



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 45 No. 2

Winter Issue 1990

THE 44TH ANNUAL REUNION

August 16, 17 & 18



Pittsburgh's Majestic Boat

**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 45013-9102.

Editor: Robert Derickson

STAFF REPORTERS

Vito Palazzolo 20,000 Lancaster, Harper Woods, MI 48236
Ambrose Tynan 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury, MA 02136
Nick Francullo 10 Bessom St., Lynn MA 01903
Joe Adam 6757 N. Avers, Ave., #1, Chicago, IL. 60645
Joseph A. Macaluso 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122
Lee Titus 534 Roosevelt St. Warren, OH 44483
Bill Herhuth 27 Alpine Dr. Swiss Village Winter Haven, FL 33881

Robert Uher 7603 Pelham Dr., Parma, OH 44129
Francis G. Beerhalter...4548 Valley View St., Pittsburgh, PA 15214
John Shepherd 210 Lee Ave., Nitro W. Va. 25143
S. Bielen 71 Glenwood Terrace, Fords, NJ 08863
John G. Daum 746 Fairfax Rd., Drexel Hill, PA. 19026
Frank Jackson R.F.D. #1 Box 264, Oliver Springs, TN. 37840
Wilson Day 5310 Ponderosa Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45239

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ORGANIZATION 1988-89

PRESIDENT

Edward S. Reuss
10939 High Point Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412)793-5326

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Salvatore Scicolone
5709 Wellesly Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
(412)441-5245

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Lawrence Leonardi
1360 Preston St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
(412)922-3489

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Nick Francullo
10 Bessom Street
Lynn, MA 01903
(617)592-9154

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Robert E. Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013-9102
(513)863-2199

CHAPLAIN

*Casey Kowalec
7719 Edgewood Lane
Seven Hills, OH 44131
(216)524-7690

CHAPLAIN

Matthew Pintar
P.O. Box 186
Mingo Church Rd.
(412)348-7898

JUDGE ADVOCATE

John Raikos
4039 Fir Court
Indianapolis, IN 46250
(317)849-5139

ASST. JUDGE ADVOCATE

Paul S. Buchman
1010 N. Knight St.
Plant City, FL
(813)752-3172

HISTORIAN

Wm. Kent O'Connell
183 Acre Lane
Hicksville, L.,I., NY 11801
(516)931-4366

SERGEANTS-AT ARMS

Albert Suess
2731 Shelley St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Joe Daluca
1193 Graham Ave.
Monesson, PA 15062

Michael Kadalyk
1215 Foster Ave. Apt. 312
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Ames Miller
4283 W. 200 So.
Columbus, IN 47201
(812)342-9263

William Minick
R.R. #2
Kinards, SC 29355
(803)276-1633

James Prentice
R.R. #3 Box 140D
Claremont, NH 03743
(603)543-0243

Louis M. Nolan
520 W. Park Row
St. Peter, MN 560822
(507)931-4016

Gene Costanzo
915 High St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15215
(412)781-8205

A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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Robert G. Taylor 1975

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Manlius Goodridge 1977
Joseph A. Macaluso 1978
*William J. Chavanne 1979
Samuel Klippa 1980
Michael Caprio 1981
Ralph Gunderson 1982
Arthur Doggett 1983
Bernie Cove 1984
Carroll Brown 1985
John Hobbs 1986
George Pletcher 1987
Charles Schmidt 1988
* Denotes Deceased



THE PRESIDENTS CORNER

The holidays have passed, and I hope they reached everyone's expectations, so now you can focus on our reunion here in Pittsburgh. We hope you can all come and enjoy yourselves as we have something for everyone planned.

I would like to bring to your attention at this time that there will be only one more issue of the Thunderbolt before our reunion. I would like to see the cost more reasonable as I mentioned before, but a newer hotel located in the heart of the city is very much in demand. The people we are working with at the hotel have been very cooperative, and I'm sure we will feel it is worth the extra few dollars. We are trying to think of everyone.

There is one correction I'd like to make, the 78th Division is having their reunion in Pittsburgh the same time we are not the 87th. They participated in three campaigns, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe. They have over 3,000 members and are expecting about 1200 here in Pittsburgh on the same days in August.

Anyone wishing to send their registration money in advance to avoid any last minute congestion may do so. The costs are listed in the Thunderbolt. Checks may be made to the 83rd Infantry Association, % Sal Scicolone 5709 Wellesley Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa., 15206.

ATTENTION: The chapters who are coming in by bus should notify the hotel and arrangements will be made to accommodate you with your rooms, etc. when you get off the bus. This should avoid any inconvenience at the hotel desk.

I think this would be an appropriate time in recognizing Bob Derickson and his wife Pearl for all the time and effort they put into this association. Their dedication contributes to the success of our reunions. There is a lot of work in keeping an association this size together. I can appreciate this since I'm more involved and I think they should be given a lot more credit.

In a previous issue of the Thunderbolt we mentioned the boat ride would be Thursday. This event will be Friday, August 17, 1990. This is something you don't want to miss, so get your reservation in early. We can take the first 700, after that your checks will be mailed back to you.

We had our monthly meeting as scheduled at which time our ladies attended to go over the events for our reunion. After the meeting we had lunch served and considered the event a big success. Some pictures are enclosed.

Ed Reuss
National President

Pittsburgh Vista Rates Four-Stars

NEW YOUR - Six Pennsylvania establishments, including one in Pittsburgh, have been named winners of the Mobil Travel Guide's Four-Star Award for 1989.

The winners are among 383 of more than 21,000 North American lodgings and restaurants listed to receive Four Stars this year.

"The Four-Star Award means an establishment is outstanding and worth a special trip," said Richard J. Marcoux, manager of the Mobil Travel Guide.

"Business travelers as well as vacationers visiting our Four-Star winners in Pennsylvania are assured a rewarding experience," Marcoux said.

Pennsylvania's first-time Four-Star winner is the Vista International, Pittsburgh.

Pennsylvania's other Four-Star establishments for 1989 are: Four Seasons Hotel, Philadelphia; Hotel Hershey Resort, Hershey; Balliettsville Inn Restaurant, Balliettsville (Allentown); Blair Creek Inn Restaurant, Mertztown (Allentown); Green Hills Inn Restaurant, Reading.

The Mobil Travel Guide rates hotels, motels, motor inns, resorts, inns and restaurants on a One-to-Five-Star system.

All Four-Star establishments are recognized for decor and furnishings, maintenance and service and amenities. Four-Star restaurants are additionally recognized for cuisine and wine lists. Four-Star resorts have extensive recreational facilities.

In addition to rating establishments, the Mobil Travel Guide serves as a complete travel planner to the United States and Canada. All seven regional volumes, plus a special volume for "Major Cities," include maps, historical data, suggestions for some 21,000 things to see and do, travel tips and discount coupons to hundreds of attractions.

IN MEMORIAM

As the year 1989 comes to a closing, I hate to announce one of the greatest losses our association has encountered. Some people say you can be replaced, but to my way of thinking this man can never be replaced. In case you haven't heard I'm speaking of our Chaplain, Casey Kowalec who passed away at 10:30 P.M., December 30, 1989.

Myself, and all the members of the Pittsburgh Chapter send our deepest condolences to his wonderful wife Laura and their family.

Words can't express the fine qualities and great job he always did for this organization. I'm sure everyone recognizes him for his memorial service. We will all miss him.

May God Bless and comfort Laura and give her the strength to carry on.

This has been a bad winter and the weather plus sickness have taken its toll. Stay Well! Happy New Year and Good Health to all of you.

Ed Reuss
National President

GREETINGS from the NATIONAL OFFICE

This is a very difficult article to write today. For those of you in the organization who do not know our Chaplain, Casey Kowalec passed away on December 30, 1989. He was buried on January 3, 1990. Pearl and I got the call on Sunday and we told Laura we would be there. We went to Cleveland on Tuesday for the evening visitation and then stayed over for the funeral on Wednesday. In all of my life I have never attended such a large funeral. The procession must have been a couple of miles long testifying to the love so many people felt for Casey and the love they wanted to show to Laura, son, John, daughter, Mary and grand-

daughter, Jacqueline. There were four visitations and all four had constant callers. Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Warren Chapters, calls from the other chapter members. I was very happy that we could represent the Executive Board and the Kentucky Chapter. He was a well loved man and never spoke harmful of anyone. We will miss him and his smile and his way of conducting the Memorial. Thank you Casey for all you did. Rest in peace.



Casey and Laura at Knoxville Reunion 1986

In October the Kentucky Chapter met in Vevay, Indiana at the Ogle Haus for our meeting. If you want to take a vacation to some beautiful spot that is it. Our room looked out on the beautiful Ohio river. On Saturday morning we toured the town of Vevay, visiting some of the homes, and of course the women had to go in the shops. We had a wonderful young lady give us the tour of the town. She had lived there all her life so she really knew the people. Then in the afternoon we visited Markland Dam. That was something also to see the boats go through and the time it takes.

A very enjoyable weekend. Thanks Bill and Nancy, Ames and Helen. In December we went to Slade, Kentucky to Natural Bridge and stayed in the Lodge. Something to see if you are there when it snows. The snow sets its own pattern by going upward to the sky. A great Christmas party. Archie and Ann Lee performed for us with Hershell McIntosh coming in to help them. Thanks people for the wonderful music. Herschell, Imogene, Nora Lee and Cecil put on a wonderful food spread, and a wonderful Christmas spirit prevailed. Thanks to all of you.

Now the holidays are over and we are working with Ed Reuss and his Committees for the reunion in August. They are planning a good one and I know that all of you are going to have a good time.

The Vista Hotel is a beautiful place and a large lobby where you may congregate with your friends. Pittsburgh is trying hard to think of all problems and get them curbed before you arrive. The application for the reunion and the boat ride are in this issue. Get them in to the appropriate person. Also Larry Leonardi has his ad in for the Ad book. It really helps out. In May your Executive Board will be going to The Pines and going over their plans for next year. They have done a great deal of remodeling and have promised that it is all different. Pearl and I both want to thank all of you for the beautiful Christmas Cards. We have two large baskets hanging on the fire place full of them. No two alike. Your kind remarks made the closing of the old year so wonderful for us. You are very kind and show the love the 83rd has for its people. Thank you. Pearl and I both hope that this New Year is a Happy one for all of you.

To you Laura and your wonderful family, please know that the love of all 83rd'ers are always with you. We think of you often and are with you in love.

BOB

Thanks to Larry Leonardi for the pictures we have in this

Issue of the Thunderbolt of Casey and of Casey and Laura.

P.S. Gene Costanzo is home recovering from a heart attack. I'm sure he would appreciate a get well card. We hope you keep on improving.

Correction pertaining to last issue of Thunderbolt. The heading "Italian POW Chapel" on page 1 should have been over the chapel picture on page 2.



Chaplain's Corner

This corner is dedicated to our dearly, beloved Chaplain, Casey Kowalec who has left a large void spot in the 83rd Infantry Division Association with his passing on December 30, 1989. Casey was a person who saw good in every one. He spoke well of all and was ready to defend everyone.

The following poem was in Casey's last article. I am going to repeat it this time. It is so appropriate.



If I had my life to live over, I'd try to make more mistakes next time. I would relax. I would limber up. I would be crazier than I've been on this trip. I know very few things I'd take seriously any more. I'd certainly be less hygienic. I would take more chances. I would take more trips. I would scale more mountains. I would swim more rivers, and I would watch more sunsets. I would eat more ice cream and fewer beans. We're always putting things away for that tomorrow that never comes. Every once in a while--go crazy! Spend it!!! I would have more actual troubles and fewer imaginary ones. You see, I was one of those people who lived prophylactically and sensibly hour after hour, day after day. Oh, I've had my moments and if I had it to do all over again, I'd have more of them. In fact, I'd try not to have anything else, just moments - one after another - instead of living so many years ahead of my day. I've been one of those people who never went anywhere without a thermometer, a hot water bottle, a gargle, a raincoat, and a parachute. If I had it to do over again, I'd travel much lighter, much lighter than I have. I would start barefoot earlier in the spring, and I'd stay that way later in the fall. I would ride more merry-go-rounds and catch more gold rings, and pick more flowers and dance more often.

*IF I HAD IT TO DO OVER AGAIN--BUT YOU SEE,
I DONT*

Did Casey have some premonition and was he trying to tell us something????????? Casey we know that you are up there looking down on us. Keep us in line and make us think often of you and your kindness.

Bob Derickson



Casey & Laura Knoxville Reunion 1986

"CASEY" KOWALEC

I'm sorry to report that our National Association Chaplain, Casey Kowalec passed away on December 30th. The National Association lost a dedicated officer, who took great pride in being the Chaplain of the Association. The Cleveland Chapter lost a great member, who held all of the offices in the chapter, and I lost a true friend and buddy to whom I could call upon. On behalf of the Association, the

Cleveland Chapter, and his many friends, I would like to extend the heart felt sympathy of all to Laura, his wife and to his children and grand child.

Casey never lost his religious up bringing and continued to work for and in his church. He was in charge of the Blood bank and the senior activities in the church. Casey will be sorely missed by the congregation. Casey loved the job of chaplain and tried to improve each year on the Memorial Service. He was dedicated to the position. We will truly miss him at the reunion, when his name is read at the roll call, instead of Casey reading the names of the deceased. It will make the services more somber. In closing may the Lord take Casey into his bosom and grant him eternal peace in Paradise.

Zami Kami Apunti Buddy
Bob Uher
Cleveland Chapter

**\$10 DUES ARE
DUE NOW
FOR 1990**

"Pittsburgh Reunion 1990"

PLEASE RESPOND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

I will attend the Reunion: PLEASE CIRCLE DATES OF ARRIVAL

Myself _____

Guest _____

August 15 16 17 18

LARRY LEONARDI
P.O. Box 44303
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205

This year we hope to cut down on our mailings to you requesting ads so that we may lower overhead expenses. This ad form will be in the Thunderbolt for (2) two issues. Please cut out your ad from last year's book and attach to this page or rewrite it on this form. Our deadline date for ads will be June 25, 1990. This will give the printer time to set-up the book and print it. Thank you. We are most grateful for your cooperation.
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Deceased List

Lawrence Armond "CN"331
Angelo S. Camardo Regt. HQs
Samuel Candeliere "783rd"
John Clevenger "A" 908
Bernard Dennis
Clifford Frazier "HQ" 308
George C. Gable "HQ" 330
Benny Gaziorek "E" 331

Robert Grazier "AT" 331
Casey Kowalec "C" 322 FA
Edward Market "E" 331
Wilub "Bud" Mays "E" 331
Robert B. Meyers "MED" 308
Clarence "Hank" Opperman
Francis R. Rood "908"
James Shaw "B" 908
Sherman Walt "83rd" Band
Norb Wafzig Ser. Co 330
Charles Bonafiglia "C" 908th
Bruce Hutchison 83rd Band
Frank McNeil
Park T. Black Jr. AT 332

REPORTED BY

Joe Macaluso
Emil Wehling
John Pfeifer
Wife Eleanor
Clipping Sent
Wife Dorothy
Wife Mary
William Flahavin

Daughter Roberta
Wife Laura
Leroy Johnson
Bud Funk
Sister - Mrs. Williams
Charles Kabler
Francis Greene
James Prentice
Zeno King
Fred Messina
John Daum
Bedford L. Hunter
Dick Riddle
Bill Herhuth

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN REPORT

Hi Buddies,

I am happy to report our reunion plans are coming along fine. I have already received many reservations for the Dinner Dance Cruise which is on Friday August 17, 1990. If you are planning to go on the Dinner Cruise, please send in your reservations and money as soon as possible. The New Majestic Riverboat can only accommodate 700 people and the cut-off date for reservations is July 15, 1990 so that final arrangements can be made. Reservation forms for the Dinner Cruise are in the Thunderbolt. I would also like to suggest that you send hotel reservations to the Vista Hotel early so that you can make the best arrangements to suit your needs.

The cooperation of everyone is needed for the Ad Book. Send in Ads as early as you can. Forms and prices for Ads will be in your Thunderbolt.

