



# **THUNDERBOLT**

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 48 No. 1

Fall Issue 1992

## **John D. Rockefeller House**



**Daytona Beach, Florida**  
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**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.

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**A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL**

\*James C. Hanrahan..... 1947  
Jack M. Straus..... 1948  
\*Shelly Hughes..... 1949  
\*Julius Ansel..... 1950  
\*Walter H. Edwards Jr..... 1951  
Leo Schneider..... 1952  
Finley Heyl..... 1953  
Lawrence J. Redmond ..... 1954-55  
\*Lt. Gen. Robert H. York..... 1956  
\*Harry W. Lockwood..... 1957  
\*Raymond J. Voracek..... 1958  
Charles Abdinoor..... 1959  
\*Joseph F. Minotti..... 1960  
\*Frank J. McGrogan..... 1961

John W. Jobinette..... 1962  
\*Manuel C. Martin ..... 1963  
\*Julius Boyles..... 1964  
Samuel Klippa ..... 1965  
\*William M. Doty..... 1966  
Albert A. Belvedere..... 1967  
Vito C. Palazzolo ..... 1968  
Pat DiGiammerino ..... 1969  
Casey Szubski ..... 1970  
\*Charles Altomari ..... 1971  
\*Harold H. Dopp ..... 1972  
Louis J. Volpi..... 1973  
Bernard O. Riddle ..... 1974  
Robert G. Taylor ..... 1975

Mike Skovran ..... 1976  
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  
Edward Reuss ..... 1989  
Charles J. Lussier ..... 1990  
Edgar H. Haynes ..... 1991  
\* Denotes Deceased

## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



### BEACH PARTY COMING UP

We left Omaha Sunday, drove to Kansas City and on to St. Louis, then to Louisville, Ky. Our trip was very nice. Weather was outstanding. We took our time, stopped at Truman's home.

We spent some time in Kentucky and then headed home to Florida. Stopped by Daytona Beach and the Convention Hotel, talked with Kelly and signed our contract, then home Sept. 18th.

Reservations will be open Jan. 1, 1993. You will find the form to mail in to Howard Johnson Hotel in the THUNDER-BOLT this issue. You can come early or stay late. All rooms will be \$50.00 plus tax.

As you all know, the Hotel has 147 rooms with ocean view. The first 147 reservations will get the rooms with a view of the ocean.

We are expecting around 900 at the Reunion in Daytona Beach.

The Management at Howard Johnson's will be waiting for all of you with open arms - Kelly says so!

More information will appear in the next THUNDER-BOLT.

Fla. Chapter meets Nov. 6th and 7th at Holiday Inn in Vero Beach, FL, 8797 20th Street, just off I-95. Telephone 407-567-8321.

Ned B. Smith

## Reunion Chairman's Report

Okay, all systems GO for the National Reunion in Daytona Beach, Florida on September 29, 30, October 1st. and 2nd. 1993. The Membership at the Omaha Reunion resoundingly approved these dates. The Florida Chapter had set up a potential program for the Reunion, but do to lack of authorization had not been able to confirm any of our projects until the approval.

We are moving quickly now and expect to have a tentative program in the next issue of the Thunderbolt. The hotel has been approved and we feel the costs are as reasonable as possible. There is adequate free parking at the hotel, which is right on the beach, and other eating and shopping places are nearby.

We are trying to work up a reasonable Wednesday night special for those coming early.

Ralph B. Gunderson

## Board Chairman's Report

Hope you are all rested up after returning home from the great 46th annual reunion held in Omaha. Hats off to The Central Plains Chapter for doing an outstanding job. One person who didn't get enough credit for all of his hard work is, Norb Wolke. He was the director behind the scene and made sure that everything was in order. I think all of The Central Plains Chapter will agree. Seem's like each and every reunion gets better, so Florida, get ready for another great one!

Want to welcome to the board our good buddy, Carroll B. Brown. Am sure that Carroll will do a good job for the entire organization. To Jim Prentice, a big thank you for all the work you did while serving on the board for five years, and especially your last year as Chairman.

To all of the Association members and their wives, I want to wish you a very good fall and winter season. Till the next issue, Take care and Stay well.

Most sincerely, your Buddy,  
Lou Nolan, Chairman.

### TO ALL MEMBERS 83RD INFANTRY ASSOCIATION WWII:

I thank all of the members of our great Association for their support in presenting the program at the 1992 reunion, many of you who were able to attend, from the feed-back you had a most enjoyable and informative experience. To those who, for one reason or another were unable to attend, you were missed.

The various members of THE CENTRAL PLAINS CHAPTER committees are well pleased with the reception you gave their program they gave it a great amount of thought, and diligent work so that you might have an enjoyable, memorable and rewarding stay with us. I believe you did.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the wonderful support given us by the HOLIDAY CONVENTION CENTER and the GREATER OMAHA CONVENTION & CONVENTION BUREAU. Yes that is their job, but they did it in a most cheerful and efficient manner, that will be hard to beat.

May I again say THANK YOU for the opportunity to serve as your 91-92 National President. Yes it has been much work, but I have really enjoyed it, because it was worth it to see the membership enjoying themselves, meeting and reminicing with their buddies, and seeing new and historic sights.

Best wishes to the FLORIDA CHAPTER as they go on with their endeavor to put on a excellent reunion agenda for us.

SEE YOU IN DAYTONA BEACH!!!

ED



## FROM THE OFFICE.....

Another busy year has gone by. We have had chapter meetings for the Kentucky Chapter to attend. Those are always a fun time. We went to Daytona Beach in May for the Executive Board meeting. Bonnie and Earl Hoover went with us to keep Pearl company. We stopped in North Carolina to visit with Sam Badgett on our way back. Traveled through the mountains going down. What a beautiful sight. The Howard Johnson Hotel that we will be staying in for our reunion next September is very nice. Is on the ocean. Very nice restaurant in the hotel. Lots of other places nearby. Hope to see you all there with us.

Then planning for the Camp Atterbury Memorial Park Dedication. That was something that we wish you all could have seen and been a part of. The wall with all the plaques of Divisions who had trained there. Jim Prentice had asked me to represent the 83rd with the talk about our training days. I felt very honored as I stood up there and thought about those days of long ago. Jim served as one of the color guards carrying our flag which had been presented by the Boston Chapter. Ames and Helen Miller presented the wreath representing the 83rd. Very colorful in its yellow and black. As I looked out over the crowd and saw all of our yellow and black jackets I was very proud of our outfit. I think we had the most of any Division there. Thanks men for coming out in full force. After all the ceremonies we were all invited to the Officers Quarters for a luncheon. Colonel Stachel you did a wonderful job of getting this all arranged and carried out so well. I am sure that every man there went back in his thoughts to our training days and the beginning of this wonderful family, and how that training that we got carried us through all the battles that we had to go through before we again got to come home. It was a wonderful day for all of us. Thank you so much Colonel Stachel and all of your men.

We came back home on Saturday night and then on Sunday morning Earl and Bonnie came. Sam Badgett had come on Thursday so he could go to Camp Atterbury with us. We left for Omaha that morning. On the way to Omaha we stopped at Amanna Village. Toured that and then on our way. We arrived in Omaha on Monday. On Tuesday we toured the Rain Forest and Boys Town. "When you tour Boys Town it makes you realize how fortunate you are. It is a beautiful place. So clean and quiet. We talked to some of the students there. They are all so grateful for that place they call home. Then on Wednesday registration started. Pearl and the women who are so good to help out were busy from then on. I will mention their names in another part of the Thunderbolt. Omaha people had one of the best halls and was set up so wonderful. Plenty of room to move around and places to set and talk to your buddies. Everything was in that one room with the Hospitality room close by and the meeting room next door. What a great set up. The Board made a decision that there would only be three issues of the Thunderbolt magazine and an up to date Roster each year. Omaha did a wonderful job of putting on a reunion. They certainly are worthy of our thanks and appreciation. We thank you Omaha for a job well done. Jim Prentice gave his farewell speech on Saturday night at the banquet. One of the best that I have heard and I also heard many more comments on it. Jim took us back to the beginning when the 83rd started and when the reunions started. How much we owe the men who started this whole business and then on to the ones who have been carrying the organization on through the years up to the present time. Jim you were a wonderful person to work with over the many years you have served as an officer of the outfit. We will miss you on the Board. But we know that you will be out there to help us if we need you. Enjoy your vacation but don't stray too far away. Thank you for a job well done.

Our new member for the Executive Board is Carroll Brown from the Dixie Chapter. We have worked with Carroll when the Dixie Chapter hosted their reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee. He is a quiet spoken man and I am sure will serve you well. We look forward to working with him on the Board.

Home from the reunion and busy, busy. It takes a good month to come home and get all the records recorded and membership cards sent out to those of you men who had paid your dues before hand and could not come to the reunion. We have gotten them all out and the cards changed from last year to the present. All address changes, phone numbers corrections on the computer. We had all membership cards for those who paid prior to the reunion sent out before Pearl and I took a trip to Hawaii that our children had arranged for us for our 50th Anniversary. We went to Honolulu and Waikiki. We stayed on the one island. It was great.

We took tours every day. Some days a couple of tours. It was wonderful. We needed that vacation. We just went and forgot everything back here. Now we are home. Membership dues are coming in and the rosters have to be gotten out. We will be sending rosters to all men who could not attend the reunion. So be patient men. They will be coming. We went to Louisville one day after we came home and took the plaque that the 83rd wanted presented to Tilly Kimmes. She is a very gracious lady and we enjoyed doing this.

Now men before I close this article I want to add something here that I hate to have to do but it must be done. At the registration desk one morning Pearl was verbally attacked. I am sorry that we have men and women who feel they must do this. Pearl gives of her time freely to this outfit. Please if you have anything to say about what is done in this office come to me to jump on. Pearl is not to blame. I am sorry that we had this to happen and that I was not there to defend her. Don't ever do it again. Thanks to all of you who came to Pearl and talked to her and made her feel better. To all of her women who so graciously stood by her I thank you.

Now our plans go on to florida. Some of their plans and applications are in this issue. Plan on being there with us. Thanks again to all of you for your support.

### A GREAT BIG THANK YOU

Here is a thank you to the Ladies that helped out at the Registration Table. I sure do appreciate all you to make the reunion go as smoothly as it does.

Dot Brennan, Mary Francullo, Bonnie Hoover, Doris McGowan, Nellie Messina, and Virginia Palazzolo. We could not do it without you ladies. Thank you for helping out.

Bob

### HERE IS THE REUNION COUNT

Members in Attendance	332
Wives in Attendance	280
Guests in Attendance	5
Widows in Attendance	9
New Members in Attendance	10
Total	636

Members who had registered but did not attend

26

Very good for a new Chapter and a new place Congratulations Central Plains Chapter. You did a wonderful job.

A special Thanks to Earl Hoover and Fred Messina. These two men were a big help in the registration area. They ran errands for the women and kept things moving there. Thanks Earl and Fred. We appreciate all the work you did in the registration area.





## Chaplain's Corner

Dear Robert,

Hope you and Pearl had a nice time at the reunion and met a lot of old and new friends. Sorry Dara and I could not attend this year. We hope to make at least a dozen. God willing!

I have not seen Frank since the reunion. He went on an extended trip west.

I was told that Joe Macaluso and Frank Hornack did a great job and all went well.

Closing with a few kind words to our Thunderbolt readers.

1. Go out of your way to be kind to everyone.
  2. Apply scripture to daily activities.
  3. By example and deed, lead others to Christ.
- That's all for now. God Bless you all.

Your Chaplain  
Mathew

This is a list of the additional names that were read at the Memorial Services. They have not been printed in the Thunderbolt:

Name	Unit	Deceased
Robert Goldnertz	Co. G 331st Inf.	
1st Lt. Walter McGhee	Co H 326th Inf.	
Aubrey Wilcox	783rd Ord	1990
Ralph Helenthal	783rd	1990
Clyde Sutton	783rd	1990
William Lucas	783rd	1991
Joe Orbin	783rd Ord	1990
Ernie Jim Christian	783rd	1992 Joe Macaluso
Fred Tucker	"D" 331st	1989 Ames Miller
William Owens	"C" 331st	1992 WIFE
Bernard A. Thome	"A" 329th	1992 Earl Deisher
Bob Earp	"H" 329th	1992 WIFE
Mary Ann Morman (wife of Bob)		1992 Bob Morman
Charles Adams	"A" 308th	1992 WIFE
Richard M. Hinton	"H" 331st	1992 WIFE
Edgar J. Smith	"K" 331st	1992 WIFE
Joseph C. Krepp	"C" 308th	1992 Brother
Carl Gamble	"CN" 329th	1992 WIFE
George Porter	"HQ" 323rd	1992 Larry Redmond
John M. Rung	"G" 331st	1992 Joe Macaluso
Killed in car accident		
John W. Samsa	908th	1992 Robert Pflieger
Herb Davies	"A" 308th	1992 G. Doeringsfeld
Manuel Neucom	"H" 330th	1992 Given at reunion
William Swift Arrants	"A" 330th	1992 O.L. Cook
Donald Bernier	"HQ" Co.	1992 Pat DiGiammerino
Thomas Rybarczyk	"F" 329th	1992 C. R. Whitcomb
Richard H. Meyer	"A" 308th	1992 WIFE
George Porter	323rd	1992 Larry Redmond
Orlando Cavalcante	"M" 329th	1992 WIFE
Herman De Haven	"F" 331st	1992 WIFE
Ralph B. Johnson	"B" 330th	1992 Sister
Eugene Nolte	"D" 331st	1992 Al Shrawder
John Post	"D" 331st	1992 Al Shrawder
William J. Irwin	"C" 323rd	1992 WIFE
George A. Polites	323rd	1992 Daughter - Gloria
Joseph A. Kuzma	"G" 331st	1992 Stan Bielen

From:

Dr. Russell W. Ramsey  
1808 Dawson Road  
Albany, GA. 31707  
Tel: 912-436-7436  
205-953-2860

Gen. Ramsey commanded the 83rd Division from 1946-1960. It had 18,500 troops and 100% combat equipment, and was one of 6 combat-ready Reserve Divisions during those years.

## OBITUARY

MAJOR GENERAL RUSSELL A. RAMSEY died February 20, 1991, following extended illness at the age of 86. He was a lifelong resident of Sandusky, Ohio until 1975, when he and his wife Louise, also a Sanduskyan, retired to Gainesville, Florida. His wife preceded him in death on July 13, 1990.

Russell Ramsey attended the Sandusky Public Schools and Howe Military School in Indiana. He graduated from Princeton University cum laude in 1925, where he was active in polo, gymnastics, and Army ROTC. Declining a regular Army commission, he went on to the University of Michigan Law School, graduating in 1928. Initially, he was affiliated with his father Russell K. Ramsey, in legal practice, then established a separate law firm with other partners.

