



Deana McIntosh, Daughter of Herschel McIntosh with the picture she has painted. This is a numbered volume and Deana has graciously donated one and maybe two of these to the Kentucky Chapter to raffle off at the reunion. Deana will be at the reunion with the original picture, and will be available to talk to anyone.



Dear Buddies:

Just a few pieces to add to Bill Nichols report on the Dedication of OUR Statue by the C.E.B.A. in Luxembourg.

I have been corresponding with Tilly Kemmes (Sec. C.E.B.A.) for quite a few years.

The Medalleon was minted for the ceremony. The newspaper editorial on Bad-Harzburg and the copy of the "THUNDERBOLT" will be a reminder to those of you who were there. A beautiful city with plenty of damm good beer. The tree registration cards, of course, came from the Draft Board.

The first one made your stomach churn, the last was worth quite a few drinks.

"We Were the Best"
William Kent O'Connell
83rd M.P.

NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION

Registrant _____

has been classified in Class 1B

by Local Board
 Board of Appeal (by vote of _____ to _____)
 President

DEC 2 1946

(Date of mailing) _____, 19____

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

Appeal from classification by local board or board of appeal may be made by filing written notice of appeal with the local board or board of appeal within the time specified in the notice of classification. The law requires you to appear in person at the hearing. There is a right in certain exceptional cases, at appeal for Service Regulations.

The law requires you to appear in touch with your local board. To notify it of any change of address and change classification.

D. S. S. Form 57 (Rev. 4-13-45)

Order No. 3604

Further Notice, 19____

(Insert Date for Class II-A and II-B only)

19____

W.K. O'Connell
 Member of Local Board

NOTICE OF CLASSIFICATION App. not Req.

WILLIAM KENT O'CONNELL

(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

Order No. 3604 has been classified in Class 1C Disc

(Until **Further Notice** 19____)

(Insert date for Class II-A and II-B only)

by Local Board,
 Board of Appeal (by vote of _____ to _____),
 President.

JAN 7 1946

(Date of mailing) _____, 19____

(Signature of local board member)

The law requires you, subject to heavy penalty for violation, to have this notice, in addition to your Registration Certificate (Form 2), in your personal possession at all times to exhibit it upon request to authorized officials—to surrender it, upon entering the armed forces, to your commanding officer. DSS Form 57. (Rev. 12-10-43.)

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that in accordance with the Selective Service Proclamation of the President of the United States

WILLIAM KENT O'CONNELL

(First name) (Middle name) (Last name)

94-14 220 St Queens Village N

(Place of residence)

(This will be identical with line 2 of the Registration Card)

has been duly registered this 16 day of October, 1946

W.K. O'Connell
 (Signature of registrant)

Registration for Local Board 272 Flushing NY

(Number) (City or county) (State)

THE LAW REQUIRES YOU TO HAVE THIS CARD IN YOUR PERSONAL POSSESSION AT ALL TIMES

D. S. S. Form 2 (Revised 6/9/41) 16-21631-1



Nazi Ghosts Still Haunt a Democratic Germany

World War II veterans of Heinrich Himmler's dreaded SS are no longer officially considered a threat to West German democracy. Organizations composed of those who served in the SS's military arm, the Waffen SS, were quietly dropped last year from the Interior Ministry's list of extremist groups.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl took the position then that many members of wartime Nazi units were draftees who had nothing to do with Nazi atrocities.

Nevertheless, the town of Bad Harzburg earlier this month banned a planned reunion of the Adolf Hitler Waffen SS Division, citing both security problems and a need to protect community "ideals." And a leader of the opposition Social Democrats in the West German parliament has called for the renewed outlawing of SS veterans' organizations on the ground that their meetings are regularly used to whitewash war crimes and glorify anti-democratic militarism.

No amount of whitewash could do the job at a planned reunion this weekend in the town of Oberaula, northeast of Frankfurt.

The get-together there involves veterans of a particularly notorious unit, the 3rd SS Totenkopf (Death's Head) Panzer Division, made up of former concentration camp guards.

Their deeds are said to include murdering British prisoners of war, butchering Soviet civilians and helping raze the Warsaw Ghetto. The record makes it hard to imagine that they want to do nothing more virulent than sing "Auld Lang Syne." But even that would be a slap in the face to surviving victims of Nazi bestiality and to Germans seeking to overcome the burdens of the past.



West Palm Beach 37th Reunion

83rd Thunderbolt

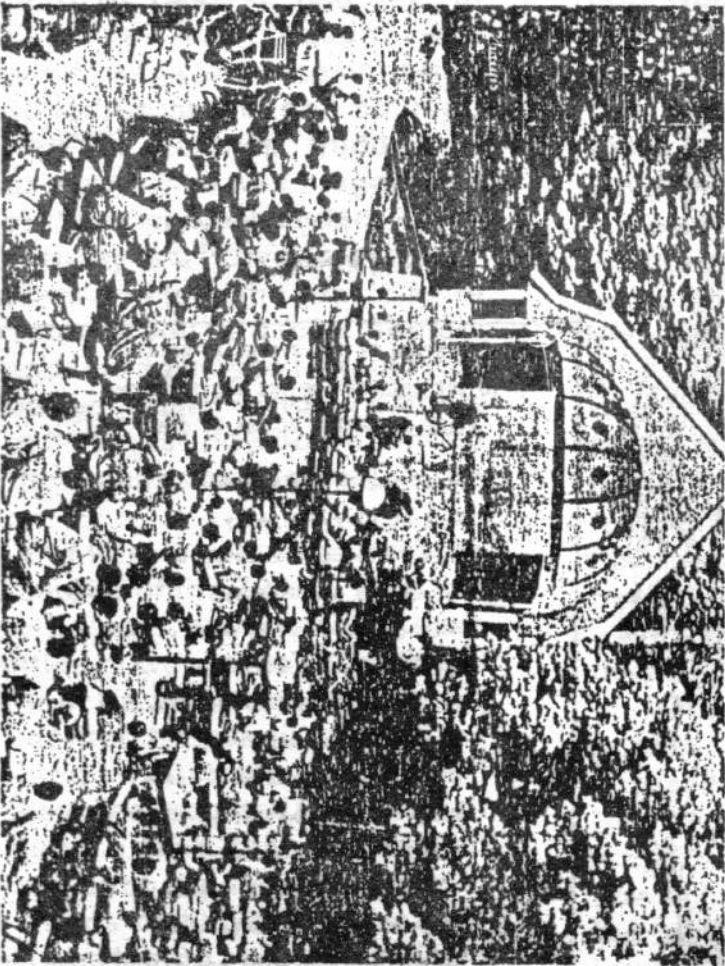
NORMANDY. BRITTANY. LOIRE VALLEY. LUXEMBOURG. HURTTGEN FOREST. ARDENNES. FIRST TO RHINE. ELBE BRIDGEHEAD.

VOL 1, No. 5

BAD HARZBURG, GERMANY

MAY 26, 1945

Floor Show Fun At The Kasino . . .



Relaxing over their beer as the "Four Phillips" go into their act at the Thunderbolt Kasino in Bad Harzburg are another day's quota of Division doughs visiting the 83rd Rest Center. The Phillips went on tour this week at all units of the Division.

83rd Plans Impressive Ceremonies To Mark ETO Memorial Day

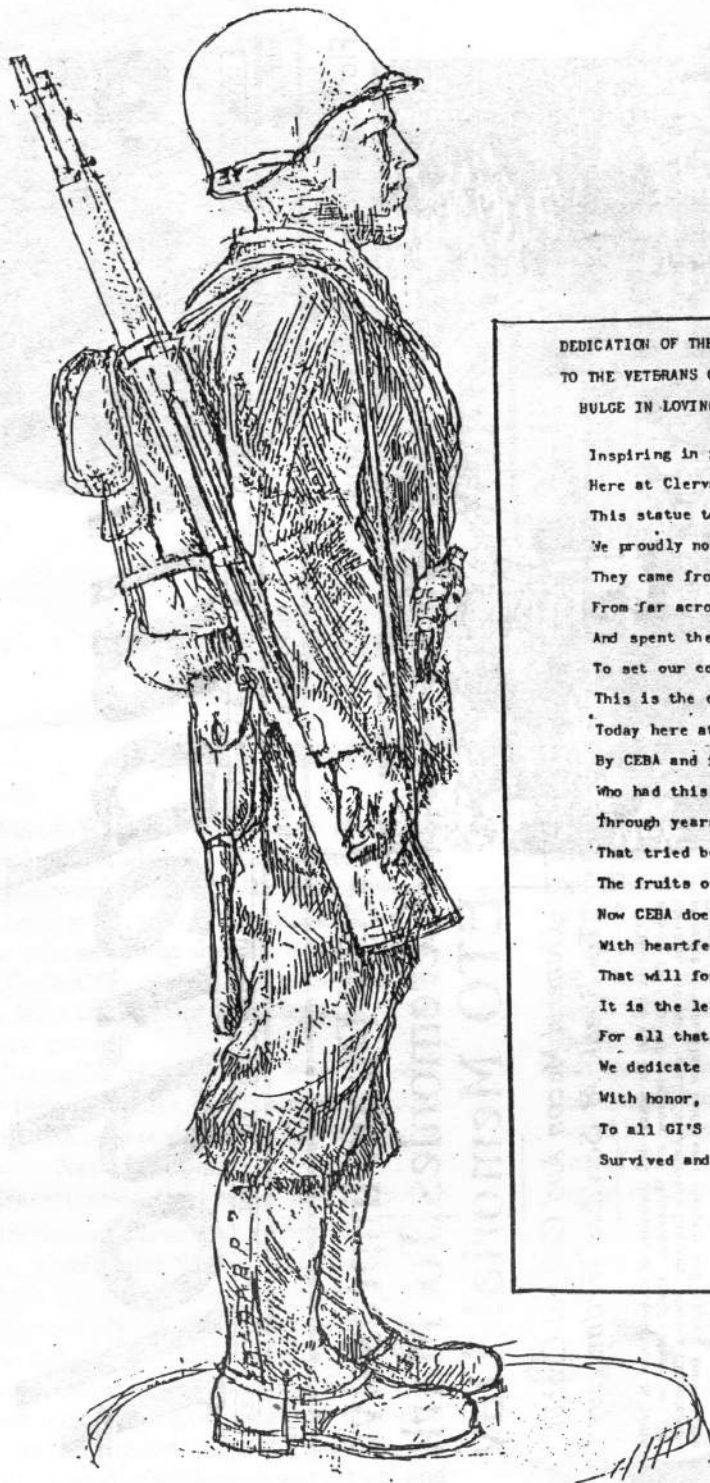
General Macon And Colonel Crabill To Speak At Services Wednesday

Close to the soil on which their comrades so recently died in battle, men of the 3rd will tomorrow and Wednesday attend Memorial Day Services. According to Lt. Col. Augustine Donnelly, Division Chaplain, appropriate services will be held in each regiment and integral units of the Division.

The 330th and 331st Regiments and Division Artillery will hold services in their Battalion areas tomorrow. The 329th Regiment and Division Headquarters will hold services Wednesday.

In the 329th, Memorial Day services will be held in the three battalions under the direction of twice-decorated Regimental Chaplain Alvin R. Halvorsen, assisted by Chaplains Harold Schwartz and Jacob Ort. Col. Alexander Reid, new CO of the 329th, will introduce the speaker of the day, Col. Edwin B. Crabill, newly appointed Assistant Division Commander.

A highlight of the Memorial Day services at Bad Harzburg will be the "Flag and Earth" ceremony. Two small bags of earth, each containing soil from the 48 States, were recently received from a friend of Gen. Macon. As the soldiers bow their heads, the soil from one of these bags will be sprinkled at the base of the pole, from the top of which the Stars and Stripes will wave. The contents of the other bag will be sprinkled over a cemetery containing the graves of 83rd Division soldiers. Chaplain Donnelly will then read the benediction, which will be followed



DEDICATION OF THE STATUE AT CLERVAUX
TO THE VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE
BULGE IN LOVING MEMORY BY CEBA

Inspiring in its grandeur
Here at Clervaux today,
This statue to the Bulge GI'S
We proudly now display.
They came from every walk of life,
From far across the sea,
And spent themselves unselfishly
To set our country free.
This is the climax of a dream
Today here at this site,
By CEBA and its members
Who had this goal in sight.
Through years of dedication
That tried both mind and will,
The fruits of toil and efforts
Now CEBA does fulfill.
With heartfelt thanks and gratitude
That will forever live,
It is the least that we can do
For all that they did give.
We dedicate this monument
With honor, love and pride,
To all GI'S who in the Bulge
Survived and those who died.