We are planning a great reunion in Pittsburgh August 1990 and hope everyone can come and enjoy themselves. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Pittsburgh 1990.

Salvatore Scicolone I Co. 329th
Program Chairman



NEWS FOR THUNDERBOLT

Deadline Changes Will Be Oct. 5, Jan. 5, April 5,
June 5 Effective Jan. 5, 1990

Hotel Rooms are \$62.00, plus 9% tax.
You may call or write the Hotel for early reservations if you choose.

Hotel Address:

Vista International Hotel
1000 Penn Ave.

Pittsburgh, PA. 15222

Telephone No. 1-800-223-1146

It really helps out. In May your Executive Board will be going to The Pines and going over their plans for next year. They have done a great deal of remodeling and have promised that it is all different. Pearl and I both want to thank all of you for the beautiful Christmas Cards. We have two large baskets hanging on the fire place full of them. No two alike. Your kind remarks made the closing of the old year so wonderful for us. You are very kind and show the love the 83rd has for its people. Thank you. Pearl and I both hope that this New Year is a Happy one for all of you. To you Laura and your wonderful family, please know that the love of all 83rd'ers are always with you. We think of you often and are with you in love.

BOB

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Bob Derickson

44th ANNUAL REUNION 83rd INFANTRY DIV. ASS'N.

SEND ADS IN EARLY. THEY PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN OUR PROGRAM.

PLEASE CIRCLE THE SIZE AD YOU PREFER:

FULL PAGE
\$60.00

HALF PAGE
\$35.00

THIRD PAGE
\$24.00

QUARTER PAGE
\$18.00

BOOSTER ADS ARE \$5.00

NOTE: EACH NAME IS \$5.00 WHEN PRINTED WITHIN AN AD AND EXCEEDS THE COST OF THE AD SPACE.

TYPE OR PRINT YOUR AD CLEARLY IN SPACE BELOW

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

PGH. CHP. REUNION FUND 83rd DIV.

AND SEND TO:

LARRY LEONARDI
P.O. Box 44303
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15205

This year we hope to cut down on our mailings to you requesting ads so that we may lower overhead expenses. This ad form will be in the Thunderbolt for (2) two issues. Please cut out your ad from last year's book and attach to this page or rewrite it on this form. Our deadline date for ads will be June 25, 1990. This will give the printer time to set-up the book and print it. Thank you. We are most grateful for your cooperation.
PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

PITTSBURGH **83RD INFANTRY - 44TH REUNION**

Wednesday, August 15, 1990 (Early Bird)

12:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Registration (Lobby 2nd Floor)
8:00 PM to Midnight	Beer - Refreshments - Entertainment

Thursday, August 16, 1990

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Registration (Lobby 2nd Floor)
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Open Bar
7:00 PM to Midnight	Italian Night - Dinner and Dance Paid Bar

Friday, August 17, 1990

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Registration (Lobby 2nd Floor)
10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon	Business Meeting
10:00 AM to 12:00 "	Women Meeting (Activities Planned)
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM	Memorial Service
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Registration
3:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Open Bar
7:00 PM to 11:00 PM	Dinner and Dance on the "Majestic"
8:00 PM to Midnight	Activities to be posted

Saturday, August 18, 1990

10:00 AM to 12 Noon	Registration (Lobby 2nd Floor)
10:00 AM to 12 Noon	Business Meeting
10:00 AM to 12 Noon	Women Meeting (Activities Planned)
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM	Open Bar
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Mass
7:00 PM to Midnight	Banquet - Dinner and Dance
	Cash Bar

Sunday, August 19, 1990

8:00 to 10:00 AM	Coffee and Rolls - Farewell
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Tentative Registration Fees (per-person)

Total cost for four days.	\$ 90.00
Total cost for three days.	80.00
Total cost for two days.	60.00
Total cost for one day.	40.00

Boat, dinner and orchestra - 29.00. This cost does include buses to and from the dock.
This is not included in registration charge.





Historian's Corner



'The 83rd During The Bulge'

Buddies,

This was our Christmas of 1944-45 in the Ice, Snow and the Unbelievably cold.

Miserable and Scared, we still did our job.

We'll never forget it, and here are some photos to help you remember those dark, damp, bitter days and nights.

We are the lucky ones to be warm and comfortable in 1989.

Enjoy the Holidays!

The histories of 329th & 330th are out of print! I tried. Check again in case you have doubles for my archives.

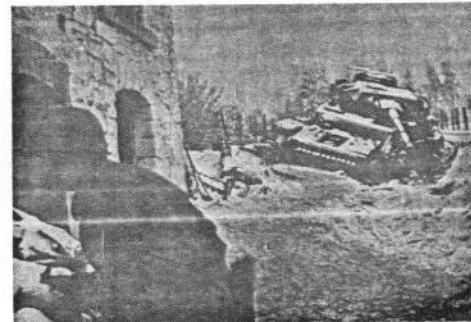
"We Were The Best"

Wm. Kent O'Connell
Historian - 83th M.R.

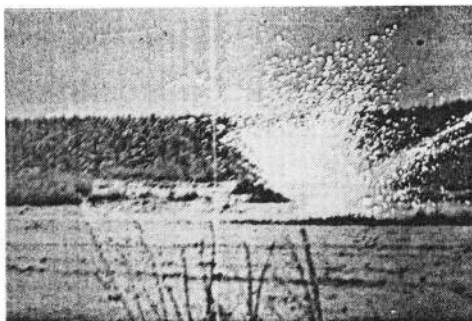
P.S. I now believe the officer, in the picture of General Macan from the last report was his aide - Capt. Keppel.



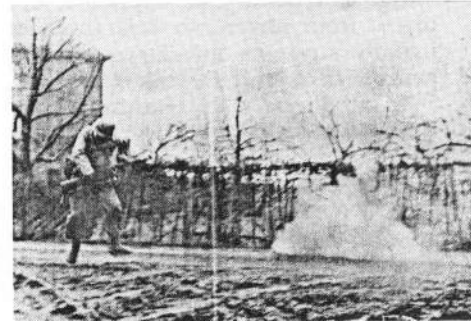
Damn, it never seemed to stop snowing.



Looking for a warm cellar.



Just landed.



Did he make it?



The Million Dallar wound?



How miserable can you feel.



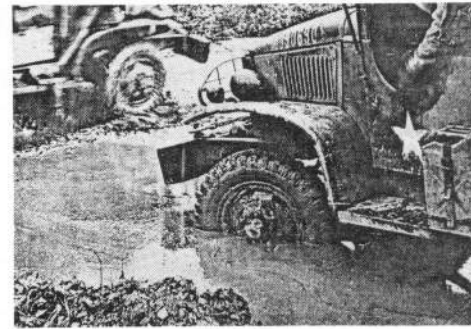
Heading for chow?



Chow -- not the Ritz for damn sure.



Ammo dump, along the way.



General Mud -- when the thaw came

10-In-1, Ersatz Coffee and Snot Buns Too!

William F. Dyer

If there had been an adequate supply system in the United States Army in Europe during World War II, with no shortages, the goods delivered on time and in the designated place, this story would never have been written. It would never have happened.

The beginning, being the morning of 10 May 1945, one day after the unconditional surrender of the German forces in Europe, was the return of Sgt. Slagle from a seek and secure mission for the 329th Military Police Platoon. His mission? Nothing much. He had orders to return with enough real coffee to satisfy the thirst of every man in the platoon, at a long-awaited victory breakfast.

For several days prior to this eventful day, the platoon, and possibly every soldier in the Army, had been drinking a concoction liberated from the German Army which was labeled "Ersatz".

This name is more fully described in Webster's Unabridged dictionary as "(replacement, from ersetzen, to replace, from sitzen, to set, to place) substitute; the word usually suggests inferior quality" This was Mr. Webster's manner of saying: fit only for shaving water.

In addition to the Ersatz coffee and chlorinated water, the thirsty souls of the MP platoon had available in unlimited quantities manner of intoxicating liquors for drinking. All this was stored in a large warehouse filled to the rafters with some of the best wines from the French vineyards, sweet Suze from Belgium, Cointreau from Anjers, and Korn from Germany.

Now that the war was over, why settle for second best? To the victor belongs the spoils, so General Andy Jackson supposedly said, and who would want to quarrel with him?

Sgt. Slagle, who acted as platoon supply clerk, in addition to his many other duties, agreed that the spoils question was timely and that he knew the answer. "Just fill one 3/4 ton truck with booze, give me a three-day pass and I will return with whatever the platoon needs", was his answer. I challenged him to find enough coffee for the platoon victory breakfast previously planned.

The platoon had grown from 40 men and one officer at the time of organization on 15 October 1944 to 112 men and one officer on this date. Finding enough coffee to satisfy that number of men, who had been drinking the stinking German Ersatz for weeks, would be a momentous task, even for Slagle. Not only was Slagle known for his truthfulness, sincerity and efficiency; he was also a shop and swap artist without equal. If it could be done, Slagle could do it. And if he gave a promise, he would produce. This was his chance to again display his talents.

Sgt. Herbst, NCO in charge of securing and policing the liquouse, was adept at shuffling records to show this requisition for a truck load of liquor was in order, necessary, and in the best interests of the Army of the United States. To prove this point he promptly secured a 3/4 ton truck, loaded it with many goodies and sent Slagle on his mission.

Shortage was not unknown to the American Army, as attested to by General Eisenhower in his book *Crusade in Europe* (Eisenhower D., *Crusade in Europe*, Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1948, page 290), and General Bradley's *A Soldier's Story* (Bradley, Omar N., *A Soldier's Story*, Henry Holt and Company, 1951, page 428). General Eisenhower said that a reinforced division, in active operation, consumes 600 to 700 tons of supplies per day. He further gave some idea of the enormity of the problem he found: "With thirty-six divisions in action we were faced with the problems of delivering from beaches and ports to the front lines some 20,000 tons of supplies every day." As General Brad-

ley studied the problem he found, "By the end of September (1944) Com Z (Communication Zone, Europe) had begun to complain of organized thievery in its long line of supply. Thousands gallons of gas, tons of food and clothing were being siphoned off each day into the French black market". So that was where our coffee went!

Military Police units, whether Army, Division or Regiment forever faced the problem of eating. The reason was that MPs, not unlike regular police units, were active around-the-clock 24 hours per day. This was recognized by everyone except the person who published a table of organization. The MP platoon was always assigned to a headquarters company that had problems of its own.

When the Division Military Police platoon was activated at Camp Atterbury on 15 August 1941, it had two officers and two NCOs from Fort Riley, and was assigned to Division Headquarters Company, for some reason the Division Headquarters could find no accommodations for this bastard outfit and it was farmed out to the 329th Regiment for quarters and rations. All of the training was conducted by either Lt. Rudolph Kaiser or myself, we being assigned by virtue of former enlisted service in the 32nd Division M.P. Company, and were recent graduates of the Officers Candidate School. Since neither of us had had any schooling military police courses, we avidly read field manuals, borrowed training aids from our friends in the 329th and conducted all the required basic training. We were fortunate in having several prior service NCOs assigned to help and without exception they operated in a first rate manner.

When the need arose for a military police platoon at regimental level I was assigned as platoon leader and given instructions from Col. Crabill. As I remember, Col. Crabill was not too enthusiastic about this sudden turn of events. He let me know that so far as he personally was concerned the military police was one army entity that had no usefulness, could be dropped from the rolls and never be missed, and for all practical purposes could be removed from the table of organization. He did not issue it as an order but inferred that if I would keep away from him we could get along just fine. With that great recommendation he placed me in the capable hands of Capt. Doyle R. Bunch, Regimental S-1, for disposal.

Our paths did not cross very often, but as time passed Col. Crabill accepted the MPs as the platoon slowly filled with men who had performed expertly in the line companies. Many of them returned from hospitals only to find their place in a company had been filled during their absence. Most of the men who served in the MP platoon were the elite of the regiment, and they had served with distinction, were confident of their ability, and seldom complained. And now we come to the purpose of this piece how the army feeds itself.

Napoleon, it has been reported, was the first to say that an army travels on its stomach. I suppose this has been true from the time that the men in Genghis Khan's magnificent army took blood from the veins of their horses' legs for sustenance during shortages and while they ravished part of Eastern Europe. Or to bring it closer to home, the soldiers in the Continental Army of General Washington parched corn for sustenance while spendable winter at Valley Forge. It is an historical fact that General Jackson's troops ate acorns while marching through Mississippi on their way to fight the War of 1812--after peace had been declared. And this, in chronological order, brings this piece to the War Between the States, or, as some know it, The Civil War.

One of the nation's outstanding writers on this period, Bell Irvin Wiley, has written two very readable books. One describes the life of the Yankee soldier, entitled *The Life of Billy Yank*;* and the other tells about his Rebel counterpart in a book entitled *The Life of Johnny Reb*.** Chapter 9 of the Yankee story, "Hardtack, Salt Horse and Coffee" and



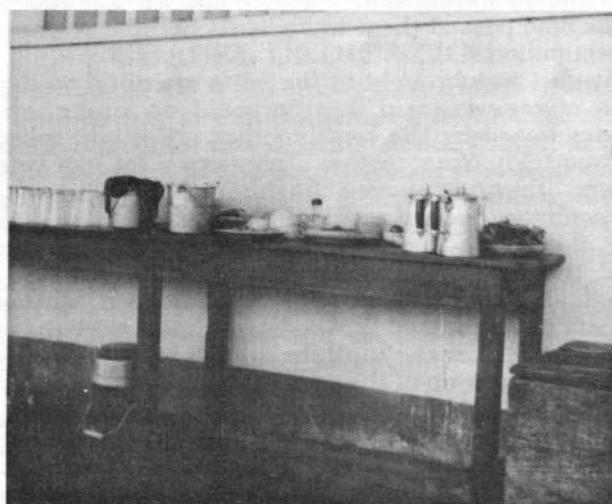
Remember the early days following the end of the war in Europe when everyone was sent on maneuvers? It was somewhat different than the maneuvers we had while preparing for combat. This photo illustrates the type mess that evolved after years of practice.



In the days when the war was winding down and the German was on the run the chow was delivered as shown in this photo. It was made at Zerbest, Germany.



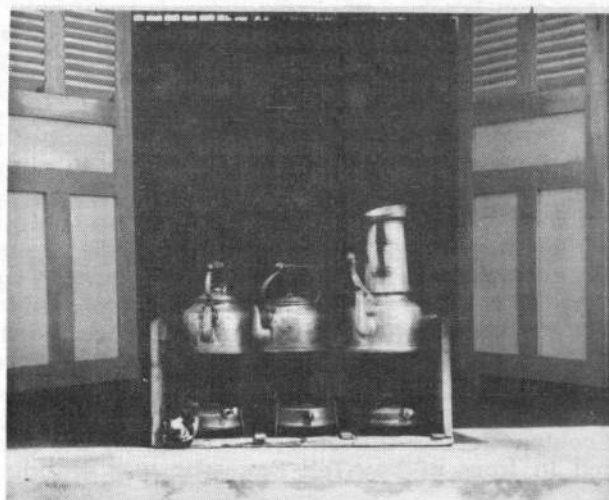
This photo illustrates the transient mess hall that was found in all the liberated countries. They were open round-the-clock and a visiting GI could always find a good meal inside.



These two photos show the mess facility of another Army. In this case the Vietnamese. Hot water was available for tea and the small bucket-like utensil could be used to cook rice. Occasionally the troops would be issued a small amount of fish to flavor the rice. American troops in Vietnam survived on combat rations while in the field, all of which was doused liberally with Tobasco and washed down with beer.



This chow line shows how it was done when outside the killing zone. A mean First Sergeant would have a stroke if this kind of bunching up happened anywhere toward the front lines.



Chapter 6 of the reb story, "Bad Beef and Corn Bread" are self-explanatory, and both tell of how these soldiers filled their stomachs.

A Yankee soldier told a Nashville editor in 1862 about the life of a soldier:

"The soldiers' fare is very rough,
The bread is hard, the beef is tough;
If they can stand it, it will be
Through love of God, a mystery."