Ramsey was a highly successful President of the Community Chest, forerunner of the United Way, during the peak depression years. Commissioned in the Army Reserve in 1925, Ramsey became a captain and Battery Commander of Battery E, 135th Field Artillery, Ohio National Guard. After that unit was federalized in 1940, Ramsey spent 37 months in the Asian-Pacific Theater, rising to the rank of colonel and serving as Chief of Staff of the 37th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star w/V for Valor, the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Purple Heart for wounds received in the capture of Northern Luzon.

After World War II, Ramsey was associated in legal practice until 1974 with William E. Didelius. In 1946, he was promoted to Brigadier General and Commanding General of the 83rd Reserve Infantry Division of Ohio, attaining the rank of Major General (2 stars) in 1954.

Ramsey was also active in civic, business, and church leadership. He served as President of the Sandusky Kiwanis Club, Vice President of the Western Security Bank, President of the Board of Good Samaritan Hospital, Senior Warden of Grace Episcopal Church, Ethics Committee Chairman of the Ohio Bar Association, Lay Member of the Ohio Standing Board of the Episcopal Church, and in many other posts of distinction.

Subsequent to his retirement in Gainesville, Florida, Ramsey continued his active role in community service. He was instrumental in the establishment of a shelter for abused women, and a temporary refuge for transient disaster victims.

Ramsey's death occurred following partial hospitalization with progressive cardiovascular illness.



## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Dear Buddies

I enjoyed seeing all my good friends at the Omaha Reunion.  
Stay well, time is going to fast for all us youngsters.

The Omaha Chapter did a great job handling their first 83rd reunion.

At our business meeting I mentioned my French friend had just decorated a grave of an 83rd G.I. K.I.A. in Normandie.

The enclosed report will bring a certain sadness, to vividly remind you of our men lost and left over there.

Many of us will not be as fortunate as my great friend Francois Chourin to visit the grave of our buddy and place flowers there on.

The grave, in the pictures is of Pfc. Henry C. Stewart, 331st Regt. 83rd Infantry Division and is in St. James Cemetery, Avanches.

He was K.I. A. August 8th, 1944 and was born in Kentucky.

Francois is along side the "Cross that marks his place"

The post cards are from towns, which we will never forget, in Normandie.

Again, we are the Blessed of us who lived to return home from our trials from the 'Beach to the Elbe.'

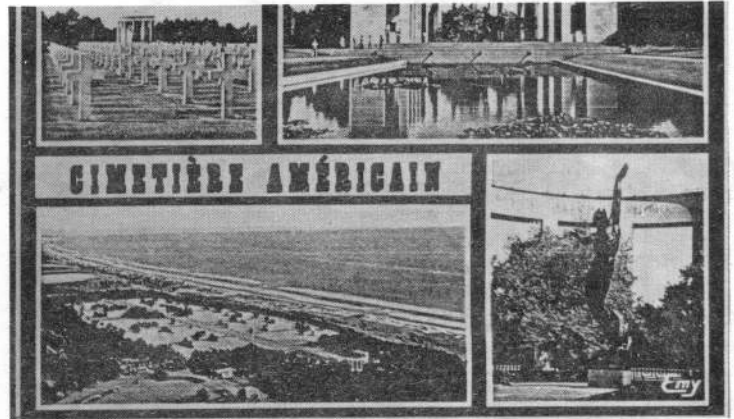
'We Were The Best'

Wm. Kent O'Connell

Historian -- 83rd M.P.



Francois Chovin and grave of Pfc. Henry C. Stewart, 331st Regt. 83rd Infantry Div., St. James Cemetery -- Avanches, France. K.I.A. August 8th, 1944



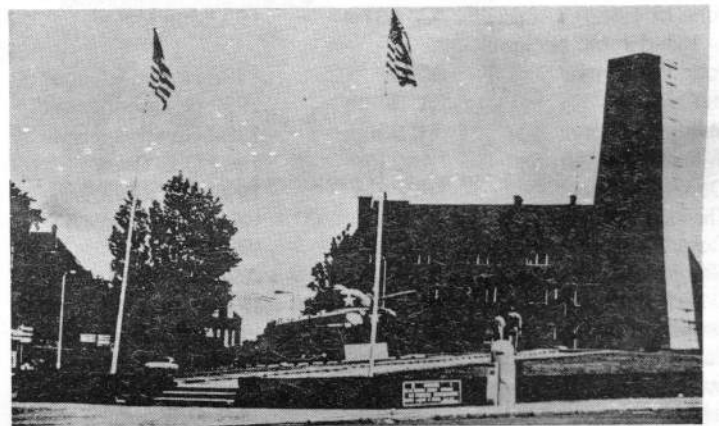
What can I say?



Carentan, back to pre-war normalcy.



Lessay also pre-war normalcy.



Avranches - "La Place Patton" (whom I despise for good reasons) and 83rd tank named 'Thunderbolt' and Grave Pictures.

# THE AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL

The Normandy American Cemetery site was chosen because of its historical location on top of a cliff overlooking famous Omaha Beach which was the scene of the greatest amphibious troop landing in history. The cemetery site covers 172 acres. The maintenance of the cemetery and memorial is the responsibility of the American Battle Monuments Commission. Construction of this cemetery and Memorial was completed in 1956 and dedicated on 19 July of that year. The architects for the cemetery were Harbeson, Hough, Livingstone @ Larson of Philadelphia, Pa. The landscape architect was Markley Stevenson, also of Philadelphia.

There are 9,386 American War Dead buried here. 307 of the headstones mark the graves of "Unknowns". The remains of approximately 14,000 others originally buried in this region were returned home at the request of their next of kin.

The Memorial consists of a semi circular colonnade with a loggia at each end. On the platform is a 22 foot bronze statue, the "Spirit of American Youth", a tribute to those who gave their lives in these operations. Around its base is the inscription "MINE EYES HAVE SEEN THE GLORY OF THE COMING OF THE LORD". The sculptor was Donald De Lue of New York City. On the walls within the south loggia are 3 battle maps engravings in the stone and embellished with colored enamels. These maps were designed by Robert Foster of New York City from data furnished by the American Battle Monuments Commission. They were executed by Maurice Schmit of Paris. The panels in the ceiling of the loggias are of blue ceramic by Gentil & Bourdet of Paris. At the entrance to each loggia are two large bronze urns, also designed and sculptured in high relief by Donald De Lue and cast by Marinelli foundry of Florence, Italy.

On the east side of the Memorial is the semi-circular Garden of the Missing. Inscribed on its walls are the names, rank, organization and State of 1,557 of our Missing. They gave their lives in the service of their country but their remains have not been identified, or they were buried at sea in this region.

The circular Chapel, whose mosaic ceiling, designed and executed by Leon Kroll of New York City, symbolizes America who gives her farewell blessing to their sons as they depart by sea and

air to fight for her principles of freedom. Over the altar, a grateful France bestows a laurel wreath upon Dead who gave their lives to liberate Europe's oppressed peoples. The return of Peace is recalled by the Angel, the dove and the homeward bound ship.

At the western end of the main axis of the cemetery are 2 Italian granite (Baveno) figures by Donald De Lue representing the United States and France.

At the Memorial one can descend a flight of granite steps to an overlook parapet on which is situated an orientation table that indicates the various landing beaches. In the early morning hours on 6 June 1944, three Airborne Divisions, the U.S. 82nd and 101st, the British 6th, dropped behind the beaches to destroy enemy forces and to cover the deployment of seaborne assault troops. At 6:30 hours, under the cover of intense naval and air bombardment, six U.S., British and Canadian divisions landed in the greatest amphibious assault recorded in history.

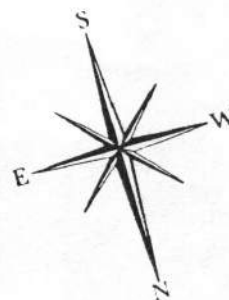
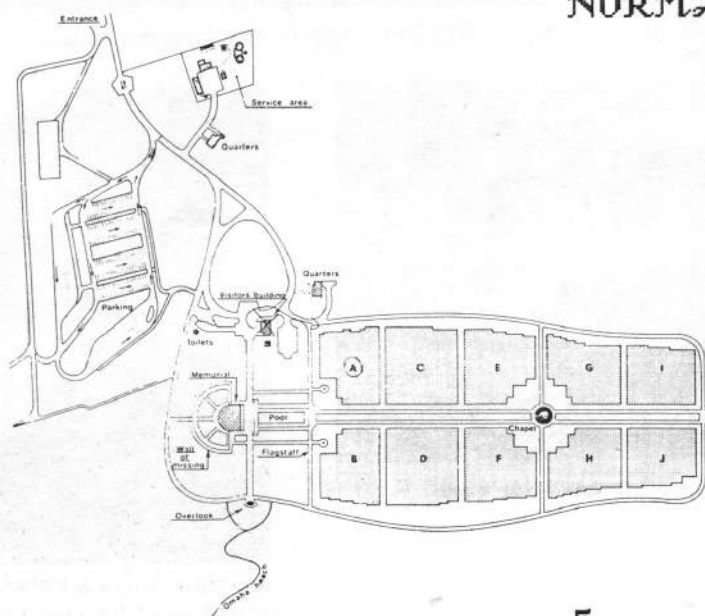
From the overlook, a visitor can walk to the beach and get a better idea of perils of those who stormed ashore on that June morning.

## UTAH BEACH MONUMENT

The Utah Beach Monument erected by the American Battle Monuments Commission, with the approval of the French government, commemorates the achievements of the American Forces of the VII Corps who fought in the liberation of the Contentin Peninsula from 6 June to 1 July 1944. It consists of a red Baveno granite obelisk surrounded by a small, developed park overlooking the historic sand dunes of Utah Beach, one of the two American landing beaches during the Normandy Invasion of June 1944.

## POINTE DU HOC RANGER MEMORIAL

The Pointe du Hoc Ranger Memorial is the battleground where Lieutenant Colonel James E. Rudder's 2nd Ranger Battalion scaled the 100 foot cliffs on D-Day morning, 6 June 1944, to seize this fortified enemy position which controlled the landing approaches to Omaha and Utah beaches. The Memorial consists of a simple granite pylon atop a concrete bunker with inscriptions in French and English on tablets at its base. This site, preserved by the French, was transferred to the United States Government by formal agreement on 11 January 1979 in Paris. This battle scarred area remains much as the Rangers left it on 8 June 1944.



## NORMANDY AMERICAN CEMETERY



**Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Brockton and West Roxbury MA 02401**

**Boston Chapter at  
V.A. Hospital**



Dear Mr. DiGiammerino:

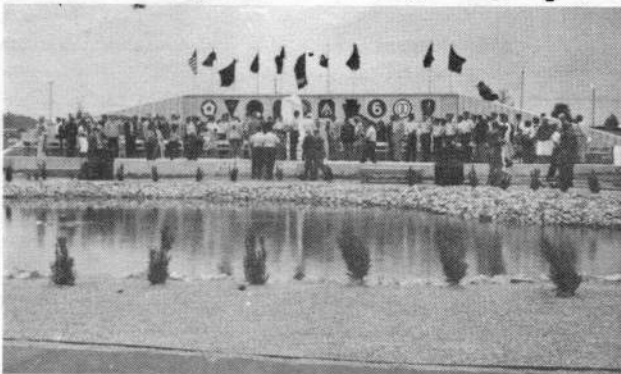
Please accept my sincere thanks for your donation of prizes and refreshments to the Brockson/West Roxbury VA Medical Center's West Roxbury Division.

You may be sure our hospitalized veterans are grateful for your thoughtfulness.

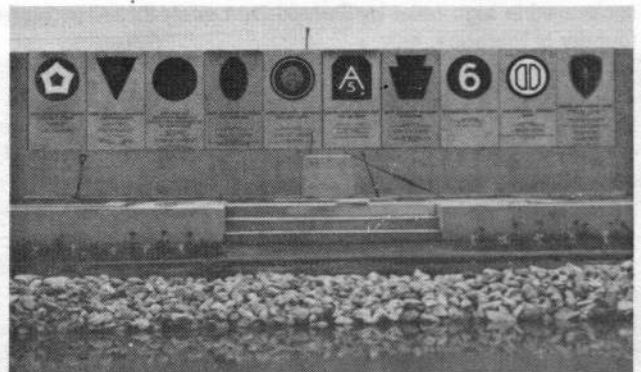
Thank you for your generosity and Support.

Sincerely,  
**LOUIS BERARD**  
Chief, Voluntary Service

*These pictures were taken at Camp Atterbury Memorial Park during the dedication services.*



This was taken before the statue was placed on the base in center of the unit insignia plaques.



Memorial Service before unvailing the statue.



The Bronze Statue



Ames & Helen Miller donated this 83rd wreath.



A plaque Ames & Helen Miller received in appreciation of giving a \$2,000 donation and landscaping at the site.

# News from the CHAPTERS

## Florida Chapter

Since the spring chapter meeting held in Clearwater, which was previously reported, there have been no chapter activities. This reporter was unable to attend the reunion at Omaha, therefore I have little to go on.

Ralph Gunderson and Ned Smith have each given me a summary of the transactions which set the dates of the 1993 Reunion to be held in Daytona Beach, FL.

Ralph advised me that ex president Bob Taylor, who had heart by-pass surgery earlier in the year was in attendance. We have two chapter members celebrating 50th wedding anniversaries this year; Hechuths this past July, and Sengers in October. Congratulations!!!

The next chapter meeting will be held on Nov. 6 & 7 in Vero Beach, FL at Holiday Inn, Countryside. If any 83rd Division Association members are in the area, and wish information regarding this meeting call me at 407-461-3640.

Bill Herhuth has informed me that he is making arrangements for the winter meeting to be held in Deland, FL on Jan. 29 & 30, 1993.

With the 1993 division reunion coming to Florida, this chapter needs the fullest support from all the members. Attendance of the next two meetings is crucial to make the national reunion a success.

Hope for more news in next edition of Thunderbolt.

W. Allen Fisher, Secy.

## Louisiana Chapter

I would like to inform the 83rd members, that our members from the Louisiana Chapter came thru Hurricane Andrew in good shape. The news about the Hurricane came as we were leaving Omaha. It did not look good, but once again the good Lord spared us from any damages. I checked with Izzy Labbe and Herman Day and found them to be in good shape. Labbe and his wife had attended the reunion in Omaha.

On a recent trip to Lafayette, I was able to meet with Herman Day. He was a member of E Company 331 Inf and was captured at the Rhine River with his C.O. and other members of that unit. He has been living in the Lafayette area for many years, and we able to contact each other.

I talked with Leonard Prelutsky last week, he and his wife seem to be in good health.

Next week I will attend the reunion of the 110th Evacuation Hospital in Lafayette. That is the unit that Mena served with during World War II. Looking forward to meeting with that group. I will contact the two members of the 83rd that live in that area.

Joe Macaluso

## Dixie Chapter



Dixie Chapter at Omaha -- 46th Reunion



Memorial Service at 50th Anniversary at Atterbury



Jim Prentiss, Helen Miller, Ames Miller at Atterbury Ind.