Harold F. Mohn

*** 783RD ORDINANCE ***

Well here it is June 7th already and was there ever a worse spring? Its been so bad here in Philly, would you believe I really thought I was getting weak because on the few occasions that the weather would let me on the golf course I found I couldn't hit for distance. Suddenly I realized darn near every drive was plugging or bouncing a few feet from where it landed. Thank heavens Paul, Kentucky is a "Dry State".

This is the toughest article of the year to write as I presume the reunion will be a fond memory by the time you read this so maybe I should just say it sure was good seeing all the virgin 783rdrs for the first time in 39 years and Bob Hammond for the second which means he and Paul are no longer "Virgins".

You know Bob and Paul Bryars have become the Abbott and Costello of the 783rd. They live close together, both single, and when they have a couple extra bottles of Genessee's they travel down and treat Arthur Doggett to a day born out of the forty's. I benefited from their last visit for as they sat munching on Mildreds goodies and sipping the brew they tape recorded the occasion for me. It was quite a tape that Abbott and Castello would have been proud to have made. It is now in the hands of Lloyd Grayson who phoned me while I was taping a reply. Lloyd had just finished talking to Carl Frederick and both are very anxious for August to come. I sure hope your health allowed you to get to the reunion Lloyd for I haven't met anyone who deserved the pleasure more than you. Lloyd has either called or written all his old automotive buddies and then some and it has paid off in more ways than one. Doc Pfeifer and Agnes stopped by for a visit and I am sure there will be more, so take a page from Lloyd's book and write or call your old friend, it pays off.

Also on this yet to be famous tape Paul related the experience of Phil Barbara's hog calling talents. To check out this news item I called Phil in his oval office and found this to be mostly true. Those odd noises we heard in Tenn. were actually Phil calling his odd friends! Phil and Ann were also found in good health, with the Anbar Furniture Co. picking up in business. Anytime you need a chair stop in N.Y. Phil will seat you.

On this same tape Paul and Bob were also asking about Phil Reese and Mel Schlotmann so after some doing (like getting Mel's phone fixed from Phila.) I put them both on a telephone

interview tape back to the three beer drinkers. We found out that Phil has had a lot of family sickness but was pointing the car toward Ky. hoping everything would make the reunion a good vacation. "Old" Mel was going to retire in two days and was going to give the reunion a good Penna. Dutchmans thought. Mel must be one of the younger fellows in the 783rd. Is there anyone than 62 in June of 84? How about you Hammond?

We also talked to Bill "by golly" Manning who wouldn't miss the reunion but by golly he still hadn't made reservations. I called Bill as Glenn Vining made a common mistake. Instead of answering my letter, he sent me an answer to one of Bill Manning's letters. Boy, was I confused, Bill's sex life is six children ahead of my two so I called Bill as a last resort to my confusion. I found Bill his jolly self but I was sorry to hear that his Mother had passed on after a very fruitful life.

We also have one more member to add to our deceased list and he is Tom Magann. I found Tom's wife, who was sick at the time but in talking to her sister was told Tom died in 1980. However another found fellow right under Steve Blasko's nose is Joe Zilionis living at 4649 Rolling Hill Rd. Pitt. Pa. 15263 412-884-3582. Joe is also recently retired, "Not doing much but putting on weight". Who out there can imagine a heavy Joe? Lets hope we all see Joe at the reunion and I know we did if his charming wife had anything to do with it.

For those keeping count, we have now found 103 of the Company of which 33 are deceased. It naturally pleases me that through all our efforts (I couldn't have done it alone) we have found this many but I know that some more like Ernie Miller, Roy Hallock, Tom Martin, Walter Wilson etc. would love to be "found". But I have run the clue barrel dry. Please look up those old addresses and pass them on. Bob Hammond is involved in the American Legion and he is going to work from that end and of course we're open to any ideas.

Here's a good one, I found Tom French in Ind. a door step from Atterbury and would you believe he was in the 83rd but not the 783rd. He has been an active member and I think he was as surprised as I was, how about that.

Gene Bond is rightfully concerned about a typographical error in our last column that had Gene Bagging a 2000 lb. deer. Of course that was to be 200 lb. so lets just give Gene a smaller hand for that small white tail.

heart attack while attending the executive meeting on the reunion at Owensboro. He spent two week in the hospital but is doing fine now. His medication should keep him well along with Sgt. Mildred's commands. He will be back to normal duty in three weeks and of course he will be at the reunion. So until next time lets stay on our diets and exercise.

Hut two
Rags Rangnow

This letter was received just before Bill's death

Dear Bob,

Here is a letter I would like you to print in the next issue of the Thunderbolt.

I am planning to go to the Reunion, and sure hope I can make it. We have sent in our reservation to the hotel.

Hope your wife is better.

Want to get this off so it reaches you in plenty of time to put in the next issue.

Sincerely,
Bill

TO MY FRIENDS IN THE 83RD:

I started to write this to you on April 5, 1984 but did not finish until now.

(April 5) Here it is - approximately 6:00 A.M. on Thursday, April 5, 1984 and it is an anniversary of sorts. I went into Northwest Community Hospital about 4:00 A.M. on February 4, 1984. Had what I thought was another congestive heart failure attack. It wasn't - at least if I had one it wasn't that which kept me in the hospital. Now they tell me that I probably can go home during the week of April 8th - more than two months after the date of my entering the Northwest Community Hospital of Arlington Heights, IL. Of course, I remained at Northwest for a little more than two weeks - from Febraury 4th to the 22nd - when I tranferred to Rush-Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago - part of the large hospital complex in Chicago.

Why did I transfer doctors and hospitals? Why have I been in the hospital so long? And what does the picture hold in store for me? All questions some might ask me about in the future. And so, if anyone should become interested, and if the writing aids one of you from suffering as I have, then this is all worth it.

Arlington Heights. During that time, after I had passed out and had to be taken there by the Paramedics, I thought all my conditions had been solved. I believed my diabetic condition had again been brought under control, and if I was a little more careful, I'd have no more trouble. That was STUPID. My lack of drive to learn about the disease, plus my own cursory desire to limit that which we do not like to a hidden corner certainly did not help any. I had pretty well followed the doctor's orders, without checking into the side effects the disease can cause. So, on December 8 to the 14th, 1983, I was back in the hospital with what was the first I heard of "Congestive Heart Failure". Again, December 28, 1983 to January 1, 1984 I was in for a second such attack, and finally, on February 4, 1984 until now. A sorts of tests were given to me which resulted finally in amputation of my left leg just below the knee.

By December 1983 I knew my left leg was not in good condition. But did it stop me from smoking? NO. Did it keep my office and business running? NO. I was away from my office from September 14, 1983 through March 31, 1984 when I retired from the practice of law, except for about three weeks just prior to Thanksgiving. A very long time for any attorney, and especially for one who basically had practiced as a sole practitioner for several years.

However, when I returned to Northwest Community Hospital in the early morning hours of February 4th, I thought I had just another attack of congestive heart failure - but I was very much in error.

First I was informed that I suffered from a slight case of pneumonia. Secondly, that the infection in my left foot was bad. I had some gangrene in the area of my big toe and my left foot, and my medications probably weren't much good. My doctor decided that he should bring in a team of doctors to look at the foot. He brought in five doctors and their decision was that I should have the left leg amputated immediately, and a bypass of my left leg - and pray!

I had time to think about it, but not too long. I became most concerned so I talked to a doctor friend who is a cardiologist and one I had known personally. He said if he was having it done, he would want a consultation and would go and see Dr. Zavid at Rush-Presbyterian, who he believed was the best in his field, for a consultation and to do an such operation. So I did and made the arrangements and saw Dr. Zavid on the morning of February 22nd.

Dr. Zavid examined me and stated clearly that the leg must be operated on immediately or I would lose my left leg. They gave me a battery of test. Ur

*** KENTUCKY CHAPTER ***

fortunately, they discovered a condition in my blood which prevented an early bypass of the blocked artery in my leg. When this was corrected, they tried, but the bypass would not work. So all that could be done was to amputate the leg, thankfully below the knee. Since then I have been recovering from the operation and still coping with the blood condition. The blood condition seems to be the biggest problem - it seems that the normal blood platelet count is around 250,000, and I float from about 35,000 to 180,000 or more under medication, and it has to go up and stay up without medication - when the count is low there is the possibility that you can bleed to death, even internally.

(May 12, 1984) On April 20th, 1984 I transferred from the hospital to the Johnsonston R. Bowman Center, which is part of the Rush complex, for rehabilitation. I did not expect to be here this long, but the blood problem had reoccurred, confining me to bed on three different occasions. I now am expecting to be going home this coming week. I have had therapy twice a day, am learning to walk with an artificial leg and attempting to regain my strength. I am told it will be about four to six weeks before I will get a permanent prosthesis and at that time I will have to reenter the rehabilitation center for about a week for training with that.

So now all of you are up-do-date.

During my hospital stay, I have received many cards and letters with get-well wishes and prayers from you. Although I certainly would like to answer each one of you personally, I hope this letter in our Thunderbolt will cover all of you. I can't possibly express in words how much your cards, prayers, letters and phone calls have meant to me. I have sent in my reservation for the Reunion in Ky., and I am hoping I can make it so I can see all of you. Finally, a word of advice - if you don't feel well or have any type of ailment which should be checked regularly, don't wait - see your doctor. I waited and have paid my dues because of it.

So, until Kentucky (I hope) - May God Bless and keep you all in good health.

William (Bill) Doty
Btry. C - 323 FA

INFORMATION NEEDED:

If any one should know the addresses of either of the two following men please notify Elsworth Lumpkin.

178 Hamlin Avenue
Danville, Virginia

Kenneth Aubel
Ralph D'Onofro

329th Infantry
330th Infantry

We had our annual picnic at Oxford, Ohio on June 9th. This was again hosted by Bob and Pearl Derickson. We had approximately sixty (60) persons in attendance and from all indications, it was enjoyed by all.

There was one sad note: Our President Arthur Doggett was hospitalized with heart problems. Arthur has been plagued with these symptoms for some time. But his Doctor says he is coming along well. We do hope so and of course we remember him in our prayers.

R.C. Hamilton our program chairman gave us a complete run-down on his reunion plans and everything is progressing as planned. He's extremely excited and feels that the turnout will be large. As of May 19th there were 375 rooms reserved in the hotel.

The trip to Breckenridge now has 466 reservations. This means five busses for each of two days, Thursday and Friday.

The Boat ride, which precedes the reunion, has also been well accepted. To date we have 496 reservations and they're still coming in. This also means two boat trips, one at 5:30 P.M. and the other at approximately 7:30 P.M. C.D.T.

Our 50/50 meeting lottery was won by Mary Belle, Wright. Her portion was \$55.00.

Pete Walters had a copy of his local paper in which contained a write-up of the Normandy Invasion. This was written by a reporter that had spent several hours with Pete. The article was quite nice, especially since Pete contributed.

As you might expect, our picnic centered around the reunion, however we must thank Charlie Schmidt and Bob and Pearl Derickson for the lovely meals.

Hope to see you all at Owensboro. Be careful and have a safe trip.

Manny Goodridge



Remember this is the site of the Memorial Service. Please be there with us.

*** NEW JERSEY CHAPTER ***

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

Hello Buddies,

Stan Bielen

I am writing this article a bit early as I have a busy month coming up. I'll be in Palma de Mallorca for two weeks in early June. It's tiring clearing up all the work before a vacation and then having it all pile-up upon return. I often wonder if it's worth going away. I'm sure it has it's benefits.

We finally had a good turnout at our May Meeting. All who attended had a swell time. Most of the talk was about the coming reunion. Emil and Hazel Wehling are going. I made the hotel reservation for them when I went to the Executive Board Meeting. Charlie Sihlanick isn't sure at this time. It all depends on how Mary is doing at that time. Joe DePeri can't go as he has to watch the store. His younger brother will be on a cruise to Alaska at that time. Joe being partners with two brothers own Park Motor Carriers. They must have two of the brothers to run the business. Joe feels bad not being able to attend the reunion. Frank Reichmann won't make it either. He doesn't want to leave his home for that length of time, due to the burglaries occurring in his neighborhood. Just today I received a call from Arnold Cipperly telling me he is going to the reunion. Of course he will be accompanied by his wife Beverly. It will be nice to see them again. Arnold told me he will be retiring next year from General Electric.

