



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 44 No.2

Winter Issue 1989

THE 43rd ANNUAL REUNION

August 17, 18 & 19 1989



The Clarion Hotel
Cincinnati, Ohio

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 II and is published at 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013.

Editor: Robert Derickson

STAFF REPORTERS

Vito Palazzolo 20,000 Lancaster, Harper Woods, MI 48236	Francis G. Beerhalter .. 4548 Valley View St., Pittsburgh, PA 15214
Ambrose Tynan 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury, MA 02136	John Shepherd 210 Lee Ave., Nitro W. Va. 25143
Nick Francullo 10 Bessom St., Lynn MA 01903	S. Bielen 71 Glenwood Terrace, Fords, NJ 08863
Joe Adam 6757 N. Avers, Ave., #1, Chicago, IL. 60645	John G. Daum 746 Fairfax Rd., Drexel Hill, PA. 19026
Joseph A. Macaluso ... 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122	Frank Jackson R.F.D. #1, Box 264, Oliver Springs, TN. 37840
Lee Titus 534 Roosevelt St. Warren, OH 44483	Dan McCarthy 3204 Layside Court, Louisville, KY 40220
Robert Uher 7603 Pelham Dr., Parma, OH 44129	

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

*Ralph G. Neppel, CMH Alan F.S. Mackenzie	*Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon Gurney S. Jaynes	*Lt. Gen. Claude Ferebaugh Daniel G. Hagman
--	--	--

LIFE MEMBERS

*James C. Hannahan *Edward J. Murphy Lawrence Redmond	*Ralph B. Neppel CMH *Victor E. Landis Samuel Klippa	*Harry W. Lockwood Walter H. Edwards, Jr. *William D. Doty	*Robert T. Foster *Norman Campbell *Bill White
---	--	--	--

ORGANIZATION 1988-89

PRESIDENT

Charles Schmidt
2512 Adams Ct., Apt. 160
Covington, KY 41017

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Manlius Goodridge
621 Oak Street
Ludlow, KY 41016

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

R.C. Hamilton
P.O. Box #134
Merion, KY 42064

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Nick Francullo
10 Bessom Street
Lynn, MA 01903

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Robert E Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013-9102

CHAPLAIN

Casey Kowalec
7719 Edgewood Lane
Seven Hills, OH 44131

CHAPLAIN

Matthew Pintar
P.O. Box 186
Mingo Church Rd.
Finleyville, PA 15332

JUDGE ADVOCATE

John Raikos
4039 Fir Court
Indianapolis, IN 46250

HISTORIAN

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

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

Harry Stevenson
741 Hange Street
Philadelphia, PA 19128

Bernard Mendelsohn
1931 S. 30th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Anthony Giannini
1638 Packer Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19145

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ralph Gunderson 631 S.E. 12th St. Pompano Beach, FL 33060	Ames Miller 4283 W. 200 So. Columbus, IN 47201	William Minick R.R. # 2 Kinards, SC 29355	James Prentice R.R. #3 Box #140 D Claremont, NH 03743	Louis M. Nolan 520 W. Park Row St. Peter, MN 560822
---	--	---	---	---

A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan 1947	John W. Robinette 1962	Mike Skovran 1976
Jack M. Straus 1948	*Manuel C. Martin 1963	Manlius Goodridge 1977
*Shelly Hughes 1949	*Julius Boyles 1964	Joseph A. Macaluso 1978
*Julius Ansel 1950	Samuel Klippa 1965	*William J. Chavanne 1979
Walter H. Edwards Jr 1951	*William M. Doty 1966	Samuel Klippa 1980
Leo Schneider 1952	Albert A. Belvedere 1967	Michael Caprio 1981
Finley Heyl 1953	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968	Ralph Gunderson 1982
Lawrence J. Redmond 1954-55	Pat DiGiammerino 1969	Arthur Doggett 1983
*Lt. Gen. Robert H. York 1956	Casey Szubski 1970	Bernie Cove 1984
*Harry W. Lockwood 1957	*Charles Altomari 1971	Carroll Brown 1985
Raymond J. Voracek 1958	*Harold H. Dopp 1972	John Hobbs 1986
Charles Abdinoor 1959	Louis J. Volpi 1973	George Pletcher 1987
*Joseph F. Minotti 1960	Bernard O. Riddle 1974	
*Frank J. McGrogan 1961	Robert G. Taylor 1975	

*Denotes Deceased



The President's Corner

Dear "Buddies" and Friends,

The Christmas Season has passed and we are now in 1989 a new year - and I want to wish each and everyone a healthy, prosperous and happy New Year.

This is the year for the Cincinnati Reunion and it is "go" all the way. It is not one or two persons who make the association what it is today. It is you - each and everyone of you who annually attend the reunions and also bring a "Buddy" with you for the fellowship and companionship of the affairs which are planned.

The applications for reservations are in the **Thunderbolt**. There will be plenty of rooms, all under one roof, to accommodate you. Get your reservations in early, however, so we know how many to expect. We sure hope to exceed our expectations. As I've said in the past, it will be affordable as we are planning a congenial Reunion for everyone.

The "Early Birds" party will be a great one. One we know will please you and bring back memories of our times and pleasures.

Again, I wish each a good New Year and anxiously await to see you all in Cincinnati.

Charles E. Schmidt
2512 Adams Court, Apt. 160
Covington, Kentucky 41017
(606) 341-4318

News

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Went to the Kentucky Chapter's meeting in October at Owensboro and had a great time. Discussed the Cincinnati Reunion with President Charley Schmidt and First Vice-President Manny Goodridge. It appears that everything is coming into place with just a few odds and ends to be firmed up. More from them in their reports to you.

Was able to take in the Dixie-Kentucky Chapters' Christmas party-meetings at Gatlinburg in early December. Past National President Carroll Brown and wife Ruby, along with his committee put on a tremendous party. Had 180 for dinner on Saturday night indicating the Dixie Chapter is a good host.

As I had called a meeting of the Executive Board to be at Gatlinburg, it was held on Saturday Dec. 3. Some were unable to attend because of illness or other commitments but we had a quorum for the meeting. Since this report has to be in by Dec. 10 I'll give information on the results in the next issue as the minutes are being transcribed for issuance to Board members unable to attend. Incidentally, no one was reimbursed any amount for attending this meeting.

Buddies, we have to get a handle on the operations of this Association or it will be in trouble in the future. I hope to be able to turn over the chairmanship to Ames Miller at the next Reunion showing at least a head start towards a successful continuation of future Reunions.

Ralph Gunderson



Greetings from the Secretary-Treasurer's Office

A New Year has begun. Pearl and I hope that all of you had a very Happy Holiday Season. Thanks to all of you men and your wives who sent us all the beautiful cards with all of the very encouraging words. You will never know how much they meant.

Our membership is staying at about the same for this time of the year. There are quite a few out there who will need reminders about your dues. Just send your \$10.00 in and we won't have to do that. Some of you write and tell me that you wait for the reminder. Just look at your card now and if it says Expires 8/88 you are past due.

Pearl and I did not get to Gatlinburg this year for the Dixie Chapter meeting. From all reports a good time was had. Haran Martin did not get to go this year because of a heart attack. You know he was sick to miss his beloved Chapter meeting. We hope to go to Williamsburg in the spring. Dixie will be hosting their Spring meeting in Williamsburg the last week of March. The Boston Chapter will be having their week at the Pines in April. Guess since more are retired they feel they can do this. Wonderful to get together with your friends. Nothing like True friends to have a good time with.

As I have told you Pearl and I are going on the Galaxy tour in June. My first trip back. Pearl is still queasy about the plane ride but we are both looking forward to going over there and seeing all the places where these many friendships that we have formed really took place. Bonnie Hoover and Pearl plan to hold hands all the way over. Will let you know how this turns out. Wish that all of you were going with us on this tour planned for the 83rd by Galaxy Tours.

As many of you know I lost my mother last fall. She had been sick for over a year. My Father is 89 and doing very well.

We are mailing out over 2000 Thunderbolts every time now. This includes all active members, our exchange to other outfits and the VA hospitals. We also send to the widows of deceased members.

We will be going to Pittsburgh the first week end of May for the Executive Board meeting.

At this time the Board will be approving tentative plans for the Pittsburgh Reunion and giving final approval on the Cincinnati Reunion.

We hope that all of you stay well.

Bob

Past President 1964

Please see that this notice of death is placed in your news booklet to the 83rd membership which meant so much to my husband, J.C. Boyles. He always read every word in the book.

Julius Clinton Boyles, 70, of 1317 Prescott Place, High Point, N.C., died Saturday, August 27th, at his home at 6:45 a.m. He had been in declining health for six months. He was born in Vincennes, Indiana. He was a resident of High Point most of his life. Julius was a veteran of World War II and served with the 83rd Infantry Division. He received the Bronze Star for bravery under fire. He also received the purple heart and his company, the 3rd BN.HQ. 329th received the Presidential Citation. Julius was president of the 83rd Infantry Division Association in 1964. His widow, Polly and one daughter Mrs. James Beasley survive along with one sister and four brothers and two grandchildren.

Thank you for helping us.

Polly Boyles and family



Chaplain's Corner

GRACE FOR THE NEW YEAR

May the Lord make your New Year a happy one....

Not by shielding you from sorrow and pain, but by strength to bear it.

Not by making your path easy, but by making you sturdy enough to tread whatever road lies ahead.

Not by taking hardship from you, but by taking all cowardice and fear from your heart.

Not by granting you unbroken sunshine, but by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows.

Not by making your life always pleasant, but by showing you where men and his cause need you most, and by making you zealous to help.

Since the chaplain's last report, the following names were sent or called in notifying us about the passing away of these buddies.

Joseph A. Nitroy "C" 331st. A group of you men went to visit Joe in Lancaster, Pa., when you attended the Hershey reunion.

Melvin Sharp "A" 308th reported by George Settle,

Elmer Palm "B" 331st Reported by Matt Pintar and Francis Beehalter

Louis Fournier "C" 908th Reported by Francis Rood

James F. Veale 329th Reported by Larry Coladengelo

William Chapman 83rd Q.M. Reported by William Herhuth & Nell Chapman

Louis Tidd "B" 308th Reported by Wife, Jane Tidd

Willard Pugh 324th Reported by Larry Redmond

Michael Molish 331st Reported by Ames Miller

Frank C. Tim Honess None Listed Reported by Harry Stevenson

Filmore Kohler "G" 329th reported by Bob and Lois Brinkman & Keith Echerd

Howard Edwards "M" 330th Reported by Janet Edwards, wife

Pasco P. Capoverdi 2nd Bn MEDICS 330th reported by Harry Stevenson

Joseph M. Hubecks 331st Reported by Lee M. Hetrick

Robert Piette "G" 331st Reported by sister, Edith Cadwell

Teđ Karageorge reported that he lost his wife Dorothy

Noel Villarreal reported that he lost his wife on December 8, 1988.

Julius C. Boyles 3rd Bn.HQ. 329th reported by Haran Martin

Robert McIntyre "C" 330 Jan. 2, 1989 Reported by wife

George C. Reinke 908th 6/17/88 Reported by Del Jurden

The sympathy of the entire 83rd Infantry Division Association goes out to all of the families of the above.

Should you have resolutions for this year, and have already broken them, how about some that can be followed for the rest of the year, and be used every day.

If you can just use one of them it will make your life that much richer, because you will have reached out and touched someone with love and kindness.

Let me be a little kinder, let me be a little blinder to the faults of those about let me praise a little more.

Let me be, when I am weary, just a little bit more cheery; let me serve a little better those that I am striving for.

Let me be a little braver, when temptation bids me weaver; let me strive a little harder to be all that I should be.

Let me be a little meeker with the brother that is weaker, let me think more of my neighbor -- and a little less of me!

Casey Kowalec--Chaplain

QUIPS AND QUOTES: FROM CASEY KOWALEC

Just about this time of the year, all of the Major League Baseball teams are in the warm climates, with spring training sessions preparing for their home openers.

If you're a sports fan, you know the name of Casey Stengel. For those who don't, he was not only one of the most successful managers in the history of baseball, he was probably its most off-beat philosopher. He was famous for convoluted sentences that were sometimes wise and sometimes incomprehensible. Sports writers loved to quote him, even when they did not understand him. One of his best-known insights went like this: "There comes a time at least once in every man's life, and I've had plenty of them."

It has been said that humor has its own place and does not belong in matters pertaining to business. To the people who object, some of us do not agree because positive humor is not meant to offend anyone. As my friend Jacky Mason says, and those of you who were at the last Pines reunion remember him well-"it's not my nature" to offend anyone. If humor can just put a little grin on your face, then it is doing the job, and it can be a silly off the cuff remark.

EXAMPLE

We asked Jerry Zingg, our outfits cook, who is still a GR8 CHEF to offer his version of avoiding gassiness from beans: His answer: Cook them upside down, and get hiccups instead.

MIKE MIZEROCK from our Cleveland Chapter another GR8 CHEF, says that when he wins the lottery, he will treat us to a full course dinner at a super restaurant on the moon. Only one problem. The food is terrific--but there is no atmosphere. The Medical Profession agrees that Laughter is still the worlds best medicine.

Let me close off this column and direct a letter to the wonderful 83rd ladies, who have done so much for our Association in coping with our gripes, and letting us take the credit for much of the detail work that must be done in putting on and attending a reunion. No offense and hope it puts a smile on your beautiful face.

Dear Friend:

This is a chain letter started by a woman like yourself in the hope of bringing relief to other tired and discontented women. Unlike most chain letters, this does not cost anything. Just send a copy of this letter to five of your friends who are equally tired and discontented.

Then, bundle up your husband and send him to the woman whose name is at the top of the list and add your name to the bottom.

When your name comes to the top of the list, you will receive 16,748 men. . . and some of them will be dandies, I can assure you!

Have faith and don't break the chain. At the time of this writing, a friend of mine received 163 men. They buried her yesterday, but it took three undertakers to get the smile off her face.

Again, don't break the chain. One woman broke it and got her own husband back!