Artillery 322 -- Massie Aneerson, Benbow Sihlanick, Zingg Sechrest





**O.L. Cook in the Rain Forrest. - Omaha, Ne. - Aug. '92**

The 46th Reunion really opened up a new world for me. It began with the dedication of the memorial at Atterbury. After 50 years we found a few of the old landmarks, barracks, P.X., Chapel but the best part were the faces of friends and comrades from all these years gathered to remember and honor those who made it all possible.

Division Artillery was well represented as was the entire division. We met new people for the very first time and many life long friends were there.

The Cox's, Hobbs', Millers', Johnsons', Selvests', Browns and many others celebrated with us. Especially enjoyable were the reception and open house for those attending.

It was on to Lincoln Ill. for my wife Kathy and me to attend the 50th wedding anniversary celebration with Buford and Elivira Funk and 200 of their friends. They treated us royally. Thanks for letting us be a part.

We moved on to Omaha, crossing the big Miss. at Hannibal, spending some time with Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn.

In Omaha we just went crazy with all the tours entertainment and refreshments. The Central Plains Chapter did a terrific job on the 46th. Our heart felt thanks to each one who had part.

After Omaha we headed for the west coast by way of South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Nevada and California, visiting on the way. Custers Battleground, Mt. Rushmore, Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Zion, Buyer, Las Vegas, Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Big Sur. The Pacific coast drive (California Rt. 1) was overwhelming for 100 miles.

At Fresno we turned east toward Grand Canyon, needless to say we were completely overcome by the beauty of the scenery there and also by the Petrified forest and the Painted Desert and the many Indian Ruins.

We spent 5 weeks and 9100 miles but finally got home to get ready for the winter which will be here soon.

Each day was a new adventure. We visited the Parsons, Johnsons, Jacksons, Sales, Livingstons, Cook, Sharpe. The all treated us just like home folk which we have been for many years. Twas truly a once in a lifetime experience. Thanks so much to each who made it possible.

In Yellowstone National Park. I met a car with 83 tags going in from the west. He was too fast for me - I could never catch up with him. I'd like to know who it was and swap notes with him.

We're planning now for Dixie Chapter meet in Gatlinburg in December. Come join us and help us catch the Christmas spirit together! I'll be there to welcome you when you get there so come on down!!

E. Massie, Dixie Reporter

Dixie members showed up at Omaha in great numbers. At least 44 from 13 states. Some of these are members of other

chapters but we claimed them too. We enjoyed the comradeship and good feelings and love of all present and missed each one who was absent. Dixie thanks each member of the Central Plains for an unforgettable experience in Omaha!

It seemed to go like clock work with no apparent snafus at all. Thanks to the President, Reunion Chairman and all the faithful troops who manned the guns and performed tirelessly thru out the week.

Dixie held its business meeting and invite you to our Christmas party December 4-5, 1992. Welcome back to the old timers who were with us. We're looking forward to Macon Ga. in March and Tenn ..... in May, 1993. Then on to Daytona to National with a full year ahead! It just gets better each year.

Its such a great experience meeting comrades of Dixie members and swapping a couple stories with them. This year was especially good.

A 322 was well represented by Anderson (1st timer) Benbow, Seclvest, Zingg, Sihlaniet, Massie. We've got 80 members of A Bty. out there somewhere. Lets hear from you! We're not getting any younger!

The tours were great. Boys Town and SAC were my favorites but all were certainly enjoyable.

Our very own Lill Benbow took the ladies shopping and loaded her trusty van down with goodies for the home folks.

Well Anderson, what do you think of A Bty after all these years? Nothing like the 3rd Field was it? Zingg, Anderson, Ames Miller filled us young men in on all the old Horse Drawn Artillery stories! I loved them! They were those all important Cadremen who trained us at Atterbury in the winter of 42 - 43. We owe them so much for helping point us in the right direction.

The memorial service was truly impressive under the leadership of Cap. Mac and his trusty assistants.

Each evening was a special event with the best in music for dancing and visiting. I could find only two members from A 908 present. Come on men! We need to help Grace Brick out just a little bit. Plan now for Daytona Beach. You'd sure make Del Jurden happy. He must have looked in the sign up book 20 times looking for you!

Buford Funk & wife Elvera made it after having celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Kathryn and I were there to help them and 200+ guests and family in a great day of celebration.

Jerry Zingg and Mary made a family reunion in the same trip. Sterling Rubright and his G 329 Umpha Band were quite a hit.

I attended the 50th anniversary at Atterbury Aug 16. 83rd was well represented. I missed seeing many but I know the artillery was there in good numbers. Joe Sechert & Norma met us and we did it up the right way.

Ames Miller and his wife Helen were our hosts showed us around treated us royalty and really made us feel at home. John Cox, John Hobbs and their wives made a week of it in and around Atterbury. Remember they were newly weds there 50 years ago.

Ames Miller was recognized for his effort in making the memorial a reality and for his personal gift to the fund that made it possible. He was awarded a plaque and a permanent plaque was placed in the Chapel in honor of him. Jim Prentice received a plaque for the 83rd gift and efforts in building the memorial thru the donations of 83rd Div. Assn. The entire memorial was quite impressive. All those connected with its building deserve our heart-felt thanks.

Twas truly good to be back again for this special occasion.

Our special thanks and memories to those who trained there but also gave their very lives to make it possible for us to carry on! This we must pledge to do in order that they may not have died in vain!!

E. Massie  
Dixie Chapter



## Cleveland Chapter



The Gang!



The Gang!



Mike Mizerack G Co. 331st - George Calore A-C Co. 329  
"G.I. "Cook"



Birthday Month - Cleveland Chapter - 83 Div. Association.



Kid L. Williams - 330th Inf. Regt. 83rd Div.  
Aug. 15 Camp Atterbury Ind. - 1992

On June 29th, 1992, the Cleveland Chapter held its meeting at the home of Casey and Elanor Szubski in Parma Ohio. There were 25 members and 15 ladies in attendance. The events of our National Division Reunion Meeting in Omaha led the discussions. Also, it was decided to hold our Christmas party at Ruggles Inn, 3801 Harvard Ave., Cleveland on Dec. 12th. After the meeting we had a delicious dinner served by our chef's Mike Mizerack and George Calore. "Drinks A Plenty".

On July 26th our monthly meeting was held at Mike and Ann Mizerack's home in North Royalton OH. We had a special birthday cake for members who's birthdays were in July: Al Lacinaki, Earl Lt. Linsey, Bob Miller, Paul Dallos and Dominis Christopher. Dominis Christopher supplied the party with chin-lickin' ribs prepared by our chef's Mike Mizerack and George Calore.. The meeting was well attended and good time was had by all. Sam Bass (C Co. 329) had a heart attack in July. He is up and around now and we were glad to see him at our September meeting.

On August 8th, All members of the Cleveland Chapter of the 83rd attended the 50th Wedding Anniversary party for Walter and Mary Meczka at St. Michael's Woodside Hall in Broadview Heights, OH. The couple repeated their vows in St. Michael's Church before the party. The celebration was great. I must congratulate Lt. Col. Lewis M. Tenney and Col. Jorg Stachel Indiana National Guard for their efforts with Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial Association Park. The dedication on August 15, was enjoyed by Clevelanders Mr. & Mrs. Kid Williams (HO 2Bn. 330), and Earl Deisher (A. Co. 329). A nice luncheon was served at the Officers Club. We viewed the camp by bus and foot. It brought alot of memories back to me when I had trained there.

On September 20th, 26 members and 17 wives attended the meeting at the F.O.P. Hall in Bedford. We had a good turn out for our first indoor gathering this fall. It was good to see Julie and Joe Lanza (A. Co. 331) from Dover, OH. Mary Dallos, who is recovering from a broken hip in July was able to make the meeting along with Bob Miller, despite an eye problem.

Our next meeting is in October at the F.O.P. hall in Bedford. New members are always welcome!

Kid L. Williams  
Ho. 2 Bn. 330  
Cleveland Staff Reporter

(Hey Guys look we got pictures in this time!!!)

## New England Chapter



Boy was that Food & Drinks good!



Our great New England girls.



Bring on the food!



Where are you Nick & Karl!



First meeting since WWII Mike Champy, Judge Tony Nugent, Nick Francullo.



Our Adopted Kids & Cooks.

Hi you all: A little late news before reunion.

On June 28 we all headed for John and Ester Ferriers estate in Chelmsford Mass. The weather was beautiful and a great turn out.

We had good old Chuck Abdinor, Spike McCortin, the Davis's, Rudd's, Chempey's, Brennans, Francullo's, Petrucci's, Smith's, Sousa's and the surprise of the day was to see Jim & Georgia Emanuel from Fla.

We would like to thank John and Ester's sons Larry, John, son-in-law Ray and daughter Jacklin, and daughter-in-law Pauline and Liz for putting on such a great barbecue and for our appreciation we presented them all with our 83rd Tee shirt and Boy they were overjoyed receiving them. Thanks again gang.

Now for the reunion report.

Thanks Central Plains Chapter for putting on another fine reunion.

Our New England Chapter was well represented. We had the Brennens, Smiths, Francullos, Ferrieras, Abdinoors, Collins, Atkocins, Farias, Davis, Champeys, Petrucci's, Messina's, Tartaglio, Petittis, Muders, Burkard and grand daughter Erica, Ken O'Connell and Wilfred Burdin and if I missed anyone I am sorry.

This was an extra special reunion for me to meet good old buddy Wilfred Burdin from K. Co. 330 for the first time and we talked about old times. It was good seeing you Wilfred and hope to see you again and I also had the good fortune of meeting Tony Nugent of 330th Med from Kansas City Mo. We talked about K. Co. and about 3rd Bn. Hq. Co. 330 Communication Plt. that was buried alive in Stress Germany and what names we remembered of some other 330th members.

Tony is a retired Federal Judge in Kansas City and tells me that he is working harder now Ha! Ha! Ha! Hope to see you again, Judge.



We had a lot of continued vacation after this reunion. The Brennans took off for Utah to see their daughter and son-in-law Major Mike David and children. John & Ester Ferriers were driving to Calif. Chuck & Bernice Abdinor were driving and sight seeing their way back home. The Burkhard's were going to Kansas and then home. The Pettitties were going to Las Vegas and then home to Fla. The Collins were driving back home to Conn. All the rest just headed back home and I hope you all had a good and safe trip back home.

The Brennans and Francullo's rented a car for the week and we went to Boystown, Old Market Place, S.A.C./Air Base and the Rain Forest and enjoyed them all and the eating places. When we turned in the car we had put on 200 miles on it Ha! Ha! Great time.

I received this letter from Bill & Betty Daves. I am writing a few lines on what's been happening with us in the past few months.

This has been quite a year for the Davis's. Bill had a heart attack in Jan. and in July Betty had her 50th class reunion.

They had 3 days of activities to celebrate and Bill was able to join her and the other classmates.

Then in Aug. we had two special happy occasions. On Aug 21st one of Bill's best buddies during WWII came to the reunion in Omaha for the first time and he brought his wife there son and daughter-in-law. His name is Phil Mann from Co. B 308 Engrs.

What a happy reunion for us and all the other fellows from Co. B.

After arriving home and resting for a few days Bill & Betty celebrated their 50th anniversary on Aug 26th, but had their party on Sat. the 29th.

Thanks Bill & Betty for your letter and hope you and Bill will have a long life together.

That is it for now

Your Buddy

Nick Francullo

Hq. Co. 3rd Bn 330th

P.S. If there is any National Members who would like to join New England Chapter - you are welcome. Thanks.

## Philadelphia Chapter

In August, thanks to the efforts of Lou and Lucy Volpi, nine of us from the Philadelphia area flew from the Philadelphia Airport to the Omaha Reunion. Flight tickets were at a premium at that time, and when the dust settled, we found that while our ultimate destination was Omaha, we came by way of several different airports as starters. Other airports used were the Allentown, Chicago, Minneapolis and Pittsburgh Airports. Tony Harbon and Manny Lima, among others, came by car.



The rain forest at the Henry Doorly Zoo in Omaha. Standing on the elevated walk: George Pletcher, Jean Pletcher & Margaret Daum.



Ann Belvedere, Lucy Volpi, Mgt. Daum & Jean Pletcher at the Leon Myers Stamp Center at Boys Town. The 600 lb. ball of stamps was made by Boys youths in the early 1950's.

We were all rather new to the Omaha area as none of us had been in that part of the country before, but by the end of the week, we had enjoyed our stay so much that we were a little reluctant to leave.

We arrived on Wednesday afternoon and the very next morning our sightseeing began. By bus we went from the hotel to Boys Town and that was an experience not quickly forgotten. To begin with, the country is beautiful and the dedication by the faculty and staff at that center is obvious. Our tour guide, who boarded our bus at the Visitors' Center, just graduated from high school and had earned a scholarship for college to begin in September. He was relaxed with us, and a good guide. Among a few of the many things we learned ----. To begin, the town has its own police and fire departments on the premises. As the boys get older, there are attractive homes on the premises and each is occupied by a married couple who take responsibility for the development of their charges. For part of the day, and for several hours a day, each boy has a choice of either a sports activity or an occupational activity tied in with the farm and gardening programs that keep the grounds and the gardens productive and attractive. As the boys get older, they then receive a small salary for the increase in the responsibilities they have undertaken. They receive half of this salary each month, and the second half is put into a fund for them to be received at graduation. Our tour guide, by the way, had graduated recently and had earned a scholarship to college beginning in September.

We learned too that there is now a new addition to Boys Town. At the present time there is housing for fifteen girls who are now residing there. Father Flanagan had started his missionary efforts with five boys, and as this serious need for homes for girls became apparent, the building of attractive housing was started, as well as the selection of couples to occupy the homes with the girls. As with Father Flanagan's original effort to take in five boys, five girls were selected at a time to meet the need for help in this area. The number of girls has now increased to fifteen, and with the amount of ground available, expansion in all probability will continue.

In the course of our tour, we were taken through the new chapel built for Jewish and non-Catholic children. It had just been completed and fits right in with the surrounding architecture.

There is thought and dedication all around you, and as you continue through the large and sprawling landscape you start to absorb a part of it. This whole concept of education and discipline, as well as healthy relaxation, stays with you.

The following day, Friday, we visited the Henry Doorly Zoo in the Omaha area which contains some rare and endangered species, such as the white tiger, the snow leopard and the red panda. On this same expanse of land, the Lied Jungle was created. It is



a 1 1/2 acre re-created rain forest representing Asia, Africa and South America. What is so remarkable about this rain forest is the creation of man-made rocks to illustrate the appearance of the jungle, as well as narrow passages and at times high bridges that extend over an area at a safe distance below where large jungle animals are free to roam.

On Saturday morning the business meeting was held, and then that evening the banquet was held. The staff with the responsibility for the dinner, as well as for the decorations in the ballroom, is to be commended. Everything was so well done.

Traffic to the airport was brisk on Sunday morning, and we left with warm memories of a very special reunion, and very special people whom we had not seen for such a long time.