I had called Bill and Gloria McCartin for a schedule of the 40th Anniversary Trip, only to find out they had to cancel. Gloria was recuperating from a stay in the hospital and the doctor felt she shouldn't go on the trip. They plan on being at the reunion and we look forward to seeing them.

I want to tell you about the Executive Board Meeting that I attended in Owensboro. The plans that the Kentucky Chapter have made, will I'm sure, make this a most enjoyable reunion for everyone. The hotel is the finest one we have ever had a reunion at. The food was exceptional! The buffets at the hotel were something to see. On Friday Night we had a seafood buffet consisting of the juiciest, plump raw oysters, shrimp, crab legs, stuffed crab and the best catfish around. This along with vegetables, desserts and beverage for \$9.95 gives you an idea of the cost for food at the hotel. Some of you will enjoy the many southern food offerings at breakfast. How about biscuits and gravy, and/or Texas eggs and that favorite of mine, grits with plenty of butter, also **your** favorite from Army days, S... on Shingle. Makes you want to hurry on down to Owensboro. I wonder if any of you know that Owensboro is the Barbecue Capitol of the World? I hope when we are at the reunion they have one. It is something to see. I found Owensboro to be an interesting place. Art Doggett, R.C. Hamilton, Charles Schmidt, Ames Miller and the Kentucky Chapter have worked very hard to make this an enjoyable reunion for you. If you have a good time, let them know it, I'm sure they will appreciate it as just reward for their hard work.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Entries in the 83rd Infantry Division Association Handicap Golf Tournament have been gratifying, however, there is still room for more.

On July 15, 1984 there will be a drawing of names to make up foursomes and one for starting times. Husband and wife entrants will remain together for the 2 day event.

The tournament will be held on August 10 and 11 over the first nine holes of the Ben Hawes State Park Golf Course. Green fees and a cart for 9 holes will be \$7.00 and starting times will begin at 7:30 a.m. each morning.

The Callaway Handicap System will be used to determine net scores and two trophies will be awarded in the womens' and two in the mens'. One for low gross score and one for low net.

If you plan to get in a few practice rounds before the tournament mention that you are from the 83rd Infantry Division Association and you may get a special rate.

All of us golfers owe a big note of Thanks to R.C. Hamilton who has done a tremendous job of making all the golfing arrangements with the Ben Hawes Golf Course staff.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Owensboro.

Paul Bryars
783rd Ord.
Golf Tournament Chairman

CALLAWAY HANDICAP SYSTEM Par 36

36-40	Deduct	1/2	of Worst Hole
41-45	"	1	Worst Hole
46-50	"	1 1/2	Worst Hole
51-55	"	2	Worst Hole
56-60	"	2 1/2	Worst Hole
61-65	"	3	Worst Hole

Double Par is Maximum
Maximum 25 Off
1/2 stroke Counts as whole
9th Hole Never Deducted

*** WARREN CHAPTER NEWS ***

Here it is June again and as usual all conversation centers around the coming reunion in Owensboro, Ky. As in past years, our chapter has reserved a suite for our C.P. and president Babe Gautschi invites all of our friends in the association to stop in for a drink and join in our bull sessions.

MEETINGS:

March: Millie and Dick Kelly were hosts for both chapter and Auxiliary meetings.

April: Liz and Mike Skovran hosted both meetings and like the Kelly's provided good food and much booze.

May: Charlie Tomazin and his committee went all out to make our first combined golf day, picnic and meeting at Smelko's golf club and shelter house a big success.

Congratulations to:

John and Helen Caparanis on the birth of their 6th grandchild.

Ted and Dolly Halubka on the birth of their 4th grandchild.

This brings the Warren Chapter total grandchildren to 74.

Retirement Club: Ray Voracek has finally joined our retirement and social security group. He is our 12th member.

Our Deepest Sympathy to: Loyal and Kate Pangle, Loyal lost his father in February and two months later Kate's father passed away. Loyal has been feeling a little better and was able to attend services for both parents.

The Bill Doty Family, We received the news that Bill died June 2nd. Bill was a great 83rd member and will be missed by one and all.

Well, that's all from Warren for now. Good health and good luck to you all. See you in Owensboro.

Lee Titus
Chapter Reporter

P.S. I'm adding a short P.S. to Lee's news. Lee spent 8 days in St. Lukes Hospital. He thought he had a bad case of indigestion, but after many tests and a catheterization, we were told he has had at least two heart attacks and has two blocked arteries. God willing, with his strict diet and medication, this will prolong a by-pass operation. Hope to see all of you in Kentucky.

Birdie Titus

WWII medic modest about his heroics, Medal of Honor

By CHRISTOPHER BOBBY
Tribune Staff Writer

AUSTINTOWN — Sam Phillips sat on his front porch, sipped a "Blue Ribbon" beer and spoke modestly about his heroics in World War II.

That's Phillips, a blue-ribbon kind of guy. He didn't mind that he had to go to work this Memorial Day. "I've marched in parades before," he said with a smile.

He is one of two or three Medal of Honor recipients believed to be still alive in Ohio. The honor, given since the Civil War, is the highest a servicemen can receive.

Even today, Phillips, 62, dodges specific questions about the events of July 9, 1944, when he earned the rare decoration later pinned on his chest by Gen. George C. Marshall.

But the written account of his actions signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt says that "Sam (no middle initial) Phillips displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action" that day in Normandy as a medic assigned to Company C, 308th Engineer Battalion, 83rd Infantry Division of the 1st Army.

"He moved unhesitatingly through intense enemy fire, ap-

plied first aid and removed 19 men alive from 11 tanks of the 375th Tank Battalion," says the declaration, "distinguishing himself during the advance to St. Lo, France."

Phillips said, "You know, only about 15 percent of the soldiers who get it are alive to tell about it. I hear that 129 medals of honor were given out for Vietnam and only nine were alive to receive it."

His actual medal has been donated, like many, to the Smithsonian Institution.

Amazingly enough, not even his wife Bessie found out that she was married to a war hero until 19 years after the fact.

Phillips has replicas of his Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Bronze Star and others pinned to the left side of his VFW overseas cap, which also carries the chapter number from his hometown post in Parsons, W.Va.

"I never wanted any special considerations, though. In fact, not



PHILLIPS

many have tracked me here," said Phillips.

"There's another Sam Phillips Medal of Honor winner among Ohio enlistees. "But he was serv-

Medal

In 1959, Phillips moved to Austintown after working six years in Youngstown at a Republic Steel mill. "They were hiring them in with grappling hooks back then," he said. "It was the aggravation of makin' a livin' " that brought Phillips here from a small town in West Virginia.

"For the past 18 years, though, I haven't missed a day's pay," said Phillips, who this Memorial Day was on duty as a pump operator at Meander Reservoir.

Phillips received special consideration last summer at Parris Island when his grandson graduated from Marine basic training. "They let me go anywhere on that base. I couldn't believe it."

Laughing off the special monthly monetary benefits that go with the Medal of Honor, Phillips noted that any holder who commits a felony loses his medal.

Phillips also has researched the medal recipients to the point of knowing that only three other medics have ever received the medal:

"I think one was in Vietnam. One was a woman, Dr. Mary Walker, during the Civil War. Hers was taken away because she was a woman and then given back to her. Then there was another medic in World War II who never picked up a weapon. He refused to fight for religious reasons. But he still got one."

Phillips explained that his initial medic training under two World War I physicians helped him survive the ordeal: "The other fellas training me were telling us about these litters to carry the wounded. The only time I saw a litter was to roll a dead soldier off one so I could go to sleep along the road."

Col. A.F.S. Mackenzie
P.O. Box 1044
Holmes Beach, Florida 33509

Dear Mr. Derickson:

Thank you for your very kind note. Since I am twenty odd years older than most of you boys I can't do much anymore except provide a little financial support. I would like to see Camp Breckinridge again but no longer have the energy for travel.

As far as I can tell I am the last remaining member of the Div. staff still living, Bob Hering was killed in Normandy, Sam Krauthoff died in Germany, Des-hotels died several years ago in Louisiana and Shelley Hughes died some years ago in Ohio. Genls. Macon Ferrenbaugh and Montague are all gone. I doubt if most of you would have ever seen me or have known what I did. (I was G-1)

Sincerely

A.F.S. MACKENZIE
Colonel, US Army-Retd.

Another appeal for help.

Hobart Hall has written to me asking if anyone should know or remember anything about his brother Ken Carlson, "K" 329th please contact his half brother Hobart Hall, R.R. #98, Great Valley, New York 14741. Can anyone help this man out. I know it will be appreciated. His nephew is Dr. John Hall, Veteran Hospital of New York.

Dear Robert E. Derickson:

Just a note to say, Elias is still not able to travel. I wish we could. He doesn't remember to well. Plus, I have to watch everything he eats and he or I cannot drink any hard stuff. On good days I walk him around the yard, and I hold my breath that he does not fall. So you see he could never make it. Please say Hello to all his buddies. Thank you and God Bless you all.

Best regards

Irene and Elias Hatem, 908th F.A.
70 Dey Street Apt. 306
Paterson, New Jersey 07503

How about a card to Elias, men. Know he would appreciate and we are sorry they cannot attend the reunion.

We had a note from Norm Schuster. He would like all the 83rdrs to send a card to Frank Meyers, 513 Vine Street, Perkasio, Pennsylvania, 18944. Frank was in "D" 331st. How about it men? Frank had a stroke and won't be able to make the reunion. Norm's doctor put him on a diet. We probably won't recognize him at the reunion. He will probably put us all to shame. We sure wish you well, Norm. A wonderful friend is Norm and Lorraine.

**** THE WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER *****

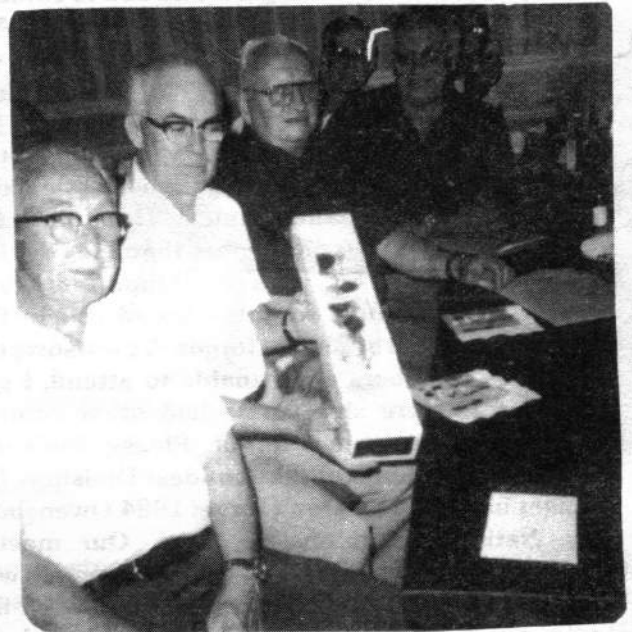
The West Virginia Chapter met at the Best Western Motel in Parkersburg, W.Va. on Sunday, June 10th. We did not have the attendance we expected but the meeting was very interesting. Letters were read from Charles Spurgeon, Arthur Doggett and Frances Klippa.

John Hobbs, our newest member was not present at this meeting, due to his wife having an accident and breaking her leg. We are sending her a get well card with our Best Wishes. Door prizes were won by Jean Monda and John Hutchinson.

Jean Monda, of the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Charleston, V.Va. was our Guest for this meeting. We watched a movie showing the Civic Center, Town Center Shopping Mall, and of the different Hotels in Charleston, W.Va. A long conversation was held concerning a Reunion of the 83rd. Infantry Division Association in Charleston, W.Va. for the year of 1987. We believe Charleston is an excellent location for a Reunion. We are surrounded by Interstates converging on the City (I-64, I-77, and I-79). We have one of the best Shopping Malls in the United States and many of the best Hotels, including the Marriot, and Holiday Inn (3 locations). Also near the Civic Center and Hotels is the Greyhound Bus Station and also available is Amtrack and an Airport.

There will be several West Virginia Chapter Members and their representatives at the Reunion in Owensboro, Ky. and will enthusiastically ask for the support of the Executive Board for a Reunion in WEST VIRGINIA in 1987. See You There and May God Bless You.