And a Reb soldier told his folks about it: "People says that a man borned of woman and enlisted in

Jackson's army is a few days and short rations and I think it is nearly the same way with Longstreets." (* Wiley, Bell Irvin, Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1952, p 224, **Wiley, Bell Irvin, The Bobbs- Merrill Company, 1943, p 93)

As a youngster I was privileged to hear some of the old-timers from both armies, varied ranks, former slaves, and others who remembered the war years. One such acquaintance was a young child living in Murfreesboro, TN, during its occupation by the Union Army. He remembered his mother making a living for the family in the absence of his father, a Confederate, by selling home-made pies to the Union officers. This young man would take the pies to the officers' quarters on a regular basis for sale to whomever would purchase. The pies were made from home grown ingredients, including honey and molasses for sweetening, and as time passed these ingredients became scarce due to the occupation.

This fact was brought to the boy's attention on day by a Union officer who said that he could no longer purchase the pies baked by the boy's mother. The boy asked why and was told: "Your mother's pies are a lot like your Reb soldiers. They don't have enough guts."

A common trait of every soldier, whether American or other, it seems, is to gripe. Most gripes, it also appears, are about the food. Army food is never as good as mom cooked, all would testify. It often made good conversation between personnel of the enlisted ranks and the officer ranks. The higher the rank the more interested this person became in inquiring of the ordinary GI about the army food.

With few exceptions, the GI's answer to the question: "How do you like your chow?" was "Fine, sir". That always closed the conversation and allowed the officer, usually of general grade, an opportunity to pass on to the next victim and ask the same question.

Every company had one GI with enough brass to attempt to get the best of any aggravating brass, and so it was with Company A, 125th Infantry, 32d Infantry Division, my first military assignment. One GI in the company was sometimes successful in his attempts to get the best of his officers. Most of his successes were with young lieutenants, an occasional captain, but never a field or general grade officer, because they were rarely present. He had high hopes, though, and was very vocal about it: "You just wait till one of them so and sos asks me how I like this lousy chow. I'll tell him a mouthful." This was heard day in and day out until this loud-mouth obtained the soubriquet of You-Tell-Em.

You-Tell-Em got his opportunity the day after the Japs hit Pearl Harbor. The 125th Regiment was detached from the 32nd Division and ordered to California to stop the forthcoming Jap invasion of the West Coast. Train load after train load left Camp Livingston on its way west and each soldier was interviewed by the commanding general. This was not the usual "How do you like the army?" sort of thing, but the old man was putting his heart into this farewell. He was spending so much time with each individual soldier that many of us thought the war would be over before he finished his good-bys. You-Tell-Em was doing his usual griping, but as the day wore on he began having just a little compassion for the General. Eventually the General appeared in front of You-Tell-Em, who was standing at

ease as usual, and as quick as a flash asked "How do you like the chow?"

It happened so suddenly that You-Tell-Em was taken by surprise, apparently. He snapped to with all the force and swiftness of an alligator catching a catfish and loudly acclaimed "Fine, Sir; Fine, Sir". He said it twice before realizing what he had done. I'll never know, but I suspect the General had been briefed on You-Tell-Em, and he knew why an entire company, standing at attention, suddenly cracked-up with laughter. Needless to say, You-Tell-Em's nickname soon changed to "Fine, Sir; Fine, Sir." And it broke him from further griping.

At the end of the three-day pass Sgt. Slagle returned. He was sober, and the truck was empty except that it was loaded with one 25-pound can of coffee. Good old American roasted and packed coffee, enough to provide more than a canteen cup of piping hot coffee to every man in the platoon, with plenty to spare. This was one of those welcome surprises that happens, none too often to the men in the field. The platoon was now ready for the victory breakfast.

Helping with the festivities: Service Company furnished several cans of that delicious bacon from Denmark; the local German bakery was happy to contribute from its best stock of black bread; champagne, thanks to Sgt. Herbst, keeper of the warehouse; powdered eggs with garlic and Tabasco sauce, canned peaches and snot buns from Headquarters kitchen. This last item was a specialty of the Headquarters Company baker. This Master Baker could produce this most delightful pastry, under the most primitive condition, by inserting a creamy mixture inside an ordinary piece of baked dough. When congratulated for his skill as a master baker, he passed it off by saying "Oh they're just some old snot buns". What he contemptuously called snot buns, were without equal, over there, over here, army or civilian.

In more recent times this victory breakfast could have been called a prayer breakfast. It wasn't called a prayer breakfast because it wasn't. It was, however, a prayerful breakfast- good coffee, good companionship, war finished, home soon, good thoughts. Everything was present to make it full to overflowing and one to remember.

The Regimental Commander Colonel Crabill, by chance, was taking his constitutional that morning and just happened to be passing the MP billets. Had he tried, he could not have failed to smell the wonderful aroma of that freshly-made coffee. Nothing Paris had to offer could have smelled half so good. His senses made him realize something good was happening and his nose led him right into the MP kitchen.

The war had not been finished long enough for the army to discontinue the practice of posting a sentry at every stop, and our guard was doing his duty just outside the kitchen door. When he saw the Colonel approaching, he called attention, and when I heard this I rushed out to see what was happening. Col Crabill stood there, neat and trim, but with a slight grin on his face. I reported to him in my best military manner, and he answered my report by observing "There are two people in this division have coffee this morning, and one of them is the Commanding General". I quickly replied "Would the Colonel like to be the other one?" This must have been the correct answer, for he just as quickly answered in the affirmative. Soon he was drinking coffee, eating snot buns, reminiscing with the Regular Army NCO's about the olden days; just like he was one of us again.

NEWS FOR THUNDERBOLT

Deadline Changes Will Be Oct. 5 - Jan. 5 -
April 5 - June 5

This will be effective starting Jan. 5, 1990

Laddie Lawrence submitted this Xmas Menu from 329 Hq. Co, 1944:

XMAS DINNER
329 Hq. Company 1944
Grapefruit Juice
Roast Turkey Gibleb Gravy
Buttered Green Beans Beets
Bread Butter Marble Cake
Sliced Peaches Coffee
Cigarettes Candy

The turkey, according to Lawrence, was baked with a covering of dough, in a German bakery oven, and was delicious. It was probed by the "Snot Buns" baker.

Another reader sent a clipping from an August 1 story in The New York Times entitled "Last Widow Keeping The Confederacy Alive".

It was the story of Daisy Cave, who is believed to be the last living widow of a Confederate Army veteran, Henry Benjamin Cave, who died in 1929 at the age of 85. They were married in 1919 when she was 20.

She quoted her husband, who told her "They liked to starve to death and he was just hungry all the time", she said. Sometimes, she said, they ate rats and they was glad to get them." Then there was the time he put a kernel of corn on a fish hook and lured a goose from a farmer's yard.

The farmer chased him and the goose bit him, but he had a meal, according to the Times story.

Atterbury tribute cites 83rd

From Staff Reports

A small white chapel nestled in the confines of Camp Atterbury was the setting Saturday for a home-coming of World War II infantrymen who met to honor the heroes of their division.

Members of the Kentucky Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association paid a proud tribute to the 4,000 fellow fighters who lost their lives fighting for freedom.

The division was the first trained at Atterbury, making the chapel a fitting place for a memorial ceremony.

A PLAQUE headed by the word Thunderbolt - a second name adopted by the division for its characteristic swiftness in battle - and inscribed with a message saluting the "real heroes" of the war was hung at the chapel's entrance.

Over a balcony, members hung a black and gold banner handquilted by Mary Belle Wright in memory of her husband John, a member of the 83rd Division, who died several years ago.

The banner displays five gold stars, one for each of the five battles fought by the 83rd, and an inverted triangle enclosing interior circles and lines forming the word Ohio. About 80% of the division's first members originated from that state.

Columbus resident Ames Miller, chairman of the division association, said the gathering carried special meaning for the group, which meets annually in different U.S. cities.

"WE'RE HONORING the people who didn't come home."

Association President Charles Schmidt traced the history of the 83rd Division's wartime maneuvers, mentioning

each of battles at Normandy, Bittany, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe.

The division was the first to join the Russians and finish the war.

"All in all, it's one of the finest divisions that ever fought on the continent of the United States. It is one of the most famous divisions ever put in the United States Army," he said.



CHAPEL DEDICATION

On November 18, 1989, about 20 members of the Kentucky Chapter met at Camp Atterbury, Ind. for the dedication of the remodeled non-denominational Chapel in honor of all the members of the 83rd Division who paid the supreme price of freedom with their lives. This Chapel is the same type that most of us attended during our basic training era and not the P.O.W. Chapel that was erroneously reported in the last issue of the Thunderbolt.

This was a very nice affair. It started with idea that Helen and Ames Miller had and with the help of the Camp Commander Col. Stachel became a reality.

Jim Burton gave a fine rendition of "How Great Thou Art" and "My Buddy". He was accompanied by Susan Kyle on piano who at the tender age of 14 worked at the Civilian Mess Hall during the time we were there.

Charlie Schmidt related the History of the 83rd Infantry from WWI to WWII giving in detail each phase of our training in Camp Atterbury, the Tennessee maneuvers, England and Wales and the 5 battles we participated in until we reached the Elbe river.

There were about 20 members of the 83rd. Arcon which is part of the modern day 83rd Infantry who also attended the dedication. They were under the Command of General Gibbs who congratulated Charlie Schmidt on his fine commentary about the 83rd, stating that only a man who had been through it could present it the way Charlie did. It really made me proud to be an 83rd member.

Ames Miller presented a Plaque to the Camp Commander Col. Stachel. It will hang on the left wall of the vestibule as you enter the Chapel.

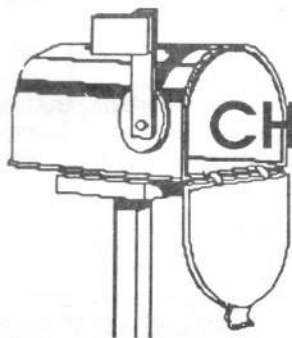
Chester Wilson presented the quilted Banner with the 83rd emblem, made by Mary Belle Wright in honor of her husband, Jay Wright, to Col. Stachel. It will hang from the balcony in the rear of the Chapel and can be seen by all as they are leaving the Chapel.

If anyone is ever in the vicinity of Camp Atterbury, stop by the Chapel #1 Building 416. It is very meaningful.

The Dedication ended at the Officers Club where snacks and refreshments were served along with the comradeship with members of the present day forces.

Camp Atterbury weather has not changed in the 47 years since we were there, it is still cold and windy.

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



CHAPTER NEWS

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

The men and women of the Warren Chapter, would like to start the New Year off with a big "HELLO" to all of you nice people in the 83rd Association and wish everyone good health, good luck and happiness for 1990. Our deepest sympathy to the families of our members who died in 1989 and our special prayers for complete recoveries to all of you, who are ill in hospitals or at home. One of our old friends is in this category. Sam Klippa from Pittsburgh. We also wish continued good health to Loyal Pangle in Flushing, Michigan. We miss seeing Loyal and Kate at our Reunions.



Warren Chapter Golf/Steak Fry - October 1989



The Warren Chapter and Ladies Auxilliary continue to hold monthly meetings on the third Sunday of each month. Angle and Joe Phillipone were our genial host for our November meeting. Our annual December Christmas party was held at the 422 Cafe on the Strip and it is still a thrill to observe our Happy, Lovely, Ageless ladies, sitting at the tables enjoying our big event of the year. They never look older and are still as beautiful as they were forty years ago.

Enclosed are some snapshots taken at our annual golf/steak fry outing in October. Charlie Tomazin cut the steaks and cooked them on the barbecue to perfection. A great day for a great group of people, most of whom have been members and friends for well over forty years.

Our chapter golf league finished another successful season on November 14th. Ted Halubka was our medalist playing to a -o- handicap. Our most improved golfer was Babe Gautschi, who reduced his handicap by 5 strokes and although Mike Skovran really played some fine golf, he also had a few bad rounds and ended up with the "Hacker" of the Year" award by buying coffee and doughnuts 62% of the 26 weeks played...We started our Bowling League on November 21st. Mike is one of our best bowlers, so he will get even with us during the winter.

Some of our members are already making plans to attend the Dixie Chapter meeting on March 22,23,24 in Williamsburg, VA. We sure had a great time there last year and look forward to visiting some more of the Historical sights in the area.

I just received the very sad news from Mike Mizerock of the Cleveland Chapter, that our old friend Casey Kowalec passed away on December 30th. All of us in the Warren Chapter, extend our deepest sympathy to Laura and her family. Casey had a friendly smile for everyone he met and will be sadly missed by the entire Association.

Well that is all of the news from Warren for now. We are happy to report that we seem to be well and healthy going into the winter months. So tata and see you in Pittsburgh in August.

LeRoy Titus
Warren Chapter

WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

If you are in or near Wheeling, West Virginia in December or January there is a very spectacular event that you should see. It is the "Festival of Lights at Oglebay Park". You can drive through or take a bus tour. It is a five mile drive and takes about two and one half hours, due to heavy traffic, to see it all. (a half million lights). It is the largest light show in the United States. It is not expensive (only a donation). It began in 1985 and has been successful beyond their imagination. It is worth the trip to see.



L. to R. Charles Marsh, Sandi and Tony DiDio, Esta and Don Getty.



L. to R. Estella, Cathy and Walter Sobel

The West Virginia Chapter had a get together at Glen Dale to see The Lights. With plenty of snacks and drinks and an exchange of Christmas Gifts. Two boxes of candy were given away, (won by Esta Pettry and Walter Sobel). All had a good time. Those present were: Estella and Walter Sobel, Louise and "Charles March, Tress and Chauncy Hunt, Sandi and Anthony DiDio, David Baker, Freeda and John Hobbs, Esta and Don Pettry.



Tress and Chauncy Hunt

That's All
Don Pettry
"B" 323 F.A.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Again it is a pleasure to report that the Chapter's Christmas Party was a huge success. The party was held on December 9th at Ruggles Inn. Everyone had a great time. The food was delicious and plenty of it. The service was excellent. I am glad to report that the bar had a good workout! All of the women looked great in their Christmas corsages that the Club furnished with Al Uridel doing the honors of pinning the corsages on. He volunteered for the job. The Earl Lindsey's and the Mike Mizerock's deserve a big thank for hosting this shindig. A great job gang. Even Santa and Mrs. Claus made their annual appearance and the members had their picture taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. It took a long time before anybody recognized them as Al Uridel and Alice. It was a pleasure to see all of the people who had health problems the past year, at the party, and all looked great, Delores Jocek, Marge Miller, Ann Christopher, Ed Glinka.

On behalf of the chapter, I want to give a great big thank you to Mary Jane Owen, the wife of Warren for the beautiful Christmas tree ornament that she made for the Chapter members. It was a ceramic teddy bear with the 83rd Insignia on it. It looked great on the Christmas tree. Thanks again Mary Jane. Incidentally the Warren Owen's became grandparents for the 9th time. Congratulations. Also it was the Szubski's and not the Kowalec's that became grandparents as reported in the last issue. Larry and

Angle Coladangelo's are heading south for the winter. Mike and Ann Mizerock are in California to visit the children and grandchildren. Mike appointed George Calore as the acting mess Sgt. Better be good George. Would you believe the Cleveland Chapter is looking and making arrangements for a bus to take us to Omaha. Nothing like planning ahead. A special thanks should be given to the Christopher's for donating a poinsettia plant at the Christmas party. It was WON By Emily Czech. Thanks Dom and Ann.

Our deepest sympathy to Al Uridel and his family on the death of his sister. In February we will have election of officers.

Anyone wanting to join the Cleveland Chapter call Bob Grobelny at 216-449-5085. The Chapter meets the Third Sunday of the month in Bedford, Ohio. Give Bob a call. Finally the Cleveland Chapter is as strong as ever and not making a comeback as told by one individual as reported in the last issue.

Bob Uher
"B" 329th

KENTUCKY CHAPTER NEWS

The Kentucky Chapter held their Fall meeting in the quaint river town of Vevay Indiana, which is located about 50 miles Southwest of Cincinnati on the Ohio river. We stayed in the beautiful Ogle House Inn on the bank of the Ohio.