John G. Daum

## Warren Chapter

As I write this article, the summer season is over, the trees are changing colors and the Christmas Holidays is just around the corner. Our 1992 reunion in Omaha, Neb. was a huge success and everyone is already talking about Florida in 1993. Three couples from Warren were in attendance in Omaha -- Mike and Liz Skovran, Charlie and Ann Tomazin and Joe and Angie Phillipon reports that they had a wonderful time there.

We still hold our meetings on the third Sunday of each month, and of course you are all welcome to attend. We were pleased to have Louis Sandini, from the Boston Chapter attend our July meeting at Paradise Lake. He and Charlie Tomazin were buddies in the E.T.O. Lou played golf with us, won some prizes and enjoyed the picnic spread, supplied by our wonderful ladies. Lou also took some pictures of our golfers (enclosed). Our last outdoor golf/picnic will be our annual October steak fry. Charlie Tomazin is in charge of the Barbecue, so we are looking forward to his delicious steaks.



Liz and Mike Skovran at Camp Atterbury.

George and Louise Bellay were in town for a week and went back to Cincinnati the day before our September meeting, at Ash Hills Golf Course. At this meeting it was a pleasure to welcome back to our chapter, John and Helen Caparanis. John owns "Caps Lumber Co. and still goes to work everyday. Also election of officers were held and the same slate was voted back into office:

PRESIDENT -- Charlie Tomazin  
VICE PRESIDENT -- John Shamrock  
SEC'Y-TREAS. -- Mike Skovran

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY -- To Babe and Theresa Gautschi and Dolly and Ted Halubka on the death of Mrs. Hannah Smart -- Theresa and Dolly's mother on June 23rd, also to Theresa and Babe on the death of Joey Songer, the husband of their daughter Kathy. Joey was the owner of several trucks and was killed in an accident on the Ohio Turnpike, August 10th. His demise forced Babe and Theresa to cancel their plans to be in Omaha.

GET WELL WISHES TO -- Dolly Halubka who suffered a heart attack the day after they buried her mother, Hannah. She had quadruple heart surgery and since June has been back in the hospital on six different occasions. Hang in there Dolly, we all love you and our prayers for a complete recovery are for you.

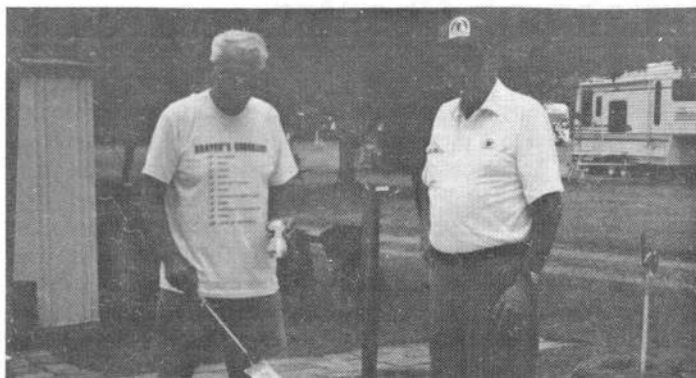
Birdie and Lee Titus, are celebrating the birth of their third Great-Granddaughter. Eight of their fifteen grandchildren are past the age of twenty-one, so marriages and more great-grandchildren are in the future.



L. to R. Golf Course, N. Priebe, H. Kaiser and practice swing B. Gautschi.



L. to R. Golf Course, L. Sandini, C. Tomazin, M. Skovran, L Titus



L. to R. Paradise Lake - B. Guatschi, C. Tomazin



L. to R. - Golf Course, Tititus, J. Shamrock, W. Mandat.



At Omaha Reunion L. to R. Angie and Joe Phillipone, Liz and Mike Skovran, Monica, Joe and Mena Macaluso

Some of you Veterans from the 908th F.A. BTN. might like to send a card to Richard Kelly, who lives at 214 Oregon Ave. N.W., Warren, Ohio 44485. Dick is suffering from alzheimer disease and a card might cheer him up.

Well thats about enough bad news from Warren, however all of us wish to extend to all in the 83rd, our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and a special Good Health and Good Luck for 1993.

Lee Titus, Co. G 331st



## Kentucky Chapter

Call it asleep at the wheel, A.W.O.L., or whatever I apologize to those who noticed I didn't have a report in the last Issue. Just like in the service I do have a good excuse. Caught up in all the emotion of a 50th wedding anniversary on June 6th and trying to do just like 50 years ago I somehow had my attention diverted enough to miss getting in my report.

The report on the ailing is up to date as of Aug. 24th, I called Cecil Walters and Henry Whalen, Cecil spent a month and a day in the hospital in May, he is a lot better but still has problems, also Nora Lee is to have surgery on her knee. Henry Whelan spent 9 days in the Hospital, also in May he like Cecil also had lung problems and is still not up to par. Cecil would like to thank everyone for the flowers and get well cards he has received. I saw Norm Weeks at Atterbury he said his surgery on his leg had helped a lot and he looked real good that is if you can say a old Artilleryman can look good to a old Infantry Man. Maxine Hamilton is scheduled for surgery on her hip Sept. 8th in Indianapolis, hope every-one get's well soon.

The Kentucky Chapter Meeting for summer was held June 12 and 13 at Batesville Inn. Abely hosted by Ames and Helen Miller, Bill and Nancy Ledger. My log book showed attendance of 48. We were glad to have Manny and Avalon Goodridge, and Gale and Irene Baker back with us. Friday we visited Weberdings Carvings chops in Batesville they do a lot of special orders and commercial work, some very intricate carvings. Sat. we toured Immaculate Conception Academy in Oldenburgh a large place with some stained glass windows that were very beautiful. Then on to Metamora where a large water wheel drives a mill this dates back many years and is surrounded with craft shops, gift shops, that feature many unique items along with places to eat.

On Fri. night a show and tell was held, any item could be used. Helen Miller displayed her dolls, she made; (ceramic) very beautiful and good craftsmanship. Vi Day showed a few of the many Santas she has in her lovely collection. Mildred Dogget showed her Cardinal bird she handcarved out of a block of wood that came from one of my storm destroyed trees to carve a totem pole like the Eskimos) She also displayed a collectors plate and painting that I don't know how to describe except lovely. Pearl Derickson displayed quite a few of her spoons that she has collected and some her children have given her. Far away as Egypt.

Quite a collection. Doris Fay displayed a beautiful cross-stitch wall hanging (foot prints in the sand) that she made as a gift to the minister who was leaving their church. Clara displayed what she calls a stone cold meal it is made out of rocks "she is a avid rock-hound". She brought along lunch as it is her smallest meal and we are pressed for room as Lindas oxygen equipment is so bulky. Ames displayed a odd item that no one knew what it was, he explained that it was a lawnmower, I had never seen one look like it and sure am glad I never had to push one like it. Bill Ledger displayed some old tins that some collector would like to have had. Irene Baker brought down the house when she said (I hope I have this right) that not knowing we were going to have the show and tell all she brought along was Gale and if he wasn't going to show she wasn't going to tell.

As was at last meeting several couples were honored for this being the year of their 50th wedding anniversary, they were. Manny and Avalon Goodridge, Wally and Frances Roberts, Gale and Irene Baker, Homer and Ruth Rickenbaugh, Paul and Ruth Lear and Herman and Margret Bledsoe however Margret was unable to be at the meeting. They were asked to tell how they met and some of their stories are good material for a soap opera.



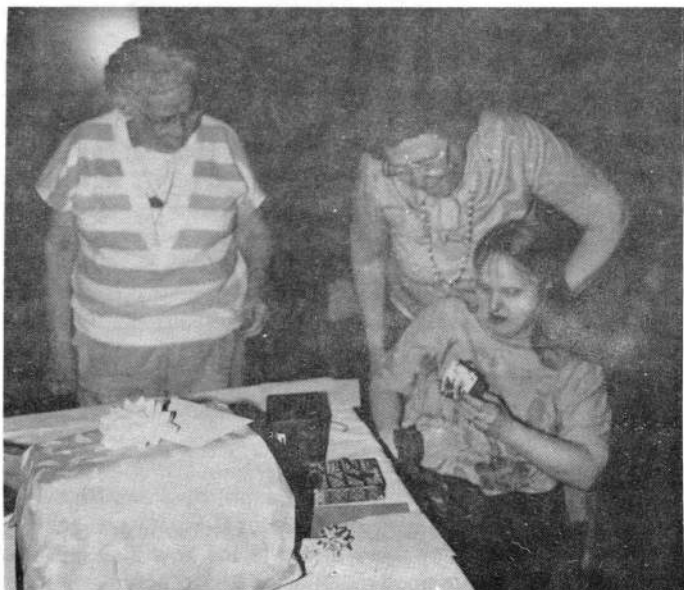
Shortly after Batesville Frances Roberts reported that Wally fell and put a knot on his head blacked both eyes and bent his glasses out of shape.

I saw several of the Kentucky Chapter at the Atterbury Dedication, it was well attended although not as many as I had expected, the 83rd Division seemed to be the best represented; the black and gold of the 83rd stood out like a sore thumb. After the dedication we had lunch at the officers club then attended a memorial service at the chapel in the old 331 Inf. area. Ames and Helen Miller and L.T.C. (IGR) Lew Tenny of the Kentucky Chapter were presented beautiful plaques for their contributions to getting the Memorial completed I know they spent many hours of their time in both heat and cold as it was a long drawn out job. I called or wrote many from my old outfit and it turned out that there were four from my old Company who attended. Keith Killion from Washington In. John Leonard from Greenville Pa. and Santo Zirilli from Philadelphia it was the first time I had seen Santo since 1945 when we left Pfarrkirchen Germany. What a thrill to see someone after all these years, John and I get together every two or three years and Keith lives not too far from where I do. Bob Derickson was one of the guest speakers representing the 83rd and the Kentucky chapter. While at Atterbury visiting, or I should say trying to find, Lew Tenny, I ran into Col. Stachel, and had a nice talk with him. I was very impressed with his enthusiasm for the memorial project and desire not to quit now but to build a permanent type museum for indoor displays, we need more to get behind him and get going on this.

The ladies gave our daughter Linda a birthday party on Saturday night. It was a surprise party but I think it began to dawn on Linda when Pearl made the very touching speech of how she came to know Linda, thanks Pearl for a good job handling the ceremony and thanks to all you ladies and everyone who gave so generously to make someone who loves you all so very happy, the lovely birthday cake was the crowning touch to a happy event and I am sure there were several moist eyes before it was over. Clara and I thank you all for caring so much.

Don't forget the fall meeting Oct. 16 & 17th at LaFayette Georgia, hosted by Larry and Jesse Dalton and Mr. & Mrs. Dunkin or the Christmas Party held Dec. 11 and 12th at Piqua Ohio hosted by Bob and Lois Brinkman, Al and Dorothy Henry and Fred and Doris McGowen.

Kentucky Chapter Reporter  
Leroy V. Johnson  
3rd BN. HQ. Co. 331st INF



## Pittsburgh Chapter

This years Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 12 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at Ciccanti's Ristorante on Route 51 S in Large, Pa. This location is five miles from our meeting site at Brentwood VFW 1810 on the same highway. These hours were chosen after much discussion because a number of our members have difficulty driving at night. On August 5 Quadacanal Day was observed at Post 1810 with a luncheon and entertainment for sixty veterans from a local VA hospital. The chapter participated in this endeavor with Joe Danylo, Bill Mattes, Jim McCulla, Matt Pinter and Al Suess volunteering their services. Jules Desgain purchased a 1939 Chevrolet staff car for \$800. It still has the one star painted on the front doors.. He has intentions of restoring it at a later date. Andy Churpak and his lovely wife Marg celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on Sunday, August 2. This was our monthly meeting date and Andy did not miss the meeting. Congratulations Andy and Marg. Joe DeLuca's granddaughter Megan Kerns was class valedictorian of the Monessen High Class of 1992. A card was received from Gertrude Blasko on the condition of her husband and former chapter secretary Steve. It seems he is unable to drive and has confusion problems at times. He was sent our usual gift for hospitalized members -- a basket of fruit. Sometime after this word was received Joe DeLuca ran into him at a local shopping center. Sal Scicolone and his wife Theresa left in September for a 10 day tour of Italy. Sal has a niece in Rome and intends to visit her. Ed Walsh's wife Dottie was scheduled to enter the hospital in mid-October to have fluid removed from her lungs. Gene Costanzo and friend Flo Bogan spent two weeks in Hawaii recently. Joe and Julie DeLuca and Greer Thompson attended the Veterans' Memorial Dedication at Camp Atterbury on August 15. According to them it was a very impressive day-long program. In fact Joe wore a dedication sweat shirt to the october meeting that he purchased there.

The following attended the 1992 reunion in Omaha in August: Ralph Baron, Francis and Joann Beerhalter with daughter Ann, Charles Caven, Gene Costanzo and friend Flo Bogan, Joe Danylo, William and Anne DeMarino, Jules and Agnes Desgain, Paul and Rita Diethrich, William and Blanche Harrold, Mike Kadylak, Lawrence and Sue Leonardi, John Marek, Michael Rudy and friend Salie Ankney, Al Suess, along with Ladies Auxiliary member Helen Allen. Also attending was former chapter and now Florida Chapter member Lou Kanes.

Fran Beerhalter, H 329

### H Co. 329th

Francis Beerhalter, Wendell Horvath, Bill Carpenter, Ed Cox, Ernie Smith, "Mousie" Farias, William Morris, Art Federici and E. J. Fitzgerald attended this past reunion. This was the first for Bill Morris since back in the 1940's. It was the first for Ed Firtzgerald, 3rd Platoon leader. He is a practicing physician at St. Joseph Medical Center, Wichita, Kansas. Bill Carpenter attended for the first time in a number of years due to his heart condition.

Fran Beerhalter





## New Jersey Chapter

The consensus of those who attended the reunion in Omaha from the New Jersey Chapter was it was a nice reunion. It was interesting as most of us had not been to that part of the country. We thought the reunion and the activities at the hotel were planned and run well by Ed Haynes and his committees, and for that we thank each person who labored to make this reunion a successful one.

Fran and I, along with Joe DePeri and Fred and Addie Rein arrived on the same plane. Also on the same plane we were pleasantly surprised to see George Foster (Co. F 330). Emil Wehling and Ted and Irene Guzek had taken an earlier flight to get a jump on us.

Not knowing the situation in Omaha and the location of the hotel being on the outskirts of the city, where a car is necessary, we made the mistake of not renting a car. Then again our dining and touring group had grown to ten and a van would have been needed. The hotel tried to accommodate us with their two vans, but there were too many groups and too far to travel to restaurants and sites of interest. We did get to Old Market Square as a group, and some of us were to the SAC Museum/Air Base Tour where the following day an air show was being held. We did get to see some World War 2 vintage planes flying at the base preparing for the show. Some of the women went on the Rain Forest and Joslyn Museum Tours while the men were at the meetings.

We are again in agreement that the Banquet should start at 6 PM earlier by an hour no later than 6 PM. Take in consideration that most people have to be up very early Sunday morning for their trip home. It was a shame to see but a very few remaining for the music and dancing. The sixteen piece swing orchestra playing the forties and fifties music were booked till twelve and at a little past eleven, only six people remained in the hall. We hope in the future reunions this will be remedied.