CASEY KOWALEC - 322 F.A.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

42nd ANNUAL REUNION 83rd INFANTRY DIV. ASSOC.
HERSHEY LODGE, HERSHEY, PA. SEPTEMBER 8-9-10-11, 1988

RECEIPTS

Ad Book	\$10,411.00
Advance Money from Phila. Chapter	1,106.00
Registration Meal Tickets & Reunion Fund	13,789.00
Raffle - Women	1,340.00
50/50 Tickets	1,010.00
Name Tags - From S & M Engraving	150.00
Donation	30.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$27,836.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Printing Ad Book (1050 Books) Less 1/2 Page Ad	\$1,465.00
Refund - Advance Money from Chapter	1,106.00
Ad Book - Postage & Supplies (Larry Redmond)	500.00
Postage & Supplies (Albert Belvedere)	123.00
Hospitality - Reunion	5,489.35
Meals - Hershey Lodge - for Outside Guests	9,283.00
Flowers	205.00
Name Tags	151.00
Plaques (4) Stephen A. Homer Co.	154.00
Rented Van & Expenses	432.00
Wreaths for Cosmetic Show Door Prizes (2)	21.50
Food for President's Suite (Reimbursement)	232.93
Liquor for President's Suite	152.00
Travel Expense President 5 Times 800 miles @ 20¢ mile	160.00
Travel Expense Chairman 12 Times 3,360 miles @ 20¢ mile	672.00
Travel Expense Co-Chairman 12 Times 2,400 miles @ 20¢ mile	480.00
Travel Expense - John Piscitelli 4 times 640 miles @ 20¢ mile	128.00
Eight (8) Rolls - 50/50 Tickets	38.58
Reimbursement for Meals - Hershey Lodge	108.00
Paid National - Telephone Calls - Fiscal Year 1987-88	422.81
Miscellaneous	342.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$21,666.17
NET PROFIT	\$6,169.83

Areas where Money was Saved:

Eliminated Court Reporter
 All Typing was done by Philadelphia Chapter Women
 Hershey Lodge provided 9 1/2 Kegs of Beer for Hospitality Room
 Hershey Lodge did not charge for Empty Spaces Thursday & Friday Dinners
 Free Transportation to Hershey Park
 Free Entertainment Wednesday Night - Square Dance - Bill & Martha Applebee

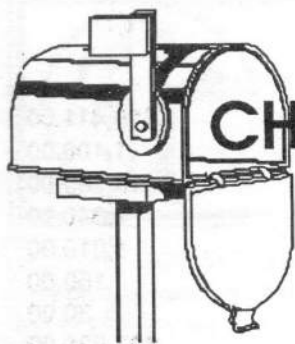
HERSHEY REUNION REPORT SEPTEMBER 1988 FROM THE NATIONAL OFFICE

Members who attended the reunion	552
Wives	407
Other Guests	35
Widows	9
TOTAL IN ATTENDANCE	1003

BREAKDOWN

New Members - First Reunion	34
Members who planned to attend but had to cancel	43
Members in attendance who had not previously registered	101
Members that stayed in Motels outside of Hershey Lodge	58
Commuting from Home or the Home of Relatives	33
TOTAL STAYING OUTSIDE OF HERSHEY LODGE	91

This report is made from the records that were taken at the Hershey reunion. There were other guests for the Saturday night Banquet.



CHAPTER NEWS

Dixie Chapter

All of us had a great time in Gatlinburg at the Christmas party on December 2 and 3 and were pleased to be joined by 22 members of the Kentucky Chapter.

A total of 180 sat down to a well organized dinner on Saturday night with good food and fellowship and the visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

President Massey greeted newcomers, regulars, guests and dignitaries.

National president Charley Schmidt from Kentucky was with us giving us the chance to know him better and we were indeed glad to have him.

Also with us and welcome were Ralph Gunderson from Pompano Beach, Florida. And board members Ames Miller of Indiana and Meadors Minnick of South Carolina.

Massey called on Hazel Ball who brought messages from Haran Martin, who was unable to be with us due to illness. Get well Haran - you and Dot are missed. The group also sends wishes for better health to Dick Riddle and Buck Muldrow and to all who are not feeling well.

A presentation was made to James R. Duncan who had recently been made an Honorary Kentucky Colonel by the Governor of Kentucky, Wallace G. Wilkerson.

Winners of the 1/2 and 1/2 drawing were Marvin and Wanda Haydon from Louisville, Kentucky who returned a share back to Dixie Chapter and gave a \$5.00 bill to John and Virginia Cox's granddaughter, Katie, who drew the winning ticket.

It was good having with us Hazel Ball, Joyce Baker and Billie Glenn.

The next meeting will be held once again in Williamsburg, Va., on March 30, 31 and April 1. Make reservations early directly to the Williamsburg Westpark Hotel, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185. Phone outside VA 800 446-1062 and residents of Va. 804-229-1134. See you there.

June meeting will be the 22, 23 and 24 at Ramanda Inn in Nashville, Tennessee. Details later, but do mark it on your calendars how.

Message from Lacy Satterfield.

Lacy and Melba Satterfield visited Ralph and Geri Gunderson at Pompano Beach, Florida, while on vacation. We had a most pleasant evening with a good meal at the Flaming Pit.

We also went by to see Sylvain and Eunice Fishman on Coconut Island in Ft. Lauderdale and had a nice visit. Eunice is on the sick list and we hope you get well soon.

Thank you again Geri and Ralph, we enjoyed your hospitality and the visit very much.

Melba and Lacy Satterfield

From all who attended the Gatlinburg meeting we thank the hosts & hostesses for a good job. Everyone enjoyed the bingo, shopping and the parade. And also doing things on our own.

My Grandson Steven Matheny, 13 ice skated for the first time and rode the chair lift and came down the slide. He thanks those of you who made him feel so welcome.



Charlie Williams, O.L. Cook, Burt and Clarie Turner



Wanda Haydon 50/50 Winner



James Duncan and Ellsworth Massey

Submitted by: LeRay McManaway, reporter



Hi Bob & Pearl

I am a little late getting my Duck in a row, I am sending in my poem. Friday is Veteran's Day, and I made this poem for the day.

Bob I had a Heart attack Oct. 20th was in the hospital for one week. I am getting stronger each day. I have one artery 100% blocked one 50%, one 75%. I am being treated with medication. Hopeful this will clear up some of the sickness, and provide new circulation and build new arteries. They did a Cardiac Catheterization, and other cardiac diagnostic tests. But I am in the Dark as of now. I will know at the end of six weeks if things are working. I sure hope surgery will not be necessary. I go to my regular doctor Friday 11th for blood test and cardiogram, whatever may be Treadmill. Bob I will not make Gatlinburg Christmas Party, doctor's orders, but I hope to be in Williamsburg wide open. I want to wish you and Pearl the very best of holidays, and a healthy New Year. We Love You.

Dot & Haran

DON'T FORSAKE OUR OBLIGATIONS

They laid down their weapons,
But picked up a crutch.
Confined in bed or a wheel chair,
Or a cane they can clutch.
For their countries freedom,
They fought and they bled.
Their hearts are still bleeding,
As they lay maimed in bed.
There are legs and arms missing,
Some of them are blind.
Many can not speak or hear,
And some have lost their mind.
What a sad situation,
These veterans exist from day to day.
They are not living, They can't die,
They are not just wasting away.
We must try to comfort them,
Doing everything we possibly can.
For it is our civil duty,
To give a helping hand.
They suffer the consequence,
Now it's up to you and me.
To help those veterans who have lost,
But provided us Liberty.

Haran Martin
Co. C - 331 St



NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Hello You All,

First of all we of the New England Chapter hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Our Chapter had our annual Christmas Party on Dec. 3, at the Marriott in Prov. R.I. and it was a weekend thing. We all arrived around 1:00 p.m. and headed for the Chapter Room, where we had an informal buffet and bar set up and we spent a few hours together chatting and munching and for those who like to swim headed for the pool. Later in the evening we all gathered for dinner in our own private dining room.

After dinner the center piece was given to the lucky person on that table. They were Mr. & Mrs. Leon Collins of R.I., Mr. & Mrs. Simon Etzel of Conn., Mr. & Mrs. Kay Burkhard of N.Y. and Mr. and Mrs. John Ferriera Chelmsford, Mass.

These centerpieces were all made by Jim and Dot Brenman. Thank you Jim and Dot for doing such a great job and being the host for the Christmas party. It was a lot of work and we love you for that.

We missed seeing the Adachowski, Bouchers the McCartins, the O'Connells, the Barbers and the Muders. Hope you are all O.K. Those who attended were Leon & Catherine Collins of RI. This was his first time and we hope to see you more often. John & Ester Ferriera, Bill & Betty Davis, Nick & Mary Francullo, August & Hazel Farias, Bill & Jeanette McKee, Ernest & Helen Smith, Karl & Ingrid Burkhard, Jim & Dot Brennan, Joseph & Helen Petrucci, Al & Ann Tartaglia, Mike & Marie Champey, Ray & Isabelle Orsini, Burt & Rose Simons and Simon & Kathren Etzel.

After dinner we all headed back to the Chapter Rm for more drinks and to see Santa who gave out gifts to us all and then he took off to see all the nice girls in the Hotel.

When he came back he look like he was on a five mile race all tired out HaHaHa Thanks Santa, you did a superb job again. Hoping to see you next year. Thanks again, also we hope there will be more new faces as it is a great time.

Received a letter from Harry & Iris Benedetti and Harry is not feeling to good and are in St. Pete, Fla., for the winter. We all miss you Harry and Iris stay in good health.

Also got a letter from good buddy Al Faedi of Canaan Conn, who is out of the hospital after being sick for 6 weeks. Al and Claudia have had there good and sad times this past year. they have become grandparents again for the third time and in March, there youngest son, age 25, who is out in Laffeyette, La., was the victim of a hit and run and had lost his leg, so they had to make a quick trip to La., to be with him. Thank God he is doing OK. When they got home a few days his Mother passed away. Yes Al & Claudia, 1988 was a rough year. Hope 1989 will be better for you all.

Also received a Christmas Card from Russ Wagner of Hq. 3rd., Bn 330th, of Chamburges, Pa. They could not make the reunion as he was in the V.A. hospital. Hope you and Vera are doing O.K. They are also in Fla., for the winter. Hope you all can make Cincinnati, Ohio reunion, 1989. Time just flys by and our day are numbered, so all you men from Hq. Co. 3rd, Bn 330. Lets make this Cinn., Ohio a big get together.

Just received a telephone call from Dot Brennan of Warwick, R.I. that her mother past away, Dec. 22, '88. She was 92 year old and a fine woman. We of the New England Chapter send out our condolences to the Brennan family.

That is it for the New England Chapter.

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



New England Chapter
We love it
John & Ester Ferriera



New England Chapter
Kathren and Simon Etzel



New England Chapter
What a great time



New England Chapter
Just one more Helen!



New England Chapter
Happy Winner
Catherine & Leon Collins



KENTUCKY CHAPTER NEWS

I want to thank the Dixie Chapter for inviting the Kentucky Chapter to their Christmas Party in Gatlinburg, Tenn. It was a very fine affair and I am certain all who attended enjoyed themselves very much. There were many places to go and things to see. Our lovely ladies had a ball going to the many shops and discount houses in Pigeon Forge. From the many packages I observed them carrying into the Hotel, they did a lot of their Christmas shopping. Members who did not attend really missed an enjoyable time.

Our Chapter held a meeting while in Gatlinburg and I was appointed substitute reporter until our good friend, Dan McCarthy, can take over again. I know all you people who know Dan and his lovely wife Ann will pray for his speedy recovery.

Went to see Manny Goodridge while he was in the hospital getting a new knee joint, he is now on the road to recovery with no "detours".

Read where Sam Klippa is not going to attend another national reunion until the present regime is ousted. Well Sam we all fought together in W.W. II and we won so we can surely pull together again and correct the things that are wrong within our association.

Besides Vi and myself, members and guests who attended the party was our national president, Charley and Kathleen Schmidt, Marvin and "Lucky" Wanda Hayden who won the 50/50 raffle and Cecil and Nora Lee Walters, Hershel and Imogene McIntosh, Bill and Nancy Ledger, who walked away with all the Bingo prizes; Tom and Gail Hensley, Ames and Helen Miller, Chester and Helen Wilson, Floyd and Alberta Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Rickenbaugh, my brother Elmer and his wife Dee, they had to restock the Corning Ware store when Elmer and Dee were through shopping.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Prosperous 1989 and a Great Reunion in Cincinnati.

Wilson Day, 1st Bn. Hq. Co. 331

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

Greetings from the NUMBER ONE chapter of the 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. The annual re-union is over and all of us should be settled back into every day living.... that is, mow the damn lawn, sweep up the leaves, wash the windows, put away the golf clubs, and get ready to restore our energy and hibernate for the winter watching football games and rooting for the CLEVELAND BROWNS.

SAD NEWS

We lost a chapter member this past June. Joe Venutti passed away. Joe had been a member for many years. He liked to golf, bowl, enjoyed high school sports, and enjoyed his many friends. Joe had a setback quite a few times, and always made a comeback. We all admired him for his ability to overcome, but in the end the good lord called. We shall not forget Joe, and will always bring his name up in some sort of conversation, and we shall remember the good times and we shall miss him, rest in peace Brother Joe, rest in peace.

NEW NEWS

Election of officers for the coming year.

President: Ted Halubka

Vice Pres. George Bellay

Sec.-Treas. Michael Skovran

Service Officer Charles Tomazin

Congratulations to the above named officers, and a job well done by our past president Dick Kelly and his staff for the successful past year.

Our Summer field event days are over, meeting one Sunday a month combined with golf in the morning, monthly meeting after golf, and then food via the covered dish by our lovely wives,

meat furnished by the chapter, then browse around and gossip a bit, then to the card game called (Screw your neighbor). No, it's not bad as it sounds, but a lot of fun.

Congratulations to Joe and Angie Phillipone on their 40th Wedding anniversary feted by their children, Peggy and Joe. It was a gala affair and the chapter attended in full force, plus a large turnout of family and friends. Time sure does go by, how many can remember their Fortieth?

SICK CALL

Millie Kelly hasn't been feeling up to par, here's hoping that you are feeling better.

John Shamrock had been in the hospital and is now on the road to recovery.

Louise Bellay is back in the hospital again, hope it is minor and she is on the road to recovery.

A LITTLE BIT OF THIS AND THAT

John and Helen Caparanis, Marge and Ray Voracek, went on a tour of Cape Cod area and enjoyed it very much. Now I know where all the bread in the country is, in Boston at Quincy Market and Martha's Vineyard.

This is about it from this part of the country, hope your all in good health and remember, a smile a day keeps the doctor away.