The meeting was co-hosted by Nancy and Bill Ledger and Helen and Ames Miller. They did a grand job of supplying about 40 members, wives and friends with snacks and drinks.

On Saturday some members took a tour of some of the old homes and Markland Dam, while others went shopping in the antique shops in Vevay.

Our President for the past 4 years, Chester Wilson, presided over his last meeting as this was election night and Chester declined to run again. Floyd Richmond was nominated and was elected our new President for the next 2 years. Charlie Schmidt remained Vice President. Manny Goodridge stayed on as Secretary/Treasurer and gave a complete and very accurate report on the financial status of the Chapter and Reunion. The Chapter is in good shape financially and we made about \$3700 from the Reunion which was turned over to the National Secretary/Treasurer.

Vi and I did not attend the Dixie Chapter Christmas party at Gatlinburg or the Kentucky Chapter Christmas Party at Natural Bridge, Ky. as we needed the time to do Christmas decorating, to get ready for out of town family visitors. Vi put up 15 little "Christmas trees, all different, displayed 30 Santas or St. Nicks plus other decorations. Our home looked very festive and our family and friends enjoyed looking and being part of it. Well family members came and went. We had a great time together but we missed being with all our friends in the Dixie Chapter. We had not planned on attending the Kentucky Chapter Christmas party. Charlie and Kathleen Schmidt will write about that. From what we heard, it was a good one and everyone enjoyed a good time.

I am taking it on myself as spokesman for the Kentucky Chapter to wish each and everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year and may we all meet again in Pittsburgh.

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

On Dec. 31st. as I was getting my article ready for mailing we received a phone call from Kathleen Schmidt telling us of the untimely death of our good friend and national Chaplin, Casey Kowalec. This came as a great shock to his family and many friends. Vi and I got to know Casey through the years of attending many Reunions and by letters. He will certainly be missed by all who knew him. He was truly a great man. Life is so very precious, let's not waste it. Our Sincere Condolences to Laura and family.

Wilson Day



Our meeting and Christmas party was held on December 2nd and 3rd at Slade, Kentucky - Bridge State Park. Floyd Richmond, our new President presided and we had an excellent meeting with our new chaplin, Owen Jones, giving the Invocation and the Benediction and very capable Secretary and Treasurer Manny Goodridge giving his usual excellent reports.

The group from Stanton hosted the meeting and party and it was really a grand party. So many goodies in the food line and libations by the ooles. Nora Lee Walters had a goodie bag for every one and also door prizes - each prize was nicer than the other. Those winning the door prizes were - Wanda Haydon, Marvin Haydon, Ames Miller, Owen Jones, Homer Richenbaugh and Bonnie Hoover.

For entertainment we had a square dance caller and clogger with the music for each. Archie Lee and Hershel McIntosh played the Dulcimer and guitar with music we could all relate to. It was excellent. To finish off the very lively evening Avalon Goodridge played the piano and we sang along.

Early in the evening snow started falling and although it was scary in the mountains but a beautiful sight in the valleys and the mountains. Pictures were taken by anyone who had brought a camera.

On Sunday, on the way home, Nora Lee and Cecil Walters invited all to stop at their home where there were more goodies of all kinds. It was a group finale of a fine affair.

If things are as planned our next meeting in March or April will be in Owensboro, Kentucky with Tom and Gail Hensley as hosts.

Those attending our Christmas meeting and Party were - Nora Lee and Cecil Walters, Imagine and Hershell McIntosh, Clara and Leroy Johnson and Linda, Gail and Tom Hensley, Avalon and Manny Goodridge, Jessie and Larry Dalton, Owen and Jeanette Jones, Floyd and Alterta Richmond, Helen and Chester Wilson, Bonnie and Earl Hoover, Wanda and Marvin Haydon, Pearl and Bob Derickson. Dorothy and Alex Ford, Fred Fowler and Margaret Stoke, Helen and Ames Miller, Anne Lee and Archie Lee, Anne and James Duncan, Bess and Gordon Acton, and Ruth and Homer Rickinbaugh.

Charlie Schmidt
Acting for Wilson Day-Reporter

BOSTON CHAPTER REPORT



Boston Chapter Christmas Party



Pat and Gin DiGiammerino attended a family wedding in Florida and vacationed there for a couple of weeks. They visited with Ralph Gunderson and his wife in West Palm Beach and also Lou Sandine who is having fun in the sun. Lou you should have stayed here where it is nice and cool. Pat spent a lot of R & R on Pompano Beach.

The winners in our Christmas raffle were Cliff Lemke of Florida, John Tynan of West Roxbury, George White of Martha's Vineyard, Nancy Tynan of West Roxbury and George Barry of Malden. Thanks to the people that helped make the raffle a success.

Charlie Miller, our retiring President has done a terrific job for several years. The Boston Chapter Salutes him and his lovely wife, Arlene, who also did a great job as first lady of the Boston Chapter.

Elected President Charles Lussler of A.T. Company 331st Infantry. Boston is looking forward to having a successful year ahead. Charlie Lussler had a Christmas party at the Ramada Inn in Seakonk, Ma. Outgoing President



Sam & Thelma from N.Y. at Boston Chapter Christmas Party.



(Continued on page 19)

NO. 30926
CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION
THE 83RD. INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

FIRST. The name of the corporation is: The 83rd. Infantry Division Association Incorporated.

SECOND. Its principal office in the District of Columbia is located at 1115 Seventeenth St., N.W. Washington, D.C. The name and address of its resident agent is The Infantry Journal, 1115 seventeenth St., Washington, D.C.

THIRD. The nature of business to be transacted, promoted or carried on is: The object of this Association shall be to exist permanently as a National Organization and to bring together those who have served with the 83rd. Infantry Division, United States Army during World War II. It is hereby expressly provided that this Corporation shall also have the following powers, viz: To prepare and maintain at all times records of all members of the Association as well as records of those persons who are eligible to membership in this Association. To furnish information and assistance to its membership with respect to any and all matters affecting their rights and benefits under any present or future legislation enacted by Congress or any State Legislature. To acquire, erect, equip, maintain and operate such buildings, club rooms, and other facilities for meetings of members, maintenance of records, preservation and exhibition of Historical documents, books, paintings, prints, War material and other objects as well as for the administration of the affairs of the Association as may be deemed advisable.

To enter into, make, perform or carry out contracts of every kind with any Firm, person, Corporation or Association; to do any acts necessary or expedient for carrying on any or all of the objects and purposes of this Corporation not forbidden by this Certificate of Incorporation, or its By-laws, or by the laws of the District of Columbia, but only through such officers or Special Agents as may be designated.

To have offices and promote and carry on its objects and purposes within or without the District of Columbia, in other States, the Territories or Possessions of the United States, and in Foreign Countries.

Acting through its Executive Board, its President, its Secretary or Special Agents herein designated, subject to the powers and restrictions of this Certificate of Incorporation and its By-laws, this Corporation is empowered to do all and only such acts as are necessary or convenient to the attainment of the objects and purposes herein set forth, and to the same extent and as fully as any natural person might or could do.

In general, to have all powers conferred upon a Corporation by the laws of the District of Columbia except as herein prohibited by the By-laws of this Corporation.

To provide a means for collecting and disseminating information and for making studies of any reports on important subjects of interest to its members.

To print, publish and distribute, or arrange for its printing, publication and distribution to its members, of a magazine, newspaper or other periodical with full power to sell the advertising space therein.

FOURTH. This Corporation shall be a membership Corporation and shall have no capital stock. The Corporation is not organized, and shall not be conducted for profit, and no part of its revenues or earnings shall inure to the benefits of its members. Except as otherwise provided in the Certificate of Incorporation, the conditions, method of admission, qualifications and classification of membership, the limitations, rights, powers and duties of members, the method of expulsion from the termination of membership, limitations upon or qualifications of voting power, and all other matters pertaining to the membership and the conduct, management and control of the business, property and affairs of the Corporation shall be provided from time to time in the By-laws of the Corporation.

FIFTH. The names and places of residence of each of the original Incorporators are as follows: all residents of the District of Columbia and Citizens of the United States.

Alan F.S. Mackenzie, 3717 "T" St. N.W. Washington, D.C.

Gurney S. Jaynes, Company "C", 712th. M.P. Bn., Army War College.

Daniel G. Hagman, 1465 Columbia Road, N.W. Washington, D.C.

SIXTH. The existence of this Corporation is to be perpetual.

SEVENTH. The private property of the members shall not be subject to the payment of Corporate debts to any extent whatsoever.

EIGHTH. The affairs and business of the Corporation shall be managed by an Executive Board, members of such board to be known as directors, the members of such board to be as set forth in the By-laws (but not less than three), the members of which shall be originally named, chosen, appointed or elected by the Incorporators and thereafter any and all vacancies in such Executive Board occasion by death, resignation or otherwise, shall be filled from time to time by the method provided in the By-laws of the Corporation. Such Executive Board shall have the power to adopt By-laws for the regulations and government of the affairs and business of the Corporation and to amend, alter, change or repeal such By-laws from time to time and, within the limitations of this Certificate of Incorporation, to provide for their compensation; for and on behalf of the Corporation to purchase and convey real and personal property and to mortgage or lease any of such real or personal estate.

NINTH. Both members and Board shall have powers, if the By-laws so provide, to hold their meetings, and to have one or more offices within or without the District of Columbia, and to keep the books of this Corporation (subject to the provisions of the statutes) outside the District of Columbia at such places as may be from time to time designated by the Executive Board.

TENTH. The Corporation reserves the right to amend, alter, change or repeal any provisions contained in this Certificate of Incorporation, in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by statute, by the affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present given at any Annual Meeting, or at any Special Meeting of the members called for the purpose, at which a Quorum is present, and all rights conferred upon members herein are granted subject to this reservation.

BYLAWS OF THE 83RD. INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

ARTICLE I - NAME AND OFFICE

SECTION 1. The name of this Association shall be the 83rd. Infantry Division Association Incorporated.

SECTION 2. The principal office of the corporation in the District of Columbia shall be located in the city of Washington, D.C.

SECTION 3. The registered office of the corporation required by law shall be maintained in the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C., and the address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the members of the Executive Board.

SECTION 4. The post office address of the corporation shall be the post office address of the Secretary-Treasurer of the corporation, or such other address as the association may from time to time designate.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

The objectives and purposes of this association are to exist permanently as a National Organization and to bring together men who have served with the 83rd. Infantry Division, United States Army during World War II.

ARTICLE III - CHAPTERS

SECTION 1. The National Association shall grant Charters, at its option, to sectional Chapters under the provisions of the National Association Constitution and Bylaws.

SECTION 2. A membership of not less than ten (10) members in good standing shall be required to obtain such Charters.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

SECTION 1. ELIGIBILITY. No person who has been dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States Army will be eligible for membership.

SECTION 2. ACTIVE MEMBERS. All persons who were assigned to the 83rd. Infantry Division between August 8, 1942, to and including April 30, 1946, may become members of this Association and shall be designated as "ACTIVE MEMBERS".

SECTION 3. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of August in each year, and end on the thirtieth day of July in each year.

SECTION 4. DUES.

(a) Annual Dues shall be in such amount as may be prescribed by the Executive Board, payable in advance, prior to August 1 of each year.

(b) Any Member who attends the Annual Reunion of the Association may, however, make payment of his annual Dues at the time he registers at said Annual Reunion.

SECTION 5. DELINQUENCY AND REINSTATEMENT.

(a) Failure of a Member to pay Dues either prior to August 1 or at the Annual Reunion of the Association of each year shall result in said Member being declared delinquent and said Member shall lose the rights and privileges of Membership and his name shall be dropped from the Roster.

(b) A member dropped because of non-payment of Dues, or a member who has resigned, may be reinstated upon application to and recommendation of the Executive Board and payment of \$2.50 reinstatement fee and Dues for the current fiscal year.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS-QUALIFICATION, NOMINATION AND ELECTION

SECTION 1. OFFICERS. The Elected Officers shall be:

PRESIDENT	SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY-TREASURER	HISTORIAN	EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS (5)
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	THIRD VICE PRESIDENT	CHAPLAIN OR CHAPLAINS	SERGEANT-AT-ARMS (3)	JUDGE ADVOCATE

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATION. All persons nominated or elected for any office must be paid-up members in good standing.

SECTION 3. NOMINATION.

(a) A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President at the Friday Meeting of each Annual Reunion of this Association. The Committee shall consist of five (5) members, as follows:

Two (2) representatives of each Regimental Unit:

Two (2) representatives from Division Artillery:

One (1) representative from Division Special Troop Units.

(b) The representatives comprising the Nominating Committee shall be chosen by Unit Caucus held by the individual Units and shall be so certified by the Units.

(c) The Committee, all of whom must personally register at the Reunion, shall prepare a slate of one candidate for each office, with the exception that the Nominating Committee shall not nominate any person for the Executive Board, and shall submit its list of nominees to the President and Executive Board prior to election. The list of candidates so elected is not subject, however, to the approval of either the President or the Executive Board.

- (d) Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Election Meeting, but persons nominated must be personally registered at the Reunion, provided that three (3) members second said nomination. The person making such nomination shall be given five (5) minutes to address said meeting in support of the person so nominated. There shall be no seconding speeches.
- (e) The members of the Executive Board shall nominate one person for five (5) year term as a member of the Executive Board, and shall present such nomination to the membership for election at the Election Meeting after the election of all other offices has been completed.
- (f) No more than one (1) member from any one Chapter or City shall serve at the same time upon the Executive Board, with the sole exception of the President and First Vice President who shall serve only during their term of office.
- (g) The member who is President during an annual meeting shall not be eligible for the Executive Board until he has been out of the office of President for a period of one (1) year.

SECTION 4. ELECTION

- (a) All persons voting at the Election Meeting must be paid-up members in good standing.
- (b) The officers of this Association shall be elected annually at the Annual Reunion in August.
- (c) Where only one candidate is nominated for an office, vote may be taken by "VOICE VOTE". Whenever there are two or more candidates for any office, election shall be by secret ballot and in such event, a committee shall be appointed by the President to count said ballots. The committee shall be three (3) in number consisting of the National President and the Presidents of two (2) local Chapters: however, the President of any Chapter to which any nominee belongs shall be disqualified as a member of this committee. After the count, the results of the tally shall be announced by the President.
- (d) Each candidate must receive a majority vote to be elected.
- (e) There shall be no voting by proxy.
- (f) There shall be no voting by mail unless the Annual Reunion is not held, and then in that event only the Annual Election shall be conducted by mail in such manner as prescribed by the Executive Board.

SECTION 5. INSTALLATION

- (a) Elected Officers shall be installed at the Banquet on Saturday Evening of the Annual Banquet. Newly elected officers shall assume their duties immediately following installation.
- (b) Retiring officers shall turn over to their successors all books, documents and records no later than thirty (30) days after election.

SECTION 6. VACANCY

- (a) In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the First Vice President shall automatically become President.
- (b) Any other vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term by the majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI - TERM OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1.

Each officer shall serve for a term of one (1) year except as provided by Section 2 of this article.

SECTION 2.

- (a) The regular members of the Executive Board shall serve for a term of five (5) years.
- (b) The National President and the First Vice President shall serve as members of the Executive Board only during the year in which they serve as President and First Vice President.

ARTICLE VII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT. The President shall preside at all Meetings of the membership and shall assist in the formation of all policies of the Association. The President shall have such other duties incident to the office of President and shall have additional powers and duties as may be from time to time prescribed by the Executive Board.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT. The First Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, assume the duties of the President. He shall have such other duties as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the Executive Board.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT. The Second Vice President shall, in the absence of the First Vice President, assume the duties of the First Vice President. He shall have such other duties as may be from time to time, prescribed by the Executive Board.

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT. The Third Vice President shall, in the absence of the Second Vice President, assume the duties of the Second vice president. He shall have such other duties as may be from time to time prescribed by the Executive Board.