Don W. Pettry
B-323 F.A.



*** THE DIXIE CHAPTER ***

Dixie held their meeting March 23-24th 1984 at Clemmons N.C. We had 50 for Saturdays Banquet, there were many that came by but were unable to attend Banquet. We Winston Salem Group wish to thank all that attended and spent time with us at any capacity. We had one new member to join our chapter, Stanley E. Blanchard HQ 908 - Rt. 1 Fuquay-Varina N.C. 27526 - (919) 552-3409. We also want to express our thanks to Chris Blackburn and Edith, Paul Conrad and Valeska Whitfield East for attending. We had the pleasure of having Julie Barber back again. She has been ill for some time, she is the widow of one of our late comrades. We were glad to have some of our children join with us. James and Ellen Freeman, Daughter. Son in law Donald, Dian Church. Haran and Dorothy Martin were pleased to have Daughter and Son to come by. Ray-Wanda Young-Dennis-Barbara Martin. Also were O. June Watkins his Son David Watkins was with us. We are always pleased and proud to have Billie Glenn the widow of the late Jake Glenn to join us. She was accompanied by her Daughter Susie and Grand Daughter Tammy. Dick and Lessie Riddle were supported by their Neice "Dumplin". Our children enjoyed our party more than they do their parties, we all had fun and a grand time, lets keep it up. Oh yea I almost forgot, Howard (Buck) Cox came by late said he almost forgot. We are sorry that the other members were unable to attend, I suppose some were sick, some had other commitments, and some just forgot. Please don't ever forget the 83rd one of the proudest Divisions that fought in the E.T.O. Don't forget 1984 Owensboro, Ky. National Reunion, Be there. Our meeting covered Business in general, some new points were brought up. Our June meeting will be time for new officers, so every one try and attend, although this will be outdated when you receive the issue, again thanks for a good meeting.

Reporter

Johnnie Harvey Ball

Our next meeting will be in Newberry, S.C.

"FAITH IN GOD"

I'm writing this letter
from down in my foxhole.
I hope you can read it
for my hands are so cold.
And I've got the shakes
From some Shells that just fell,

I've made some mistakes
And some words I've misspelled.
But I spelled correctly

L - O - V - E

Your Love is all
That is keeping me.
Down in this Foxhole
freezing and cold.
Your Love saved my life
And God saved my Soul.
I'll mail you this letter
The first chance I get.
I'm sealing it with Love and Kisses
That I have left yet.
I can hear someone coming
But I'm too cold to shoot.
It's the enemy they're taking me
And all of my loot.
Mom I am a Prisoner
They took your pictures from me.
But didn't take the memory
Of you I still see.
All your Love and Beauty
is embedded in my mind.
And I got your last letter
memorized just in time.
Don't know where they're taking me
Or what they intend to do.
But if worse comes to worse
Then I'll die loving you.
Tho - this may never happen
Some day I could be free.
So keep on praying Darling
And don't stop loving me.
I have Faith in Our Lord God
with him I'll always stand true.
So don't you give up Darling
One day I'll be back with you.

Dixie Chapter Chaplain

Haron R. Martin

Co. C - 331

*** BOSTON CHAPTER ***

We have been having meetings here in Boston every month. The attendance has been much better this past year. We are grateful to see so many people each month.

Our President, Hy Goodman, had a great year, holding a few meetings with good "chow" in Rhode Island.

Mike Caprio is doing a marvelous job with our bank investments, Mike reads off the treasury

report. Jim Prentice will double check Mike's report and that is always good for a few little jokes. Mike keeps everything in fine order for us.

Larry Arrigo and his wife, Fran, have had some of the meetings at their home. Thanks to Fran we have been very successful in the food department. Of course, Larry pours the ginger ale for our survival.

Pat and Gin DiGiammerino also have done an excellent job at our 83rd headquarters in Malden, Massachusetts. I have attended all the meetings, as a first class reporter should, and let me tell you, I have enjoyed every second! Our membership has done real well over the past few years, I am real proud to be a member of the Boston Chapter.

John Piscitelli just wrote me a letter with the news of the death of Bill Doty. We in Boston were very sorry to hear this news. Bill had done so much for the 83rd since he joined up with us in Europe until now. I always found Bill to be a real friend. Our sincere sympathy to Bill's family.

Jim Prentice was not at the last meeting. How-Jim must be travelling and spending the interest on his money! I am sure that he will meet some of the 83rd gang while he is travelling, Jim always tells me about them when he returns.

Fran Arrigo's mother passed away in May. We were sorry to hear this news as we were always asking Fran about her mother. Our condolences to all her family.

Ray Bjork drops in to see Pat and Gin DiGiammerino when he is visiting his mother-in-law who also lives in Malden. Ray has lost a lot of weight and looks wonderful.

Nancy and I visited Bill Donahue in Florida while I was visiting my brother who lives a couple of miles away from Bill. Bill is from the 908 F.A. Bn. We had an enjoyable few hours with him. He was asking for Dick Kelley of the Warren Chapter and his young, pretty wife Millie.

Some of the Boston Chapter recently went to West Point in New York in regard to our 1985 reunion. This meeting was very successful in making our plans come true.

We were all sorry to hear that Paul Gunderson recently lost his brother. Our condolences to Paul and his family.

I hope to see you all in August.

Amby Tynan
Boston Reporter



Mike & Vera Caprio, Jean Cove, Rhoda Browar, Ginny DiG., Don Browar, Bernie Cove at the Pines Hotel.



The Boston Chapter enjoying their seven course meal at their last meeting.



Boston Chapter at Rhode Island meeting



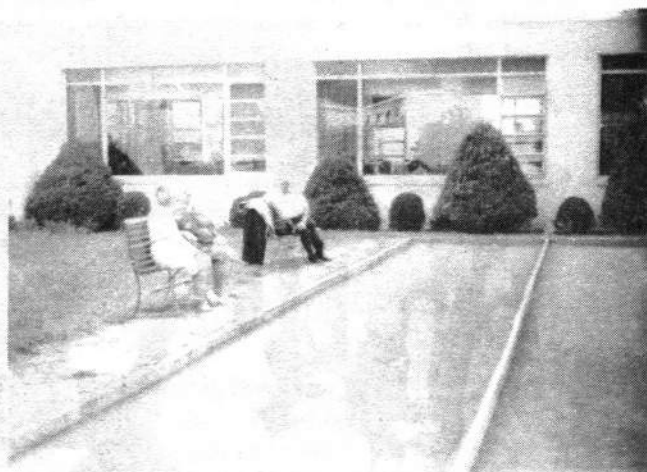
Ginny & Jean & Vera, Mike & Bernie at Cove's Home.



Mike & Vera Caprio, Ginny DiG., Bernie Cove and Mr. & Mrs. Leo Schwartz, newest members of the Boston Chapter.



Richard Armstrong "serenading" Paul Gunderson



The new Bocce Alley at the Pines. Philly are you ready!

5 March 1984

Dear Fellow Veteran,

Gen. William C. Westmoreland fought for America in three wars but is now in the fight of his life.

In January 1982 CBS broadcast a "documentary" accusing Gen. Westmoreland of leading a conspiracy to suppress information on the size of communist forces in Vietnam from the Joint Chief of Staff, the Congress and the President.

During the Vietnam War Gen. Westmoreland was vilified and burned in effigy by war protesters. The CBS documentary, however, falsely portrayed him as being unethical and dishonest. It was the first time his character and honor had come under attack.

After repeated, futile attempts to obtain an apology from CBS, Gen. Westmoreland felt he had no alternative but to sue for libel. His lawyers have now found 128 false statements in the 90-minute broadcast, more than one a minute! Gen. Westmoreland has pledged any money he receives to charities that help military personnel and veterans.

There is more at stake here than one man's honor, for Gen. Westmoreland is fighting for the integrity of all of us, for the American military as an institution and for every person who has ever worn his country's uniform.

Now is the most critical phase of the battle, and the most expensive. Trial date is set for mid-1984 and preparations must be accelerated. Witnesses still have to be interviewed across the country, depositions taken and research completed. This takes money.

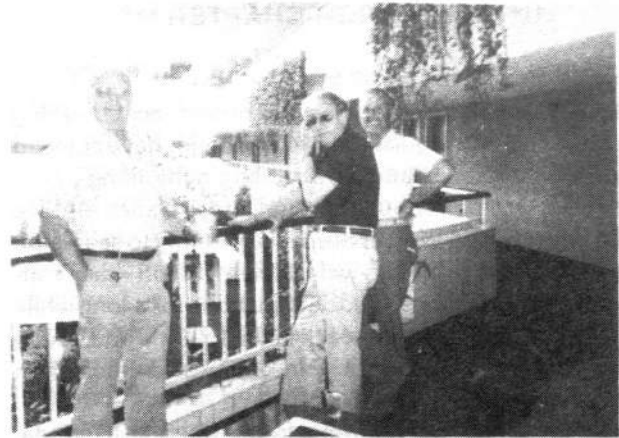
The Capital Legal Foundation is representing Gen. Westmoreland for free, but the Foundation is already \$500,000 over their budget because of the suit. CBS, which had gross revenues exceeding \$4 billion in 1982, has thrown their enormous resources into the fight.

Lack of money has already forced Capital Legal to cut back on work necessary to insure that Gen. Westmoreland's case has the best possible preparation. The Veterans For Westmoreland Committee was formed to raise the money needed to carry the Generals' battle against CBS. Every cent will go towards The General's legal expenses. Gen. Westmoreland will receive a list of totals tallied by unit and the names of all individuals who contribute.

Westy is one of us and he is fighting our fight. Time is critical and we should not turn our backs on him. Please help my mailing your tax deductible contribution today payable to the **Capital Legal Foundation/Gen. Westmoreland**. Even the smallest amount will help. Send it with your unit designation to:

VETERANS FOR WESTMORELAND
P.O. Box 264
Locust Valley, NY 11560

For a free reprint, as long as our supply lasts, of "Anatomy of a Smear", TV Guide's investigation of the CBS show, enclose a business size, self-addressed stamped envelope.



Arthur Doggett, R.C. Hamilton and Stan Bielen at the Board meeting.



A Happy Occasion: Bob and Rita Taylor stopped of at Bob and Pearl's on their way home from Florida. Keep smiling Rita.



Your Board Members in their best Bib and Tucker



The Wives of the Board Members

*** PITTSBURGH CHAPTER ***

Hello everybody. This has been one active spring season for us. Our regular monthly meetings have enjoyed excellent attendance and we're rolling right along.

May 12 was our annual Spring-Dinner Dance and we had a fine turn out. We were especially happy to see Ralph Allen, "B" 908 F.A. with wife Helen. Ralph hasn't attended many meetings or social functions for a long while and we're glad to have him back in the fold. He and buddy Jules Desgain had a chance to talk about old times when Ralph was Jules' First Sergeant.

Also attending, after returning from wintering in Florida, were Chuck and Lu Caven, Steve and Gert Blasko and yours truly and wife Sue.

Several chapter guys elected to march in the Memorial Day parade with the VFW Post where we hold our monthly meetings. We also participated in services at the cemetery. Words were spoken, wreaths were placed and taps were sounded to honor our brothers who made the supreme sacrifice.

With the celebration of the 40th Anniversary of D-Day and the emotional ceremonies recently witnessed on TV of the Vietnam Unknown Soldier's burial in Arlington, I do believe the people of our Nation are once again regaining a feeling of patriotism, love and sensitivity toward their fellow men.

On the week-end of May 19 it was a privilege to attend my first Executive Board Meeting. Association Pres. Art Doggett, the Reunion Committee and the Kentucky Chapter are planning a whale of a program which should be enjoyable for everyone.

The Executive Inn is a very impressive place. There is a night club within the hotel with top flight Celebrity entertainment and excellent dining. While there we all saw a terrific show featuring Loretta Lynn. During the reunion, Barbara Mandrell is the scheduled feature.

Please send in your reservation now so you won't miss all that Southern Hospitality waiting there for you. I can say that Sue and I enjoyed a huge slice of that hospitality during a delightful weekend in Owensboro.

The Pgh. Chapter picnic on July 1 will be our next and last social event before we hop a charter bus taking us to the reunion. Again as in the past, we hope to include our Calif. guests and ex-Pittsburghers Nell and Glenn Wible, "A" 331.