John Caparanis Co. B 331st Inf
Warren Chapter Reporter

Pittsburgh Chapter

1988 ended on a solemn note. Early in November Elmer "Buzz" Palm passed away. He was unable to participate in chapter meetings and activities recently due to poor circulation in his legs. He was hospitalized at Mercy Hospital. The chapter conducted memorial services. A thank you card was received from his wife, Carolyn and son, Jason expressing grateful appreciation for the services and the basket of fruit he received while hospitalized.

At the November meeting nomination and election of officers was held for the next two years. They are: president, Salvatore Scicolone; vice president, Michael Kadylak; treasurer, John Gallo; secretary, James McCulla; chaplain, Matthew Pintar; trustees, Joseph Danylo, Joseph DeLuca, Andrew Churpak; sergeant-at-arms, Albert Seuss. Appointed staff reporter, Francis Beerhalter.

The chapter Christmas party was held on Saturday, November 26 at the Brentwood Post VFW. A live band was on hand for dancing. All the women attending were presented a corsage and a box of homemade candy. In attendance: Ed and Dottie Walsh, Sal and Theresa Scicolone, Bill and Anne DeMarino, Joe and Julie DeLuca, "Smokey" and Frannie Alicandri, Charles and Ruth Hopta, Joe and Louise Danylo, Bill and Eleanor Wallis, Bill and Delores Jacobs, Greer and Catherine Thompson, Jules and Agnes Desgain, Paul and Rita Dietrich, Bill and Betty Mattes, Ed and Terry Reuss, Mike and Mary Kadylak, Matt and Dara Pintar, Fran and Joann Beerhalter with Fran, Jr., Gene Costanzo and friend Sally, John Gallo and daughter-in-law Darla, George Komlos, Jim McCulla, Al Seuss, Andy Churpak, John Marek. Also attending were Mrs. Ralph Allen and Margueta McLaughlin, widow of deceased chapter members. Sam Klippa was confined at Divine Providence Hospital at the time of the party due to a fall at this home. He faces a knee operation in the near future. A letter was received from Mrs. John Ruprecht informing us that her husband "Curly" is suffering from Alzheimer's disease and shows no interest in anything. This just two years after retiring.

At the November meeting past executive board chairman Larry Leonardi gave a report on the Hershey reunion. \$50 was donated to Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" campaign. Diann Klippa, Sam's daughter is the chairperson for the Pittsburgh area. Joe Danylo wants to remind any members interested in the European tour hosted by himself and Gene Costanzo in June that the deadline is fast approaching and that deposits should be sent in as soon as

possible. Details were outlined in the last issue of the Thunderbolt.

The 1990 reunion hosted by the Pittsburgh Chapter has tentatively been assigned 450 rooms at the Vista Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. No action can be taken until the committee meets with the executive board in May.

-- Fran Beerhalter

"PITTSBURGH 1990 REUNION"

As promised we will keep you up to date, but at this time we are in negotiating what our activities should consist of. Gene Costanzo has the bands booked, he did not go through an agency as we can not see paying the additional cost. Our object is to keep cost to a minimum so more of us could afford to attend, but it's hard with to/day rising cost, and still have an unforgettable event, especially right in the heart of the city.

At present the "VISTA" hotel has a 10% discount on food and drinks for senior citizens, so we brought this up at our meeting since every-one in our out-fit comes under this category. So they assured us if this policy is still in effect we would get it, or any other that may be in effect at this particular time. This is stated in the contract. We also got the rates from \$110 to \$62, but bear in mind nothing in this report has been approved by the executive board which will meet with us the 1st Saturday in May at which time, I'm sure they will appreciate our effort, just to let you know we are trying.

In the mean time, we in the Pittsburgh Chapter, hope everyone had happy and joyful holidays along with good health. We hope to see some of you at the Dixie Reunion which quite a few of us are attending in March, and we are looking forward to Cincinnati in August. This chapter is really putting their best foot forward in making this reunion a success, realizing the effort that goes into these events we can certainly appreciate it.

Edward Reuss

CO. H. 330th

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here comes that man again, it seems as if I just get finished writing this news letter and it is time to write the next one. I would like to take a minute out to wish each and every man of Co. H. 330th a HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY.

Well Buddies, there isn't really too much to write about at this time, as far as I know, things seem to be about the same with our Co. H men. I have received quite a few Christmas Cards from our men and do appreciate it very much. As you well know, this is going to be another lonely Christmas for me here without Mary.

Since the Reunion I had the chance to go to New York to see my Mother, who just celebrated her 99th Birthday. While up there I did get to see Ray Rudd, he is only a few miles from her. It was a nice visit, even though it was short. I have promised Capt. Jack that I would stop and see him, but I just keep putting it off and before I know it, I will be seeing him at the Reunion.

Well Buddies, right now I can't think of too much to say, but as soon as I get this letter in the mail, I will think of a million things that I wanted to say. One thing that I do want to say is that I thank each and everyone of you for the help given me in last years Ad Book. The book was a tremendous success. In a few short weeks I will be starting my mailing campaign for this year. I still owe an apology to the man whose name was left out of last years book. It was strictly by accident. Here's hoping you all have a HAPPY HOLIDAY.

Your buddy,
Larry Redmond



908th Field Artillery Bn.

EDITORIAL:

YES, "White Christmas" was a refrain we heard in the barracks at Camp Atterbury about this time of the year in 1942. I regret not putting more effort into this publication, but my time has been severely limited since my retirement in May. My wife, Eileen, has been seriously ill since July 11—five stays in hospitals, but we hope she is on the road to recovery. For this reason I did not attend the Reunion in Hershey, where I had planned to get more material for this newsletter. I appreciate the encouragement from many friends: Nate Miller, Harry Fleming, Howard Sweet, Howard Carlbon, Manny Goodridge, John Clevenger, Russ Williams, and John Henderson. Many thanks to JOHN CLEVINGER and JOHN HENDERSON, who contributed to help out on the cost of printing and postage for this edition. Another member of our battalion, who asked to be anonymous, sent a large sum of money, but I returned it to him with thanks, since I have enough for this mailing. That kind of support is encouraging.

Del Jurden

EDITORIAL NOTE:

According to mobilization plans of the Army Ground Forces from 1941 to 1944, divisions were scheduled for large-scale maneuvers prior to combat deployment. There were several sites for such exercises: Louisiana, California, and Tennessee. In early 1943 the 83rd Division made great progress in its advanced training and was ordered to participate in the great maneuvers in Tennessee. On June 21, 1943, the 908th left Camp Atterbury for a 310 mile trip, with its first stop at Hunters' Point, Tennessee, where we bivouaced in the driving rain. In the morning we were ordered to pack up our Class A uniforms to be stored during the maneuvers. We took part in some unit problems, and on July 4 we moved to a new campsite near Lebanon and began a big operation with the Red Force. Tennessee was a beautiful place, but many of us forgot the beauty and recall most vividly the pesky "chiggers" or "red bugs" and the rocky soil that made it virtually impossible to dig foxholes or drive in tent pins. Also, according to the Maneuver Commander, Lieutenant General Ben Lear, we were not allowed to use the local economy or eat or drink anything that was not "G.I." We were given a few breaks to visit Nashville occasionally. On August 4 we changed sides and became part of the Blue Force, where we were commended for our high state of training. The maneuvers ended at 1800 hours on August 25, and on September 9 we started our move to Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. We alternately rode and walked, affording our trucks to the infantrymen of the division. A total of 58 miles was covered by us on foot. But Breckinridge is a different story! All of us have heard a lot of tales about Tennessee, and a couple of them are related below. The next issue of this publication will tell of some of our experiences. PLEASE SEND IN SOME STORIES ABOUT TENNESSEE MANEUVERS—SHARE THEM WITH OUR BUDDIES! Send to Del Jurden, 4512 Sutton Court, Kansas City, KS 66106.

NEWS ITEMS:

The Reunion at Hershey was apparently a good one. Manny Goodridge sent me a Supplement to the Roster and said the 908th was well represented. The event for next year is scheduled for Cincinnati, so maybe we will have a good turnout. Russ Williams broke the sad news of the death of George C. Reinke on June 17 this year. George was a teacher before, during, and after his service in Headquarters Battery. A great guy, and we will miss him.

TALL TENNESSEE TALES"

From Nate Miller: The officers all chipped in money to purchase fresh milk during one of the rest periods. Red Bratton and I watched the milk being unloaded by the kitchen truck. I told Red, "I don't know about you, but I'm going to have some fresh milk tonight." That night Red and I belied across about 75 yards of open space while the officers were singing around their campfire. We each got four quarts of milk and shared it with the survey

crews. The next day 1st Sergeant Broadway announced that someone had said he had a good idea who it was, and, if they would admit it, no charges would be filed. No one budged an inch.

Common Knowledge but Verified by Flavis Dent at the Charleston Reunion: We had a man named Private Forlano, who was a real "Klinger" (like the one in M.A.S.H.) He was assigned to the Antitank Section of Headquarters Battery, which was headed by Sergeant Lawrence "Coon" White, and he gave Sergeant White fits every chance he could. One day during maneuvers, Forlano was down in a briar patch gobbling up big juicy blackberries. In the quiet of the hills came echoing the booming voice of Sergeant White, "G-G-G—D-D-D-DAMMIT, F-F-FERLANY! G-G-GIT OUTA THEM BL-BL-BLACKBERRIES! TH-TH-THEM AIN'T G.I.!!!"

From Del Jurden: The maneuver area in Tennessee was "Chigger Heaven." If we weren't sweating, we were scratching. I remember one night when I was on duty in a tent in the Fire Direction Center. The temperature was about 95 degrees, and in the blacked out tent it must have been over 100. I had about a dozen chigger-bites on my rear end, and they were about to drive me crazy. So I soaked my handkerchief with white gasoline and put it on the bites. They stopped itching, but I had a blister about the size of a softball on my rear the next day. In the same area, Hal Weinzierl and Don Donnell took a white grid sheet out under a little cedar bush, which they shook. In about ten seconds the sheet was covered with red bugs that looked like parika. I think George Sites had the best remedy for chiggers though. George said the best way to stop the itching was to lather with G.I. soup and let the suds dry on the skin. I guess it worked, but George never did tell me what else that process did to the skin.

Historian's Corner'

Buddies

The Hershey Reunion was great. The result of a lot of hardwork for those involved in its planning.

It was appreciated and enjoyed by all 83rd men and their families.

The attached write ups are from local newspapers.

Our 83rd Band, excellent at both their Concert and the Memorial Services. Thank You!

When did they get the time to practice to such perfection? Its been a lot of years!

The rest of this report is for them.

I have added some of my pictures from Calbe, Germany, (I took over 300 from Brittany to the Elbe River and beyond.) No camera or time in Normandy!

The Concert Announcement and pictures are from Vilshofen by the Danube, taken at the Sportsplatz (Soldier's Field).The excerpts are from my journal. I kept it from 1941 - 1946. My "War Years".

May 4, 1945

"A Russian General was here today. They expected higher brass which didn't show up. The Band was here and all the staff were in their dress uniforms."

May 5th

"It's a wet, nasty day. The Band M.P.s and a Platoon of Infantry men are standing in front of the C.P. at the arrival of Sec. of War Patterson and General Wm. H. Simpson."

May 6th

"The Band is in front of the C.P. again waiting on some Russians. They didn't arrive."

August 7, 1945

"A Cloudy day. Went across the Danube and took pictures of the ruined Schloss. It's about 800 year's old.

Heard the 83rd Band Concert in the Spartz platz.

The Carpenters made a swell stage with Petty pinups.

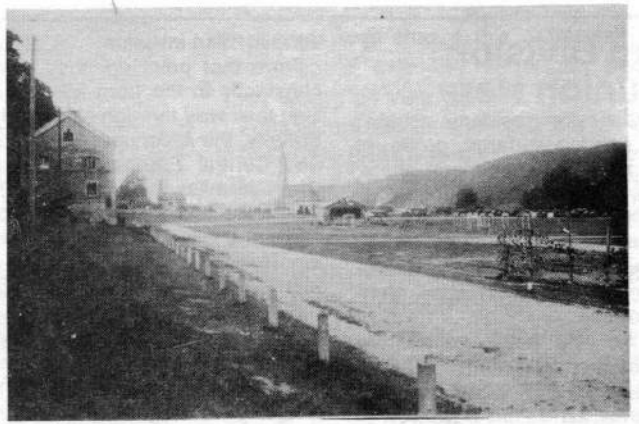
That night 2 G.I.s were knocked on the head at Vils Park and their pistols stolen. Maybe it's the beginning of resistance. A wire, which I found after night duty was strung, at neck heighth, across the road."

'We Were The Best'

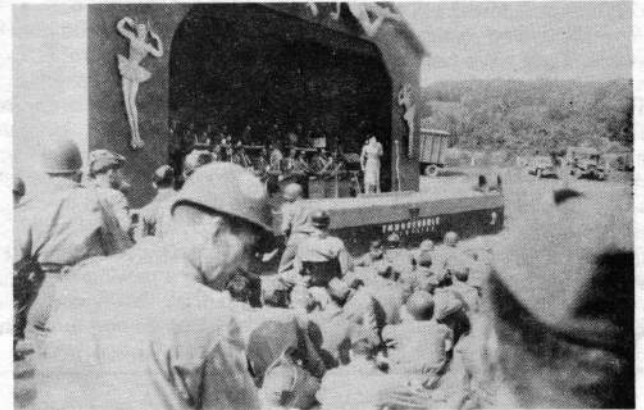
Wm. Kent O'Connell
Historian - 83rd. M.P.



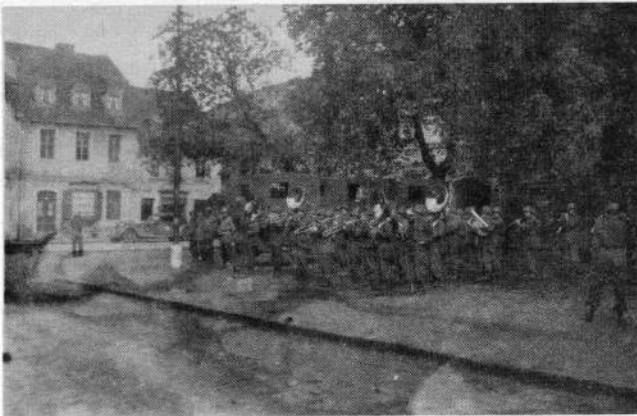
The Band marching through Calbe to the Div. C.P.
May 4, 1945.



Early shot of the Spartzplatz in July, 1945.