SECRETARY-TREASURER. The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for all the Association funds and shall collect all Dues; shall pay out money only after approval of the Executive Board; shall receive and give receipts for monies due and payable for any source whatsoever; shall keep a full and accurate set of books which shall be open to inspection by the Executive Board at any time; shall deposit all monies in the name of the Association in such bank as may be designated by the Executive Board. shall be empowered to sign checks on behalf of the Association; but such checks must be countersigned by either the President or the Chairman of the Executive Board, shall maintain a roster of the membership; shall make a complete report of all transactions at the Annual Meeting; and shall perform all duties incident to the office. He shall furnish a Bond with Corporate Surety in such amount as may be prescribed by the Executive Board at the expense of the Association. The accounts shall be audited once a year by the Executive Board on the Wednesday preceding the official opening of the Annual Reunion. He shall also keep the Minutes of the Meetings of the Association and the Executive Board in one or more books provided for that purpose, and shall perform all duties incident to the office.

JUDGE ADVOCATE. The Judge Advocate shall be the legal advisor of the Association and in particular, of the Executive Board. He shall have such other duties and powers as may be from time to time, prescribed by the Executive Board.

CHAPLAIN. The Chaplain shall have all duties incident to the office of Chaplain and such additional duties as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the Executive Board.

HISTORIAN. The Historian shall keep a permanent chronological record of the progress and events of the Association by collecting material, such as clippings, photographs and other items relative to the affairs of the Association; may, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, re-write the Division History; collect and maintain a file of published and unpublished Unit Histories, pictures, papers and other documents concerning the Division Units; conduct contact work with the Defense Department; and, in conjunction with the Chaplain, contact deceased Members' families and establish the full facts concerning the death of any Division Member.

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS. The Sergeants-at-Arms shall maintain decorum at the Annual Meetings and Elections. They shall have such other duties and powers as may be, from time to time, prescribed by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1. The Executive Board shall consist of five (5) elected members, the President, First Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer and Judge Advocate.

SECTION 2. MEETINGS. A Meeting shall be held each year on the first Saturday in May in the City of the Host Chapter for the next Annual Reunion. The Chairman of the Executive Board may, in his discretion, change both the date and the Meeting place, but in no event shall such Meeting take place less than seventy five (75) days before said Annual Meeting. special Meetings may be called by the Chairman of the Executive Board at any time during the Annual Meeting of this Association.

SECTION 3. POWERS. The Executive Board shall have general charge and management of the affairs, funds, and property of the Association, shall have power to fill all vacancies among the officers for an unexpired term, except as otherwise provided in these By-laws, shall have the power to formulate all statements of policy regarding the affairs of the Association or its Members, and all business involving the expenditure of money must be presented to the Executive Board before being acted upon; shall have the power to adopt By-laws for the regulation and government of the affairs of the Corporation and to amend, change or repeal such By-laws from time to time; and shall have the power to provide for reimbursement for expenses incurred by the Secretary-Treasurer.

SECTION 4. QUORUM. Three (3) members of the five (5) regularly elected members of the Executive Board, and either the President and/or the First Vice President must be present to constitute a quorum.

SECTION 5. VOTING.

(a) Each Executive Board member present at any meeting shall have one vote.

(b) The President and First Vice President shall have the same voting privileges and their votes shall count the same as those of the regularly elected members of the Executive Board.

(c) If the President and First Vice President shall be elected from a Chapter which already has two members serving on the Executive Board which would result in a controlling vote by the particular Chapter, then and in that event it shall be necessary that three (3) members of the regularly elected Executive Board vote affirmatively for any motion to be passed.

(d) There shall be no voting by proxy.

ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

SECTION 1, ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting of this Association shall be held on the third Friday and Saturday of August of each year, unless otherwise determined by the Executive Board.

SECTION 2. NOTICES. In the event of the date of any Annual Meeting shall be changed for any reason whatsoever, notice of such change must be sent to all Members of this Association by the Secretary-Treasurer at least ninety (90) days prior to such Meeting.

ARTICLE X - COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. The President shall appoint a Membership Committee and such other Committees as may be established by the Executive Board.

SECTION 2. The duties of the Membership Committee shall be to secure new Members and further the policies of the Association in matters concerning Membership in the Association. The Membership Committee shall consist of five (5) Members appointed by the President.

SECTION 3. At any Annual Meeting, for any lawful purpose, any Member may suggest the formation of a Committee, to consist of not more than five (5) Members, to accomplish such lawful purpose. Such motion must be seconded by three (3) Members in good standing. If such motion is carried by a majority vote of the Members present, the President shall immediately appoint a "Committee of five (5) Members, and the Chairman of such Committee shall be the person making said motion.

ARTICLE XI

Commanding Generals of the 83rd. Infantry Division during the period aforementioned under Membership shall be Honorary Presidents of the Association but are not Members of the Executive Board as provided under these By-laws.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be altered, amended or repealed by three-fourths (3/4) vote of the Members present at an Annual Meeting. Proposed amendments must be submitted to all Members in written form not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Amendments of urgent nature may be submitted to the Executive Board without the aforesaid notice for its approval and presentation by the Executive Board to the Annual Meeting for immediate action.

(The changes in these By-laws were voted on and approved by the Members in attendance at the 31st. Annual Reunion held in Warren, Ohio on 20 August 1977.)

Miller was Santa Claus. Fun was had by all. Most of the folks stayed for the weekend. Nancy and I had to come for a family breakfast that Sunday. Hy Goodman also went home as he was only five miles away.

I am told that Mike Malik of V.F.W. 145 Harris-Rogers Post gave out ex-large hats. However, the heads were big. Frank Scott did get his on. Thanks to Mike for bringing the hats. It was a good effort on his part.

Walter Koss missed the party as at this time he is cold in Florida. The Sun is shining in Boston Walt.

Dallas Williams tells me his family is moving back to North Carolina this year. We should be seeing more of him in attendance.

I want to thank Bernie Jean Cove along with Sam and his wife. (Sam I am sorry I don't remember your last name.) I know you are the Best Baker in New York. I hope to see you all at the Pines Hotel in South Fallsburg, New York.

I am going to try to get to Williamsburg, Va. in March to meet with the Yankee's. Nancy and I are making plans now.

Our new Boston President Charles Lussier comes from a family of 21. He had seven brothers in World War II. Six went to the Army and one went to the Navy. His sisters assisted their parents in writing letters. Charlie tells me his family was very close. I am now learning why he was always first in the chow line. He had early training.

Pat DiGiammerino just called with the news of Casey Kowolec's death. Condolences to Lara and the family.

I must get this report out in the mail. Have a nice St. Patrick's Day March 17th.

AMBY TYNAN
BOSTON CHAPTER

BOSTON CHAPTER

Seven Lussier Brothers

Fight For Uncle Sam in Army, Navy

Seven brothers from one of the largest families in this city, originally numbering 21 children, are now in the service of their country because somehow the totalitarian threat to the American way of living was "a family affair."

They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Gaudiace Lussier, 21 Notre Dame Street, residents of the East End of the city for about 45 years. Mr. and Mrs. Lussier were the parents of 21 children, 15 of whom are living.

Two sons are in the Navy and five are in the Army. Ludger Lussier, a corporal, is stationed with the medical corps in Australia, having been inducted in November, 1940, and trained at Camp Edwards.

Napoleon, also a corporal, was inducted in September, 1940, and is stationed at the Boston Harbor Defenses. A graduate of the Bradford Durfee Textile School, he was an employee of the Superba Towel Shop.

Rene, private first class, formerly employed by the Sunshine Biscuit Company in New York City, is stationed with the quartermaster corps at Camp Kilmer, N.J.

Charles, a private first class, was inducted in October, 1942, trained at Camp Atterbury, Ind., and is on maneuvers in Tennessee.

Laurent, a private, was graduated from the Monsignor Prevout High School and is stationed at Fort Devens.

On the Navy side of the family is Roland, pharmacist's mate second class, who was employed at a steel plant in Ohio before enlisting in the Navy. He was trained at Norfolk, Va., and now is on active duty aboard ship somewhere at sea.

BOSTON CHAPTER REUNION

5th ANNUAL Pines Get-Together

Another great get-together is planned by the Boston Chapter at the Pines Hotel in the Catskills, So. Fallsburg, N.Y. on

April 29 - May 3 1990 (Sun-Thurs.)

All 83rd Members and their friends are welcome.



For any information, contact
Bruce Seigel at The Pines at Toll Free
In NYS 1-800-36-PINES or
Outside NYS 1-800-431-3124
or Pat DiGiammerino at 1-617-322-2754 or
drop a line to Pat at 36 E. Border Rd., Malden, MA 02148.

Cordially,
THE PINES HOTEL
Bruce B. Seigel
Director of Sales

Andre J., a graduate of the Monsignor Prevost High School, a member of the Fall River Symphony Orchestra and former newspaper carrier for The Herald News, has reported to the Newport Naval Training Station for basic training.

With all these boys in one family, Mr. Lussier reminisces, there always was "plenty going on." Theirs was a close family circle, he said, and although it's hard to have them gone, both he and Mrs. Lussier are "proud to lend them to Uncle Sam until this war is won."

In a way, it's the picture of that family circle his boys carry in their minds that gives them a tangible ideal to fight for, he explained.

"When they went away, I told them: 'Do your duty. Do your best to defend your mother and your family.' They said, 'We'll do that, dad,' -- and they are doing it, too. All seven of them," he added.

Does the mailman call often at the Lussier home? "You bet he does," Mr. Lussier exclaimed. He himself doesn't have time to sit down and write too often, but two daughters at home make it a point to see to it that all seven get a complete report of family doings.

Formed Orchestra

Describing pre-war life in his home, Mr. Lussier recalled how much fun he used to have "sitting in my Morris chair and listening to the orchestra they had." Two played violins, one cornet, one saxophone, one clarinet, one saxophone, one clarinet, one drums and another a piano. "They would never let one another miss a note" he laughed.

Three of his sons are married and he has four grandchildren.



Roland

Charles

Napoleon

Laurent

Almost no dad with a son in the service can resist the opportunity of talking to a boy in uniform who resembles his son. Mr. Lussier finds he has that habit, too.



Rene

Ludger

Andre

"I never see a soldier or a sailor--but what I think maybe it's one of my own coming home from somewhere around the world. Of course, it's hardly ever one of my own sons I meet that way--but, you know, talking to a boy in uniform, I get the feeling, somehow, that it is one of my own I'm talking with," he said.

"I'm proud of our seven sons. They're in there to win. And they'll do it!"

RATES & ACCOMMODATIONS PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

	<u>DOUBLE</u>	<u>SINGLE</u>	<u>TRIPLE</u>
SUPER DELUXE	\$242.00	N/A	\$237.00
DELUXE	\$227.00	\$291.00	\$222.00

Rates include Tax and Gratuities for dining room and maid service, bellhops and bartenders are not included.

A refundable deposit of \$40.00 per person required to guarantee room. All rooms assigned on a 1st come 1st served basis.

Make Check Payable to: **THE FINES HOTEL**

Send \$40.00 refundable deposit to:

ATT: 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc.
c/o THE PINES Resort Hotel
So. Fallsburg, NY 12779

83rd THUNDERBOLT PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Three Full Gourmet Meals Served Daily
- Nightly Top Star Entertainment, Two Big Bands For Your Listening & Dancing Pleasure
- Free Golf on Pines Private Golf Course
- Complete Banquet with Smorgasbord Open Bar Cocktail Party
- Indoor Pool, Health Clubs, Tennis Facilities
- Special Track Night with 83rd Presentation Race
- All Hotel Taxes and Gratuities
- Prizes and Surprises

The Pines, Toll-Free:
Outside N.Y. State **800-431-3124**
Inside N.Y. State **800-36-PINES**

Name

Address.....

City.....State.....

Zip.....Tel.....

No. in Party.....No. Rooms Requested.....

Accommodations Desired.....

Name and Address of Roommates or other Guests

Chapter Affiliation.....

- CHECK IN TIME 3:00 PM
- MAKE ALL DEPOSITS PAYABLE TO: **THE PINES**
- ALL DEPOSITS MUST BE PAID BY MARCH 25, 1990
- BALANCE PAID ON DAY OF ARRIVAL
- MASTERCARD AND VISA, CASH OR PERSONAL CHECK FOR PAYMENT

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWS

On December 2nd we had our annual Christmas Party at the Marriott in Providence R.I. and it was a great success. We had Jim & Dot Brennan, Helen & Joe Petrucci & Al & Ann Tarfoglia from R. I., Mike and Marie Champey, Ray & Isabelle Orsini, Burt & Rose Simons, Simon & Kathleen Etzel from Conn., Dutchy & Helen Smith, Nick and Mary Francullo of Lynn Mass., August (Mousi) & Hazle Farias of New Bedford Mass., John & Ester Ferriers of Chelmsford Mass., Manny & Mary Sousa of Chelmsford, Mass., Bill & Jeanette McKee of Three Rivers, Mass. & Dick & Flo Tamberini of Swampsco Mass.



Men and Women of New England Chapter



We would like to thank Dot and Jim Brennan who put this great party on and for Jim who made those great center pieces and they were won by Nick Francullo, Mary Sousa, Helen Petrucci and Mike Chanpey.

After dinner we all took off for the Chapter Room for more hospitality and to have a visit from good old St. Nick. He was great to all of our girls and then he took off to see all the young girls in the hotel lobby where he was a great success again. On Sunday morning we all had breakfast and all headed for home. Thanks Jim and Dot again for such a good time.

The New England Chapter would like to welcome to our Chapter and to National Nathaniel and Mary Wentworth Jr. of Canton Mass. Thanks to Bill and Betty Davis who was at Fort Devens and met Nate, who did not know we had an association. We have found another stray Nate Wentworth M.C. 331st, Welcome Home Nate.

We would like to extend our sympathy to Bill and Betty Davis on the passing of Bettys Mother Nov. 25, 1989 "Vira Chase" she was 88 yrs. old.

We missed you all Bill and Betty at our Christmas Party and your jokes. Hal Hal

The New England Chapter are all praying for Bill and Jeanette McKees grand daughter who is very sick.

Sorry that Ray & Helen Rudd could not make our Christmas Party due to sickness. We missed you all too and for all our members who did not make our party, you missed a good time and we all missed seeing you.

Well that is all the news for now HQ, Yes New England Chapter have some members who have not paid there dues and we know that you just forgot, so first chance let me hear from you.

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

P.S. On Dec. 3rd Sunday night my wife, Mary Francullo said that her left side felt numb so on Monday we went to the Doctor and checking her out, he said that she had a very mild stroke. She did not lose her strength so that is good news. Hoping in time she will be O.K.

DIXIE CHAPTER

I trust this finds you both well and ready for a festive holiday season. We are busy here in the land of the most unusual snow, cold Maryland country side. We are hoping to see you both in Williamsburg in March when spring gets rolling again.

We have had two Dixie meetings since I last wrote. We were in Stone Mountain, Georgia in October. Truly a beautiful spot of the South. There were 52 present for our banquet. The Evergreen Center, our facility was fabulous. Our great people really made it a most enjoyable occasion. George Lamar came and spent a day with us. He and men like him are truly an inspiration to all of us. He has dedicated his life to help the veterans. We enjoyed so much getting to know him.

The Viglione's, Tony and Willie kept us busy and well supplied with goodies. Thanks to Vi and Wilson Day for coming all the way from Cincinnati and for bringing their friend, Pauline. I enjoyed her jokes so much. Thanks Pauline. Sorry about that folding seat, Wilson, but at least you saved the girls.

Earl and Fran McDonald showed up in their huge Motor Home. Also Bill and Lill Benbow in their travel van from Baltimore and parts north. Happy to report that O.L. Cook survived the cold to see the end of the Laser Show on the Mountain. But we could not get him to tell us "Sissies" how it ended. Guess we'll leave it to try again next year.

Gatlinburg Dixie Christmas party had about 175 attending the banquet. Ruby and Carroll Brown were our wonderful hosts. As usual they outdid themselves. Thanks again to all who came and participated in the affair. We missed those who had to cancel. Ben Johnson, we wanted especially to see you there.

The kiddies and grown ups were treated by Santa and Mrs. Claus. Don and Diane Church do a great job in their role. Thanks James and Ellen Freeman for coming and helping.