Chapter good news: Al Suess and Anna Mae celebrate 35 years of wedded bliss on June 25. Also, lest I forget, Sue Leonardi is going to help yours truly celebrate our 31st on the 27th of June. It's the second grandson for Fran and Joann Beerhalter, born on April 21. The happy parents of baby Scott Joseph are Steve and Sue Puhac. Sad news: Joseph Suess, oldest brother of Al Suess, G-331, passed away on Jan. 28 in Gardenia, Calif. just a day or two before

he was to retire from his job.

That is all for now. Hope to see all of you at the reunion in Owensboro.

Larry Leonardi
"A" 331

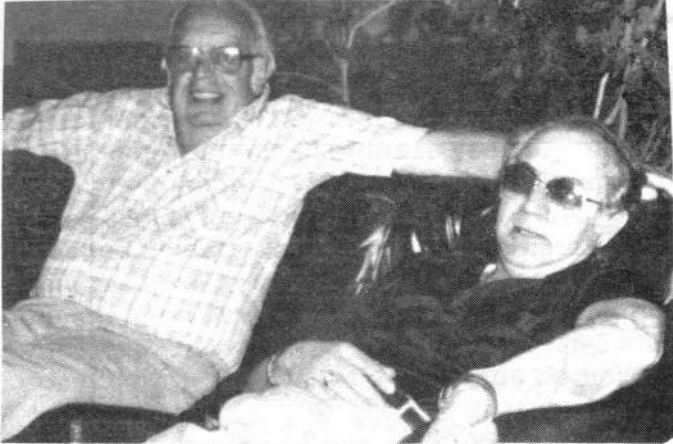


Owensboro Executive Board Meeting
Bielen, Hamilton, Raikos, Schmidt, Derickson, Doggett,
Leonardi, Macaluso, Chavanne, Miller.



Mena Macaluso, Bea Chavanne, Mildred Doggett, Louise Hamilton, Helen Miller, Mary Raikos, Pearl Derickson, Sue Leonardi.

*** G COMPANY 331st INFANTRY ***



Pres. Art Doggett, Reunion Chrmn. R.C. Hamilton relaxing after Board Meeting.



Bob and Pearl Derickson enjoying the Loretta Lynn Show.



Stan Bielen, Mena and Joe Macaluso

I am writing this article some three weeks before the deadline, but I plan to be on vacation at that time so I will try to bring the members up to date.

I have received some twenty replies to my request for \$5.00 for our annual ad in the reunion booklet. Some of the old timers have not come across as yet, but I will hold out as long as possible before sending in the ad.

Some of the report were good, but I am afraid that old age is beginning to tell on all of us. Each of us has his own aches and pains.

I talked to Mike Skovran, only to find out that Beau Titus had been in the Hospital with a Heart Attack. When I called on Sunday Beau seemed in good health, but does have some problems, that he must take care of.

A letter from John Rung informed me that after considerable pain, had to undergo an operation for gallstones. John Teringo sent out all of his Christmas Cards, but failed to tell you that he was in a Hospital bed when he did so. Mort Gaynor has had to take things easy. Loyal Pangle has had the Halo removed, but is still suffering from some discomfort.

I'm getting more and more like the News Reporters, they report all of the Bad news first.

We still have alot of men well and still kicking. Bob Piette, William Sears, Joe Ruberto, Kermit Ralston, Casel Bush, Joe Phillipone. We are still hoping for a record turn out from the men of G Company at the reunion in Owensboro.

I know that I have omitted a few names, but I have all of the replies at the office and I am at home preparing to leave for Executive Board tomorrow morning.

This is my last year on the Executive Board, and I feel like most of the men that have served before me. It is a wonderful Honor to represent the Association on the Board, but five years is a long time, and a welcome change. Every one should have a chance to serve. Mena and I will leave on May 31st for a three weeks vacation in Europe. We will spend time with our daughter and her family and will begin by visiting Luxembourg, then the Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of D Day on the beaches of Normandy to St. Malo, and to Passau and Pocking.

My prayers are with those members of G Company that have come up with ailments. Let's all take better care of ourselves so we can rejoin our buddies at each and every reunion in the future.

Capt. Mac

GI buried in East German town

Wish was burial at site where U.S., Soviet troops met

TORGAU, East Germany (AP) — In a gesture of U.S.-Soviet friendship, an American veteran was buried yesterday as he had wished — in an East German town where he and other U.S. soldiers met their advancing Soviet allies 38 years ago and cut Nazi Germany in two.

Among his mourners was a contingent of Soviet troops from a nearby barracks and American officers from a U.S. military mission in Potsdam, East Germany.

Shortly before Joe Polowsky, a 66-year-old Chicago taxi driver, died of cancer last month, he wrote a letter telling relatives he wanted to be buried at Torgau, East Germany.

"Joe Polowsky being buried at Torgau on the Elbe River cannot but have a comforting, creative, positive effect upon events," he wrote in his letter. The burial would symbolize "one of the few remaining ties" between the United States and the Soviet Union, he said.

"My view is that my [burial] ground at Torgau . . . was paid for with the spilling of the blood of the soldiers of the World War II Allies of East and West," the ex-G.I. wrote.

Polowsky was one of the American soldiers who met the Soviet army at Torgau, on the banks of the Elbe, on April 25, 1945. The joining of the Western and Russian armies sealed the fate of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich.

Twelve days later, Hitler was dead and the Germans had surrendered.

Polowsky was buried about a mile from where the troops met. Two American and two Soviet soldiers who were part of the troop linkup in Torgau wheeled the cart bearing Polowsky's coffin, draped with an American flag, to the grave.

The only relative to attend the burial was Polowsky's son, Ted, 23.

Col. Roland Lajoie from the U.S. mission at Potsdam handed Ted Polowsky the flag that had covered his father's coffin.

The Soviet and American officers saluted, and Polowsky's son wept.



Associated Press

Joe Polowsky of Chicago (standing in jeep) was photographed after linkup in 1945.

About 200 East Germans from the area came to the burial.

Two U.S. Marines stationed in West Berlin followed the pallbearers.

After a riverside ceremony after the burial, Ted Polowsky quoted Christ's admonishment to "love one another, as God has loved you."

"I pray that both nations will not pick up swords anymore, but learn to live in peace with each other and with all nations of the world," the young man said.

In 1955, Polowsky led a delegation of U.S. veterans to Moscow and to

Washington to plea for an end to the arms race.

An old friend of Polowsky, the Rev. William Sloane Coffin of the Riverside Church in New York, said a prayer at the burial.

The pallbearers were Charles Forrester of Greer, S.C., and William Bestwick, of Westport, Va. The Soviet veterans were two retired officers, Maj. Gen. Alexei Gorlinski and Col. Ivan Samchuk.

Gorlinski said at the ceremony that he wanted to renew the pledge by American and Soviet soldiers, who promised, he recalled, at Torgau "to

dedicate their lives to furthering friendship between the people of the United States and of the Soviet Union so that wars would never happen again."

Gorlinski, whose dark civilian suit decorated with military medals, said his countrymen felt "great sadness" at Polowsky's death.

The official Soviet news agency Tass, reporting on the burial, said the Soviet and U.S. war veterans had agreed to a statement stressing the need to end the nuclear arms race and better relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

This article was sent to the office by Ervin L. Hawk.



A small portion of the Dining area at the Executive Inn.



Charlie and Kathleen Schmidt, Mildred Doggett resting in the Rocking Chairs provided at the Executive Inn.

Hello all of you T-bolts out there, and of course your 1st Sgts who have loved & guided you through good & lean times. We should love them more now than ever before, primarily for putting up with us all of these years.

Our last meeting was supposed to be an outdoor event, however the heavens prevailed & washed us out. We do have an alternate site in that case, we went to Czechs home and had our meeting, all that was missed was the cookout, otherwise all went well. We thank Chet & Emily for accepting the last two meetings by making their home available just in case their daughter's acres site is washed out.

Joanne Uher took part in the Olympic Torch-run from Bay Village Ohio to Toledo Ohio, as a medical assistant taking care of the dropouts etc. I would have liked to see her hubby Bob jogging down the highway carrying the torch. "Ha!", just joking Bob.

Some sad news now, my last article was more or less about our losses, and those that were ill. Well, we lost our good Buddy Geo. Sofranko May 15th. Casey Kowalec, C. Szubski, Earl Lindsey & yours truly represented the Cleveland Chapter and made the trip to Mt. Pleasant, PA to pay our respects to George's family. We were well appreciated by George's family, many tears were shed on both sides, as George was loved by all of us. Lou & Priscilla Donnelly attended the funeral the following day and were also welcomed with heartfelt graciousness. Lou & George worked at the Chrysler Plant together and being former T-Bolts became fast friends.

The Cleveland Chapter celebrated Memorial Day (30th) (the real one) by joining our buddies of Post 2079. The weather failed to cooperate however, and forced the Parade participants to cover. It wasn't smart to try being brave at our age, hell we don't need to get soaked (outside). Those that braved the elements, Bob Uher, Casey Kowalec, C. Szubski, Earl Lindsey, Ed Cox, Steve Ferko, Jake Jackobowski, and yours truly. Once again the Cleve. Chapter was called upon to take over rifle squad duties, and I must say the guys did themselves real proud, and should be commended for doing a great job, they were Szubski, Uher, Ferko, Lindsey, and replacements Cox & Uridel. I always get a rifle that jams or won't fire, so I just went through the motions, next time my shot gun will be used. "Ha!"

We hear that Josephine Glinka has been very ill and is now convalescing, we wish her a speedy recovery. Ed doesn't like to notify us, so I have to call or inquire to get anything out of Ed.

I hope he gets the drift now.

Bob, I sent a card to Bill Doty and it was returned with an unknown stamp on it (I sent it to W. Lunt Ave. 2003 Chi. Il 60645). At least I had good intentions, but the mail can get screwed up real good sometimes.

Our next 2 meetings will be at Czech's Acres the 10th of June, and at the Klugiewicz home the third Sunday in July, in Erie, PA. Then in August the Reunion, man is the time flying by. I will be celebrating #70 the 9th of Aug. at the Reunion, (gives me something to toast to).

Our good buddy Steve Ferko misses going to the Reunions but he can't help it, he takes care of his 90 year old mother and can't possibly get away.

There being nothing else to write about, I'll close with a wish for good health to all of you. See you in Kentucky.

Al Uridel

Dear Mr. Derickson:

I have been trying for some time trying to find the address of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

From shortly after landing in Normandy I joined the "HQ" 331st and stayed until after V.E. Day.

Friday of last week, I found a copy of the Division Winter Issue 1984 of the Thunderbolt.

I am enclosing a check for \$10.00 for membership in the Association.

Please send the literature for the 38th reunion in Kentucky in August.

Thanks for your help in this.

James L. Burt, Sr.

Would like the following put in the Summer Issue of the Thunderbolt. If any charges please notify me and will send check for same.

Will any member of M.P. Platoon, HQ Co. 331st Infantry who reads this will he please contact me.

James L. Burt, Sr.
2236 Lou Drive, W.
Jacksonville, Florida 32216

England prepares to mark 40th anniversary of D-Day

SOUTHAMPTON, England (AP) — Monday morning shoppers shuffle along a modern pedestrian mall in Southampton, a port where 40 years ago thousands of Allied troops set sail for France on D-Day — the biggest seaborne invasion in history.

Flanked by department stores, office buildings and restaurants, the long, wide mall covers all traces of the German bombs that rained on the city during World War II. Housewives push baby carriages on streets once jammed with trucks, halftracks and jeeps.

Southampton, a city of 204,000 people with a long seafaring history, was a key embarkation point for the Allied troops who assaulted the five Normandy beaches on June 6, 1944.

That day 250,000 soldiers and sailors crossed the English Channel in a spectacular fleet of 5,000 cruisers, battleships, destroyers, gunboats, corvettes, hospital ships, minesweepers, buoy-layers and launches.

Ships in the greatest armada ever assembled embarked from ports all along England's southern coast, and 1,066 of them sailed down Southampton Water.

First Lt. James O'Donald Mays, an army public-relations officer from Louisville, Ga., was among those hustling troops aboard ships at Southampton dock in the morning darkness of June 6.

"Just before dawn, we saw planes flying over Southampton," said Mays, now a 65-year-old publisher who lives with his English wife, Grace Mary, in the nearby village of Ringwood.

"There were thousands of planes pulling gliders," he said in an interview. "We knew they were going to France, but there was no shouting. It was a very sober time. Most of us were praying they would come out all right on the other side."