Ray McKinleys Band on the stage at 'Soldiers Field' Aug. 1945. Vilshafen.



Waiting at C.P. for the Russians. Who never came.



May 5th, 1945. The arrival of the Sec. of War Patterson U.S.A. and General Wm. H. Simpson Corp 5 Commander at the Div. C.P.



Lead singer with the McKinley Band. McKinley took over after Glenn Miller was shot down during the war.



83rd Division Reunion Here

Hershey area residents couldn't help noticing a large group of men in yellow and black shirts, wearing overseas caps or baseball caps proclaiming them members of the 83rd Infantry Division, as they began to descend on the community on Wednesday, September 7.

By the time they were all here on Saturday September 10, they numbered 1,000 strong as they held their 42nd annual reunion at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center.

The 83rd Division was strictly a World War II unit, formed in 1942 and then disbanded at the close of the war. They have held a reunion each year since 1946, when their reunion organization was formed.

The 83rd landed at Omaha Beach and Utah Beach in France on D-Day plus 10, and by June 27 they were moving into the Carentan, France, area, where they relieved the 101st Airborne Division, which had jumped into France on the night before the

June 6, 1944 invasion.

From that point on, they were constantly in the front lines, battling their way through Normandy, Brittany, the Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe, ending up some 45 miles from Berlin, where they were told to wait at the Elbe River and join up with the advancing Russians. Many of the vets still feel cheated as they could have gone ahead and overrun Berlin more than a week before the Russians arrived.

They endured the Battle of the Bulge and the bitter cold winter of 1944-45. A couple of the vets recalled they battled the Germans for the small towns in Belgium as much to have warm cellars to sleep in as to advance the attack.

Will they filter down to a "Last Man" group? When asked this, some of the vets laughingly replied they weren't sure, but they plan to continue having their annual reunions as long as there is someone alive to attend them.

The group had several activities planned from Thursday thru Sunday, including a moving memorial service to their fallen comrades on Friday, September 9, on the lawn at Hershey Lodge.



Frank Jackson salutes during national anthem

Ex-GIs Recall

Former soldiers of the 83rd Infantry Division remember the disappointment they felt when they weren't permitted to capture Berlin during World War II.

The American command ordered the soldiers to wait four days until Russian soldiers joined them near the Elbe River in Germany.

"I felt we should have gone right on through," said George Pletcher of Abington. "We felt like we were being let down."

"I felt deprived," said Lou Volpi of Merion. "I felt like we were second best."

Pletcher and Volpi are among 1,000 former soldiers and their wives attending the division's 42nd reunion in Hershey.

The 83rd Infantry pushed to within 54 miles of Berlin in April 1945, the closest an American unit had come to the city, according to Army Historian Kim Hollen.

"It was a relief for me, mixed emotions for me," said Joe Macaluso of New Orleans. "But we were feeling our oats about that time. We felt we could have kept going."

Macaluso said if Gen. George Patton had been with them, the Americans would have captured Berlin. Macaluso recalls seeing Patton.

Macaluso had been marching down a road with a column of men. Two jeeps - one of which carried Patton - approached the soldiers.

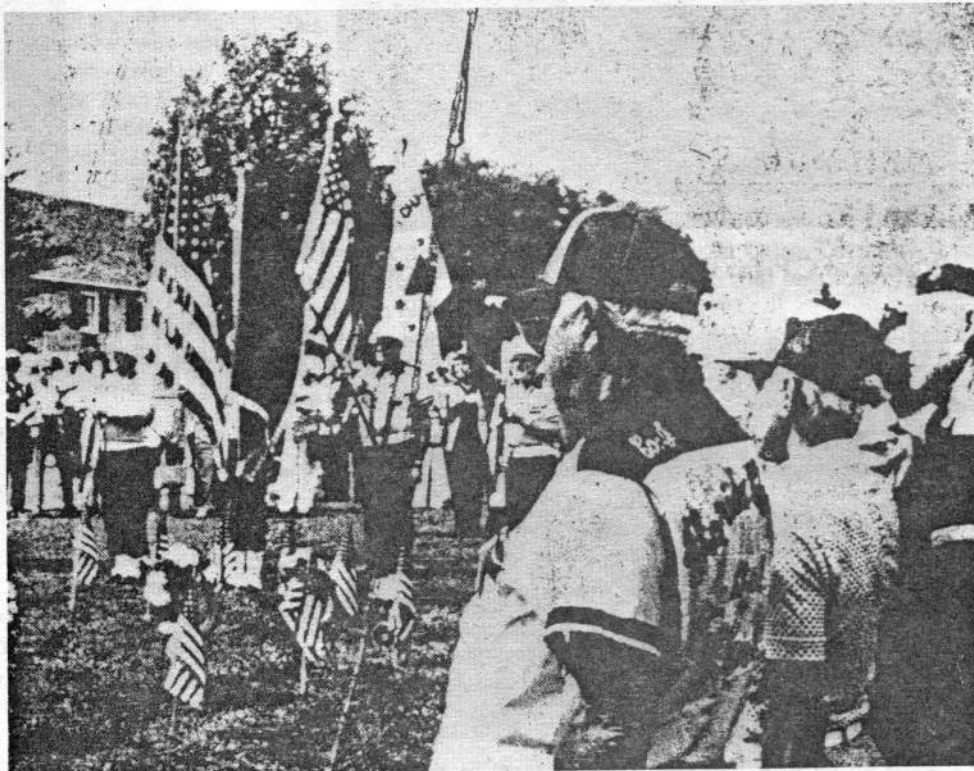
("Patton looked) just like it showed in the pictures. He was standing up in his jeep

with his pearl-handled pistols and his shining helmet," Macaluso said. "We felt good. It always felt good for a man in a rifle company to see his commanding general."

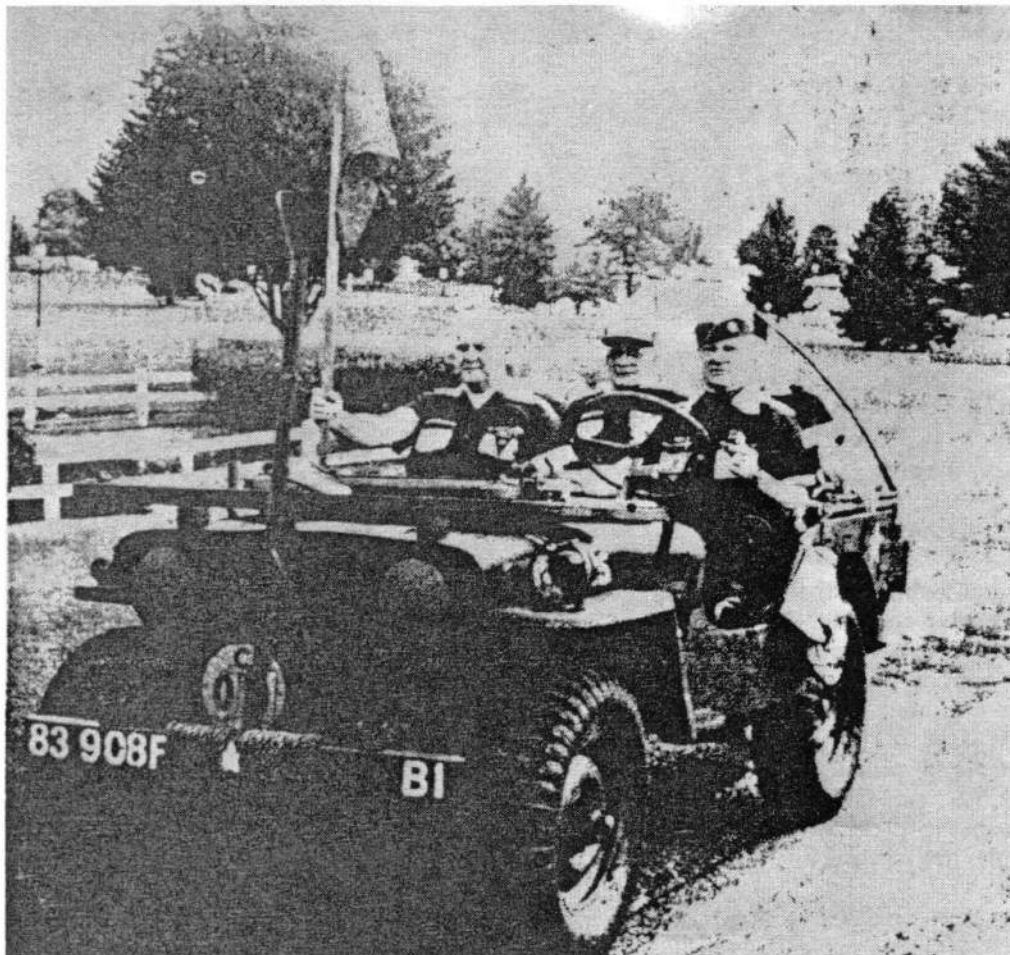
After victory in Europe, Patton addressed the soldiers of the 83rd.

"We were standing there in our dress uniforms with our medals on and we paraded for him," Macaluso said.

He recites Patton's exact words to the soldiers. The general's words were salty, but his



REMEMBERING FALLEN COMRADES - The members of the 83rd Infantry Division Reunion Association salute and dip the flags as they remember their fallen comrades from World War II in Saturday, September 10, services held as part of their reunion at the Hershey Lodge.



LEAD THE PARADE - These members of the 83rd Infantry Division Reunion Association led the parade Saturday afternoon, September 9, as the World War II unit gathered for memorial services on the lawn of the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. Their transportation is a fully restored World War II Jeep, marked as belonging to the 908th Field Artillery, 83rd Division.

message was that if the Japanese soldiers could see the American troops, they would be very scared.

Patton spoke to the soldiers in July 1945. The 83rd was scheduled to invade Japan the next March, Macaluso said.

The former soldiers remember the winter they weathered in France in 1944-45. Men at the reunion called it the "Bitter Battle of the Belgium Bulge for Better Bilets."

"It started to rain," Macaluso said. "The mud must have been a foot deep. Some of the trucks couldn't move, they were frozen."

Macaluso, the former commander of a rifle company, said his men slept in fox-holes while temperatures fell to 20 below zero.

"We used to try to knock the Germans out of the towns so we could sleep in the cellars," Macaluso said.

Ex-division members are meeting at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center. They held a memorial service for deceased members yesterday and conclude the reunion tomorrow.

THE THUNDERBOLT DIVISION

Presents: A popular concert by the 83rd Infantry Division Band
under the direction of C. W. O.'s Z. P. King and D. A. Kyser

Concert Program (Konzert Programm)

Chicago Tribune March	W.P. Chambers
Time Alone with Tell	Manaco and Cordon
Bolero' Trumpet Trio	Walter M. Smith
S/Sgt. Eddie Lathrop, T/4 Oscar Guerra, T/5 Ramon Mc Gosh	
The Air Corps March.....	Robert Crawford
Rodger Young.....	Frank Leasser
A Pretty Girls Is Like a Melody	Irving Berlin
Amparito Roca.....	Jaime Texidor
What A Differance A Day Made	Maria Grever
Sung by T/5 Cianne Kaster	
I'll See You Again	Noel Coward
Accentuate the Positive	Jonny Mercer
Cowboy Rhapsody.....	Morton Gould
Purple Carnival	Harry Alford

BOSTON CHAPTER REPORT

To our Past President George Pletcher, I hope you have had a good rest after our 42nd reunion and happy holidays. Along with your many faithful helpers, our 83rd Division is a success. At Hershey, Pa., I met with all my buddies. I must say I thought a lot more about those that left us through death. Memories are still with us. George, thanks again for a top shelf reunion.

Donald St. John and I were proud to be part of the 42nd Reunion Memorial Service. Jim Burton, as always, did a marvelous job singing. Casey Kowolec, Our Chaplain, works so hard making this event. I must say Casey had the weather on his side too.

We had a nice letter from Howard Carlborn the Stockton, Ca., boy. He is going to make it to the 43rd reunion in 1989. "Believe it or not".

Don Pettry, I see, is still the best looking 83rder in West Virginia along with being secretary/treasurer for the chapter must be the richest. Don if you need anymore money, see my good friend John Pollack from Wheeling.

Fran and Larry Arrigo had the October meeting at their house. Arthur Waples gave an excellent report on membership and getting a better attendance at the Boston Chapter, which has improved over the last year. Larry Arrigo got the men out in the yard to play bocci. I found some buddies are not honest in sports. Fran and Larry the cooking was great.

Pat and Ginny DiGiammerio hosted the November meeting in Malden. We started the meeting eating so when Charlie Miller opened the meeting we were all quiet and not operating on empty stomachs. Hy Goodman read the minutes of the last meeting and then we had the drawing. The winners were:

1st Prize Harry Vandermin Den, 10 Woodard St., Box 209 Cranville, N.Y.

2nd Prize James Prentice, RR3 Box 140D Claremont, N.H.

3rd Prize Bob Carroll, 36 Fairview Ave., Taunton, Ma.

4th Prize William McKee, 44 South St., Three Rivers, Ma.

5th Prize Al Paquette, 17 Killian Dr., Nashua, N.H.

Then we went back to the food tables. The women left us plenty to eat. Ginny makes the best Irish Coffee I ever had.

Boston Chapter Christmas party was held at the 400 Club in Eaton, Ma. Charlie Lussier of 331st Anti Tank Co., had full charge of the party. He had a little trouble with Santa Claus in the kitchen but Santa came out with his bells ringing to give out the gifts. Charlie Miller was Santa. The food was the best. Bob Hunnewell from I Company was in charge of entertainment. It was a bad night for traveling but we had the best attendance in some time. These men did their job well.

Ray Bjork was getting a little rusty in the knee and hip. Marvel oil did not work so he went into the hospital and got new ones installed. He is doing good at this time and hopes to be off the crutches real soon.

Since the New Year, Frank Scott and his wife Phylis have been sick with pneumonia. Frank ended up in the hospital but should be out in a day or two.

Pat and Ginny along with family friends spent New Years Eve., in Hackensack, N.J. where their son was married. Emily Wehling lives close to the brides people and came over to visit them. A good time was had by all.

My Mother passed away on October 26th after a long illness. My three younger sisters, that many of you know, took care of her at home till the end. My sister Anna made a lot of reunions with us until my Mother took sick. Her death was a great loss to us all.

This is my Boston Report for now. I think it's about time to head South with the birds. Huh!