Our guest list reads like "Who's, Who" of the 83rd. We had six National Past Presidents with us. Ralph and Geri Gunderson came from Florida. V.B. Atchison and Mildred came from Texas. Dick Riddle and Lessie with Dick's buddies who got together after all these years. We had music and dancing with special guest Ava Barber as vocalist. We enjoyed her so much.

We left early and stopped for breakfast in Pigeon Forge at the Cracker Barrel--Mister Cracker Barrel, John Cox, was there with his wife Ginny to greet us along with John and Freeda Hobbs. See you all in Williamsburg in March.

Where were you Loonie Kidd? I told everyone you were going to be there with us.

Seeee you Williamsburg,
Ellsworth Massie



Left to Right: E. Massie, Geo Lamarr, F.M. Haney



Wilson Day, Geo Lamarr, E. Massie, Tory Viglione, Earl McDonald, F.M. Haney



The McCory Family

HAPPY 1990 EVERYONE "FROM DIXIE"

Hope everyone had a very nice, healthy, Love of God and their fellow man Christmas.

Our Christmas Party in Gatlinburg was one of the best. Carol and Ruby Btown and their helpers are Pros on this one. Ava Barber, formerly with Lawrence Band was the vocalist with band on Saturday night. Also Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus gave out gifts. There was 168 adults and 7 children at the Banquet. Cliff Milton won \$127.00 from 50/50 also Pat Turner & Dorcas Greem won \$64.00 from 50/50. Signed up 4 new members. Vernon BoBo from Tenn.--- Ralph Gunderson, Florida---John Hudnell, Kentucky---and William Ledger, Tenn. Alas John D. Hannah being reinstated after being "lost" for a while. Welcome everyone.

Our meetings in 1989 were in Williamsburg, V. (John & Virginia Fox) Nashville, Tenn. (James R. McCroy and Fami



Ladies of Dixie Chapter
Jerry Riddle, Catherine Massie, Clara Sharpe



J.J. & Hazel Hudnell, R.T. & Betty Brooks
Dick & Lessie Riddle



"Together Again After 45 Years"
J.J. Hudnell, Dick Riddle, R.T. Brooks

ly) Stone Mt., Georgia (Tony & Willie Viglione) and Gatlinburg, Tenn. We have had good meetings and good attendance and lots of fellowship and fun. Thanks to hard work and dedicated Chapter Members. 22 new members joined in 1989. We still miss and want the ones that are not coming and paying their dues. For whatever reason. Our next meeting will be Williamsburg, Va March 22, 23 and 24 at Westpark Hotel. So Y'All pack those suitcases and come on for a delightful week-end with friends. Our chapter is saddened by the death and problems of our loved ones. Jessie Pirkle has had cancer surgery. All is well so the Doctor says. Knowing Jessie he will be telling jokes and being his usual jolly self for quiet awhile.

David Dillard was unable to attend meeting in Gatlinburg. His daughter, Edith was with us. We missed you David and Lois. Stella Gust, with her spunk is coping with her sudden disability also. Dan is there with that good-looking shoulder to support her. Keep smiling Stella.

Mary Muldrow, wife of Buck has had problems too.

Hang in there Mary. We want to see you and Buck real soon as a regular.

Ben Johnson and Pat were also missed. He is making tapes of past and present meetings and reunions. Real good. Ben is one of our newer members. Francis you were missed also.

God stepped in and called others to join "His Flock". Frank McNeil left us on December 19. What a shock. He and Eleanor was with us in Gatlinburg. Always a smile and fussing at Lessie for smoking.

Joe Asbill--a dear friend. He did not attend too many meetings. Due to health he could not be in crowds. "The War" was not kind to Him. He came home with terrible wounds.

Robert "BOB" Grazier died on Nov. 20. Due to health he could not attend meeting, however when he was able, he was there.

And now we have all lost Casey Kowalec. What a jewel to have his star in Heaven shining down on us. We will miss you Casey. We will miss your smile, the love you felt for Laura, and your love and dedication to 83rd.

Please allow me to quote one more time. "During life we face so many battles we do not understand, but faith in God sees us thru these trying times. Remember that. Your friends of "Dixie Chapter" care and are praying for each of you.

Dick Riddle

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

We held our Christmas Party again this year at Williamson's in Horsham, Pa. but at the end of November rather than in December as the reservations for December were already gone when we contacted them -- and it's a good thing! The month of December this year in our area was about to set an all-time record for ice, snow and extremely low temperatures.

Besides the weather being an unexpected plus, we have found that this restaurant while not only having excellent food is centrally located for those in the Chapter coming from greater distances. It also still continues to meet our preference for a private room even though our group is getting smaller each year.

The happy faces shown in the accompanying pictures of our members who were present, as well as their wives and friends, reflect a little our awareness of the long-time bonds and good fortune of another holiday made possible for those of us who were able to attend. The years are dwindling down, and it is a peaceful thing to be one succeeding in recognizing the special worth of a day at a time, no matter where we are or how we are in our own personal odyssey, and I think we have all come to learn that with people no two roads are quite alike.

There was a second unexpected plus waiting for us when we arrived at Williamson's this year. There was one couple who attended the party for the first time this year, and who accompanied Al and Anne Belvedere from Vincetown, NJ. They are Mr. and Mrs. James Fish. Jim served in Europe with Joe Macaluso and he lives in the same community with the Belvederes. Last Fourth of July, when Al was helping to organize a parade to celebrate Independence Day in their community, he borrowed the Philadelphia's Chapter's flags and rifles for their color guards. When Jim saw the 83rd flag, he mentioned to Al that he had been with the outfit in Europe. Naturally, JAl asked him to join the 83rd Division Association, and he did. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fish were introduced to all of us at the Christmas Party and it was a real pleasure meeting them. By their flags you will know them. In this case, it was by our flags. What



**MEMBERS OF THE PHILA. CHAPTER
CHRISTMAS PARTY - 1989**



**WIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE PHILA. CHAPTER
CHRISTMAS PARTY - 1989**

a small world.

On a more sobering and pensive thought. The Philadelphia Chapter was saddened by the passing of Charles Bonafilia in November, one of our long-time and faithful members for so many years. Charlie was sick and in pain for three years before his death, and his wife showed such strength through it all. Anne was beside him all the way. May he rest in peace as he was a gentle and kind person who comes to mind with memories of happier days -- and one particular one at Lester and Elsie Hauck's home on a beautiful and warm summer afternoon. His mass of christian burial was attended by members of the Chapter who too had good memories of their association with him.

We have also learned of the passing of two other members of our organization who left the area. One is Francis Rood of Southfield, Mass., and the other is John Clevenger of Ellenton, Fla. To both families we extend our most sincere condolences.

And on one last sad note -- When President Bush spoke of his wish for a kinder and gentler nation, he did not go further and speak of the need for kinder and gentler people to touch the lives of those who cross their paths.

The passing of our Chaplain, Casey Kowalec, brings this thought into focus. He will be remembered by all who knew him, as he was just that kind of man. One of the things I have heard said about Casey is that he never changed. Knowing him well, how satisfying to his family to hear him remembered that way. Interestingly, those who speak discords and angry voices have ceased. Casey we believe learned that a long time ago. We send our condolences to your family, Casey, as well as to Laura. May you indeed rest in peace.

John G. Daum
Co. "D" 330th

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

Here it is another year has gone by, and we of the Florida Chapter would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Our November meeting was held at the Hilton Hotel in DeLand, Florida on Nov. 10th and 11th the Veterans Day weekend with Bill and Alma Herhuth as hosts. Everyone was pleased with their accommodations and the Hospitality Room was busy as always with enough room for all to be together and have a good time. There were 50 people present and two granddaughters of Ralph and Gerri Gunderson.



The Happy Bingo Group with Ned Smith as overseer. Dana Sharp, Peg Haught, Yvonne Lizotte, Alma Herhuth, Liz Marshall, Charlotte Schneider, Mary Senger. We're usually happier than this.

Due to the efforts of Ned Smith our President, the Florida Chapter was invited to participate in the Veterans Day Service on Nov. 11th at Riverfront Park, Daytona Beach, Fla. sponsored by the Halifax Area Central Veterans Council. All our members who were present and their wives attended the service. We had a very good showing and they invited us to come back again next year. We were all made very welcome. It was a memorable day.



Bill Herhuth, Sec'y Treas. Alma, Associate

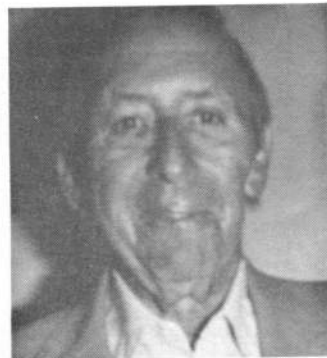
It was so good to see Bill Drugash F-331 and his wife Lois at the meeting after a lengthy illness. Another member has returned after a long absence, Bob Taylor B-329 and his wife Gladys came and we welcome them back and hope to see them often. Bruce Winchell 83rd Sig. has joined our Chapter as a new member, glad to have you and your wife Jean with us and hope to see you often, also.

We of the Florida Chapter would like to express our deepest sympathy to Eleanore Clevenger and her family on the loss of her husband John (Jack) 908 F.A. Memorial services were held in Ellenton, Fla. with Ralph & Gerri Gunderson Bill and Alma Herhuth, Walt Marshall, Bill Nagel and Bob and Gladys Taylor in attendance. Burial was held in Arlington Cemetery. Just as I was writing this article I received a call from Ralph telling me another buddy passed on. Parker (Bud) Black A.T. 331. Our condolences to his wife Rose and her family. John and bud will be missed by all of us. Our prayers are with you.

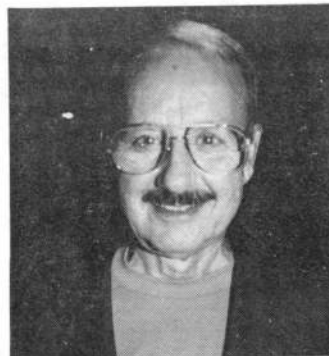
As of this writing we have no word about Joe Perry 308 Engr. since he has been on the sick list but we hope he has a speedy recovery. Helen Sullivan, wife of Dick Div. Hdq. is



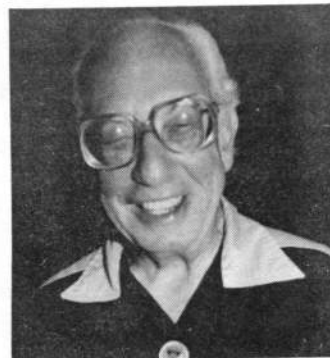
Ralph Gunderson, Chaplain



Lee Schneider, Vice President



Granville Sharp, President



Paul Buchman, Judge Advocate

home now after extensive surgery. We all send them our Good Well Wishes.

There was an election of officers for the 1990 and the following men were elected, they are: Pres. Granville Sharpe - V. Pres. Leo Schneider - Sec'y treas. Bill Herhuth - Judge Advocate Paul Buchman - Chaplain Ralph Gunderson - Sgt. at Arms Harry Schoemaker.

Congratulations to all of you for a successful term.

For those of you who were not with us at this meeting, please try and attend the next one or those thereafter. It's like a reunion each time.

Our next meeting will be Feb. 1-2-3 1990 at the Knights Inn, in New Port Richey Fl. A well arranged itinerary has been planned which will please all those who come. Contact James Emanouil. 904-686-8383

Bill Herhuth
324th Hdq. Btry. 324

CENTRAL PLAINS CHAPTER

If you want to use the following for a squib about the chapter, in the Thunderbolt go ahead. We met at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Omaha, Saturday, November 11 about five PM for a dinner-business meeting. We had members from western Nebraska, St. Paul, MN, Wichita, KS, and of course those living in the Omaha Area. We now have thirty members, living in an area from Chicago, IL, Denver Area of CO, northern Oklahoma, far western Nebraska, Kansas City, and Central Missouri. We did some discussion and planning for the 92 reunion. Our next meeting will be some time in May 90, Salina, KS, at that time we plan to get specifics on committee make up finalized, as needed at that time. Hope Nolan will be snow-birding and will be able to join us. We have been assured of continued fine support from Omaha-Douglas county Convention Bureau.

Ed Hines
President

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

The Chapter activities have slowed for the present. We expect with the coming of good weather things will change. When we do get together as we did in early November at Stepfano's Restaurant in Northvale, N. J. the members attending enjoy the great times we share with Chapter Members and Guests.

Linda Sihlanick and friend Sal were hosts for this dinner and because of their closeness to the owners of the restaurant, we had exclusive use of the place for the afternoon. As usual both of them did an outstanding job.

Mary Sihlanick donated a basket of homemade condiments for a raffle. Edith Manzi won that prize. Addie Rein donated some of her craftwork, these items were raffled off to benefit the Chapter treasury. Quite a large number of chances were sold and the winners were Joe DePeri, Joe Deperi, Joe Deperi and on and on until just one prize remained. Finally the streak was broken and the winner was George Waple. Can you believe it, with that kind of luck Joe still refuses to go to Atlantic City with us.

As is the case, there is always some good and bad news to report. Our Chapter Member Hazel Barton fell exiting their car and broke her hip. We in the chapter wish her a speedy recovery.

Grandparents for the third time: Fran and I, as our son Ken and wife Mary proud parents of Dylan Andrew born Dec. 27. They reside in Bowling Green, Ohio.

As many of you do, we send out cards to our 83rd friends and look forward to their cards at Christmas. We're happy for those who are doing well and write to tell us. We're concerned for those who are having problems health-wise. When we read that our dear buddies Frank Reichmann and Buck and Mary Muldrow are in ill health we are saddened and pray that they return to good health. We hope and pray that the decade of the '90's will bring much joy and good health to all the 83rd family.

The Christmas Card I received from Lee and Dorothy Hetrick contained a copy of the obituary for Larry Armond, Cn. Co., 331. We will miss seeing him at the reunions. He was a truly wonderful unique character. He brought many smiles to those who knew him. I once mentioned to Larry that when I was in the Army I had been to Louisiana and noticed that pecans laid on the ground and nobody picked them up. I asked if it was still so and if so, don't let them lay there send them to Jersey. I was just joking with Larry. The next Christmas I was surprised to receive a 10 lb. box of shelled pecans from Larry. With that many pecans I have become an expert at baking pecan pies. Thanks Larry for being you.

On Dec. 31st, Emil Wehling called to inform us that Casey Kowalec died. Again we were saddened to lose such a dear friend. Casey always greeted all with his wonderful infectious smile. He was a talented, articulate man who performed his duties as our Chaplain with great devotion. His handling of the memorial service and the mass was always perfection. Our organization will miss this truly great man.

On a happier note: The Chapter Members are readying their plans for the Dixie Chapter Meeting in Williamsburg in March. Prior to Williamsburg, Fran and I are once again going to Las Vegas. Then in May the Chapter will join with the Boston Chapter at the Pines Hotel. We look forward to being with Bernie Cove and the Pines Staff as they always make our stay there enjoyable.

One more note; For all of us that were hoping for a reunion in Las Vegas, I received a letter from Frank Bradley who is Editor for the 4th Division Association. He wrote that their reunion in Las Vegas was a disappointment. It was too big and hard to get everyone together with all that is going on. He also mentioned the Riviera Hotel promised much but didn't deliver. I am writing this for your information.

Stan Bielen
1st Bn. Hdqs. 331

COMPANY NEWS

CO. "H" 330TH

Hello Buddies:

Here we are just about getting over the celebration of Christmas and New Years, and getting ready to start another great year in the history of our life.

Well Buddies, let me start off by saying that I sincerely hope that each and everyone of you had a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. I sincerely hope that your outlook for the coming year can be a great one.

Over the years, I have tried to keep in contact with every man from Co. H that I have on my mailing list. There are several names that are missing and I sure wish that I were able to locate them. If any of you have a mailing list, how about making a copy for me and send it to me and let me check and see if you have any that I don't. I will gladly make up a current mailing list of all that I have if you so desire it. Remember that although postage may be a quarter, it is still the best spent quarter that I can think of.