In the year-long buildup to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's "Crusade in Europe" — the Allied push that would eventually bring Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany to heel — all of southern England became, in Ike's words, "a vast military camp." For the air offensive, 163 air bases were constructed, and 170 miles of railway lines were laid to transport goods and supplies.

Today, as massive plans are under way to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the invasion, the

English countryside and southern coastline are dotted with D-Day relics.

The hulk of an artificial harbor built to load troops and equipment lurks in a broken mass in the channel at Southsea. World War II landing craft can be seen at Bursledon on the River Hamble. Museums and monuments are everywhere.

At Southwick House, a mansion just outside Portsmouth which served as Eisenhower's operational headquarters, visitors are shown the original map he used to plot the invasion.

It covers an entire wall, and has a clock stopped at 6:30 a.m. — H-Hour — when the first assault troops hit the beaches. The house itself is now the officers' mess at HMS Dryad, a British naval training base.

In Warsash, a hamlet midway between Southampton and Portsmouth, a plaque outside the Rising Sun pub honors the 3,000 British commandos who embarked in 36 landing craft from a pier just opposite the pub.

Bill Sharp, a patrol boat coxswain for the City of Portsmouth, returned to that pier after piloting a landing craft to Normandy as a British lance corporal. One day recently, he was found in the Rising Sun having a pint of ale with friends.

"I went over three days after D-Day in a convoy of six landing craft and came back with two," Sharp recalled. "We were attacked by German E-boats on the way over."

The Operation Overlord invasion force of American, British, French, Canadian and Polish troops was under Eisenhower, the supreme allied commander, and Britain's Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, the overall assault commander. It numbered 2.8 million, including 1.7 million U.S. sailors, soldiers, Marines and airmen.

Sixty percent of the Americans embarked from Southampton on D-Day and in the following months of the campaign to liberate Europe. They lived in barracks, Quonset huts, tents and private homes all over the city, and about 100 army officers were billeted in the Polygon Hotel, a luxury hotel overlooking Watts Park.

John Savage, the Polygon's 56-year-old head bartender, was a bellboy at the same hotel when the Americans were there.

"I was a 16-year-old kid just out of an orphanage," he

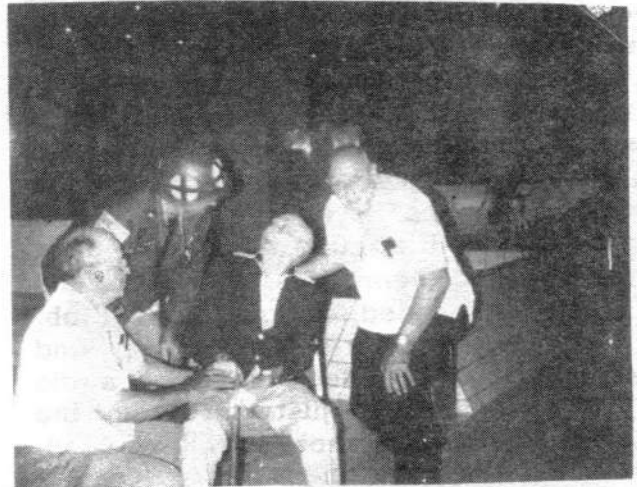
told a visiting reporter. "But I taught them how to get their boots cleaned — leave me some Hershey bars and Life Savers."

To Savage, these were the Yanks, the cheery chaps "with plenty of everything" who always packed Southampton's moviehouses, cafes and pubs and jitterbugged with the English girls at the Polygon's Saturday night supper dances.

The youngest of them are in their late 50s now, and tourist officials say they expect more than 30,000 D-Day veterans to return in June for the 40th anniversary celebrations in Britain and France.

Scores of nostalgia concerts, reunion dances, flyovers of World War II aircraft and parades are planned for Southampton, Portsmouth and other British cities. At least 12 American tour companies are flying in D-Day veterans, and hotels on both sides of the channel report heavy bookings.

President Ronald Reagan, French President Francois Mitterrand and Britain's Queen Elizabeth II have announced that they will take part in commemorative services at Normandy.



*** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ***

Hello Buddies:

Here it is the beginning of June and in a few short months we will be heading for the Reunion, many of us will be there and others will be unable to attend the big event that we look forward to. I for one look forward to this every year, but unfortunately have been unable to attend the past two years and am sitting here on a Keg of dynamite hoping against hope that I will be able to attend.

As many of you know I did have open heart Surgery in January and my condition was so serious that the Doctors didn't expect me to pull out of it, but so far I am fine except that I am quite restricted as to what I can do and where I can go, two weeks ago I was back in the hospital for another Operation and am doing quite well from that. Along with my problems, my Wife has a serious Diabetic problem and has to be very careful. She has been doing quite well but just before I went in the Hospital she had two very bad spells and one day when she came to visit me at the Hospital she had another one, so between us we don't know if we will be able to celebrate the Reunion with you or not as yet.

Once again this year I volunteered to help the Ad Book Committee to obtain ads. I want to thank each and every one of you who so graciously sent me your ads, from the looks of things the book should be a great success. Many of you men don't know what hard work it is getting these ads and making up the book. When I receive an ad from you, I make a record of it and forward the ad and the money on to the Committee. It is very easy to slip up on an ad or two and either not get it sent in or when it is turned over to the Printer he slips up on it, last year of the thousands of dollars that I had received, I only had one complaint of an ad not appearing in the book. I checked with the Committee and found it to be a printers error, so the money was returned to the person whose ad was missed and it was used for this years ad. So if any of you have a complaint, please let me know and I will try to see that you are reimbursed. All I ask is that you be honest with me and with yourself and make sure that you sent the ad to me and not someone else, because I have a copy of all ads that I received and can check my roster.

Well Buddies, I must say that it has been both an Honor and a Pleasure to have been a Member of this great Association for so many years and have been able to take such an active part as I have taken. I know that each and every one of you are equally as proud as I am to be able to be a member of such a Great Organization. We have been blessed with good leadership, men who were dedicated enough to give their time and in many cases money to help keep the Association what it is. We have had some good times and some bad times over the years, but thanks to the Dedication of certain men we were able to pull ourselves back up on our feet again.

Again I say thank you to all of you who placed an ad in our Reunion Book, it proves that you are a true 83rd Man and are behind the Association and its Officers. May God Bless you all and may you have a great Reunion, and God willing, I will be with you.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

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

Hello Buddies:

Here I am once again to remind you that in a few short weeks, many of us will be heading for Owensboro, Kentucky to attend our 38th ANNUAL REUNION. I sincerely hope that I am well enough to be able to attend this year. This has been a rough year for me, having been in the Hospital twice for operations, the first one was open heart surgery and they had little hope of my recovery, but being an 83rd Man, I was able to fight back, the second one was a less serious one and I am doing quite well.

Before I get carried away, I want to thank each and every one of you who helped me with the Company "H" page for the ad book. There were some who didn't respond, but thanks to the extra generosity of certain men I got extra money that helped cover them. I collected \$259.00 which covered the names of 59 men, several of which were deceased. As you will notice in the ad book this year we have added the names of Lieut. Harry Dalbey, Lieut. Walter Cranston and Charles Currier. There may have been some others of which I am not aware of. As you read this roster, if you have any additional names and addresses of men, please send them to me so that I can contact them. I have names and addresses of about 25 or 30 more men, but they never answer my letters, so I have no way of knowing if they are dead or alive or if they just don't give a Damned about their Buddies.

Well Fellows, again I want to thank you for your help and I sincerely hope that my Wife and I can join with you this year. Remember, we are getting older and time is running out, so lets try and make as many Reunions as we can.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

***** COMPLANY "D" 330th INFANTRY *****

Hello Buddies:

Here I am once again, but not to ask you for money this time, I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you who so generously contributed to the COMPANY "D" Page for the Ad Book.

As I told you before, I had promised Frank McGrogan before he died that I would do my best to keep his page in the book, and thanks to you men, that promise has been fulfilled. It is much harder for me to try and solicit money from you men in Co. "D" than it would be for me to get it from men in Co. "H" of which I was a member. I got a few nasty letters back from men because I kept sending letter after letter until I finally wore them down and they sent in, there were a few who didn't respond, but the extra monies that I got from other men made up for it.

Last year I swore I wasn't going to take part in the ad book work, but when the Reunion Committee called upon me, I wasn't able to say no. Then Del Padre told me that he would handle it for me, but unfortunately before I was able to turn it over to him, I received word of his death. Next year John Walker is going to try and handle it. I didn't want to bother him with it after I once started to send out the letters.

As you will notice in this years book, I did quite well with return, I want to thank each and every one of you who responded for Frank McGrogan's sake. At least we didn't let him down. It was harder on me this year trying to do this work because in January, I had open Heart Surgery and was in very critical condition, so when I started working on these ads, I could only do a little at a time. Again thank you for your help, and God Bless you all.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond



Arthur Dogget, President

To Bill Doty, "buddy"

The Chicago Chapter took a sharp blow the 2nd of June. Our Charter member and spark plug for many years left us. Though he had been ailing a long time he had come home to recuperate and we were sure he would come back to good health.

Though his accomplishments were many, the Chicago Chapter was his pride and joy. We all know his many years as Judge Advocate with the National; and seeing him up there always made me feel things would work out, no matter what.

Every year we hear the roll call of those who have left us and now with the 40th Anniversary we all have memories come back that were forgotten.

We need men like Bill Doty, but we must carry on for him and those who went before him.

Good-bye Bill Doty you will be missed.

God Bless You
Joe Adam
Co. "A" 330th

See you at the reunion.



Co. "M" 330th 3rd & 4th Squad

*** NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER ***

Hi You All:

I think we are all lined up at the starting gate and waiting for the bell to ring to make the run for Owensboro, Kentucky and the Big "E". We know that they will be the icing on the cake for the 83rd Infantry Division Association Reunion.

A few years ago, Mary and I, and Jim and Dot Brennan had the pleasure of staying at the beautiful Executive Inn in Owensboro. At that time we thought that our Chapter might be able to sponsor a Reunion there, but after discussing it between ourselves and our Chapter members, we came to the decision that the distance was too great in order for us to do a good job. Regardless, of that we did gather together all the information available from the Executive Inn and Owensboro and at our next Reunion proposed that the Kentucky Chapter might be interested and turned all the data over to Arthur Doggett. They in turn did their own investigating and gradually formulated their plans for this 1984 Reunion. The four of us want to extend our personal thanks to Arthur and the Kentucky Chapter for undertaking this big task and in a way, fulfilling our own desires. We wish we could have done it. We fell in love with the Big "E" the first time we went there and you will love it too.

We were all sorry to hear about Pearl Derickson, Bob's right hand, and hope you are coming along as we need you at these Reunions.

We were also sorry to hear about Bill Doty - hope you have a good recuperation and will look forward to seeing you in August.

To Ray Bjork, we want to extend our sympathy on the passing away of Flora. We are very sorry, Ray.

Our big man, John Donahue is still not able to get around too much, but we hear from him and he pops into a meeting now and then. John, its nice to hear from you and we think of you always.

Our May meeting at Mike and Nina Petitti's had to be called off as Nina isn't feeling too well. We hope you feel better soon. We miss you.

Our June meeting will be on the 10th at the Rossis in Lynn. We expect a good turnout and I am sure we will have a good time.

Mary and I have been trying to get away for a weekend, but with our grandchildren being confirmed, making their First Communion and Graduations, we have been on the go with that. Oh Well, it could be worse. We enjoy it.

Before I close, Mary and I would like to thank all our friends in the New England Chapter who extended their sympathy to us on the death of my mother. She died on April 16th at the age of 75.

Looking forward to a great Reunion in Owensboro and seeing you all again.

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



Boy do you girls look good.



The Smith Clan



Are you full Karl



Boy can they cook



Boy was that food good



Do you believe Mike

He would like to join the National Association in order to receive the Thunderbolt.

His Father was PFC Robert C. Caine who was killed in action somewhere near St. Servan, France.

This Young Man impressed myself and the Philadelphia Chapter. We have made him an Honorary member of the Philadelphia Chapter. He is so involved in finding someone who remembers his Father in the 83rd. His Father died before he was born. He attended one of our Meetings and felt very comfortable with the Men who served with his Father in the 83rd Infantry Division.