AMBY TYNAN
Boston Chapter Reporter



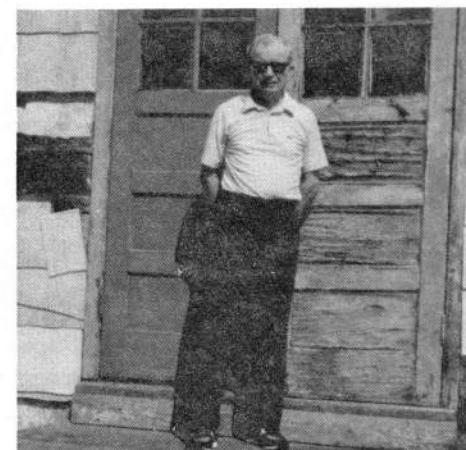
Rev. & Mrs. Lewis Garney



Bob Hunnewell and Santa Charlie Miller



Amby and Nancy Tynan



Walter Harding
Sept. 1988 Hq. Bty.
Barracks at Camp
Atterbury



Ginny DiGiammerino



Charlie Lussier, Charlie & Arlene Miller, Lou Sandini & Patys, new member Pat from Conn.



Santa & Mrs. Claus - Charlie & Arlene Miller



Livy Maynard, Nancy Tynan, Ginny Dig. & Hy Hoodmany behind flag



Emil Wehling with the new couple David, Mary Ann DiGiammerino



Leroy Rock, Don, Amy St. John Willie Snodgrass

Forest View Gardens

A Forest View Party Begins With You...



EARLY BIRDS, spend an evening at Zinzinnati's famous Bavarian style restaurant where it's always Oktoberfest. The acclaimed Forest View singing waitors, waitresses, instrumentalists present excerpts from Broadway Musicals and throughout the evening, your server will sing a song or aria just for you.

Complete the reservation form below if interested and mail to:

Wilson Day
5310 Ponderosa Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45239.

The twenty-five dollars covers your dinner tab, gratuities and the cost of buses taking you to and from the Clarion Hotel to Forest View Gardens. There may be two seatings necessary so get your reservations and money in early.

EARLY BIRD
 RESERVATION FORM

WEDNESDAY, August 16, 1989

COST \$25.00 per person

Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone _____
 Enclosed is payment of \$ _____
 For _____ persons

43rd Annual Reunion Cincinnati, Ohio August 17, 18 & 19, 1989

Please Review, Complete and Return the following form to
"Program Chairman", Manny Goodridge
621 Oak Street, Ludlow, Kentucky 41016.

Also included within this issue of the Thunderbolt is the Hotel
Registration Card which is to be sent directly to the Hotel.

The Clarion Hotel and the Kentucky Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association cordially invites each member to attend the 43rd Annual Reunion to be held on August 17th, 18th and 19th, 1989 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Hotel Rates will be \$55.00 Per Room - This includes all taxes and will accommodate one (1) to Four (4) persons per room. (This rate does not include costs for added required equipment such as cots, etc. nor does it include parking)

Parking will cost \$4.00 per vehicle per day.

Registration costs, per person, will be as follows:

Aug 17th	Aug 18th	Aug 19th	Total
\$5.00	\$21.00	\$24.00	\$50.00

The above figures are costed on a per day basis. This will allow you to select any combination of days desired. However, you will note that the cost per person for the entire three day period is \$50.00 or \$100.00 per couple. (Admittance to all events is by ticket only)

NOTE: The above registration costs do not include your yearly dues, they will be collected separately by the National Secretary Treasurer, Robert Derickson.

nts rated a 10.

John G. Daum
Co. "D", 330th



Lou Volpi rejoining the 83rd group after participating in the formal dedication ceremony conducted by the area clergy on Veterans' Day.

news that Evelyn Shoemaker, wife of Harry Co. F-531 died suddenly of a massive heart attack on Dec. 28th.

Our heartfelt sympathy go to Nell Chapman, Harry Shoemaker and Jane Tidd and their families. They will be missed by all of us. Our January Meeting will be in Ocala on the 27th and 28th. The April Meeting will be in Orlando, the date is not set as of this printing. Take care and stay healthy.

Bill Herhuth
324th Hdq. Btry F.A.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

January 10, 1989

The Chapter has been active since I last wrote this column. We have been meeting every month at the V.F.W. Post in Garfield and the turnout of members and some of the wives has been good. Usually we have a few drinks and a Pizza which our good buddy Ted Guzik brings to the meeting. At the December meeting, Addie and Fred Rein made two trays of delicious sandwiches and my wife Fran brought some pastries. We had a Christmas Party for the members at this meeting. All the good food and cheer made for a Merry time and we appreciate Addie, Fran and

43rd ANNUAL REUNION OF 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET YOUR ADS FOR THE REUNION IN EARLY:

INDICATE THE SIZE AD YOU PREFER:

FULL PAGE AT
\$60.00

HALF PAGE AT
\$35.00

QUARTER PAGE AT
\$18.00

BOOSTER ADS ARE \$5.00

BE SURE AND TYPE OR PRINT YOUR AD CLEARLY

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

KY. CHP. REUNION FUND 83rd DIV.

R.C. HAMILTON
P.O. Box 134
Marion, Kentucky 42064

SEND TO:

OR

LARRY REDMOND
132 Rockwood Drive
Havertown, Penn. 19083

**A Forest View
Party Begins
With You...**

The twenty-five dollars covers your dinner tab, gratuities and the cost of buses taking you to and from the Clarion Hotel to Forest View Gardens. There may be two seatings necessary so get your reservations and money in early.

EARLY BIRD
RESERVATION FORM

WEDNESDAY, August 16, 1989

COST \$25.00 per person

Name: _____
Street: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone _____
Enclosed is payment of \$ _____
For _____ persons

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

The 83rd is becoming a landmark in the Narberth community as the residents are finding their dedication and dependability a continual source of support whenever cooperation and work are necessary. A committee of men in the area had asked Lou Volpi's help in making possible a memorial monument to the men in the area who had served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Funds were raised in the community for a second monument to be erected in the park which the residents had dedicated in the past to the men of WWI and WWII. The project became a reality on Veteran's Day of this year when members of the 83rd came by car, and one even by train, to put on uniforms and march with the colors. The guest speaker was Steve Bell, the NBC news commentator, who graciously accepted a request by one of the residents to speak at the dedication. He spoke feelingly of his experiences in Vietnam and of his admiration for the men who continue to remember those who did not return. Everyone who was a part of the ceremony, as well as the spectators, was invited to a beautiful buffet served by the women of the community at the end of the affair. A group of older residents is already planning the flower arrangements at the monuments for the spring and continuing. Lou Volpi has some really special neighbors in Narberth – or is it the other way around.

Our Christmas party this year was arranged and hosted by Jean and George Pletcher at Williamson's Restaurant in Hatboro, a large and beautiful dining facility in their area especially popular at holiday times. We had the additional pleasure of welcoming to our Philadelphia Chapter dinner members of our national organization who joined us at our party – Michael and Betty Russo, and Chris and Dotty Heine. Both couples had attended the Hershey Reunion and came to their first meeting with us at this holiday celebration. We are looking forward to seeing them again at our regular monthly meetings throughout the coming year as they are more than welcome at any time.

On another very special note, that indefatigable couple, Lorraine and Norm Schuster, have done it again. When we entered the dining room at Williamson's, they were both already there and seated, and ready to welcome us. We were surprised and so glad to see them both, and their enjoyment of the evening as well as ours was obvious. The Schusters have purchased a van to accommodate Norm's chair, and both of them are looking well and are optimistic about the future. Norm and Lorraine both said more than once during the evening that their very special 83rd friends have been so helpful to them both in their day-to-day challenges.

All in all, it was a warm and special holiday party for all of us. Our congratulations to Jean and George. Their party arrangements rated a 10.

John G. Daum
Co. "D", 330th



Lou Volpi rejoining the 83rd group after participating in the formal dedication ceremony conducted by the area clergy on Veterans' Day.



The memorial monument to the members of the Narberth community who served in the Korean and Vietnam wars. A dedication ceremony was conducted on Veteran's Day in Narberth, and the Philadelphia Chapter Color Guard took part in the formal ceremony.

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

Here we are going into another New Year, and we all hope you had a Happy Holiday Season.

The Florida Chapter met the weekend of November 11th and 12th in St. Augustine at the Holiday Inn where we had 61 present for the meeting and the dinner, which was enjoyed by all who were there. Our thanks go to Jim and Martha Burt for being such gracious hosts and making the hospitality room very inviting with all their delicious refreshments and home made finger licking pickings... We all had a very good time. Several members brought friends and family who enjoyed sightseeing in this Historic city, that everyone was kept busy. It was nice to have Millie Benick and Fritzi Schwartz join us at this gathering. Gene Mason and Walter McGee joined our Chapter, we welcome them. As always we missed those who couldn't attend.

Now we have the sad news to report, Bill Chapman, 83rd QM Co. passed away in October, another letter awaited us when we returned home Louis Tidd, Co. B. 308th Eng. died on Dec. 5th. The letter was sent by his wife. While visiting our daughter we were called by Ralph Gunderson who gave us some shocking news that Evelyn Shoemaker, wife of Harry Co. F-331 died suddenly of a massive heart attack on Dec. 28th.

Our heartfelt sympathy go to Nell Chapman, Harry Shoemaker and Jane Tidd and their families. They will be missed by all of us. Our January Meeting will be in Ocala on the 27th and 28th. The April Meeting will be in Orlando, the date is not set as of this printing. Take care and stay healthy.

Bill Herhuth
324th Hdq. Btry F.A.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

January 10, 1989

The Chapter has been active since I last wrote this column. We have been meeting every month at the V.F.W. Post in Garfield and the turnout of members and some of the wives has been good. Usually we have a few drinks and a Pizza which our good buddy Ted Guzik brings to the meeting. At the December meeting, Addie and Fred Rein made two trays of delicious sandwiches and my wife Fran brought some pastries. We had a Christmas Party for the members at this meeting. All the good food and cheer made for a Merry time and we appreciate Addie, Fran and

Fred's contribution to the party.

Early in December the Chapter had their annual Christmas Party at the 94th Bomb Group Restaurant in Caldwell. Seventeen members attended this affair. As usual we had a wonderful time being together, even though some of the meals were served cold. A few of us, namely Joe and Hazel, Barton, couldn't tell the difference as they, prior to the party, were at the N.Y. Giants football game in ten degree weather. Joe and Hazel have been Giant Fans since before WW2.

Our next get-together will be at a Surprise 40th Anniversary Party on Sunday, January 29th for Mary and Charlie Sihlanick. The party is being given by their daughter Linda and her friend Sal and will be at Victor's Maywood Inn, Maywood, N.J. I know you all join us in wishing them many more years of happiness, Linda and Sal often come to our parties, we enjoy them, as they are wonderful and fun to be with.

On one of my weekly trips to Atlantic City, a few weeks before Christmas, on entering Ceasers Casino I stop to look at the model train layout, suddenly I heard a woman's voice shout out "What are you doing here". I turned to find Sue Leonardi from the Pittsburgh Chapter standing there. What a surprise!!! Larry and Sue, Paul Diethrich, Gene Costanzo and Lee and Ed Reuss were part of a bus load of people from Pittsburgh staying at Ceasers Casino. I met them when they were getting ready to leave but I still had sometime with them. I asked if anyone of them had won and they answer was, "NAW!!!" Then I saw their bags being taken out, they were bulging at the seams. Now you and I know you don't need that much clothes for a two night stay in Atlantic City. After they left, I went in to try my luck, it was bad, seems all the machines were empty. I would appreciate if the Pittsburgh Chapter would warn me when they are contemplating a trip to A.C.

Also on one of our recent trips to Atlantic City we ran into Dave Rosenberger of the New Jersey Chapter.

After the Christmas Party at the Post, some of us went to Joe DePeri's house to view the video tapes Joe had taken at the reunion in Hershey. It was nice seeing some of the people on video that you didn't get to see at the reunion. The Hershey Lodge was so spread-out it could have doubled as an Army Camp.

There are a number of us who will be attending the Dixie Chapter Meeting in Williamburg and also the Boston Chapter Meeting at the Pines Hotel. We're looking forward to being with you all again.

Thats it for now, wishing you the best of everything.

Stan Bielen
1st Bn. Hdqs. 331



Members at Meeting
Glenka, Uridel, Klugiewicz, Donnelly & Christopher - Front Row.
Back Row - Mizerock, Miller, Kowalce, Lacinski



Wives of Cleveland Members taken at Casey Szubski 1988

CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Greetings from the land of snow. This year's Chapter Christmas Party was held at Capp Elli's and was a huge success, due to the efforts of Don and Ann Christopher, and ably assisted by Larry and Angie Coladangelo and by the Mizerock's, Mike and Ann. The group did one hell of a job.

The Klugiewicz's traveled all the way from Erie, Pennsylvania (90 miles- with their friends the Kasputis's, to enjoy the Christmas "Spirit" in Cleveland. Even Santa made his annual appearance. Listened to the members' wives telling Santa how good they were and what they wanted to find under the Christmas tree. I hope Santa kept his word and delivered all the goods. Fur coats and new cars were not promised. The food and service was great, and the bartender was kept busy by the members. Haven't lost any of the touch. Bob Miller won the split raffle, and Eleanore Szubski won the poinsetta plant donated by the Godfather. A good time was enjoyed by all. The only complaint I have is that the weather was lousy and made traveling very bad. But we had a good turn out anyway. The Committee did a good job and should be congratulated.

It was a pleasure to see Marge Miller at the party, who had left the Hershey reunion to enter a hospital and spent 55 days there. Marge you look great and the best of health to you. Pris Donnelly is recuperating after a heart attack. Best to you Pris. Casey Szubski is getting antsy and wants to start bowling after his recent surgery. By the time you read this Bob and Bernice Grobelny will have traveled to Australia during the month of January. Maybe they heard they have square dances down there. If not they will help organize one. Our deepest sympathy to Ted Karageorge and his family on the loss of his wife Dorothy.

I'll close for now, and begin getting ready for spring, golf and grass cutting.

Happy Easter to all.

P.S. These are picture of the Cleveland Members, their wives at a meeting. The meeting was held at Casey Szubski's home.