Although I am limiting my solicitation of ads this year for the Reunion "Ad Book, I will still be looking for the support from you Co. H men that I have had in the past. As I look over the Co. H Roster Page of last years Ad "book, I see about forty-five names on there of men I am in contact with, there are eighteen names of deceased on there also making a total of eighty-three that I am aware of. I am sure that there is not one man among the forty-five that I have as active that don't have a Buddy that they would like to remember, all you have to do is send that extra five dollars to make his name appear. In a few months every man on my Co. H mailing list will be getting a letter, when you get it, don't set it aside, send me your check at once and along with your own five dollars, send at least one additional one.

Your Buddy,
Larry Redmond

Company D - 331

Our Company had 25 members at the Cincinnati Reunion, and there were 14 wives. Those who attended were Harry Adkins, Nick Barba, Bernie Cove, Paul Dallas, Harry Gravelyn, Ralph Gunderson, R.C. Hamilton, Art Haught, George Konlos, Archie Lee, Jim Lynch, Bill McKee, Frank Meyers, John Miklos, Vern Mueller, Bill Nagel, Gene Nolte, George Odenweller, Al Otto, Bob Pflieger, Stan Rummel, Frank Sharp, Al Shrauder, Hank Trzeciuk and Hans Treutel.

One of the big attractions was a picnic on Thursday hosted by Jimmy and Harriet Lynch at their home in Cincinnati. There were 42 people at that affair.

We really missed our "god father" - Sam Klippa - as he has been ill and is unable to travel. We are hoping to see him in Pittsburgh this year.

Our company newsletter editor - Al Shrauder - informed us we picked up 3 more members making a total of 77 "D Co." members on the mailing list

Al joined Geri and I at the Dixie meeting in Gatlinburg in early december where I joined that Chapter also. They really put on an outstanding affair.

Bill McKee and John Miklos are snowbirds in Fla. during the winter season, joining regular residents Art Haught, Bill Nagel, Frank Sharp and myself. Hope to see a few more join us.

That's all for this issue, so we wish all 83rds the happiest and most prosperous of New Years

Ralph Gunderson

G COMPANY 331ST INFANTRY

It felt like the Battle of the Bulge all over again in New Orleans over the Christmas Holidays. 10 degrees is far to cold for this area, and even a white Christmas at that. We don't need that kind of cooperation from our Northern friends.

The year was going along fine until the cold weather arrived, and it has delayed us.

I have been informed that Gene Costanzo had a heart attack and was in the Hospital for some time, but I believe by the time you receive the copy of the Thunderbolt he will be at home. Say, Gene, you are getting up in the years and you can't burn the candle at both ends. Relax a little and enjoy life, remember you were elected to the Board for five years, and we won't accept a short term.

All other people that have been contacted seem to be in good health and waiting for the New Year to arrive. Let's hope that 1990 will bring health and happiness to us all.

I had quite a few cards from the fellows during the Christmas season. Another old timer showed up, a fellow by the name of Yoder from Delaware. I remember the name and I am sure that some of the older fellows will know who he is.

The Christmas season also brought the bad news that our friend Casey Kowalec passed away. I met Casey many years ago at a reunion and he and his family have been close friends with my family. We will miss Casey, he was the fellow that when everything looked gloomy, he always had some joke or some nice thing to say that would relieve the tension. Casey, you will be missed not only by myself and the men of G Company, but the entire 83rd Division Association.

I am looking forward to the mini reunion at Williamsburg in March not only because I will be able to spend some time with my daughter and her family that now live in Springfield, Va., but also I will be able to meet with the men of the 83rd Division and their families. As usual G Company will try to have a reunion at the same time and same place as the Division Association. In Pittsburgh on or about August 15. I will have more information later, but we should try to get together, because Pittsburgh is centrally located and quite a few of G Company men can get to that site.

Looking forward to see all of you.

Capt. Mac

CO. G. 329TH

Lois & Bob Brinkman, Vito & Virginia Palazzola, Doris & John Fay, Ames & Helen Miller went to Vevay Indiana with the Kentucky Chapter. A good time was had by all.

Morris Gimple is doing good after a heart attack. "Get with it Gimp."

John Cypina is going for a trip to Italy.

Chet & Ruth Morgan will winter in Florida.

Lovella & Sterling Rubright will be in Florida until April.

Babe & Howie Freitag will be there until the end of March.

Hope everybody had a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

See you in Williamsburg in March.

Babe Freitag

3RD BN 329TH

Following is an anecdote which may be of interest, particularly to the 3rd Bn 329th.

Some of you of the 329th may recall our night attack and capture of the city of Neuss in our drive to the Rhine, and the finding of a considerable cache of 10-liter cans of 180% proof grain alcohol the following day. Within a matter of hours, none of the kitchens had a drop of grapefruit juice for the next day's breakfast--not the day after that.

At dusk of the day of this discovery, I was walking down the main street--when 60 feet ahead of me a GI came hurtling out of an upper story window, landing on the cobblestone sidewalk. Before I could reach him, he was already making an attempt to get on his feet. "You'd better stay down," I said - "I'll get you a medic."

"No, I'm O.K.," he mumbled--"Help me up."

Fearing a serious injury to his back, I reluctantly helped him to his feet and held on to him as he did a jerky dance in every direction, trying to find his balance.

"What happened up there?" I asked

"He got in a lucky punch--in the dark," he contended.

"You should get checked out by the medics," I advised.

"No, I'm O.K.," he repeated--"You can let go of me."

To my amazement, he managed to stay up, staggering around in a circle, brushing off his fatigues, as if to prove to me that he was in full control, and moved on down the street in surprising good fashion.

A ruckus was still going on in the apartment above. I went up the stairs. In almost total darkness, 2 privates were flailing wildly at each other accompanied by hoarse threats and insults--while against a wall a Pfc leaned like a tipped statue, cradling 3 German pistols against his stomach--apparently in accord with the Marquis of Queensbury Rules.

"What the hell is going on here," I demanded as I stepped between the combatants.

"Just a little argument," replied the referee casually--"nothing to worry about--I got their pistols."

The men of the 329th were a tough bunch!

Francis C. Schommer
Hq 3rd Bn 329th Inf.
818 North 4th Str

Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53981

453rd AAA AW BN

Dear Bob:

Please insert the following notice in the next edition of the Thunderbolt.

The next annual Reunion of the 453rd AAA AW BN will be held at the Executive Inn Rivermont in Owensboro, Kentucky an August 31st and September 1st, 1990.

Yours truly,
Vird A. Blandford
2223 Count Turf Drive
Owenboro, Ky. 42301



783 ORDNANCE CO.

Do you remember when you were in high school in the 1930's and they were telling you by about 1975 the world would be out of oil and we would have all new modes of transportation? Well, I don't care that's its never happened, I just want to know how did it get to be 1990 so fast.

It seems only yesterday when Doc had a full head of hair and there wasn't one sign on Barbara's face of any crows walking around.

All in all, from the notes and letters of Christmas the 783rd family had a rather good year. The sad news came from George Harris. His good brother Ed died right after our reunion. George sent me a newspaper clipping in which a dozen people praised him for being such a great person. I know most of you who met him at the reunions will feel the same way. I'll never forget his line after he fell over in a faint at the Charlestown reunion. He said, "I drank too much of this Southern water." Bill Appleby's reunion also ended on a sour note. Just by chance Bill and Martha ran into Bill's brother as they stopped to eat before getting home. It was the last Bill was to see his brother as he died of a heart attack three hours later. And, just a few days latter Martha's brother died in Phila.

To counter act that bad news we did get many letters of good health and cheer. First on the list is Frank Salontay, he not only sent a long letter but he also called us on New Year's day! He naturally gets top billing. Frank and his girlfriend dog, Lubchen, are doing fine in spite of the frigid December. Just Frank is really looking forward to the Pittsburgh reunion and meeting Joe Brown for the first time.. "He was always such a gentleman." I can remember a girl at the Hersey reunion that said the same thing about Joe. Bill Manning also checked in with a nice epistle. Pretty soon he will be using his computer to keep account of his fast growing family. Bill also reported that his youngest and biggest boy is with the Army in Korea. He calls home collect.....After a few setbacks Ray and Mimi Wiggins finished the year in grand style. Sadly, Ray is still complaining about his golf. He only played 135 rounds last year with the last 15 averaging under 85. Jim Jones your still the biggest, why don't you ask Ray and Phil, how come they always get to the reunion's after we have our classic golf matches?...Speaking of Jones he really did a great job with the video tapes. It is time consuming, to say the least, but Jim stuck with it and I know a few of you fellows who purchased the tapes will be happy also.

Bob Burns, who will reach the big 70 shortly, is still running for the Red Cross and then helps out at the funeral home for those who don't make it. He says they just might make the Pitt. reunion. We would sure be glad to see Bob & May again...I can't print too much about Carl and Alyce Fredericks. Alyce has Carl doing so much work on the house since Carl retired it would give the wrong impression to some of the other wives. Carl seems contented with his new found "freedom" so who am I to tell him otherwise. Carl was given new clubs and golf lessons but he was too busy pushing paint brushes to use them. Paul Byars don't you think there's something wrong in Wisconsin? Paul is doing well in his new abode. He has to put antifreeze drops in his eyes to keep his "floaters" from freezing but otherwise he's fine, for his age. The Blasko's, Steve and Gert, show great respect for yours truly as they address us "Mr. and Mrs. Rags" and you know that has nothing to do with my age. That sounds like something that Ivan or Pat Gilman would pull. Ivan never writes caustic but he does have an odd way of writing. He uses needles and dips them into ink! Actually the Gilmans wrote a very nice, long letter describing their wonderful England vacation. Of course their home was in the "great earthquake of 1989" and that added an interesting touch to the completion of their vacation.

Other than having to do the Thanksgiving day turkey in the outside grille, they survived quite well.

Justine Christian, who was kept from meeting all us handsome fellows by a bad liver and gall, is coping well. I just hope Justine that you don't follow Ernie's advice too often. You know he picked the Phila. Eagles to win the Super Bowl, in spite of the fact he know's all about Buddy Ryan from way back.

On the sick front we heard from the Ray and Louise Bowning's. ray is on the Dialysis machine and despite all the problems Ray has to overcome, he is staying in high, positive spirits. Knowing Ray that's not much less than we expected and that's why his name appears on the new Central Plains Chapter of Omaha.

I just called Lloyd Grayson to get the latest on him. Lloyd is still his positive-thinking self too. He has had some more up's and down's but he keeps a smile in his voice. He wants to be remembered to everyone and believe me he remembers everyone of you.

We're in real good with Doc and Agnes Pfeifer, they sent us two Christmas cards. I just talked to Doc, trying to locate "lost" Sam Candeliere. Doc was just getting over the joy of a holding a family reunion of "just" fifty family members. Doc also told me of his Calif. son's woes from the earthquake. Their house was totaled so lets all count our blessings again.

The girls are also not to be denied. Dot Forster is doing well enjoying her eight grandchildren while Bert Unfried is enjoying reading the Thunderbolt. Jane Bond is still quite busy with dog raising and she enjoy's getting "cards from her old reunion friends."

Phil and Ann Barbara appear to be their jolly old selves. Phil should just about be retired as you read this so his golf game should improve. What else can you say about an Army buddy that writes you an invitation to dine with him knowing full well that by the time you receive the letter you will be past his "Big Apple" and be sitting in your home?

Joe Stubberhas really had the worst spell of family problems. He has lost one brother after another and now his oldest sister has died. He is hoping to see us all in Pitt....

Troy and Marie Bishop wished us all a Merry Christmas and we wish Troy strength as he takes care of Marie.

Now we are coming into the strange world of true life. I told you I called Doc to see if he could check on Sam's whereabouts. Doc just returned my call. He found Sam's brother John and was startled to be told that Sam died this morning in a nursing home. Doc is going to pay his and the 783rd Company's respects by attending the funeral. The Sam we saw in the last four years was not the Army Sam we knew. We tip our caps to his loving brother John for seeing to it that Sam got to the reunions to be with his old buddies. Sam and John will be long remembered and not forgotten.

Ed Perko reported in as usual and he say's he's doing "pretty good." It's just a little lonesome now that all the kids are married and its been such a cold winter." I don't want to think about Wisconsin weather.

From one extreme to the other...the Bensimon's are laying back on their beach chairs in sunny cold Florida. I think every other guy should make it a point to stop in on Al and Ruth this winter, Ok lets count off.

Easy and Lou have never seen such a cold winter but at least they know it won't last. The Hackstock's Herm and Norma are just going to have to dance a little closer.

Almost forgot, I talked to Joe Brown right before Christmas and he is still on the run, which means his health is fine. He's all set up for two nice long trips this winter. After the Battle Of The Bulge and Korea he doesn't need the cold.

And last and maybe least we come to the Doggett's. I really got tired of reading what a great time everyone had at

their outhouse during the last reunion. We must have put some real wear and tear on the homestead as Dog just had the place newly sided with cute shutters. When's the next Cinn. reunion.



This group went to Arthur Doggetts for lunch. Front Row: 1. Herschel Weaver, 2. Charles Rohrer, 3. Charles Garrison, 4. Ray Wiggions, 5. Henry Henderix, 6. Isadore Labbe, Back Row: 1. Rags Rangnow, 2. Carl Frederick, 3. Arthur Doggett, 4. Bob Hammond, 5. Herman Hadstock, 6. Paul Bryars, 7. Doc Pheffer, 8. Bill Appleby, 9. Charles Brown, 10. Bill Manning, 11. Phil Barbour.

Oop's, I almost forgot. I called Snooks about not showing at the reunion and he had a good reason. An emergency came up and he had to relocate his Mom into a nursing home. He is really looking for his third chance at Pitt. That's it! I hope I didn't leave you out. If I did write and tell me about yourself. Let's all try to have another good year, eat oat bran and fiber and wash it down with your favorite brew.

Hut two,
Rags Rangnow

CO A 330TH



Before going overseas at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky -- Leo R. Trim

National POW/MIA Day proclaimed by Greenville mayor



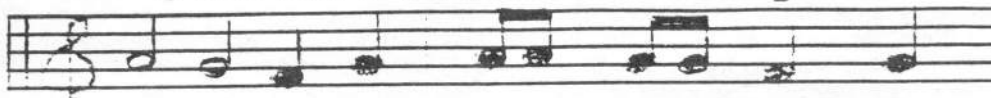
Mayor Jack Harless recently proclaimed Sept. 15 as National Pow/MIA Day. Former POWs and VFW officers present at the proclamation signing were (from left): Dwight Miller of Greenville, POW 42 months in Japan; Carol McLearn, president of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary; Francis DeMange of Versailles, POW 265 days in Germany; Terry Saylor, commander of VFW Post 7262; Don Hoblit of Greenville, POW six months, Germany; Duke Hunt of West

Milton, POW eight months, Germany; Chap. Robert Adams of Kettering, POW 3 1/2 years, Phillipines; Robert Ream of Greenville, POW eight months, Germany; Father John Wilson of Mercer County, POW 3 1/2 years Phillippines; Bob Huels of Versailles, POW 10 months, Germany; Kenneth Kueterman of Bradford, POW six months, Germany; Mayor Harless; and Dale Baker of Arcanum, POW 139 days, Germany. (Advocate photo by Kim Passon)

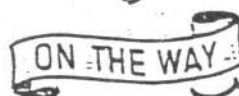


MEMORIES

908th Field Artillery Bn.



I'VE GOT SIX-PENCE, JOLLY , JOLLY SIX - PENCE.



Vol. II. No. 3
EDITORIAL:

About time for another "up-date" about the old outfit, so I will give it another try. Sorry this is so late, but my wife and I have been traveling steadily since last May, and I finally got settled back here about a week ago. One of the most memorable events was the reunion at Cincinnati in August. Then we visited our son a couple of times each at Forts Benning and Campbell. He is a platoon leader with the 101st Airborne Division (famous "Screaming Eagles") and is learning fast how to be a good soldier. Of course, we learned all about that at Atterbury, Tennessee Maneuvers, and Breckinridge. By the time we arrived at Camp Shanks and England, there was no better outfit than the good old 908th. Many thanks to Ed Tetlak, who contributed to help out on the cost of printing and postage for this edition.