I am also asking if anyone in the 83rd can assist the Young Man, it will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,
Al Belvedere

P.S. Bob:

Enclosed you will find a letter from Lynn with more details about his Father. Will you please publish My Letter and His Letter in the next issue of the Thunderbolt.

Sooy Road, RD 1
Vincentown, NJ 08088
April 2, 1984

83rd Infantry Division Association
World War II

Dear Members:

I am trying to locate anyone that may have known my Father, the late PFC Robert C. Caine, who was killed in action somewhere near St. Servan, France. The date of death was August 12, 1944. He was from Bridgeton, N.J. and he had been given the nickname "Killer Caine" because he used to box in his spare time.

Although I never knew my dad because I was born just after his death, I thought it would be nice to make a special memorial case in honor of him. To many he was just another American soldier killed in the line of duty, but to me he will go down in history as a man that gave his life for the freedom of others. No military honors will ever be bestowed upon him, but the memorial case I'm making in his honor will be the best honor given any soldier or father one could ask for.

I understand there were books published in 1945 called "Buckshot and Thunderbolt Across Europe".

If there is any way to get copies of these books to add to the memorial case, it would be deeply appreciated.

My dad's name is listed in the book "Buckshot" on the casualties list from July to August 1944. He was with the 329th Infantry, Company "L".

If there are any members that would be willing to donate any momentos from the 83rd Division or momentos from over in France, I would be most happy to place them in the case with the donors name on it.

I hope that you will help me make the memorial case fitting for a good soldier and a remembered father.

Sincerely,

Lyndal W. Kellogg
(formerly Clarence W. Caine)



Robert C. Caine 329 Infantry Company "L"

*** FLORIDA CHAPTER ***

The Florida Chapter held a week-end meeting on May 5th and 6th at the Best Western Motel in Fort Lauderdale. There were 37 members and wives present, including our two new members, James Griffin from Margate and John Debebbo from Port Richey. As usual we were very happy to have from Pittsburgh, Wilbur Campbell and his lovely wife attend this week-end with us. This week-end was hosted by Geri and Ralph Gunderson. On Friday evening the women were invited over to the Gunderson's home for a buffet dinner, and the men out to dinner and then back to the Gunderson home for some drinking. Saturday evening we had our dinner at the Best Western Motel in a private dining room. Incidentally, Geri and Ralph's son Rick be-

came the official bartender of the Florida Chapter. He mixed drinks at the 83rd bar faster than we could order them.

President Jim McDonald has done a wonderful job of running our meetings in an orderly fashion. The chapter is very active and getting stronger in numbers.

We missed a number of our regulars, because many had already left to go up North. John Clevenger had a severe heart attack, and is now home recuperating. I just received a call that Bob Taylor's wife Rita is sick. I hope that when you read this she will be on the road to recovery.

As this will be the last issue before the reunion, I hope that everyone has sent in their reservation for another fine reunion. I know all my buddies of "A" 331st will be there in full force. (Hear that Ralph). A show of hands to see how many men will be at our reunion in Kentucky and it looks like the Florida Chapter will be well represented.

Robert Livingston who is a new member of our chapter is going to Scotland to get engaged to a beautiful Scottish girl. Good luck Bob. Fritz and Sam Schwartz and Millie and myself are going to Greece for two weeks on June 18th. We are looking forward to this trip.

That's all the news from down south, and hope to see you all in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Dave Benick
"A" 331st



Ames Miller, President Kentucky Chapter. Arthur Doggett, National President, R.C. Hamilton, National Vice President.

Local couple recalls D-Day; keep momentos of fellow vets



Nora Lee & Cecil "Pete" Walters



By JAMES MULCAHY
(Times Staff Reporter)

"You are about to embark upon a great crusade. "That's what then General Eisenhower told troops before storming the beaches of Normandy, and beginning one of the most significant encounters in World War II.

D-Day.

June 6, 1944, 40 years ago Wednesday. Three million soldiers, American, British, and Canadian, landed on France's outermost borders and fought their way toward Germany to end the European phase of WWII after 5 years, 8 months, and 7 days of fighting. Almost a year after the invasion of Normandy, Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl of the German high command signed an unconditional surrender.

June 6, 1944—Cecil "Pete" Walters remembers it well.

Pete recalled some of his memories of D-day, and of the 83rd Infantry Division in which he served. At the time D-day, the secret date for the invasion, was being planned, the 83rd was in training in Wales. They were scheduled to take part in the initial invasion, but were

cancelled a "couple of hours" before. According to Pete, the 83rd was one of the most trained, and with a 75 percent casualty loss expected, that division was held back for four days.

On D+4, (D-day plus four), the 83rd set out for Normandy, but due to a bad storm, they spent seven days in the English Channel, landing on the beach on D+12. A storm, incidentally, delayed the original D-day by one day.

A week after the invasion, while the 83rd was at sea, the Germans launched the first Vergeltungswaffe (vengeance" weapon), or "Buzz bomb", over London.

Pete recalls landing at Normandy.

"There were bodies floating around, hitting the sides of the landing craft. Not a pretty sight," he said.

Pete, who was born and raised in Clay City and now lives on Hwy. 15 near Bowen, told battle stories of his friends in the service. He got to know a lot of men and prefers to remember the good times they shared.

General George Patton, Pete

recalls, was the "wickedest talking guy that I ever heard in my life. He never opened his mouth without swearing." But the men thought a lot of General Eisenhower. "He was the best general there ever was...he wasn't too great a president. He was too good (of a man) to be president, I think," Walters said.

Pete and his wife Nora Lee regularly attend meetings and annual gatherings of the 83rd Infantry Division, both the national and Kentucky Chapters. There they meet new friends and discuss the war with old buddies. One man in the division, now deceased, was Rick Fletcher. Rich was a well known artist for the Dick Tracy comic strip. Rick also drew many of the covers for the 83rd's magazine.

Pete talks mostly of the more humorous recollections of the war, trying to forget the bloodshed and the killing. "When I came out (of the war), I was a nervous wreck. For 25 or 30 years, I spent half of what I made on doctor bills."

Dear Bob:

Here is the picture of my wife and me. We are celebrating our 38th wedding anniversary in September. My wife's name is Beatrice. I am also enclosing a Company C Roster from a long time ago.

Thanks a lot.

Nick J. Cifardini
6597 Knotty Pine Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45230

Nick the 83rd sends you our best wishes for a very Happy Anniversary.

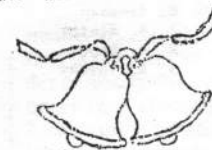


Nick Cifardini and Beatrice



MENU

Roast Turkey
Mashed Potatoes Dressing Giblet Gravy
String Beans Pickled Beets
Hot Biscuits Butter - Jelly
Coffee
Chocolate Cake Candy



COMPANY COMMANDER
 1st Lt. J. J. Luther, Jr.
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 1st Lt. C. L. Barkman
PLATOON LEADERS
 1st Lt. C. Addison 1st Lt. J. Gibson
 1st Lt. A. Marcusius 1st Lt. H. Snyder, Jr.

FIRST SERGEANT

J. H. Stutz

TECHNICAL SERGEANTS

H. A. Callahan H. Cook
 D. E. Springer E. A. Vorkavich

STAFF SERGEANTS

E. L. Benson	C. E. Carnahan
E. E. Caulkins	M. J. Confortini
R. R. Grehan	R. D. Kimble
S. M. Kopecki	E. L. LeBuhn
J. J. Marshall	D. R. McKay
A. H. Montgomery	R. Mancy
V. C. Satcher	C. J. Sheligo

SERGEANTS

M. T. Brandon	I. L. Brinson
E. A. Bryan	M. F. Cooney
B. A. Hodges	R. D. Phelps
R. Kethen	K. J. Shoopman
T. C. Walters	F. J. Whelan
H. W. Whitstone	G. W. Nickell

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (Continued)

A. A. Trujillo	E. N. Victory
R. I. Walker	M. White
Z. L. Young	

PRIVATES

M. A. Amick, Jr.	S. M. Chapman
L. Dematko	R. Dills
H. L. Bidson	H. Freeman
T. F. Honsley	J. E. Hinton
H. E. Miller	E. F. Rhodes
J. Slater, Jr.	J. R. Turney

SEASONS GREETINGS

Let's keep the Old Flag flying
 She'll pay through storm and strife
 And make our fondest Christmas wish
 The AMERICAN WAY of LIFE!

TECHNICIAN FOURTH GRADE

G. J. Calore A. B. Smith

TECHNICIAN FIFTH GRADE

T. Alessandro	C. W. Parnes
H. J. Cieslukowski	B. L. Houston
J. W. Parrouz	E. B. Phillips

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

G. W. Fachman	R. Bazley, Sr.
F. W. Boxler	G. J. Bell
C. B. Bjelland	F. Brown
E. W. Bryer	D. V. Cline
J. J. Cole	J. I. Collins
A. T. Cochran	E. H. Cook
H. N. Cross	F. A. Gilbert
P. D. Distingler	H. A. Hest
T. Dolan	J. E. Quattle
W. L. Douglas	T. A. Luchin
D. M. Eberles	J. M. Hester
E. Finckler	R. L. Hild
E. G. Finney	W. B. Galligan
S. D. Gagnant	A. J. Goffel
R. Z. Galsada	W. K. Hahn
J. J. Hayes	W. J. Henshall
E. H. Hill	E. J. Hiles
L. R. Honeycutt	C. M. Horton
L. S. Howard	H. D. Hyde, Sr.
F. I. Jacks	W. O. H. Jones
R. C. Kautschick	J. L. King
J. A. Kettell	J. G. Knussen
" B. " "	C. A. Lains
J. D. Letch	P. E. Lichtsberger
T. F. Mann	G. K. Marotta
C. G. Marston	F. H. Michler
H. Nichols	G. B. Minter
H. C. Riffe	A. J. Parnes
" " "	F. J. Szwed
B. J. Williams	C. J. Williams
E. C. White	

HAPPY

NEW YEAR

lition teams at last had cleared a path through to the cliffs. Recalls Fuller: "There were bodies and blood all over. How was I supposed to run? I had a horror of stepping on corpses. But I finally reached him 200 yds. away. Then Taylor did an amazing thing. He stood up and shouted, 'Two kinds of people are staying on this beach, the dead and those who are going to die. Now let's get the hell out of here.' And then he led us off."

In the chaos on the beach, Fuller recalls a burning ammunition truck, the driver dead at the wheel, careering toward his pinned-down unit. Some unknown soldier leaped into the cab and steered the smoldering vehicle into the sea, where it exploded. Soaking wet on the beach, Fuller remembers a cold so bitter he barely could move his fingers. The weeks of hedgerow fighting that followed have turned into a sickening blur: "You're out of control. You shoot at anything. Your eyes hurt. Your fingers hurt. You're driven by panic. We never looked at the faces of the dead, just at their feet—black boots for Germans, brown for G.I.s."

Even though Fuller made a movie called *The Big Red One* about his old division four years ago, he thinks war is impossible to convey on film because "you can't see anything in actual combat. To do it right," he says, "you'd have to blind the audience with smoke, deafen them with noise, then shoot one of them in the shoulder to scare the rest to death. That would give the idea, but then not many people would come to the theater."

Above the beach in the village of Colleville-sur-Mer, Fuller headed for an old café he remembered and asked for Joseph Brobant, the first French civilian he had seen. Brobant had come running down the road toward the advancing troops, carrying a shovel. "It's a wonder we didn't shoot him," says Fuller. "We were told to shoot at anything that moved on that road." Brobant, who had been forced into virtual slave labor by the Germans, excitedly indicated to the American infantrymen that he had just killed three of his captors with his shovel. Now 82, Brobant at first did not recognize the U.S. soldier who had teased him about his funny hat. Fuller drew a sketch of the white cap that Brobant had worn then, and the old Frenchman's eyes lit up in recognition. Shouting and laughing, the two men bear-hugged each other, overjoyed at finding a living connection to that distant day.

Making that kind of connection is more difficult for most veterans. Often they hunt for the side of a hill, a particular hedgerow or some other now inconspicuous landmark that is burned in their memories. Two Canadians found the precise corner of a pasture they remembered near Arromanches. No trace of war remained. But digging into the soft earth, the two men finally uncovered a rusted Canadian helmet. A former U.S. sergeant spent an entire day looking for the house where he had knocked out a German machine gun. When he found it, he cried,



British veterans survey the battlefield at Pointe-du-Hoc; a Sherman tank at Ste.-Mère-Eglise

"That is why I came, that is why I came." William K. Van Hoy, 62, a retired postman from Milwaukie, Ore., wanted to show his son the place near St.-Malo where he was wounded on Aug. 8, 1944.