Bob Uher
"B" 329th



Cleveland Members taken at Casey Szubski home 1988



Members at meeting. L to R - Williams, Ferko, E. Lindsey, H. Trzeciak, Ed Cox

Thank you for all of the cards we received at Christmas. It was a pleasure to read the messages on each card. I heard that the "B" Company had a great reunion in December at Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Captain Hill, Melton, Pirkle, Walker, Amick, Bean and my old foxhole buddy George Nickols were there and had a good time. Sorry we could not make it, but there is always next year. Most of the cards promised to be in Cincinnati, including Hill, Melton, Hennies Taylor, and F. Bollard. It would be great to see some new faces at the reunion.

While I was in Hershey, Pennsylvania I played a round of golf with John Hirko. Don't play him for money. He is good. I've heard from Iemole and Trofimuk who are cooking some surprises for the next reunion. I'll close for now with best wishes and great health.

Bob Uher
"B" 329th



B. Co. at Hershey Pa. L to R. Hill, Melton, Uher



B. Co. at Hershey Pa. L to R. Hill, Dickson, Stek, Hirko, Pirkle



B. Co. at Hershey Pa. L to R. Iemole, Spickler, Stek

329th "K" Company Re-Union

On October 7th and 8th, 1988, my wife and I hosted the first ever 329th "K" Company re-union held in beautiful Moncks Corner, S.C. We were honored to have with us our First Sergeant Kaylerd E. Kelly and his wife of St. Joseph Mo. Most of us had not seen him since 1943 or 1944. There were eleven of the "K" men represented. Along with their families, the total in attendance was about twenty-five.

Friday night the group was welcomed to Moncks Corner by our Honorable Mayor Wolfe at the Dock Restaurant over looking the Cooper River. On Saturday, some went to Charleston on historic tours while others went for boat cruise.

On Saturday night, a buffet dinner was held at club house on Lake Moultrie. The candle light service was conducted by Kenneth E. Tincher and myself. For entertainment, a local group brought us many renditions of the by-gone days.

Those in attendance were:

Sgt. & Mrs. Kaylerd E. Kelly
Mr. & Mrs. Perry H. Bobo Mr. & Mrs. Clell I. Mayfield
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Buttrum Mr. Charles D. Quill
Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Ireland Mr. Robert C. Senter
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Jones Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Tincher
Mr. & Mrs. Frank McNeil Mr. & Mrs. James Ward

Perry H. BOBO
118 Pinewood Dr.
Moncks Corner, SC 29461
Co. "K" 329th Inf.

MEN OF G COMPANY 331ST INFANTRY

I am a little late in getting this to the Thunderbolt, only hope that I make it in time. The beginning of the year is a busy time for me and I can't seem to find enough time to do the things that have to be done.

Here in New Orleans we had a very pleasant Holiday season. The family was able to get together to enjoy each other's company. Only the daughter and her family in New Jersey were not able to attend. They were busy bringing in a new member of the Powers family, the little boy has now joined the three sisters. That now makes a total of 12 grandchildren.

I have talked to Loyal Pangle, Beau Titus and Mort Gaynor and all seem to be in good health and enjoying the holidays.

I talked with Gene Costanza on the phone last night, because I am interested in making the trip to Europe in June with his group. Don't know if the wife will go, if not I will team up with Mort Gaynor, who has already booked his passage aboard the plane. In talking with the men, we feel that this year we can have a G Company reunion in Cincinnati, the day or two before the Division Reunion. The Division reunion is on 17, 18 and 19th of August. We can make plans to meet in Cincinnati on the 15th of August and have two days with the men of G. Company. I will have more information in the mail to you, after I receive this issue of the Thunderbolt, so we can find out what hotel or motel we can meet at. I believe this will be satisfactory to all of the members, and we can't see to it that we will have our own reunion.

The reunion in Cincinnati should be a good one, because the men planning it, have the interest of all the members of the association in mind, and they plan to make the registration fee, one that every one can live with. Let's make plans to attend. More information later.

It is hard to realize that it has been 45 years ago since we landed on the shores of Normandy. I have often looked back over the years and thought of the hell that we went through to achieve victory. After all of these years, I feel that the only good things that came out of it, was that I was able to be associated with

some of the finest men in the country. It was a pleasure for me to lead such an outstanding group of dedicated Americans.

I think because we lived through such hardships and were able to survive, that our friendship has grown through the years. I am looking forward to meeting more and more of the men from G Company in the coming years.

Capt. Mac

783 ORDINANCE

What better time to write this article. I'm watching the last of five inches of snow coming DOWN from Kentucky. It's true, Philadelphia would never get any snow except that which Doggett sends.

Well, like "You all", we also received a goodly number of cheerful Christmas cards. The costs of the cards and the mailing is getting a little out of hand but the enclosed messages are priceless. So, taking the first one out of the pack I have to tell you Frank Salontay takes the honors for the most unusual card. No boring explanation, just take my word. Frank is fine, getting ready to retire from his golf job but not from golf. He hopes to get to Cinn. Because he really wants to meet one of his favorite officers, Lt. Brown. I wonder where that leaves Ivan Gilman?

The next one in the pile sent the biggest card and I was really impressed. It was a hand picked \$1.50 special printed by American Greeting Corp. Of course Bill Manning and Eloise are special too. Bill says, "for absolutely sure, I'll be in Cinn. next year."

One of the most colorful cards was signed Midge and Hersh. (Thats Weaver for the uninformed) Hersh is doing rehab three days a week and both are feeling fine, also looking forward to Cinn.

Bob and May Burns reported in and states he visited Lt. Krebs in Fla. "Henry is older but not much different. They didn't sound too happy about Florida." Bob and May have been enjoying going to Elderhostel's. I hope you can make Cinn. Bob, that will be a real Elderhostel.

Doc and Agnes had another nice trip to Calif., to visit the growing list of grandchildren. He and Lloyd Grayson got together this time and I was tickled to hear they went out for an enjoyable dinner. That Lloyd is quite a guy, he calls me just about every other month, asking about all of you! Lets hope his health remains on this even keel.

And, talking about Californians. Ivan and Pat Gilman have announced their mountain retreat is finally finished. You all knew that of course. During the whole war he was taking notes on the way Earl Graham and Gates fixed things. So, from this he built himself a rustic cabin. How about running an Elderhostel Ivan? But please, no more lectures on The Articles Of War.

I talked to George Harris last week and he is ok but having a natural tough time of it with Mettie being in the nursing home. George is thinking about moving to an apt. to cut down on the physical upkeep. His sense of humor will carry him far. George says, "When I go out to eat, I don't have to order. I've been in the restaurant's so often they know what I eat."

Bill and Martha Appleby are still doing the one and two step, in quick time. While Ginny and Gene DelPrete are up to the seven and eight step. You all knew of course that Gene got a \$77.50 ticket for speeding at Hershey. Using Army forte, Gene went out and measured the clocking distance and told the judge it was wrong. Yes, he got his money back, but he says, "I blew it on Pepsi."

Got the usual \$1.00 card from Phil and Ann Barbara. His interesting news was: Capt. Getty called him and said he would be at the Hersey reunion. The only problem was, "Old" John called the week after the reunion. Lets hope he gets it right for Cinn.

Carl and Alyce Fredericks are weathering the winter weather well. Carl has now fully retired and has plenty of time to make snowmen for grandsons, while Alyce works! Please send me

that page, Carl.

"Hope to see you this year in Cinn." That was the message Joe and Pat Stubber sent. The "quiet" ones like Percy Mohon, Troy Bishop and Reese Phillips, just said "Hi" so we're saying "Hi" back, and hoping all is well.

Its always nice to hear from the girls. Dot Forster writes that all is well. Jane Bond says she still has too many dogs and Bert Unfried sends her love with the message, "I am doing pretty good, time is a gentle healer."

Ray and Louise Downing had a tough health year. Ray had a hospital stay in Oct. And, the good news is they are looking forward to seeing everyone in Cinn.

Can you believe Hobart Belt is still cutting lawns in spite of his bad back problems. He says he may come to Cinn." but thats awful close to Atterbury."

The seafood gumbo kids, Easy and Lou Labbe had a grand time with their nine grandchildren. Such talent, remember how fast Easy was on the draw?

Ernie and Justine Christian are getting out of hand. They not only write but he also has to call to needle me about the Philly Eagles. The good news, they also are going to try and make Cinn.

I hate to write about Ray Wiggins. His golf achievements make me sick. As of Dec. 19, he had 150 rounds under his belt, all walked, carrying his clubs, with an average of 84.7. Bryars why don't you get on his case? I'm going to dream about "Mrs. America of ?" in her new bathing suit.

Mr. Popular of the last reunion, Joe Brown, states he had a good week of golf in Myrtle Beach. This also means he is doing well health wise from his last year operations.

Aubrey and Mata Wilcox are still thinking positive. Aubrey is taking Chemo every month and thats no joy ride. And, thanks Aubrey for your full page ad in the reunion book.

That thanks is also spread out to each and everyone of you who also contributed your fare share to the Ad Book. The 783rd can hold its head high for its association support. A special thanks goes to Carl Fredericks for handling the dough and mail.

Al and Ruth Bensimon have migrated with the ducks to Florida. (This releases my jealousy feelings) Actually they'd love to have anyone stop by. 813-966-1728.

Ed Perko and sons are all doing well with the time flying. Ed will be in Cinn too.

Herman and Norma Hackstock tried to impress me by sending a beautiful Burgoyne card, made in Philadelphia. Sadly they both came down with pneumonia and had to cancel out Hersey. They too are in Florida so maybe you and the Bensimons can have your own reunion.

Lastly, the Senior citizen of the 783rd, Arthur and Millie Doggett. The reason for all this snow is Art wrote me a long letter. Seriously, I'm glad to report they are both doing well. Art had a little tumor problem, in the Dolly Parton area, but all the results were A okay.

We also talked to Earl and Verdell Graham during the holidays. Verdall says Earl is eating like a horse but gaining no weight. All his recent medical tests were negative which is good news.

I sure hope I covered everyone I had information on. It was a good year, a good reunion. Let's hope we all stay healthy this year. And, don't forget, get your Cinn. reservations in early. It sounds like another good turn-out for us and Cinn. is a good location. The only unanswered question is: What happened to Snooks. You're the closest Jim Jones. Hit a couple of your monstrous drives and wake him up!

Hut two,
Rags Rangnow

P.S. to Charlie and Pat Rohrer. "Golf is a game in which the ball lies poorly but the player well." Phil Barbara to Paul Bryars.

323rd FA Report

I called Erwin Erhardt on New Years Day to wish him a Happy 39th Birthday.

Was talking with James "Buck" Taylor just before Christmas. He is home from the hospital, which makes him very happy. His wife Margaret takes good care of him. We all know 1st/sgt. "Buck" Taylor was the best in the Army. He seems to be doing much better and I hope will continue to improve during the months ahead.

Nancy & I called Norman McCormack from Hartland, Maine. He was taking a snooze so I told Nina not to wake him up. "Mac" had a bad summer with a leg infection. He had an operation, some skin grafting and now is back on the road to recovery.

Don St. John has been keeping busy bowling and singing (with the old folks in his class) along with watching the sports on T.V.

Bill Shaner's wife Lois was in Boston to see us in October. We really enjoyed seeing her and I hope she had a good time in "Beantown". My daughters and sisters have been close to Lois over the years and had a nice visit with her one evening. Nancy and I hope the Shaner's will come on this summer.

I met Joe Malone in Cumberland, Maine. This was our first meeting since 1945. Joe is going to get together with us in the near future and hopes to be in Cincinnati in August. He looks and says he feels good after spending 35 years in California.

George Polites is still recuperating from his illness. Hope to see him real soon.

I heard from Leroy Rock at Christmas. I met Leroy's Family in Hershey, Pa., and we had a few laughs together.

William "Jake" Erwin and his family are all doing well.

Frank Wirth, his wife Eleanor, Ralph Morgan and his wife are all doing well. They live close to each other.

Dusty Starbuck is doing well and hopes to get together with Ralph Morgan real soon, so they tell me.

Frank Scott is still waiting to hear from Dallas Williams. Walter Koss says Williams is too Old now. I was on the phone with Dallas, he hopes to make the reunion this August.

Don Willis, I hope, gets over to Williamsburg in March for the Dixie Chapter Party. Nancy and I are going and it would be good to see him.

George Connors has been doing well since his trip to Ireland and Hershey, Pa. He sings Irish songs now. He will surprise Erwin Erhardt in Cincinnati at the reunion.

Walter Harding wrote me and sent some very nice pictures. Thanks very much Walt. I hope to be down to see you soon.

I guess that's all for this issue. Enjoy good health.

Amby Tynan

308 ENGINEERS B CO

Taps were sounded for one of our buddies. Lou Tidd passed away December 5, 1988, he was a real combat soldier and a friend to all of us. Lou was born in Upper State New York, then moved to Florida after the war. He and his wife Jane lived in West Palm Beach for forty one years, he was seventy. The doctor told Lou he had about a week to live, so Lou left the hospital and went home, he died four days later.

Also Mike Hicks had a serious operation, colon and lower intestines. I called several times but no answer. Let's hear from you or your family. Best wishes Mike.

Frank Ball

WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

Happy New Year to All; Hope all of you had the best of Holidays and continue in good health in the New Year.

Going to have to shape up. I've missed too many meetings lately. The election of Officers at the Rose City Cafeteria in South Charleston West Virginia, also the Christmas Party at the McCoy Motor Lodge in Ripley, West Virginia.

Now hear this, we did make it to our annual Christmas Dinner at the Rivers Edge Restaurant in St. Albans, West Virginia which is only ten minutes away.

Everyone had a very good meal with a rap session following. Those present were John and Freeda Hobbs, Chauncey and Tresse Hunt, Don and Esta Pettry, John and Evelyn Shepherd, Paul and Mary Pauley, Rex and Lillian Carson and Arthur Blankenship. Unable to attend were James and Linda Dunkin.

Last fall Evelyn and I with a couple of our friends, Alex and Charlotte Hill attended the "L" Company reunion in Maryville, Tennessee.

Our hosts were Richard and Midge Chipp. On New Year's Day I received word that Midge was returning to Toledo for an operation. Hope you have a speedy recovery, Midge.

I am catching up with some of my buddies one at a time. Lonnie Maynard was at the reunion. Haven't seen him since Breckenridge. At the Charleston reunion I caught up with Leroy Johnson (Hd. Co.). He has since put me in touch with Denzil Hoover in Elkins, West Virginia.