HISTORICAL NOTE:

The 908th completed its combined arms training at Camp Breckinridge in the Spring of 1944, and in late March the unit loaded up on a troop train for overseas deployment. No one seemed to know the destination (or at least did not talk about it), and some speculated that we would be going to the Pacific Theater of Operations. We knew, as the train rolled eastward, that we would be going to Europe. We arrived at Camp Shanks, New York, on April 1st, where we were isolated from the rest of society for a few days. There were some training exercises, such as climbing up and down cargo nets, simulating what we would do if our ship were hit by enemy fire. It was cold in Camp Shanks, but our stay was short lived, and we boarded the SS George Washington on April 5th. Bob Wessel did some research on that ship, and it was a converted luxury liner that had carried President Woodrow Wilson to the Versailles Peace talks after World War I. We landed at Liverpool, England, on April 16th and debarked three days later, when we moved to Bryn-y-pys and then to Aston Park, which was to become our base camp while in England. Some of the stories in this edition are about our experiences during the time mentioned above. The next edition will cover our crossing the Channel and the first few weeks in France. PLEASE SEND IN SOME STORIES ABOUT THE CHANNEL CROSSING AND NORMANDY so I can print them. Send to Del Jurden, 4512 Sutton Court, Kansas City, Kansas 66106.

NEWS ITEMS:

There is one sad note to report--the death of Louis Fournier, which was reported to the Thunderbolt by Francis Rood. Louis was a member of C Battery. I have not received any other news, so will spend a little space telling about the last reunion. It was a great success, to say the least, and those who attended the Forest View Gardens "Early Bird" event really got a treat. Things were great at the Clarion Hotel, and Manny Goodridge and his assistants did a superb job in organizing activities and keeping things moving. I never saw so many free prizes given away!

Here are most of the people from the old battalion who attended: F Adachowski, M Bacha, N Bertovich, R Bevin, W Boucher, L Boyers, G Brick, J Clevenger, J Cox, J Danylo, J Desgain, M Goodridge, L Hamilton, D Jurden, E Massey, R Kelly, J Printice, F Scott, J Show, C Stine, E Tetlak, N Weak, J Wenzel, R Wessel, and E Williams. Bob and Helen Wessel of nearby Fairfield hosted the 908th Golfers at their lovely home with an afternoon of German beer and steak dinner.

TALES FROM "OVER THERE":

From Warren Boucher: Aboard the George Washington I didn't do much of anything. I stayed out of sight, so I didn't have to pull KP or guard duty. (One wonders if First Sergeant Palasky knew about this). The food was good, and I never got seasick. (Now, Warren, I doubt this! I remember eating one day, and there were GI cans set up for table scraps, and the men also used them to "urp" in. As I was passing through the line one day, the guy ahead of me said "Peaches?? I didn't get any peaches!")

From Frank Adachowski: I was only 18 years old when we were at Camp Shanks. I wrote to my mother about all the snow there, and when she got the letter, it was censored. What I remember clearly about England was the Fish 'n' Chips.

From Charles Stine: In England one day everyone in the battery got sick except me. I discovered later that it was because the troops had eaten bad powdered eggs -- all except me -- and I had a hangover and couldn't eat that morning.

From former member of Headquarters Battery: Our first camp in England was Bryn-y-pys -- an area of fields where the survivors of Dunkirk were billeted earlier in the war after their evacuation from those beaches...While there we tried to learn how to evaluate British coins in our poker games. Sometimes we were allowed off the area to go into town on pass. We were disheartened by this, however, because the taverns all closed at 10:00 PM, and...it was still daylight in Britain at 10:00 PM. We learned a lot of British drinking songs there, including "I've Got Six Pence--Jolly, Jolly Six Pence." We used to sing that song as we marched over the countryside.

From Del Jurden: We were quarantined to the camp after our first occupation of Bryn-y-pys, although we had our money changed into Pounds, Crowns, Sixpence, etc. The camp was set up with a number of large pyramidal tents, with a drill field in the center of the encampment. The first night seemed rather boring, so Russ Williams and I decided to go to a local pub, which we could see down over a hill, even though we were restricted to the camp. We left after supper, taking a course that would not expose us to the "brass." We found a nice little pub in the village and went in. Who do you suppose we found sitting at the bar? Sergeant Major Blesing and all the First Sergeants of the outfit. We ordered drinks, stayed there a while, and left without anything being said. Upon returning to the camp

we heard such comments as these: "I'll bet one of these things!", "I'll raise you one of these!" The troops had not yet realized the value of the British money, but that didn't stop them from betting.

From Owen Biller, Company A, 331st Infantry: On April 9, 1944, the ship's (George Washington) PA system announced that a person with electrical training was needed to help the shop electrician. My buddies laughed as I volunteered for the job...they said that the ship would be returned to New York unless we could get the main bilge pump motor working. The sewage was up to the maximum level, causing the ship to sink lower into the water....I surveyed the trouble and found the main contactor coil burned open so that no power could get to the motor. I had the ship electrician get an 18" piece of broomstick to pry the contactor tips to close to run the motor. The next job...secret demagnetism system, a series of electromagnets arranged on the ship's hull below the water line to demagnetize the hull to keep magnetic water mines from hitting the ship, failed. The large 250-volt generator would work, and my former training...helped me solve the problem....The next monumental problem came when the Chief Petty Officer...held the only phonograph that provided music for the whole ship...I took it apart and found a broken wire that I soldered, and it worked like new...I was rewarded with a large duffel bag of oranges...which I took down to my buddies. (Where would we have been without Owen aboard the old George Washington?).

Del Jurden
908 FA

RECOGNIZE THEM?



Wonderful picture of HOWard and Clarice Carlborn.

329th "B"

Thanks for all of the Christmas Cards with personal letters and pictures. It was great to read them and reminisce about old times. I see the snowbirds are heading south for the winter. The Joe Steks, the Bob Taylor's and Boyd Plummer's. Enjoy the sun gang. The letter I received from Lt. Bollard would like to set a private luncheon at the reunion on Thursday for "B" Company. I think this is a great idea. He and I will work toward the goal. Please make plans to attend the reunion and bring another Buddy with you. We need some new faces at the gathering. One of the cards I received was from "Jiggs" Janke and that brought back a story about him. When we were at Rocksfort and cut off from the rest of the company, my squad was attached to Sgt. Trevillian's squadron in a deserted house. We were told we were cut off from the company and the Division, and were on our own and that the German's were to take no prisoner's. After the second day, Trevillian told Jiggs "I'm tired of this crap, let's get some Krauts". Jiggs

who could speak better German than S.S. Officers called out in German that he needed help as he had some Americans trapped. Soon as some Germans turned the corner, Trevillian stepped out with a B.A.R. and shot them down. He told Jiggs to send up another batch, and he did the same thing. I believe they did this four times before the Germans sent in tanks and started firing point blank in the houses. We all jumped out of the windows and went into the houses that they just shot up. We spent New Year's Day in that town. After three days in the town without food and we were cold we pulled out of town and joined the Division. The British a few days later got credit for taking the town. What a miserable way to spend a Holiday. Sorry to say Sgt. Trevillian was later killed in action. Thanks Jiggs for saving our butts. I am starting a new address list with some names that I got through the mail. If you have any, please send them to me so that I can add them. I'll close for now with best wishes for the New Year.

Bob Uher
"B" 329th

323 rd REPORT

I talked to Walt Harding New Years Day. He gave me some good news. After being ill for some time, he is one the road to recovery.

Erwin Erhardt celebrated another birthday January 1st. Another year gone by. He certainly must have had a lot of candles on that cake this year.

Nancy Nellies keeps me posted on the 83rd gang around Mentor, Ohio. She has been doing well. My wife and I always enjoy talking with her on the phone.

Tom Houlette wrote me a nice letter. He really enjoyed meeting the gang in Cincinnati with his son Steve.

Ed Shievley is staying in Indiana this winter. Maybe Dusty Starbuck can get to see him on a trip back to his home state of Indiana.

It would be nice if someone from 323rd Able Battery had a listing of the whereabouts of Captain James of Macomb, Illinois, who we are trying to locate. It would save me a lot of time if they would send it along.

I met George Connors, Tony Plantidosi and Livie Maynard at the Boston Chapter Christmas Party.

Lois Shaner writes Nancy and I quite often from Altoona, Pa. Don St. John will be writing soon as the football season is over.

I hope to see Don Willis as I go south in March.

Al Covi tells me it is very cold in the Pittsburgh area. I can remember when Covi slept outside in the cold and snow. I don't think he will ever forget those days.

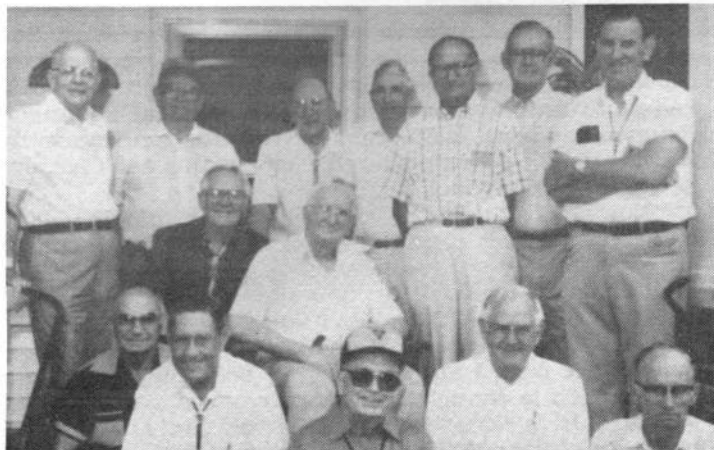
I regret to inform you that Joe Rector died last month. Many of you can remember when this brave Officer went through the belt line as he was leaving the 323rd F.A.

That is all the news for this issue.

Amby Tynan



CO. "E"



Front Row: Emory Culclasure, Bill Ledger, Bailey Skinner, Williard Van Singel, James Freeman. Center: Harry Homes, "Pop" Huddleston. Back Row: Paul Kolbe, Louis Bennett, Axel Nasman, Carroll Brown, Angelo Todesco, Wallace Roberts, Charles Madison.

Dear Bob and Pearl,

Enclosed is a picture taken of men from CO E. 329. The picture was taken on Friday of our Reunion in Cincinnati.

"Pop" Huddleston, who is 80 years old was a cook in our company. He is disabled with arthritis to the point where he cannot get out or travel easily. He could not attend the Reunion for that reason.

This group went to "Pops" home in Carlisle Ky. to visit him and his sister.

We had a very enjoyable few hours re-hashing the war and just talking in general.

"Pop" has a lot of spirit and a sense of humor and I hope that we lightened his load a little for a few hours at least. We all had a wonderful feeling after talking with him.

Bill Ledger, COE, 329

Dear Mr. Editor,

I wish to place an ad in the THUNDERBOLT magazine. I have written an autobiography book, and the last half of the book contains my experience with Company "L", 3rd Infantry Battalion, 331st Infantry Regiment of the 83rd Infantry Division. I served with the Division in World War II in the European Theater of operation or Campaign.

I feel perhaps your readers may enjoy reading the book since it reflects their experiences along with me.

Now available. "ALIKA, THE HAWAIIAN" Vol. I Autobiography by LCT. (Ret.) Alex Kahapea Served with Company "L", 3rd Infantry Battalion, 331st Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division in World War II in European Campaign.
Price: \$15.95

Address:
135 Hokupaa Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720



Dear Sir,

I am writing on behalf of a French Veteran of the Second World War who was attached to the 83rd Div. in 1944. His name is Pierre Dap.

Mr. Dap participated in the liberation of his village, CONTZ-LES-BAINS, on 29 September 1944, with the 331st Regiment, 83rd Division. On that day he was wounded and was treated by an Army doctor and he now wonders if he could find this good doctor who took care of him.

Mr. Dap also gave me a list of names, names of those who might have participated in the liberation of his village. Would it be possible to publish the following list, in hope that someone might be able to remember and perhaps contact Mr. Dap. Here is the list he gave me: Capt. Mitchell, Lt. Jerry Drucker, T/Sgt. Percell, Sgt. Kelly, Sgt. Wetherhead, Sgt. Mortiss, Pvt. Jimmy Kingston.

If you could possibly provide me with any information related to the liberation of Contz-les-Bains, on 29 September 1944, I would be very grateful.

Thanking you in advance.

APO ADDRESS:
Roland B. Prieur
Superintendent
ABMC
US Embassy
APO NY 09777

Dear Bob,

I have been trying to locate a buddy of mine. He was with us a short time in Co. E - 331st and was wounded on Jan. 10, 1945. I was wounded the same time.

I have tried to locate him with no luck. I thought some of the 83rd buddies may know what happened to him as some were assigned to other outfits from the hospital.

His Name was:

Johnny De Marco
Co E - 331st 83rd

If anyone knows where he lives write to:

Alfred L. Henry
9540 Stonerock Rd.
Versailles, Oh. 45380

Thanks Bob, and I'll see you all in Pittsburgh in 1990.

Sincerely
Alfred L. Henry

Lakeland Mn.
Nov. 20, 1989

Hi Robert,

I'm enclosing my dues for 1990. I always look forward; for the Thunderbolt I served with the 83rd from start to finish. I've never attended a Reunion but maybe in the near future my wife and I will attend. I started out with the 83rd Recon ...after Tenn maneuvers I went to G Co. 331st. Right before we shipped overseas I transferred to H Co. 331. I went all the way with H Co. I was wounded crossing the Elbe River; the same time Lt. Mote was killed.



Bernie Hirte



Vitie Atkocus



Julie & Vitie & Mae & Bernie

I still keep in touch with Vitie Alkoccus - Washington D.C.

My wife and I spent 2 weeks in D.C. with Vitie and his wife Julie when our son Jeff was stationed at Ft. Meade.

Several years ago Vitie & Julie came to Daluth MM. I'm enclosing a picture of Vitie & Julie, myself and my lovely wife Mae.

I'm also enclosing a photo of Vitie & myself in Germany right after the war ended.

My wife and I are planning to spend the winter in Phoenix, Arizona.

Last winter I looked up John Allen also from H company.

We plan on getting in a few rounds of Golf.

John is formally of Altoona Pa.

John is writing a book about the 83rd. He hopes to finish it sometime in the near future.

Bernie Hirte

P.O. Our 3 sons served in the military.

Our son Jeff passed away last March from complications of Agent Orange.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Hello Buddies, here we are, just past the Holiday Season and into the start of another year. As we check our calendar to see what Holidays we have facing us, we can't help but turn the pages to August and see that the Annual Reunion will be in Pittsburgh, Pa. with the hard work that is being done by the Pittsburgh Chapter, this can't help but be another tremendous Reunion.

Now comes the part that can be played to help make it a success by each and everyone of us that is to start making our contributions to the Ad Book. Each year, right after the Holidays, I usually start hounding you men with letters seeking your help. This year I am going to take sort of a break. I am not going to be sending out the letters that I have in the past, I am planning on selling my house, and that in itself is enough work. Sending out over 2,000 letters like I have each year is a lot of work and I can't handle both jobs at the one time and do them both perfectly. I will still accept and forward any and all ads that come to me. Let us prove to the Association that the success of the Ad Book is made possible by all of us, and not just by the man who does the solicitation of ads. Remember, full pages, half pages and quarter pages make up the greatest part of the profits. Booster ads play a great part also, but lets try something new this year, instead of you just taking a \$5.00 Booster, make it \$10.00 and mention the name of a Buddy, let us keep his name in the mind of all 83rd Men.

Well Buddies, as I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday and offer my thanks and appreciation for the help you gave me in the past, with the Ad Book, may I ask you to lend the same support this year. Don't wait for that letter from me this year, as you read this, accept it as that personal letter from me asking for your help. May God Bless you all.

Larry Redmond



**DUES ARE DUE NOW!
FOR 1990**

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 Vista Hotel
Pittsburgh, PA.

The dates are: **August 16, 17 & 18, 1990**

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. 5; Jan. 5; April 5; and June 5.

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

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BULLETIN

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