Others from the chapter who were at the reunion - Manny Epstein I believe tried every steak house in Omaha. You could tell by the roundness of his gut. - Sam and Edith Manzi had a great time being with their Co. K 330th buddies. Sam was designated to handle the recording equipment for the marching music at the memorial service. Sam's expertise showed as not nary a slip. Fred and Nellie Messina also from Co. K were very involved. Nellie at the registration desk and Fred doing a number of duties to help out. These two are a great asset to our association and should be recognized for all the work they have contributed to many of our reunions.

As the reunion is held the third week of August, it also falls on Joe DePeri's birthday. At the dinner Friday night there was no dessert, that is for every other table but ours. Joe to celebrate his birthday went out to the hotel restaurant and purchased three delicious dessert cakes for us to enjoy at his party. Now, I'm not sure, but could this had been the reason why dessert was included at the banquet.

It was great to see Cookie and Jim Seneca at the reunion. Father and son are two wonderful people and a pleasure to be with. Jim would have been right in place with the orchestra as he played saxophone with a swing band for a number of years. We missed Mary but remember her with love. She was a lovely lady.

Charlie Sihlanick as usual had a ball with his artillery buddies. Charlie at our recent meeting told me "I found the best steak house in Omaha all for \$9.95". How come the rest of you were paying \$26.00 and more. Mary Sihlanick wasn't at the reunion as she is still ailing. We miss you Mary.

Joe and Dot Skurka drove out to Omaha and got there a couple of days early. They had already seen most of the attractions when we arrived. After the reunion they continued on to tour

the west and spent a few days in Las Vegas. All together they were gone for three weeks. Dot called us to tell us she did very good at the machines in Vegas.

Emil Wehling wasn't felling well at the reunion and upon returning home went in for tests and today is recuperating in a hospital from surgery to remove a benign tumor. Get well soon buddy.

Saw Don and Twyla Theibolt at the reunion. Both looked well and were their usual jovial selves. Don has been laying low on his playing golf. You trophy winners in Omaha lucked out because of this.

George Foster and friend were also touring the west after the reunion. Al and Ruth Bensimon were joining a Tauck Tour in South Dakota. Too bad you folks didn't let some of us know your intentions we could have tried to get a group of 83rds to join you.

Wayne Green the communications officer for 1st Bn., 331 Inf. made his first reunion. Wayne left the 83rd in August 1945 and was recalled to serve during the Korean War. He went on to serve in the reserves and retired with the rank of Lt. Colonel. Now lives in Tulare, California and enjoys the good life, playing lots of golf both here and a annual trip to Scotland to play their famous courses. I really enjoyed the time I spent with Wayne at the reunion reminiscing. He was a good Officer then and just as nice a guy now. He asked me to extend his Good Wishes to all members of Headquarters Company.

Other News.....Has anyone noticed the unusually high tides we are experiencing along the Jersey Coast. I wonder if it has anything to do with the number of ship cruises Joe and Hazel Barton have been on recently. The weight of six meals a day has to show up somewhere.

Joe Macaluso called me to tell me that Joe Kuzma of Co. G, 331 was in the hospital. I knew that Kuzma had a serious illness and yet when he would call me, he rarely mention it. Our best wishes to Joe.

Father Francis McCartin called me before the reunion to tell me that duties elsewhere prevent him from attending. Also to convey to all the members and friends his best wishes and blessings. His brother Bill and Gloria didn't make the reunion as they were in California to see their new grandson. Best Wishes to all the family.

I personally want to extend to Lee and Dorothy Hetrick on their 50th Wedding Anniversary my best wishes and many more years of happiness together.

Chapter Activities - Fred and Addie Rein are having a picnic at their home for the members. I'm sure we'll have a good time as the ladies are bringing lots of good food and the guys are bringing their appetites.

The Chapter Christmas Party will be held December 5th at the Landmark Inn in Woodbridge. Fred Rein will send out notices with menu and costs. If any of you who hasn't received a notice and wants to attend get in touch with Fred at 201-276-4256.

Question to Mike and Liz Skovran??? Was that your shining new Caddy that was blinding our pilot as we flew over Iowa. At the rate you were going you might have arrived home before we did. We didn't get home until 9:30 that night because our flight out of Chicago was cancelled. The plane had a leak in one of the windows and couldn't hold the cabin pressure.

We in the chapter want to extend to all 83rds our sincere hope and best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season and a Healthy 1993. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!!!

Stan Bielen

1st Bn. Hdqs. 331

## Boston Chapter

Since my last report, our May meeting was held at the home of Phylis and Frank Scott. Frank enjoys riding his motor bike around the Estate I'm told. It's a good thing that Phylis is cool tempered. I was unable to attend the Scotts as a family wedding was taking place the same time in Cape Cod. Hy Goodman and Bob Hunnewell told me it was a good time and there were 37 attending. Phylis you did a good job putting out the chow, the boys and girls were well fed.

June meeting was at Rose and Frank Young's in Marblehead, Ma. Frank played the piano. We all sang and had a glass of good cheer after which the singing improved. President Larry Arrigo was missing from the meeting. Pat DiGiammerino took over for Larry. After the meeting Rose put out a lot of food and nobody seemed to be dieting but Hunnewell. Bob is trying to get down to 329th I Company weight. Many thanks to Frank and Rose for a nice time.

Boston Chapter had their July meeting on China Lake in Maine at the home of Don and Marlene Bernier. They have a great spot right on the Lake. It was an all day affair. Friday and Saturday night we went to the Waterville, Me. American Legion. That place was alive. Most of us stayed at the Econolodge Motel. The meeting was on Saturday with a cookout before and after the meeting. We had a lot of 83rds from Maine in attendance. Sunday morning everyone was invited to Bernier's for breakfast before returning home.

Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino had a meeting in August before the trip to Camp Atterbury and the Reunion in Omaha, Ne. It was a good meeting. Ginny always does a good job getting the chow out.

Several of us went to Omaha. Charlie Lussier told me that a lot also went to Camp Atterbury. One of the members is writing on that trip for me.

The last meeting was held in Holden, Ma. at the home of Joe and Terry Vaudreuil. Larry Arrigo our President was very thankful for the Meeting. Terry held Baseball Training Camp teaching the men how to hit. Dick Armstrong won the Hitting Contest for the 329th Infantry and may get a chance with the Red Sox in 1993. Thanks to Terry and Joe for a nice time from all 27 in attendance. Terry your directions were perfect.

I have checked out our meeting attendance for the last 12 meetings. There have been between 25 to 46 at the meetings. This is a good record considering we have a meeting each month, covering many miles.

Our sick list is heavy this month. Frank Scott is doing well and is going to have the October Meeting at his house in Florence, MA. Mike Amicone, Tom Papile, Ray Bjork, Lowell Claxton and Don Bernier all are home recovering.

Well, thats it for now.

Amby Tynan

Boston Chapter Reporter

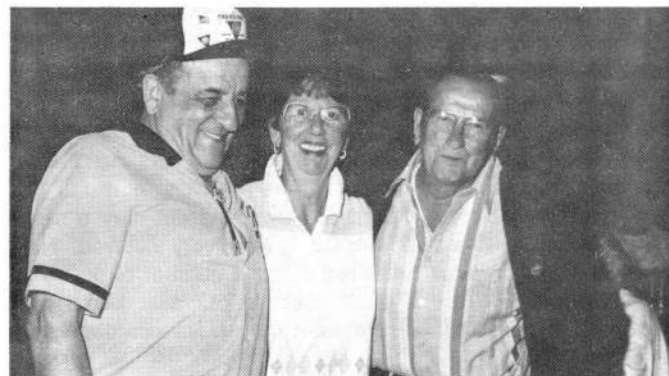
P.S. Thanks to Grace Brick for the wonderful entertainment on the Bus in Omaha, Ne. I must say Grace that Howie Carblom missed a good time this year. Grace Brick has been a good worker for the 83rd and also keeping the 908 FA BN. together. Maybe Howie will share his vegetable garden with us. Huh!



Chow line China Lake Maine -- Boston Chapter

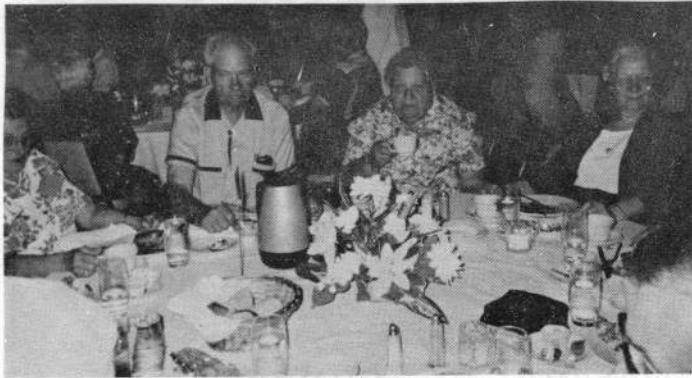


Joe and Terry Vaudreuil's home -- Boston Chapter



Joe and Terry Vaudreuil's , new Boston Chapter members.

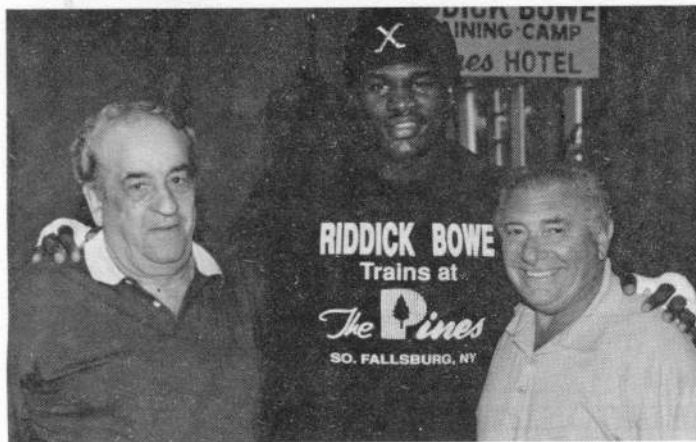




Some of the Boston Chapter Group.



Play Ball! Joe & Terry's place, Holden, Mass.  
- Boston Chapter



Hopefully when you see this photo he'll be the new heavy-weight champion.



## CAMP ATTERBURY VETERANS MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Mr. Pat Di Giammerino  
36 E. Border Rd.  
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Pat:

We, at Camp Atterbury, are greatly indebted to you and the Boston Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division.

We are indeed grateful for your WWII sacrifices as well as your generosity and support of the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial.

Your large turnout for the ceremony and your presentation of the 83rd Division Colors were a great tribute to the leadership and spirit of the "Thunderbolt" Division.

I am keeping your colors posted in the Post Headquarters Commanders Hall and it will be displayed at the memorial during future official functions.

It was a wonderful experience for me to pay tribute to you and your fellow veterans and I invite all of you to stop for a visit with us during your future travels.

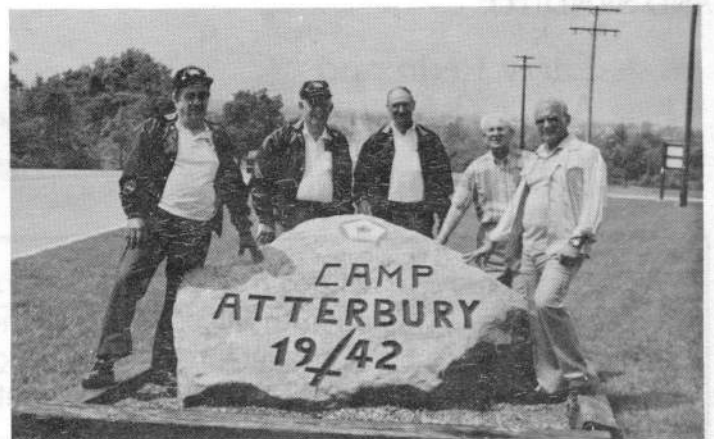
Sincerely,

JORG STACHEL

Colonel, Indiana Army National Guard  
Post Commander and President  
Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial



Bob Derickson using his camera. Pat DiGiammerino making presentation of the 83rd. National flag and it's five battle streamers to Colonel Stachel.





# **47th ANNUAL REUNION 83rd INFANTRY DIV. ASS'N.**

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**PLEASE CIRCLE THE SIZE AD YOU PREFER:**

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**MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

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**AND SEND TO:**

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Apt. F-1 Evergreen Club Apt.  
3041 West Chester Pike  
Broomal, PA 19008

Frank Sharp  
5050 Filmore Street  
Beverly Hills, FL 32665

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, 1993. This will give the printer time to set-up the book and print it. Thank you. We are most grateful for your cooperation.

FLORIDA CHAPTER

# 83rd Infantry Division Association

## 47th Annual Reunion

Sept. 29-30 Oct. 1-2, 1993

You May Come 5 Days Early + Reunion Dates or  
5 Days After Reunion Dates At The Reunion Room Rate.