While in Tennessee we visited Dolly Wood, Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, then on to Memphis, toured Graceland, then back to Nashville. Got a glimpse of The General Jackson, then to Twitty City, also Loretta Lynn's Dude Ranch, then overnight in Knoxville and home. Well guys how about those New Years resolutions? My motto is, "IF you don't make 'em, you don't break 'em."

Evelyn and I wish to extend our Best Wishes to everyone is this New Year."

That's all

John Shepherd
"L" ad Hq. Co. 331st

Happy New Year Bob and Pearl.

WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

The West Virginia Chapter of the 83rd, Infantry Division Association meeting was held at The Best Western McCoy Motor Lodge in Ripley, West Virginia on Sunday, December 4th, 1988.

Several letters were read and a motion was made and passed to make a donation to The Barboursville West Virginia Veterans Home for needy Veterans for Christmas.

Refreshments, cookies and candy were on hand to make for a Christmas Party. Christmas Gifts were exchanged and two boxes of candy were given away, which were won by Tress Hunt and Paul Pauley.

Those present were: Lillian and Rex Carson, Linda and Jim Dunkin, Freeda and John Hobbs, Tress and Chauncy Hunt, Mary and Paul Pauley, Cloda and Fred Statts, Esta and Don Pettry, Estella and Walter Sobel and daughter. Everyone had a good time.

That's all for now!
Don W. Pettry
"B" 323 F.A.

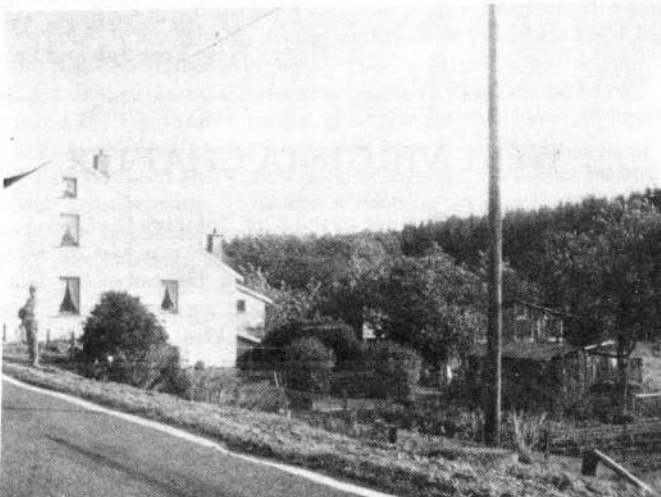




Cards & Letters



Honvelez, Belg. John Askey was wounded in this town Jan. 15, 1945. Photo taken by Grace Askey Oct. 8, 1988 on highway leading from Salmchateau to Bovigny looking south. R.R. tracks are up the hill to your right.



Honvelez, Belg. Photo taken at intersection of Bovigny highway & Honvelez street leading up the hill into Village is across the road from where John Askey is standing. Photo was taken looking north toward Salm Chateau this is where the German Ambulance was knocked out in the early morning Jan. 15, 1945 carrying armed German Infantry. It came from the direction of Bovigny. The photo of the ambulance and the story was in one of your 1988 Thunderbolts. Taken by Grace Askey, Oct. 8, 1988.

Dear Mr. Bob Derickson,

Please find enclosed check of \$10.00 for my dues. I just want to take a little of your time as I want to thank Fred William of Co. E. 331st for the time and effort he gave me in searching out a few names. I have been searching for some 44 years - as I joined Co-E around 7-9, 1944 - Their weren't many formal introductions. We arrived at CO E - Command Post (4 replacements) - in the middle of an apple orchard, and S/Rgt H.F. Heinny took me about 100 ft. along a Hedgerow & told me to dig in. - us replacements had come from training 18 months with the 89th Dist. which had been broken up & were sent to replace casualties.

As I was digging in like mad I heard a shrill whistle and the concusion on the opposite side of the hedgerow knocked me down; I was alright. Sgt. Heinny - yelled get the hell down when you hear them coming in. - he only had to tell me once.

I would like to commend CO. E. warrior Fred Willman for getting the names together for me 44 years later of so many men like Lamaak who was in next Foxhole to me when the July 25th bombing took out St. Lo - a short bomb hit the ground between Lamaak and I & the ground just shoved over Lamaaks Foxhole and all the other names S/Sgt. F. Willman got for me, I can't even thank him enough. I guess the roughest days I had was about 1st week of Aug. 44 when we were cut off from the rest as the Krauts had us cut off a few days. I was carrying the Co E radio & our Lt., next to me was grazed by a German round through the chin and hand-later we got out of that and on Aug. 10th St. Malo I got hit with Shrapnel in back & hip- while scouting with our B.A.R. man.

My wife has been quite ill - I would like to make the Cincinnati reunion. My home was Shelby, Mansfield, Ohio area before retiring out here. Again thanks to S/Sgt. Fred Willman. Good health to you in 1989.

Thank you Bob,
Sincerely,
John W. Stauffer

HELLO BUDDIES;

Here we are just about approaching the Holiday Season, in just about two more weeks we will be celebrating Christmas, and in about three short weeks, we will start the new year. Before I get wound up, I want to express to each and everyone of you my BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY.

Well Buddies, as you know from past experience, right after the Holiday Season, comes a letter from me asking you for your contribution to the Reunion. Once again I will be sending out letters asking for your support by taking an ad in the Reunion Ad Book. I know that you get tired of my sending you letters, if you don't wish to lend your support, just throw the letter away. Please don't send me some of the nasty letters that I have received in the past. With all the work involved in sending out these letters, it is dealing a low blow when there are such sarcastic and nasty letters sent.

I know that the Reunion isn't until August, but we must work on the Ad Book early so that we can get money in to help finance the Reunion. To those of you who haven't worked on a Reunion for the last fifteen or twenty years, you can't begin to imagine how hard it is now to get commitments. Entertainment has tripled in cost as has our Banquets and other incidentals.

Thanks to you great men we had a very successful Reunion this past year. The Kentucky Chapter is hard at work to try and make this one a great success also. Please lend us a hand. I have worked with Reunion Committees for several years, and can't begin to thank you men enough for the help you have given us. Please don't let us down, please take an Ad no matter how small it is, we need every dollar that we can get. GOOD LUCK, GOOD HEALTH AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Larry Redmond

Dear Bob,

I had not attended a reunion until 1985. My wife, Mildred, and I wanted to go somewhere for our 40th anniversary, so we chose to go to South Fallsburg, N.Y. We went without knowing anyone. We were assigned a table with three other couples - Herb and Mae Packert, Glynn and Edith Wilms, Sam and Marylou Grijalva with daughter Olga and granddaughter Vanessa.

In 1986 we went to Knoxville, Tenn., and made friends with Charles and Mary Beam. We have made lots of acquaintances at every reunion.

Before the 1987 reunion I wrote Bill Meyerhoeffer, got his name from the roster. He gave me Ray Robinson's address and I wrote him. Bill and wife Lois and Ray and wife Jenette met us in Charleston, W. Va. This meeting made the trip extra special. After we got home I saw a George Thompson on the roster. I remembered a Thompson but didn't remember his first name. I sent him a Christmas card and ask if he was in Germany with me, he was. He gave me Lloyd Lutkemeier's address and I wrote him and we talked and visited each other this summer. Lutkemeier and wife Verleen and George Thompson and another buddy, Bill Nickell and wife Arline met Meyerhoeffer, Robinson and me in Hershey, Pa. This made for a **great** reunion in 1988.

The last time we were all together was April 12, 1945 in Barby, Germany. Our Squad leader was Frank Kokaski, we have not found him. "Frank" if you see this contact one of us, please.

We have met several others from F Company, including Russell (Legs) Gassert and Edward Zerucha.

V.B.(TX) Atchison, F CO. 329th

These six were all in the First Squad, first Platoon, F 329th.



Bill Meyerhoeffer-Staunton, Lloyd Lutkemeier-Hastings, Ray Robinson, Bill Nickell, George Thompson, Vardaman Atchison



Dear Pearl & Bob,

Another great reunion! Too bad it can't last longer. Every year gets better-and better.

Took a few pictures hope you put them in the Thunderbolt. Lois Brinkman of Ohio and Luella Rubright of Pennsylvania again for 20 years purchasing material and patterns at the reunion. These were the dresses they have made.

Love to you both.

Babe Freitag

1988 at Hershey, Lois Brinkman and Luella Rubright



November 3, 1988

Dear Bob,

Pauline and I enjoyed our reunion in Hershey very much. Everyone connected should be congratulated for their success.

It was an experience of a lifetime for me to play with other bandsmen friends again. The feelings are hard to put into words. Thank you for your support and whatever you did to help it to happen for us. While at this chain of thought, we owe Robert Smith a big hand for his efforts and time expended.

The reason for writing is to mention a book also. Our 83rd comrades may be interested in it if mentioned "*The Thunderbolt*" sometime. The 83rd. Infantry Division - "*Rag Tag Circus*" is mentioned twelve times in the book. "*The Last Battle*" by Cornelius Ryan. (Who also wrote "*The Longest Day*"). His observations of the U.S. Army across Europe. I found it in our local library, and enjoyed it very much.

Best regards,

Jim Harris, 83rd. Band

913 Sycamore St.

Charlottesville, Va. 22901

(Library of Congress Card Catalog No. 65-18654)

REMINDER!

Those who have not paid their 1989 dues, must do so immediately, or you will not receive your 1989 Thunderbolts. Please do so as soon as possible. We don't want you to miss out on any of the exciting issues!

Please mail \$10.00 to:

Secretary- Treasurer, Robert Derickson

3749 Stahlheber Road

Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Dear Bob:

Would like you to know that I recently had an opportunity to spend a few days at the Pines Hotel in South Fallsburg, N.Y. While there I had the pleasure of seeing Bernie Cove and spending some interesting and Memorable moments talking about the old days and our 83rd Infantry Division.

We took some pictures of our visit together and I would like you to see if you can find some space to put them in our next bulletin.

Thank You
Your Buddy

Bernie "Rosie" Rosenberg



Picture from Lt. Paul MacFarlane Officers of 329th somewhere in Germany. Standing left to right Harper, Dr. Grey, MacFarlane, Schommer, Capt. Boyd

Robert Jennings

It is officially Veterans Day again. But to those of a certain generation, it always will be Armistice Day.

We learned that name as children, enthusiastically mispronouncing it, at least in some cases in little West Tennessee towns, as Ar-MIST-ess, instead of with the proper first-syllable accent.

That is what the fourth-graders called it at the Malesus, Tenn., school in 1933. In those days the American Legion post in Jackson would send a delegation to the nearby hamlet on Nov. 11.

The delegation was armed with a projector and movie reels that hindsight tells me must have been made up of scenes from Signal Corps films of combat during crucial 1917-18 battles involving American Expeditionary Force Doughboys.

Widemouthed in the darkened school auditorium, watching those excerpts from a war their fathers had fought, the children born in the early and mid-1920s could hardly have foreseen their own future. Within 10 years or so, the boys would be in uniform, as their fathers had been; some of them would fight quite near the places they watched so raptly on the Legionnaires' screen.

Armistice Day was established as an annual Nov. 11 observance by the Allies at the war's end. Woodrow Wilson proclaimed it for the United States in 1919, to remind Americans of the tragedies of war.

It became a federal holiday in 1938. In 1954 Congress changed the name to Veterans Day, widening its recognition to include servicemen from the recently ended Korean War — just a little ahead of time to embrace Vietnam veterans, too.

From 1971 to 1977 the onetime Armistice Day seemed abandoned; Veterans Day was no longer Nov. 11 but was moved to the fourth Monday in October.

Tradition then made a counterattack and the original date was restored, even though it does sometimes fall on a commercially inconvenient day of the week. Great Britain still calls Nov. 11 Armistice Day. Canada calls it Remembrance Day.

One reason Armistice/Veterans Day excites no more attention — in addition to un felicitous nearness to the big Thanksgiving and Christmas uproars — may be confusion of its meaning with that of Memorial Day, or Decoration Day. That older observance on May 30 honors American servicemen who died in combat. Possibly the original idea of Armistice Day was not so much to salute the dead but to recognize veterans who lived. That intent would have avoided duplication of the holidays' meanings.

Maybe that aspect merits emphasis today: a tribute not just to those for whom, as Ernie Pyle put it, "there will be no homecoming — ever," but also to those who came home from 1917-18, 1941-45, from Korea and from Vietnam.

For some — combat veterans — Veterans Day in that spirit could augment what Ned Calmer called "the reward of war that only GIs understand, though none of them describe it."

That reward was partial compensation to rifle company infantrymen who endured "the zero job of this war," said Calmer, a chronicler of World War II who died last year, the much underappreciated author of that struggle's finest novel, *The Strange Land*.

"This thing is something beyond what we mean by the words loyalty, comradeship, exaltation, pity, love, self-sacrifice.

"It is beyond words at all. It can be known only to those who experience it, the small percentage of actual combat troops in the huge armies of the modern world.

"It's something that is given freely by one man to the others and by all to the unit. It is not always present even among combat outfits.

"The world will move into peacetime one day with only these few in each country who really felt it. And from then on it won't be strong enough to count as an element in the affairs of men.

"Only the few who knew it will remember, and sometimes it will glow again when the old hands meet and are together for a little while."

Pondering a rifle company's costly struggle in the European Theater of Operations in 1944, Calmer foresaw "that will be all that remains of today when each man on this field hates to live what he is doing.

"But when they remember it, this day will be the day they wanted life most and clung to it hardest, and they will know that nothing has really been worth as much since."

Old infantrymen need look no further for justification of Armistice...oops, Veterans Day.

Sent in by Leo Schneider, Memphis, Tennessee



World War II veteran Sgt. Robert Jennings in 1945

NON-FRATERNIZATION RULE IGNORED BY MOST SOLDIERS

By William F. Dyer

Not unlike Amendment 18 to the United States Constitution, sometimes known as the Prohibition Law, the Non-Fraternization Rule published by the Ninth U.S. Army in pamphlet form, December 12, 1944 was generally ignored by all ranks of the Army, with the possible exception of the Military Police who were required to enforce the order.

RESTRICTED

GUIDE
TO
OCCUPATION OF GERMAN
COMMUNITIES
BY
SMALL UNITS

•
HEADQUARTERS NINTH U.S. ARMY

APO 339

12 DECEMBER 1944

RESTRICTED

Some off-duty MPs also ignored the rule, like most other soldiers, if they thought no one was looking, just like their papas did about drinking prohibited moonshine whiskey and bathtub gin during the Roaring Twenties.