What sticks in Van Hoy's memory even more vividly, though, is an incident during the attack on St.-Lô. "I had just lost two of my best friends," he says. "They were picked off right next to me. Then, in St.-Lô, we had just seized an artillery battery and taken all these prisoners when our own artillery started hitting all around us. I jumped into a bunker hole with two of the Germans. They marked on the side of the wall that they were 17 years old and had bicycled for three weeks from Germany to get there." Says Van Hoy, his face full of wonder, "You know I actually felt sorry for them."

For 37 out of the past 40 years, Theodore Liska, now a hotel manager in Mons, Belgium, has returned to Normandy for the anniversary of D-day. Liska, a native of Chicago, was a sergeant in the 4th Infantry. As a survivor he feels a debt to "the men who won the war, those who gave their lives. The rest of us didn't." Compared with Omaha, the landing at Utah was easy, but a mile or two inland Liska's unit began to take heavy casualties. The Germans had flooded a swath of fields nearly a mile wide. Liska and his men kept their sea-landing life jackets on for the first 24 hours, as they struggled through waist-high water. Says Liska: "We were just like sitting ducks for

the Germans, sitting ducks in a pond." Human corpses became so familiar to Liska that by an odd flinch of his mind he vividly recalls instead pastures full of dead cows. "They were all lying there on their backs with their legs in the air," he says, "and I remember thinking that I never had seen a dead cow before."

By the same selective memory, veterans dwell on spontaneous displays of mercy in combat rather than on acts of brutality. Although no one wants to be reminded that both sides occasionally shot prisoners, usually because they lacked the time or means to guard them, one notorious exception is the 12th SS Panzer Division's murder of nearly 40 Canadian and British prisoners in a château garden near Bayeux. Liska's unit ran into a handful of soldiers in German uniforms from the conquered Eastern territories who had probably been pressed into service. Said Liska, "They kept saying they were Russians or Poles. The Americans didn't know who was who so they shot them."

Then there were the sudden gestures of respect for the enemy that occasionally graced the killing. Edwin Schmieger, a former parachutist with the German 3rd Parachute Division, is one of 100 or so German veterans who chose to settle in Normandy after the war, mainly because the Soviet army had overrun their former homes in Poland and Germany. A skilled carpenter who restores old furniture, Schmieger recalls coming under fire from three American tanks. "One of my comrades was wounded in both legs," recount-

Dear Bob:

On April 25th to May 12th 1984 my wife and I, our son and his wife and her parents flew to Seattle, Washington and then to Amsterdam. We rented a van and traveled 4000 kilometers (about 2,500 miles).

We visited relatives in Belgium, friends at Rowen, France, that I have kept in contact with for 39 years. On May 3rd, I was on the Normandy Beaches, at Ponte Du Hoc. The reporter for the Milwaukee Sentinel (Wisconsin) talked to me at Utah Beach and St. Mere Eglise. Fred Painton, the Paris based writer for Time Magazine interviewed me. He mentions me in the May 28th Issue of Time.

The article is not quite correct. It was St. Malo and not St. Lo that the 1st Platoon of "K" that took the German Artillery Position. I told him I was in the 83rd Division. But he left that out.

We had a great trip visiting Germany, Austria, Switzerland. On the subway in Paris two Gypsy girls got one of our woman's purses. One girl unzipped the purse and the other one got the billfold and put it under her blouse. My wife saw it go and we took it away from her. Had a passport and #300 in French Francs. Otherwise everyone treated us great. The U.S. Dollar is so high now that you can eat and get hotels over there cheaper than here in Oregon or California. But Gas is over \$2.00 a gallon.

IT SURE IS PEACEFUL OVER THERE NOW.

Sincerely,
William K. VanHoy
1st Platoon "K" 329th

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

In World War II, the subject of our article was a mess sergeant with headquarters company, 1st Battalion, 331st Regiment of the 83rd Infantry Division, and was fully engaged in the battles in the hedgerows of Normandy. His job was to prepare hot meals and take them forward to his company in the front lines. One morning he was taking breakfast forward with his jeep and trailer. He was not sure of the exact location, so he asked an MP for directions. The man gave him directions and he took off. The MP gave our man wrong directions and he found himself in a hedgerow between his company and the Germans. The jeep, trailer and food were completely destroyed by the enemy and friendly

mortar and artillery fire. Our man survived without a scratch and his comment was "The Good Lord watched over me that day." Who are we talking about? Wilson Day.

Wilson entered the Police Department on April 1, 1942 and attended police school until May 15 when he graduated and was assigned to District 2 on Broadway. He was assigned to a walking beat in the "bottoms" which was a pretty rough area at that time. Wilson did not have any problems with the people.

On October 26, 1942 he went into the army and served with the 83rd Division until he was discharged 11/15/45. This Division was nicknamed the "Ragtag Circus" and was the only outfit to cross the Elbe River and head pellmell for Berlin. They were halted by Eisenhower and returned to the Elbe.

Upon return to the Division he was reassigned to District 2. He skipped on beats until June 1946 when he and Russ Jackson were assigned to Cruiser 2. In December 1948 he and Russ were assigned to plainclothes by Captain Davenport. Wilson spent the rest of his police career in civilian clothes.

Wilson returned in April 1976 and went to work for Swallen's. He worked there until 1981 when he fully retired.

He and his wife, Viola, she is also retired, live in Mt. Airy. They are collectors of Hummel figurines, Anri wood carvings and Ruthven wildlife prints. Wilson says they travel at the drop of a hat and they have met a lot of interesting people since they have been collecting.



THEN



NOW

83rd REUNION PROGRAM 1984

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1984

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION
First Boat Ride
Second Boat Ride

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1984

9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9, 1984

6:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Complimentary Lunch
10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
12:00 noon - 2:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight

REGISTRATION
Camp Breckenridge Tour
Historical Walking Tour
Bingo
Square Dance Session
Free Time
Open Bar
Flower Arranging
Exercise Class in Athletic Build
Dinner
Country Western Dance

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1984

6:30 a.m.
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - SHARP
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Complimentary Lunch
10:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
12:00 noon - 2:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
2:30 p.m.
7:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight

Golf Tournament
Buffet Breakfast
Membership Business Meeting
REGISTRATION
Camp Breckenridge Tour
Historical Walking Tour
Bingo
Square Dance Session
Free Time
Open Bar
Flower Arranging
Exercise Class in Athletic Build
Dinner
Entertainment and Dancing

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 1984

6:30 a.m.
7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.

2:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. All Invited
7:00 p.m.
9:00 p.m. - 12:00 midnight

Golf Tournament
Buffet Breakfast
REGISTRATION
Membership Business Meeting
REE TIME FOR LADIES
MEMORIAL SERVICES
Open Bar
Mass Services
Banquet
Entertainment and Dancing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12, 1984

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Buffet Breakfast

FAREWELLS

ALL EVENTS WHILE AT THE REUNION ARE ON C.D.T. Please set your watches. Hospitality Room will be opened daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Kentucky Chapter women will be selling all kinds of crafts at the reunion.

The charges below are exceptions to the \$240.00 package price.

Single person two day stay \$115.00
Single person one day stay \$60.00
Two persons for two days stay \$160.00
Two persons for one day stay \$80.00
The above RATES INCLUDE TAX.

Suites will also be available \$60.00 per day plus Tax.
Studio Suites will also be available \$40.00 per day plus Tax

Main Routes into Owensboro are:

From Interstate 71 take Route # 64 West Route #231 South into Owensboro. West Route #60 from Louisville State Route #231 North into Owensboro. State Route #431 North from Nashville, Tennessee. State Route #60 East from Saint Louis, Missouri into Owensboro.

REMEMBER THERE WILL BE A \$10.00 REGISTRATION FEE FOR ALL PERSONS ATTENDING THE REUNION. MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT PREPAID WILL PAY THEIR \$10.00 MEMBERSHIP FEE.

To order Shirts and Caps fill in:

Print your Name: _____

ADDRESS: _____

City _____

Shirt Size: _____

Cap Size: _____

Unit: _____

Chapter or other
Preference: _____

Color Black & Gold or Gold & Black

Mail To: **Vito C. Palozzolo**
20000 Lancaster
Harperwoods, MI 48225

You will be billed by Vito later. If you want to know the price write him before ordering.

Application for Membership
VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE
P O Box 5510 Arlington, Virginia 22205
ANNUAL DUES: \$5.00
DONATIONS ARE WELCOME

Name _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ Phone (_____) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit(s) to which assigned during period December 16, 1944-January 25, 1945 (Div, Regt, Bn, Co) _____

Campaign Ribbons and Battle stars awarded _____

Wounded _____

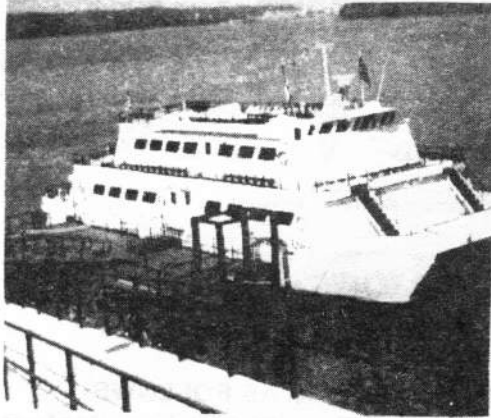
Captured _____

Make check or money order payable to VBOB and mail with this application to above address.

In order for the Kentucky Chapter to determine the transportation needs and the number of guests for the following events. Please return the reservation forms to the appropriate person and address as soon as possible.



38th ANNUAL REUNION AUGUST 9-10-11-12, 1984



RESERVATION FORM

**EARLY BIRD WEDNESDAY NIGHT AUGUST 8, 1984,
THE EXECUTIVE QUEEN OHIO RIVER CRUISE 7 TO 9 PM
COST \$5.00 PER PERSON**

Complete and Mail to:

**Manny Goodridge
621 Oak St.
Ludlow, KY 41016
(606) 491-0298**

Enclosed is payment of \$ _____ for _____ People. Signed _____

For Conformation please fill in below:

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Zip _____ Tel. _____

If need to cancel please send a written notice. You will receive a Refund.



Please reserve me _____ tickets for the Camp Breckenridge Job Corp Center Tour. Bus transporation furnished.

Friday August 10th. Free lunch.

Signed _____

Mail to: R.C. Hamilton
Box 374
Marion, Ky. 42064
(502)965-4310 day
(502) 965-5266 night



Golf Tournament



Man's Name _____

Woman's Name _____



Paul Bryars
2840 Ross-Hanover Rd. Lot 4
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

BOB GREEN'S
Executive Inn
Rivermont

PROUDLY WELCOMES
THE
MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF THE
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION
TO YOUR
38th ANNUAL REUNION
AUGUST 9-10-11-12, 1984



CURRENT RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Convention Rate: For 4 days and 3 nights lodging (August 9-10-11, 1984), \$240.00 per couple, includes double occupancy room or \$120.00 per person in a double occupancy room, or \$170.00 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 returned.

RESERVATION FORM
FOR AUGUST 9-10-11, 1984

Complete and Mail to
 Executive Inn Rivermont
 One Executive Boulevard
 Owensboro, Kentucky 42301

Enclosed is payment of \$ _____
 as deposit for _____ Room(s)
 Nights of August _____, 1

For 38th Annual 83rd Infantry Reunion
SEE RATES TO THE RIGHT

CHECK IN TIME: 1:00 P.M.
CHECK OUT TIME: 12:00 Noon

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Zip _____ Tel. _____
 No. in Party _____ Remarks _____

Extensions will be permitted when possible, depending on room availability for that date.

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.

BOLO TIES AND NECKLACES
\$5.50 each

83-84 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.**

Bob

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
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OXFORD, OHIO

Charles Sihlanick
2 Elizabeth Ct.
Little Ferry, NJ 07643

A-322 F.A.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print)

ADDRESS

CITY, or TOWN & STATE.....

Company _____ Regiment _____ 83rd. Division

Phone No. _____ Renewal _____ new _____

Please Enclose A Check or Money Order.

Dues \$10.00 PAYABLE TO:

ROBERT E. DERICKSON

OFFICE PHONE:
513-863-2199

**3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013**

DATE..... SIGNATURE