Howard Johnson Hotel Welcomes You  
600 N. Atlantic Ave.  
Daytona Beach, FL 32118

For Convention Assistance  
Call Kelly Roan  
1-800-767-4471  
FAX 904-253-7543

1st 147 Rooms are ocean view  
rooms and will be assigned first.  
Reservations will open Jan. 1,  
1993

Flat Rate of \$50.00 Per Room + Tax

### RESERVATION REQUEST

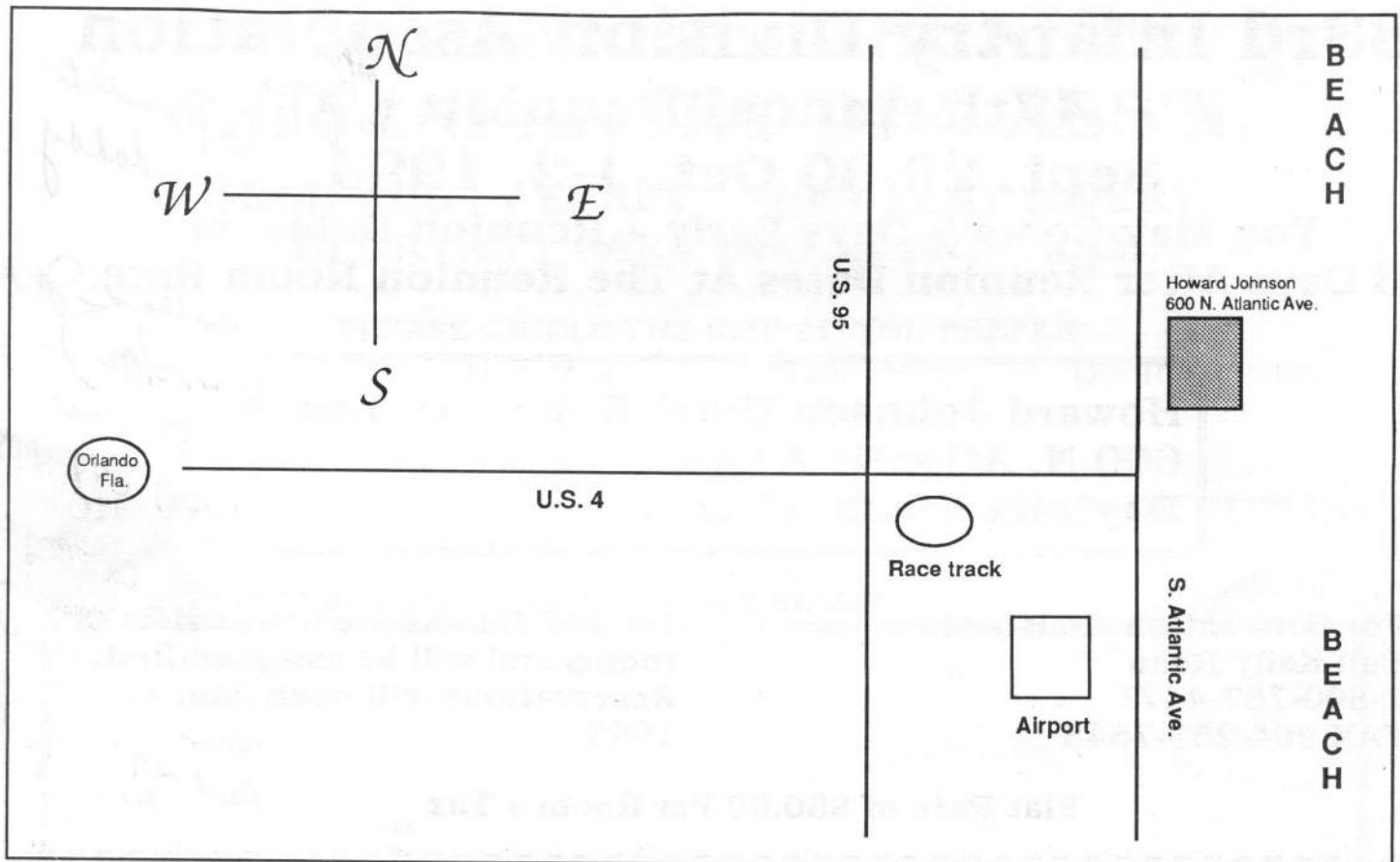
- ☐ 1 Person - 1 Bed ☐ 3 Person - 2 Bed
- ☐ 2 Persons - 2 Beds ☐ 4 Persons - 2 Beds
- ☐ FIRST NIGHT 50.00 DEPOSIT is required. If I have to cancel, I must do so before 6 P.M. on day of arrival.
- ☐ Credit Card Number Guarantee of Any Major Card:  
Dinner Club \_\_\_\_\_ Master \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Check if Handicapped.

To avoid duplication, please submit one reservation card only for a guest room to be shared by two or more people. To help with pre-registration, list all names of guests in this room.

Please print names of guests or members

1. _____	( ) member ( ) guest
2. _____	( ) member ( ) guest
3. _____	( ) member ( ) guest
4. _____	( ) member ( ) guest

Signature and address for confirmation





# Company News

## CO. "G" 329th INF

Luella & Sterling Rubright from Pa. Babe and Howie Freitag from N.J. were guests of Lois and Bob Brinkman of Ohio.

After two days of great food and that pie! We left for Camp Atterbury to see the dedication ceremony. It was beautiful!

Helen and Ames Miller received a plaque for all their work.

We then went back to Brinkmans for more delicious food and pie.



329th Boompas Band

We left on Wednesday for Omaha.

Lois Brinkman won a bear she named him Thunderbolt.

Two new members from Co. "G", Jo Anne and Norbert Bernat from South Dakota were welcomed.

Our Co. "G" Boompas Band went over great. Hope everybody enjoyed our music. We did.

The instruments were mostly made by Co. "G". The Ties were made by Luella Rubright.

Everybody played in our band from Co. "G" Grace and John Askey from Pa. Louis and Bob Brinkman, Etha and Harry Reynolds from Virginia, John Cupina from N.Y., Doris and John Fay from Illinois, Helen and Ames Miller from Indiana. New telephone No. 812-327-5028. Virginia and Vito Palazzolo from Michigan, Luella and Sterling Rubright from Pa., Joe Matczok from N.J., Virginia and Frank Markuns from Boston, Sylvia and Morris Gimple from Brooklyn., Jo Ann and Norbert Bernat from South Dakota., Tony Hronicich, N.J., Babe and Howie Freitag N.J.

Since 1969 Lois Brinkman Ohio and Luella Rubright have been buying material and patterns at the reunion and the next year wearing them. This was the last year. Picture enclosed.

Hope everyone noticed the Polka Dancers. Virginia Markun and Tony Hronicich.

The Robrights went to Branson Missouri. Reynolds to Nashville. Markuns thru the West. Brinkman and Freitag toured Aman's Idaho.

Bob and Howie think they are the pinnacle champs; NOT  
Babe Freitag



Since 1969 Lois Brinkman and Louella Rubright made the dresses for every Reunion. Last One!

## 329 "B" Bag

Sorry we couldn't make the reunion this year. I heard "B" Co. had a fairly good turn out at the reunion. The Pirkles, Taylors, Hirko's, Beams, Dicksons, Waddle, Kane, Ballard and Kitty Thomas, and heard all had a great time. Now for the bad news.

On Behalf of "B" Co. I would like to express our deepest sympathy to "Red" Geyer and his family on the loss of his wife Eileen. They were a grand couple. Hang in there Red.

Right after the reunion I received two phone calls, one from Kitty Thomas, and also from Frank Bollard that Jesse Pirkle had a heart attack and was in the hospital I.C. Unit. I called him and found him at home, and taking it easy. Hope to see you and Carolyn in Daytona next year.

Finally I heard that Cliff Melton had a bad accident cutting grass on his estate, and broke his ankle in a couple of places. It's ironic that someone to go all through the war with a few scratches, and get hurt by a lawn mower. What a way to get out of work around the house. Don't take pity on him Lucille.

Now for some good news. The Steks survived Hurricane Andrew, Thank God. My wife and I went to memorial dedication at Camp Atterbury. The memorial and the show put on for the spectators was very impressive. I saw more brass there than anytime I can remember. Great memories were brought back as we toured the area. I couldn't find where our barracks stood. The memorial committee should be congratulated. As they say a good time was enjoyed by all.

### Another "B" Co. short story

While the company was stationed in Wrexham Wales, we were restricted to the area by Capt. Shelton, for fighting in town. Jesse Farese, from Springfield Mass., a hellava athlete was visited by his brother, a fighter pilot Captain. He asked if he could take Jesse to town for a last time. Capt Shelton said no. Then the two Captains got into a big argument and finally he told to Shelton to take off his bars and settle it outside. Again Shelton refused and told him he had 5 minutes to say goodbye to Jesse, or he'd call the MP's. It is ironic that Capt. Shelton was the First GI to be killed in action. He was hit on July 4. On July 11th Jesse Farese was killed in action while on a patrol. Jesse had the honor of capturing the first P.W. by "B" Co. I never heard what happened to Jesse's brother.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes to all in '93.

Know God - Know Peace

No God - No Peace

Bob Uher

"B" Co 329

1-216-885-1152

## Co. "F" 329th

It was Great! Down "Memory Lane" we went in grand style courtesy of the Central Plains Chapter who we congratulate for conducting an excellent 46th Reunion.

Signing in at Omaha were 11 men. It's unfortunate but we understand, we just don't all make it to each reunion, so we say to those who couldn't make it, you certainly were missed and set our sites on the coming year. The absence of the Trebonyaks and Zeruchas was due to health problems and wish them all a speedy recovery.

We are really grateful for the 11 and while this number is small in comparison with our overall potential it makes for a terrific time, especially when we can have our ladies with us.

Bill/Arlene Nickell of Port Charlotte, FL. were our longest travelers, with Bill/Lois Meyerhoeffer of "Staunton, Va. own couple driving the farthest. Others attending were Charles/Emma Anderson, OH, V.B Tex/Mildred Atchison, Tx, Wright J/Lucille Cotler, Ill., Bill/Margaret Ferguson, Mi., Dr. Marshall/DeLoris Keith, NC, Lloyd L./Verleen Lutkemier, Ne, Fred J/Betty Senatore, Mi., Bob/Lavona Whitcomb, OH and Dale R/Marge Lewis, Wi., who we are happy to acknowledge his brief association with "F" Co. before being evacuated and upon return being assigned to "H" Co. where he thankfully had a longer tenure.

Jack Seibert of Lincoln, NE., son of the late Wayne Seibert of "F" Co. visited with some of us on the 22nd. We were able to put names with a number of the pictures he had brought with him in a scrapbook. We enjoyed our chat with Jack and perhaps our paths will cross again sometime. Wayne would have been proud of him knowing he made the effort to meet his former buddies.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Mitzeftel and son of Red Cloud, NE. spent awhile with us in the hospitality room, also on the 22nd. Ray had a lung removed about a year ago and seems to be doing quite well considering the seriousness of the operation. While some of us were not acquainted with Ray while overseas we all felt the common bond that exists among us. Ray is a close friend of Bill Nickell. In combat they were together a lot as many of the pictures floating about indicated.

Instead of goldilocks and the 3 Bears, in Omaha it was Lutke-meier - Watson and Bears! Bears! Bears! good heavens. I've forgotten how many. How many Bears were there Luke?

You have all heard of calling the hogs Right! but how many of you have heard of calling the fish? Well out in Galatia, Ill. at the Cotter Ranch every evening Wright who's never wrong what I mean is he's always Wright drives his Buick Park avenue thru the fields down to his oversize pond with build in lagoons and calls the fish (fiddler catfish that is). You better stand back or you'll get mighty wet as they make the water boil coming in. These cats clean up every bit of food thrown to them. Now come on! you didn't think I was going to tell you they come in just because of Wright's melodious voice did you? Doc Keith, you'll recall we discussed this in Omaha, I was going to get a picture of it for you however when we got back to Illinois it was raining too hard, but you know I wouldn't pull your leg about this, Wright!, I mean right. But I digressed.

Our own computer whiz who keeps us informed or the Mad Major as Vic use to call Bill, kept us laughing with each performance.

I had a nice letter from Lt. Mort Goldman who was originally with "F" Co. at Atterbury, later transferred to Cannon Co., which provided enjoyable reading for older fellows in Omaha, even though Charles Anderson and myself were the only ones there who had been with "F" Co. at Atterbury.

Great pleasures of these reunions are like the following: Unex-

pected meetings of buddies, as was the case with our own Fred J. Senatori of Iron Mountain, Mi. and Larren Thacker of "H" Co. 329th from Vancouver, Wa. and the opportunity for a nice chat. The other is the thoughtfulness of then Lt. Arthur Wagner 2nd BN. 329th S-4 to bring an old newspaper clipping of 2 GIs and 2 French soldiers in St. Malo to show to the one GI in the picture he knew, Burnette Helleckson of "F" Co. Since Helleckson was not in attendance arrangements were made to get a photocopy of it to him, which I'm sure he will enjoy getting. These are only a couple of the expressions of camaraderie that are repeated time and again throughout the units at our reunions and help make us a terrific Association, together with the excellent leadership we have had over the years.

It was great to see Jim Prentice and Larry Redmond honored at the banquet. Thanks again Central Plains for the trip down "Memory Lane"

C. R. Bob Whitcomb



Jack Seibert, son of the late Wayne Seibert among his Dad's buddies.

## "B" BTRY 908 F.A. BN

We certainly had a fine turn-out from "B" BTRY. for the first reunion west of the Mississippi in Omaha, Nebraska. We had sixteen men and women in attendance and also Captain Ed Tetlak and Col. Del Jordan from "C" Btry. and Hdqtrs.

It was a great reunion and those in attendance were; Dick and Pat Bevins, Fla.; Vi and Jerry Wenzel, Arkansas; Mike and Victoria Bacha, Ohio; Nick and Cathy Bertovich, Pa.; Jules and Agnes Desgain, Pa. Ed and Helen Williams, Pa. Mike and friend, Sadie, Pa.; Helen Allen, Pa. and Jim Prentice, N.H.

Some of us had the pleasure of seeing John Prescott and family and also Past President John and Freda Hobbs at the ceremonies at Camp Atterbury, but they both were unable to make it to Omaha. The ones who did attend the ceremonies at Camp Atterbury really enjoyed the program, along with the V.I.P. treatment we received from Col. Jorg Stachel, Post Commander.

Jules Desgain, did his usual fine job as "Bn. Commander" at the Memorial Services in Omaha. I was sorry I was unable to spend much time with my buddy's, but next year will have plenty of time to sit and talk after stepping down as Board Chairman.

Dick Bevin's called up Mike Jarmoska after getting home and extended our best regards to him.

It should be a good reunion in September next year at Daytona Beach and hope to see as many "B" Btry. members as possible.

"Jim" Prentice



## **308th Engineers Battalion**

Another great weekend is now past: Our 83rd Division Reunion at Omaha, Nebraska. Of the 700-plus men, women and guests, our 308th Engineer Battalion was entertained, dined and wine, with non-stop visiting, reminiscing, picture-taking, and taking advantage of the great trips planned for us. There were about 60 of our 308th Engineer Battalion buddies and wives, guests in attendance.

Several of our Battalion people went on the trips that were planned: Bou's Town, Old Market Tours, Rain Forest Tour, SAC Museum? Air Base Tour, and Joslyn Museum Tour. Some of the ladies even found time to go to the Malls and shop and brouse.

We sorely missed our buddies who have passed away since our last Reunion that I have been informed of. In Co. A, we miss Robert Ryan, William Dunham, Henry Rogers, Dick Meyer, who with his wife, Luciane, were at our last Reunion in The Pines, New York. They has been living in Switzerland, but moved to the U.S. a few years ago. Dick had been in failing health the last several years. Also, Mike Liber, who died from a massive heart attack. Mike has been a smiling regular at past Reunions, always willing to help in any way.

In Co. B we miss George Peacock, Ralph Stockhausen, and in Co. C, Albert Hancher.

Attendance for Headquarters Co. were: Clyde Porterfield, Earl Millsand Betty, Curtis Meyer and Esther, Jack Farrell and Helen, Herb Gibson and Vera.

In Co. A, about 21 of us were able to be in Omaha for the weekend: George Settle, Earl (Wink) Miller, George Dubos, Larry Arrigo, Ansel (Pete) Peterson, and his son, Brian and wife, Tracy. Andy Brand and June, Paul Gunderson and Dottie, Tony Degregario and Ida and son, Jimmy, Charles Auer and Eleanore, Frank Blakely and Nellie, and Gordon Doeringsfeld and Cel. Frank Blakely brought the biggest, prettiest white ahlia for all to see. It was one of the many that he grows and earns ribbons at Flower Shows. It measured 12 1/2 inches across the center. Thanks, Frank.