This little gem of a booklet, known in some quarters as the blue-backed-bible, contained no less than forty DONT'S, as compared with only ten in another publication, the Holy Bible.

You couldn't, for example, sleep, eat, live with, marry, have social intercourse (whatever that is) sit alongside, talk to, visit, drink with, shake hands, play games or sports, give to, accept from, dance, accompany, go to a theatre, bar, tavern, restaurant, enter a hotel, live in a hotel, wave to, give candy, gum, food,

clothing, insignia, chevrons, cigarettes, abuse, take from, or try to tell the good Germans from the bad Germans, by command of Lieutenant General SIMPSON.

Under the all-inclusive heading of "General", the pamphlet proclaimed that its purpose was designed to furnish unit commanders a handy reference covering those matters most likely to be encountered during the attack and occupation of Germany. My unit, being the M.P. Platoon, 329th Infantry, used the manual when ordered to do so, and in one instance the platoon leader could have lost his life enforcing it, had it not been for the quick thinking of a trusted sergeant. But more about that later.

Section Two of the "bible" covered most matters likely to confront a combat unit in the early stages of occupation and prior assumption of authority by Military Government in reference to non-fraternization. I searched the booklet, as ordered, but failed to understand what the author meant by:

Appropriate portions of the instruction contained in the document will be explained to all enlisted personnel.

I knew, without asking, that certain members of my platoon, and perhaps all, knew the meaning of such words as sleep, eat, live with, marry, or have social intercourse with a German. Further, I didn't expect too many to sit alongside a German, or anyone else, in church. In addition, not one person in the platoon, save the interpreter, could speak German. No sweat, so far. It was rumored, however, that maybe a few MPs visited bars and taverns. I felt at the time like the preacher damning sin to his good brethren and sisters in church. It would have been an exercise in futility to explain all these bad things to my good men. Moreover, who in his right mind would give Germans, or anyone else, cigarettes when they would bring big bucks on the black market? No one that I knew even tried to tell the good Germans from the bad Germans. It was the consensus then that a German is a German is a German. As the crusty old colonel said to the young lieutenant in response to the question of what he should do if he saw a group of German soldiers coming down the road, "(S)hoot the sons a bitches". But, as a later event proved, the explanation should have been made to the officers as well as the enlisted men.

Under the heading of "Disposition of Enemy Personnel," other than the advice of the crusty old colonel mentioned above, there was a sub-heading entitled "Dangerous Civilians." The instruction on handling such persons was:

Civilians believed dangerous to our security will be evacuated in prisoner of war channels. They will be accompanied by a statement of the arresting officer stating the reason for their detention.

This was one of the rules that was used with good results when the platoon received four civilians accompanied by a statement from the arresting officer, to-wit:

These four civilians (three Belgium and one Frenchman) are line crossers.

The outpost told them they were not allowed to come thru our lines and told them to go back, but they said the

Germans would shoot them if they went back and before they would go back we could shoot them, so I am going to send them to you so you can shoot them (if you want to).

I declined.

This officer wasn't the only one who was having problems with line crossers, civilians, displaced persons, prisoners of war and various other races, creeds and colors. On April 15 the Regiment moved to Walternienburg, on the Berlin side of the Elbe River, and the first order for the MPs was to set up road blocks on each road toward the German side. The reasoning for this blockage, I assume, was to keep the roads clear of everyone other than military personnel and equipment.

One group halted by the MPs on the main road leading into Walternienburg appeared to be gypsies. Entire families, including mama, papa, and all ages of children, were traveling in wagons pulled by tractors. Most of the children were ill from lack of food and shelter; the adults were worn thin from just surviving and constantly running from the war. In addition, the Russians were close behind and the Americans were crowding the front.

Never having seen or heard anything like this before, I sometimes had to shut my ears to close out the sound of crying children, and I wasn't the only one. Blocking these people was the most hated duty the MPs had and they persisted in talking about the plight of the refugees. "Making war on babies" was the phrase most heard during these critical times.

The wailing, crying and begging became so loud and frequent that the entire regimental headquarters personnel talked about it, and finally Colonel Crabill, the small man with the big heart, told me to work out something for the children. I re-read my trusty blue-backed-bible for the answer to this problem and found these instructions:

Homeless civilians: Civilian authorities will be made responsible for arranging shelter for homeless civilians, making use of available local shelter. If such shelter is not obtainable, they may be evacuated to the nearest available shelter. The general policy is that civilians will remain in or as close to their normal residences as possible.

Somewhere, somehow, First Sergeant A. H. Vandiver had found a German civilian who was a master at getting things done. He spoke, in addition to his mother tongue, English, Russian and Polish. He could have been a high-ranking civilian in the Nazi Party or a ranking officer in the Army. In any event he was not evacuated in the regular channels, but was kept near the MP command post because of his ability to help in all matters concerning the civil population. When he learned of Colonel Crabill's concern about the children, he immediately worked with the Burgomaster and they arranged for food, shelter and relief.

I reported my plan for the children, and Colonel Crabill agreed that it was consistent with the Ninth Army directive, but that it had been superceded by an order from higher headquarters requiring that all movement of civilians be stopped. He did say, however, that he didn't be-

lieve the Army directive applied to small children and that I had permission to move in all the children under ten years of age.

Elated, I rushed to the camp. "English spreken", as Sgt. Vandiver called our learned friend, went with me. With his skilled combination of languages, he conveyed to the refugees that the MPs would take all children under ten years into town and would furnish food, shelter and medical attention for them.

The offer was rejected.

The children clung to their mothers; the mothers held fast to the children; the fathers looked dejected; and everybody cried. Without really having any purpose, I reported the results of my objective to Colonel Crabill, who had many more important things happening, and he was sympathetic. "Well, we tried", was his comment.

Time passed slowly. The American Army stood at ease. The Russian Army ran rampant over most of East Germany; the German Army fought a last ditch effort to save Berlin; and still the babies cried louder and louder. Finally, Colonel Crabill, who like everyone else had heard enough crying, decided to do something about it, orders or no orders. He told me to make one last offer. The mothers could accompany the children to shelter inside the town, but the papas would have to remain put.

Another refusal.

They responded that they would prefer dying as a group rather than survive as a split family. The mothers, even at the urging of the fathers and older children, absolutely refused to split the families and leave them to an unknown fate. And so it was.

This intolerable condition continued for several days while the weather got worse and the Russians came nearer. The cold, chilling rain of that April in North Germany was the worst in years, according to the natives. The cries became more heart-rending and the MPs guarding the group became more restless and concerned. Just to make work during this lull in the fighting, I ordered a headcount of the refugees and found that there was enough living space in the town to care for the entire group.

Knowing that Colonel Crabill was powerless to order them moved because of the Army directive, but also feeling that he wanted them moved, I decided to resolve this problem on my own. With the help of Sergeant Vandiver's "English spreken" friend, and a promise of silence from the remainder of the platoon, I informed the refugees that they were moving to town; further, they could bring only what could be carried by hand. No wagons, no animals, no nothing but people and a few supplies. They cheerfully agreed.

The secret was well kept, I thought, and on the chosen night the group was herded together and marched into town, quietly. I served as point for the column, with members of the platoon on the flanks and bringing up the rear. Not a sound was made, not even by the children, as we slowly moved into Walternienburg. Nothing worthy of note happened until we turned a corner into main street and

there stood Colonel Crabill with his two MP guards. I damn near fainted.

With vision of ten years in Ft. Leavenworth, following my court martial, I halted the column and reported to the Colonel. He inquired as to where I had found this many displaced persons who weren't German civilians, as if this was the first he had ever heard of the group. Before I could think of an answer, he produced a large box filled with fruit bars, chocolate and other goodies for the women and children, and cigarettes for the men. The column moved on to quarters prepared for them and the incident was never mentioned again.

The Do and Don't pamphlet was filled with instructions as to what to do and what to do not, including what to do with a prison enclosure and concentration camp:

Inmates of prisoner of war enclosures and concentration camps, including those containing American prisoners, will be required to "stay put". Necessary guards will be posted, making use of inmates of the enclosure or camp where suitable personnel for such duty exists. When a prisoner of war enclosure or concentration camp is uncovered, the division "Contact Officer" and Military Government Officer respectively will be immediately notified and will promptly take charge.

The requirements of this order were brought to my attention early in April 1945 by a bird colonel from Washington, whose name, if I ever knew it, is now forgotten. His duty in Germany at that time was to assess the need for a military police platoon in an infantry regiment. The 83rd Division had had an operation such as this in all three regiments since September 1944, and was a testing ground.

As guest of my platoon, he attached himself to me and went everywhere I went. Sometimes his many questions became bothersome, but I felt strongly that such a unit was needed and gave him all the answers I knew. On this particular occasion, I, along with several members of the platoon, was following one of the battalions of the 329th Regiment as it swept through a small village with a speed which was unmatched. Some sort of enclosure was liberated by the fast-moving troops and hundreds of men dressed in striped uniforms, reminding one of walking corpses, ran hither and yon getting into all sorts of mischief. The battalion rushed on, leaving the MPs with a mob on its hands.

When the War Department Colonel saw this mob charging toward us, he commanded me to stop them. Not being in the habit of disobeying orders coming from a bird colonel, but knowing from prior experience that stopping such mobs was impossible, I just looked shocked and stupid and did nothing. The colonel hesitated only a moment and shouted that if I couldn't do anything about this mob he damn sure could. With that he leaped out of the jeep, with his 45 cal. pistol at ready, and commanded the mob to halt. The members of the mob, exhilarated with their freedom to the point of insanity, apparently thought the colonel was playing games. They kept coming, grabbed him, kissed him and mauled him. Everyone, including the MP rescue formation, and an embarrassed colonel, had a won-

derful time. To my knowledge, this method of mob control was never published in the post war MP field manual.

The booklet's conclusion was the part that almost caused my demise:

Officers, by their meticulous compliance with the non-fraternization orders, must set the example for their men.

It happened innocently about the first part of March 1945 when the 83rd Division made a stab at Neuss, Germany. The 329th Regiment was stopped when the bridges across the Rhine River were blown by the retreating German Army. There wasn't much to do in the way of fighting, and so the soldier's mind, as has been true since days of the Medes and Persians "gently turns to thoughts of love" and a means of passing time. With the non-fraternization rule now really in effect, the MPs were having a serious problem with enforcement. Several GIs had been either arrested or warned, but the call of the wild is often stronger than reason.

One night during our stay in Neuss, I had retired early in hopes of a good sleep. Suddenly the desk sergeant came to my room telling me of an incident that he didn't want to solve by himself. Our Regiment was about to be relieved by a regiment of another division and the newly assigned regimental commander had moved into the town. Being either unfamiliar with the rule, or not caring, he allowed one of the members of the MP patrol him taking a woman into his quarters. The patrolmen had been ordered to report such a breach of the rule to the desk sergeant and he did. The sergeant was, in turn, ordered to make an arrest at such happening. The only problem facing him was that the offender was a full colonel and I was the OD. (For those readers who may have forgotten - officer of the day). My problem.

The matter became a hot potato in my hands. I wanted to drop it but didn't know how. I hoped for an attack by the German Army, but this outfit had already crossed the river and was having problems of its own in Dusseldorf. My choice was "damn the torpedos, full speed ahead".

I hesitatingly knocked on the door of the colonel's quarters and the door was opened by a light colonel. So far, so good. I told him of our orders and that he should get rid of the woman who had just entered. He made some lame excuse for her presence, didn't deny it, but promised to send her away immediately. fine.

Everyone was happy. The light colonel, evidently the executive officer, was off the hook. The desk sergeant had performed his duty. The OD, me, was satisfied, and ready to return to the sack.

But my luck didn't hold.

Some people just can't accept a good thing when they have it. A full colonel appeared from an adjoining room. He was falling-down drunk and argumentative. He demanded to know what the hell an MP lieutenant was doing in his quarters. The executive officer started to answer but was cut short. I explained that a report had been made of a breach of the non-fraternization rule, and that a woman was seen entering his quarters. The colonel denied either

charge and told me to get the hell out. I'd won again. No woman, no fraternization. Case closed.

But again my luck didn't hold.

About this time a well-endowed, blond, definitely German lass made her appearance, put her loving arounds around the colonel's neck and planted a big kiss to his forehead.

Apparently the colonel thought some action was necessary, so he announced to me, "I'm going to kill you". With this he advanced toward a wall where a pistol was hanging in its holster, but he stopped dead in his tracks when the sergeant with me commanded in no certain terms, "Colonel, if you touch that pistol, you're dead". With the announcement, the sound of a round of ammunition entering the chamber of the sergeant's carbine was heard, loud and clear.

About this time, the blond was quickly hustled out of the building, the executive officer lead the colonel into another room, I thanked the sergeant, and we got the hell out.

There was not enough time for me to quote the last sentence contained in the blue-backed-bible presented to me by courtesy of Lt. Gen. SIMPSON, which was:

Such acts lower us to the level of the Nazi clique which we are fighting to destroy.

A message to all 83rd members...

Anyone wishing to purchase shirts, coats, and caps may write to: Vito C. Palazzolo, 20000 Lancaster, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225 for information.

He will send you an application form.

National Lapel Pins, Bolo Ties, Necklaces, and 83rd Caps

\$5⁰⁰ each

(Postage and Handling Included) Contact the Association Office

83rd Reunion will be held at the Clarion Hotel
Cincinnati, Ohio.

The dates are: **August 17, 18 & 19, 1989**

Start making your plans to attend, now!

83rd Infantry Division History Book

AVAILABLE NOW

The Reprint of 83rd Infantry Division (The Thunderbolt Across Europe) is now available. Send your order in with your check payable to: 83rd Infantry Division Association, Robert Derickson, 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013-9012.

The cost of the book is \$38.00 including postage and handling. This is a hard covered book and has in addition to the Thunderbolt Across Europe, two hundred and twenty-five (225) personal stories of 83rd veterans. Also a list of men killed in action and those that have died from wounds during the battles.

THUNDERBOLT DEADLINES

Deadline for ALL articles to be published in Thunderbolt must be at this office by
Oct. 10; Jan. 10; April 10; and June 10.

Robert Derickson, 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, OH 45013

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 15
OXFORD, OHIO

James R. Prentice "B" 908
R.R. # 3 Box 140 D
Claremont, N H 03743

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 Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Office Phone:
513-863-2199

Date _____ Signature _____

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 for all your cooperation. **Send old and new address.**