This year Co. A missed several of their buddies and wives who have been regular attendees at the 83rd Division Reunions, due to health reasons, or other commitments: Owen and Arlene Wellman, Earl and Evalyn Graham, Frank and Pearlina Davis, John Gallo, Pau and Valeska Conrad, Ray and Joan Bankowski.

We hope that all the other guys who have not been able to attend before will be able to be with us in Daytona Beach, Florida in 1993.

In B Co. those who attended were: William Davis and Betty, James Reddon and Margot, George Cox and Lois, Clyde Porterfield and Jo, Phillip Mann and Tag, and guests, Bill Mann, Sr. and Marylyn, Bill Stimmel, Emil DeBauldo, and Ody Coffey.

In C Co. there were Armin Naver and Sharon, Carson Deck and Gilda, Harry Kriby and Ann, Quinte DeAntoni and Francis, Lester Hauck and Elsie, Cliff Wooldridge and Shirley, John Capelli and Natalie.

I do not know about the others who could not attend from Headquarters, Co. A, B and C. I hope to get more in-

formation from someone in these Companies in the future before the next Thunderbolt comes out. Anyone in the Headquarters, B and C Companies that have any information that they would like to put in the Thunderbolt, please get in touch with me at 7451 Western Circle Drive, Brooksville, Florida, 34613, Phone 904 596 5082.

Gordon Doeringsfeld

P.S. We received the news recently that Herb Davis from Co. A has passed away...Our sympathies to the family.

## **Co. "D" 330th**

Here comes that fugitive from Co. "H" once again. The time has come to get Co. "D" 330th mentioned in the "THUNDERBOLT" once again and at this time, I find no Co. "D" Men who own a typewriter or can write, so it is up to me to let you know that there are still some Co. "D" Men around.

I will start off with the good news first. We had a very wonderful 46th Annual Reunion, the Great Plains Chapter did a marvelous job in putting on such a great Reunion. Although I do not know all the Men from Co. "D", there was a fairly nice turnout of that Company.

I wish to thank each and everyone of you who contributed to the Ad Book. I owe a special apology to Frank Barnham, whose name I accidentally left out of the page. The replies from the Co. "D" Men were very poor, and if we don't have a little better luck, I am afraid that Co. "D" Page will be among the missing in the near as Frank Jackson, John Daum, Francis Hostettler, Lacy Satterfield, Frank Barnham, and there may be a few more that I just can't think of at this time.

Now comes the bad news. Your old Company Commander, Capt. Eugene Fritts is in very serious condition. An old Buddy of his, Capt. Simmons of 2nd Bn. Hqs. went to Texas to see him and he was not allowed Visitors. It is a shame, Capt. Fritts was a very fine Soldier and Officer.

Please remember, if there are any of you who can take over this job, please let me know, I don't want to see the Co. "D" page disappear in either the "THUNDERBOLT" or in the Ad Book. If by chance I do take over the solicitation of Co. "D" Ads for the Reunion Ad Book, the cost of living has gone up and so will the Ad Book Solicitations. Our deceased id overcoming the living and to keep them remembered, we need your help.

This being the Christmas Season Edition of the "THUNDERBOLT" I wish to extend to each of you my BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON, MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Your buddy,  
Larry Redmond  
Co. "H" 330th



## 783rd Ordnance Company

Wasn't it yesterday and we were thinking about the Omaha reunion? And now as your reading this your beginning to think about Christmas! I guess that's one reason the years seem to be flying so much faster.

Anytime twenty family members of the 783rd show up at a reunion it has to be a success just because of the comradeship that has grown over these many years. On the other hand your eyes can see that the pace of the reunions has changed. Following our good, banquet meal our group had an interesting discussion on past and present reunions. Quite a few couples took a nostalgic, 1946, Glenn Miller stroll around the dance floor and that was it. A half hour later the big band was playing for just two dancing couples. Now we were feeling sorry for the band.

The discussion then turned to the history of the hospitality bar. In our hands were the many drinking tickets we had to pay for but never used. At this age many of us are on pills or the blood pressure is high. Our group is strictly "pro-choice." If you want one drink or six the only fair and equal solution is a cash bar.

The good news is we hear the Florida reunion will have cash bars and there will be live entertainment to replace the big band. I say three cheers to those leaders for they have also observed the trend of our age group and have taken the positive changes which will pay good dividends.

As to the members at the reunion lets shock Appleby and put him first. They did the reunion up right. Martha and Bill took in Yellowstone with their granddaughter and all points west before coming to Omaha. Al and Ruth Bensimon did just about the opposite they were traveling before and visiting friends afterwards. Carl and Alyce Fredericks came in a brand new car which the retired one said he had no intentions of buying. "Once Alyce saw the white leather seats I was trapped." Thanks for the lesson Carl. I'll never walk into a car showroom to just "look." Jim Jones and I slept together and I'm not telling if he's not! Bob Hammond and his close friend and charming wife form his V.A. Post (my shrinking brain refuses to recall their names) were also making the long haul to Yellowstone and Glacier. Easy and Lou Labbe were smiling up the hotel. As the reunion was ending the Florida people were worrying about Andrew. Imagine Easy and Lou's surprise when it headed for Louisiana. As they were rushing home everyone seemed to be rushing out. Easy arrived just in time to board up his brick house. Andrew passed ten miles to the north and the Labbes were thankful for minor damage. Phil and Ann Barbara flew in from N.Y. and everyone stared at the furniture saw-dust on Phil's shoes. They are still full of vim and vigor. I know I wouldn't be running a rugged business in downtown New York at HIS age. Ann was a child bride. Doc and Agnes Pfeiffer were their chippy selves. Doc put off having a hospital plumbing job because of the reunion. I just talked to him and he put it off again to chair a huge church auction. They made \$23,000 so you know it was a lot of work and Doc is still quite capable. Of course our hero's of the reunion were Midge and Ray Wiggins. Part of every day was spent working on the daily routines of making the reunion go. Ray was also the organizer of the golf tournament. The 783rd was represented by the fearsome of Barbara, Hammond, Jones and ME. There is no doubt in any of our minds that Ray is the best Chairman of any of our golf tournaments. Jim Jones won first prize with a gross low of 83!!! (What other score could have been better for a Thunderbolt?) I shot my worst score of the year with a 9 and two 8's and good old Ray still declared me the winner of low net. Bob Hammond wasn't to be left out either. He received a plaque for stamina. Bob got his money's worth by swinging and winging the greatest number of shots. Poor Phil was one stroke behind me with a 98 which for his age I

thought was exceptional. Generally every team has a poor loser. I'm not saying this was Phil but just because I jumped and holered as Phil stoked his last chip-well-you never saw a guy wet so many handkerchiefs when I was announced the winner. When I told Ginny what happened she said, "Well Honey, you have so many gold cups maybe he deserves it." So in all fairness I've given the full details to Paul Bryars just about the most unbiased, honest and handsomest fellow in the company. I'm sure he will come up with the right decision.

NEW OF OTHERS We're waiting to hear the latest on the Ivan and Pat Gilmans. You know they have a daughter and grandchildren in Lebanon. Very few letters or phone calls get through. In September Pat took another adventure, alone, to make another visit. (It's just not safe for a male American) Ivan was to meet Pat in England later to show Pat all of his old Pub hangouts. Stay tuned for the Gilman soap opera. Hersch and Midge Weaver were all set for the reunion when Hersch had to have some of his MD plumbing fixed. He called two days before the reunion and said he felt the best in five years. That's the news we like to hear. Paul Bryars sounded like his old self and claims, (unlike Phil) that his golf is getting better which is more than he can say for his eyes. Jack Getty at 75 is still in good health and running Getty International Oil Well Equipment from Tulsa Okla. Charlie and Pat Rohrer were sorry to miss the reunion but they always have family commitments that week. They are in good health. The Earl Gramms have both been in some ill health. They spent some time in a nursing home. When they got home they were side swiped by a tornado which knocked a huge tree onto the back of their home. We hope Earl you've had your bad luck for the year.

Some good news is George Harris sold his home in two days. He is now in an apartment. George has a warning on getting rid of your house furnishings. He had a man come in and he cleaned him out so fast it left his head spinning.

It took two days and some legal threats but George got all his treasured family heirlooms back home. So that's a good warning from George. Watch the scam artists.

Well that's it from Philly. Thanks again to the whole Omaha crew for a good reunion in a great location with a special thanks to Ray and Mimi for representing us so well. Next dateline for the Thunderbolt is Jan 4th so lets see plenty of Christmas cards (with money) it makes this task a little easier and I won't have to talk about the weakness's of Phil.

Hut Two,  
Rags Rangnow

## 323rd Report



Porter & Ernestine Grinstead

In August I visited with Norman McCormack in Hartland, ME. He had been in the Hospital for a while but he was doing well when I was there. Anita had me tell the story about McCormack shooting that famous cow in Normandy, France. My friend the late Joe Strnahan of 331st Co. A enjoyed eating that cow along with his men on July 5th. Joe Maone from Cumberland, ME. really cooked up some good meals from that cow.

Also, in August, I met with Tom Papile. Since that time he has had a knee replacement and is home recovering. I hope this ends all the suffering for Tom caused by this knee.

Today I received a letter from Erwin Erhardt with a direct order to write a letter to Peter Weltevrede right away. I guess Erwin learned all this from the late Col. Ralph Morgan. Thanks Erwin for attending Camp Atterbury for us! He sent me a picture of his son and himself in front of the Monument so I could see the 50 years difference.

Nancy and I went out to Omaha to the 83rd reunion. Dave Hurt of Charlie Battery was there. Hq. Battery had Lt. Leo Miller, Lt. Harold Michael, Eddie McCouch, Willie Snodgrass, Walter Harding. Leo Miller certainly kept his High School figure. We had a lot of laughs over the World War II days plus bringing everything up to date. Harold Michael said Inne Suilman was going to meet him in October. This will be their first meeting since 1945.

A few weeks ago I went to George Polites anniversary mass in Dracut, MA. It is hard to believe George is gone one year. We had a long talk with George's wife and daughter Gloria plus relatives and friends.

Don Willis, I am told, spends time on the golf course everyday. He plays 50 over par, also losing many golf balls. He could stay home and save money by writing Tynan a letter once every six months.

It was nice getting a letter from Orlo Hoover's wife Elvira. She was operated on a while back but tells me she is doing well. It was also good to hear about her family that Orlo use to mention to us.

S/Sgt. George Porter of Hq. Battery died on September 1st at the age of 79 years. Condolences to his daughter Patricia Cunane of Perkasio, PA. and his brother and sister. George was a real soldier, he learned fast that we were real Rookies as many will remember.

George Connor is doing well. He met with Erwin Erhardt's son at the Gateway of Cape Cod in August. Sorry I was not around that day but I was at an 83rd Boston Chapter time. However, I did get to see Erwin III in Wareham that week. My family looks forward to Erwin III coming up to God's Country.

Louie DeMichele wrote me a nice letter bringing me up to date with his family. Louie is going to El Paso, Texas to visit one of his children for the Christmas season and he said we will be together when he returns.

A Tip of the Irishman's Hat to Captain Bob Costello for bailing me out with money for the Ad Book while sunning himself in Florida.

Lois Shaner passed away on September 30th in Altoona, PA. She was the wife of M/Sgt. Bill Shaner who died 5 years ago. Nancy and I went down to the funeral. Lois stayed active in the 83rd Infantry Association after Bill died. My wife, Nancy and Livie Maynard were close friends. Eddie McCouch and his daughter also made it to the funeral. Don and Amy St. John were also in attendance. Condolences to Gerry, Sharon and Sandy and all the family members.

Porter Grinstead and his wife were surprised with a 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration in October at Rising Sun, Md. American Legion Post 194. Dom Christopher and his wife Ann were there at the celebration. Porter was of Charlie Battery. A group of them went to breakfast the next morning. We hope Porter and his

wife have many more happy years ahead. See you in Florida in 1993.

Many thanks to Larry Redmond of H. Company 330 Infantry for helping me keep up with the men of the 323rd. Larry you are the greatest.

Tony Piantedosi and his wife are jogging 3 days a week around the lake in Belmont, Ma. So they are well.

That is all for now.

Amby Tynan  
323rd F.A. Bn.

## Co. "H" 330th

Having returned home from a great Reunion, I am only sorry that there weren't more of our Co. "H" Men in attendance. I know that we are all getting older and that illness is slowing us down, so we have to accept it as it comes.

This year our Co. "H" had a stranger in the crowd. We had with us Lieut. Bob Lyons, former Platoon Leader of our great Mortan Platoon. It was a real pleasure to see Bob after all these years. He sure must have taken good care of himself over the years as he really looked wonderful. Bob looked at least twenty years younger than the age he gave us. He was taken around and introduced to many men that he did not know and was made feel most welcome. He was given a chance to learn the real Hospitality of an 83rd reunion. There are many more of you whom we are hoping to be able to lay out that red carpet for, before the moths have eaten it.

Well Buddies, I wish to thank all of you who supported me on the Co. H page in the Ad Book, to those of you who let it slip by, please remember that Co. "H" is still the great Company that it was during the War. I was disappointed that so many of you failed to reply to my letters to you. We were disappointed that Sgt. Dorsey was unable to be there with us. I haven't heard from him as yet, I sincerely hope that he is not ill.

Co. "H" was represented this year by Bob Lyons, Karl Burkhard, John Murray, Mike Champey, Paul Wagner, Raymond Bjork, Eldon McGinnis and Larry Redmond. We still have on our Sick List, Larry Quinn, Leroy Swank, Robert Stulley, there may be more that I can't think of at this time. By the way, Paul Wagner and Mike Champey are not in the best of health, but they did manage to make it. I think I have another one that is not in the best of health, he is Bill McCartin.

Well Buddies, this being the nearest Issue to Christmas, I wish to extend to you and your Families the Best of Health and may you all have a MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Your buddy,  
Larry Redmond

### HELLO BUDDIES:

Here we are back home once again from another tremendous Reunion. It doesn't seem possible that this was our 46th Annual Reunion and was handled by a fairly New Chapter, the Great Plains Chapter, and they did a job comparable to those who have handled Reunions in the past.

The Central Plains Chapter are to be commended for the great job that they did. Putting on a Reunion is not an easy project, and as time goes on, it gets even harder. Years ago, before the takeover of Union Control of the Hotels, we were able to go to a Hotel and tell them what we wanted and try to work it out from there. Today, we go to a Hotel and they tell us what we want and what we can expect for our dollar, and you have little or no alternative. When you go to a Hotel, they have before them a complete breakdown of where you had in attendance. For instance, in the Hospi



tality Room alone, all liquor and beer used must be purchased from the Hotel, there no longer is the case of being able to buy case of liquor from them and bringing in several cases of your own, the same goes with bartenders in there, you must have a certain amount of Bartenders as prescribed by Union Regulations and they can't be your own members. For the banquet or dinners, there must be a specified number of waiters or waitresses which helps put up the cost of the banquet or dinners, then comes the entertainment, there must be a certain number of members in the band in accordance with the number of guests at the affair. That is why it is so hard to put on a nice reunion.

As I read over my notes, I find that this year we will only be receiving three issues of the 'THUNDERBOLT', which means that this will be our Christmas Issue, so I would like to at this time extend my BEST WISHES TO EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU FOR A HAPPY AND MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The Florida Chapter is hard at work trying to offer us a fine Reunion for our 47th Annual Reunion. They will need the support of each and everyone of us.

Changing the subject just a little, I would like to extend my personal thanks to each and everyone of you who helped make the Ad Book the success that it was. I also wish to extend my sincere thanks for the recognition that has been shown me for my work on it in the past. For the past several years I have received a presentation for the work that I have done, and although I do appreciate it, the real thanks should be given to the Man who makes it the Book that it is. When we receive your Ads, that's when the real work comes in, we ship them off to our Printer who edits them and sets up the pages for them and prints and makes them into a book. He is none other than Cliff Woolridge, of the 308th Engineers. Cliff along with his wonderful wife and son has done a marvelous job and deserves full recognition for it. My apologies to Cliff for not making such an announcement at the Reunion so that he could have been called upon and given the recognition he so well deserves. It is men like this that has made the 83rd Infantry Division Association the great Organization that it is. Again, a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON TO YOU ALL. MAY GOD BLESS YOU.

Larry Redmond

## **"G" Co. 331st Inf.**

First, I want to thank the members of the Central Plains Chapter for a wonderful reunion in Omaha. We did not have as many people in attendance, but I am quite sure that everyone had an enjoyable time.

My family's trip to Omaha was highlighted by our side trip to flushing, Michigan. We had the opportunity to spend a couple of days with Loyal and Kate Pangle. It was good to see the both of them, Mena, Monica and myself were welcomed with open arms and our visit was rewarding. With the help of Kate, Loyal will make it. Thanks for a wonderful time.

What a pleasant ride we had through the corn fields of Michigan, Illinois and Iowa, I didn't realize; how much corn is grown in the USA.

G Company was well represented at the reunion. We had two from Pittsburgh (Gene Costanzo and Al Suess), two from Ohio (Joe Phillipone and Mike Mizerock), one from Indiana (Kenny Baird) Myself and a newcomer to the ranks from Iowa (Donald Osborn). Osborn was a member of the 2nd platoon, he joined G Company on Jan. 1, 1945 in the Bulge and stayed with the company till the end. In fact he remained with the Company through

occupational duty in Austria. He was with the platoon that made the courageous stand the night we crossed the Elbe River.

Since the last article in the Thunderbolt, I received the sad news that John and Mary Rung were killed in an automobile accident on Long Island in early August. What a terrible loss, both of them seemed to enjoy life to its fullest. As we get older, I am sure that we can expect things like this to happen. I had just received a note from John and Mary before the accident and they were doing fine. I talked with John's son in New Hampshire and he told me how John would visit them and how he enjoyed playing with the grandchildren. He seemed to forget all of his aches and pains when he was with the little ones. Since then, John's daughter-in-law has sent me one of the albums that Mary kept of the pictures she had taken during the reunions.

The Dixie Chapter will not have its meeting in Williamsburg at the end of March in 1993, the meeting will be held in Macon, Ga at the same time of the year. Hope we can some G Company men from South Carolina or North Carolina to make the trip to Macon in March.

At the reunion one of the members had asked me how many units were awarded the Battle Star for the Battle of Brittany. We do have the Battle of Brittany on our emblem as one of our major battles. I decided to check into this, and found that Brittany was not one of the major battles. While our fighting in Brittany was a major operation, it is listed in the records as the battle of Northern France. I checked the Order of Battle book for World War II and found that after Normandy, the major battle was Northern France. To be certain I checked my 201 file and found that Northern France is listed and not Brittany.

I have notified Bob Derickson of this and he will bring it to the Executive Board. I don't think any change of our "Emblem is necessary.

I realize that the next article of the Thunderbolt is due in Jan and that only three issues will be published this year, so I will take this opportunity to wish all of you the best for the Holiday Season and hope that 1993 will bring us good health and good times.

Capt Mac

## **Co. "I" 329th Inf.**

The 46th Reunion in Omaha is now memories. Congratulations to the Plains Chapter for a job well done.

I Co. was represented by 25 people included were 1. Hoover's 2. McGowan's 3. Fred Sylvia and Maria 4. Hunnewell 5. Haye's 6. Olney's 7. Hanu's 8. Pittman's, 9. Zingg's 10. Bellino's 11. Mill's 12. Geisinger's 13. Koerner's. Missing regulars were Pat & Steve Barthes. Pat's back is causing her problems. Walt and Joyce Henschel, Joyce has a new job and no vacation time earned yet. Max and Sally Francis were out in Colorado Springs intending to come to the reunion but changed their minds and went on home to Florida. Missing also were Paul & Rose Hanna its always tough to lose an old buddy. We hope that perhaps Rose will make it to future reunions. Fred Sylvia said that he attended the funeral of Jimmy Herron in Md. this summer another former I Co. man.

We had Norma and Harold Geisinger of Storm Lake, IA. attend for the first time, Harold and his family farm 1000 acres, I would say is good reason for missing reunions in August. Perhaps the later date for the Daytona reunion will permit them to attend.

Agnes and I drove out to Omaha because we stopped to see her sister who is in a nursing home in Valpariso, Ind. Agnes lost her brother Steve in August, after some test they discovered that



he had cancer, he died within three weeks. Steve served with the 90th Div. in WWII, he and I got together two times while we were in jEurope. On the way to Omaha we had plans to meet Mary and Bob Olney in Davenport, IA.

We were to meet at the same motel, have dinner together and to proceed on the Omaha the next morning. Instead I ended up in Des Moines, I had a hard time trying to explain to Mary and Bob what happened Ann and Frank Hanus said that they drove over to Connecticut and that Frank and Burt Simon had a great reunion.

A lot of our gang is having medical problems. I had a triple by pass in June having a quick and good recovery. Ilene Pittman also had surgery. Les is also scheduled for knee surgery. Elizabeth Hayes had surgery on her return home. Pat Bartha is waiting for the results of test for her back problems. Have not heard the latest on Gennie and Ray Hayward.

The Kentucky Chapter meeting Oct 16 and 18th at LaFayette, Ga. Expect to see the Hoovers there, they usually travel with Pearl and Bob Derickson, Agnes and I are going to travel with the McGowans. We have Lucy and Curtis Mills coming up from Decatur, Ga. Elizabeth and Jesse Hayes had planned, but had to cancel out. Curtis and I both contacted Frank Dahl - he is also coming down from Chattanooga to visit with us. I also wrote to Oscar Gwinn asking him to come over as yet no word. If I can talk Mich and Doris into making three stops on the way down or back to check on 1 Ed Dempsey - Cornith Ky. 2 Cecil Underwood - Sadieville, Ky 3 Odis McGhee - Curryville Tenn. Former I Co. men.

Will you good people of I Co. keep in touch, make plans and God willing see you all in Daytona Beach.

Art Koerner  
Kent, Ohio

## **"B" Btry - 324th F.A.**



Martan Rueber, Leo Wagner, Roland Grebinger, Arthur



1st Section, 324th Field Artillery Bn. 83rd Divl.  
Passau, Germany

I just received my summer issue of the "Thunderbolt" and I cannot tell you who much I enjoy reading it and finding out so much about what's happening with all the buddy's from the "83rd".

I read the article by Anthony Torrieri who was with the 331st Reg. I to like him was a replacement in Co. "B" 330th Reg. I joined the company just as the Battle of the Bulge broke out that was when the Germans under the command of the German General Von Runsteht (Hope I spelled it right) made the breakthrough of the allied lines. I was a B.A.R. Browning automatic rifleman, Battle of the Bulge, Rhineland, and central Europe. I earned three battle stars, combat infantry man's badge, Bronze Star, unit citation, and my ribbons. After V.E. day I was transferred to Btry "B2 324th F.A. As you know the 83rd was then classified in category II (2) which meant that we were slated to go to the Pacific operation. Then we were sent to the northern part of Germany for simulated jungle fighting. We were not there long when V.J. day came needless to say we had one hell of a celebration because every one knew they would be going home soon. So then they started the troops home on the point system, I did not have quite enough points to go home right away, being as the division was being broken up with a lot of the buddy's going home I was transferred to a Co "E" 5th infantry until such time I had enough points to go home so I lost contact with all the fellows that I was with, until last year when there in one of the issues of the V.F.W. magazine that I get was an ad with several division patches saying did you wear one of these patches and low and behold was the 83rd patch, there was all the information who to write to for an application in joining. So I wrote to Pat Digiammerino of the Boston Chapter, he sent me the application I filled it out along with a check for my dues, and I became a member. Then later on I heard from you about joining the National, again I filled out an application along with a check for my dues.

Bob I'm so sorry that I didn't know how much I was missing in going to the reunions and keeping in touch with the buddy's that I served with after all these years. Well things will be different now as they say it's better late than never. I called the division historian William Kent O'Connell being as we both live right here in New York on a few miles apart, we had a very enjoyable conversation on the phone and we are coming to keep in touch with one another.

I just ordered two of the golf type hats along with a baseball style jacket from Vito C. Palazzola.

Again I want to thank you and your staff for putting out such a wonderful magazine.

I am sending along some photos that were taken when I was with "B" Btry 324th F.A. in Passau Germany. In the group picture of the section I am the second one from the right in the back row, the one kneeling on the right of the picture on the bottom row is our section Sgt. Joe Harrington I notice in the roster he is living in Florida. The picture where we are firing the 155 Howitzer that me in the fore ground holding my ears, we were putting on a firing demonstration for Old Blood and Guts Gen. Patton. In the other picture thats me holding the guidon from our Batry, the buddy next to me is Fred Demarco. In the other picture thats me leaning on the breech of the howitzer.

I would appreciate it very much if you could put this in some future issue of the "Thunderbolt", and when you are done with the pictures could you please return them to me for memories sake.

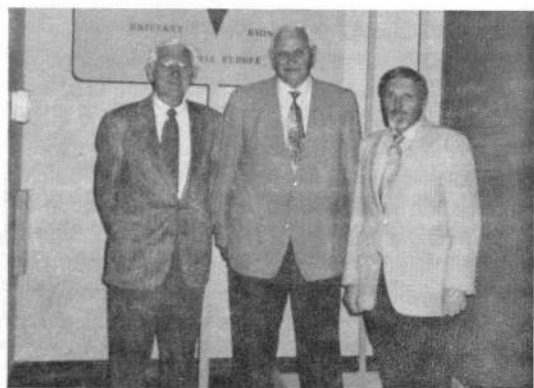
Bob, God willing I hope to make the reunion next year in Florida.

Than You again Bob  
Your Buddy  
Roland N. Grebinger  
Co. "B2" 330th Reg.  
Btry "B" 324th F.A.

## "A" Co - 329th



Omaha Reunion 1992: Back Row. Bernice & Bob Grobelny  
Front Row: Beth & "Tiny" Kinzie and Carm & Ed Mudre  
"A" Co. - 329th



Bob Grobelny, "Tiny" Jim Kinzie, Ed Mudre "A" Co. 329th  
Omaha Reunion 1992.

Well, summer is over and so is another great reunion! Omaha, you did yourself proud. There is nothing perfect. Someday the seating arrangements will be perfect, so there will not be any hard feelings, but we will keep trying.

As Bernice and I were heading toward Omaha, we stopped off at a motel near John Camp's town. He and his wife, Marge, took us around and showed us his home and farm. I never saw so much corn and soy beans in my life! There was a stretch of corn for one mile at his farm. He told me he farms 350 acres. After the tour of the town and farms, they took us to a nice restaurant. We had an enjoyable visit. We drove to Ernie Pyle's home, Eisenhower's and Truman's. We also saw and took a ride in the arch at St. Louis. We had a nice historical tour.

The highlight of the reunion was when this big guy, 6'6", 260#, tapped me on the shoulder and said, "Hi, Grobelny!" I almost passed out! It was Big Jim Kinzie, also called "Tiny". It was his first reunion and we sure enjoyed our first reunion since 1945. We fought the war and told different stories that had happened to each other. He introduced us to his lovely wife, Beth. Our wives got along great. Also at this reunion was Ed Mudre and his lovely wife, Carm. The ladies just smiled at our war stories and knew all of us were heroes. Ha! They finally got off in a corner and talked

about their families and girl talk.

Big Jim gave me a clipping from the 83rd Thunderbolt dated October 27, 1945. It states, "He hates to leave good 'ole G.I. chow." It seems that "Tiny" Kinzie came to "A" Company, 329th Infantry, back in Normandy as an underfed rifleman, strongly in need of wholesome food. His savior was Sam Oteri, Mess Sgt. and vitamin expert, who applied his touch of geniuses to "Tiny's" K and C rations. Before leaving the division, "Tiny" weighed in slightly better than 260 pounds, a tribute to Sam's mastery of kitchen art!

At our last Cleveland Chapter meeting in September, Sam Bass "C" - 329th from Akron, brought in a surprise. He brought Ed Gilbert (Goldberg). "Goldy", as I used to call him affectionately, was a jeep driver for the 4th platoon. Remember guys? Well, he and his lovely wife Alyce, came up from Florida to see Sam. I guess they were buddies way, way, back. We had a nice visit together. So, we had 4 fellows from "A" Co. - Ed Gilbert, George Calore, Ed Disher and myself. Nice going "A" Co.

John Camp seems to organize a "CO A" 2 Platoon Reunion each year, and this year it was in Hannibal, Missouri. "Tiny" Kinzie was nominated to tell me who all was there - John and Marge Camp, Enoch "Bill" Ursery and his wife, Minnie, George and Pauline Suchomelly, Grady and Dorothy Adair, Owen and Lois Wilson, and Jim "Tiny" and Beth Kinzie. He tells me they had a grand time and he got reacquainted with them all. 2nd Platoon Reunions are always so close to the National Reunion, some of us can't make it. But, we will keep trying.

Of course, there is always some sadness in these letters. Brig. Gen. James Gibson passed away April 6th, in Alexandria, Va. He was our C.O. about the time we crossed the Elbe River in Germany. Ed Gilbert tells me that Leo Elzig, from Youngstown, Ohio, died in January of this year. Remember Leo? He was our first Sgt. at the end of the war. Earl Disher gave me an article from the Chronicle-Telegram, Avon, Ohio, that Bernard A. "Bernie" Thome died at Corinthian Nursing Home in Westlake, Ohio, after complications from a series of strokes over the last 10 years. Our condolences to all of the families.

Well Buddies, this is all for now. As I said before, some happy news and some sad news.

Here are a couple of pictures of "A" Co. and our wives at the Omaha, Nebraska Reunion.

I haven't heard from anyone else, so keep smiling, stay healthy, and God Bless.

Your Buddy,  
Bob Grobelny  
1581 Lander Rd.  
Mayfield Hts., Ohio 44124  
(216) 449-5085



# MAIL BAG

## I'm Glad I Never Got To Know Their Names ...BY LENNY GREENBERG

*The thing I'm most glad of in the war  
Is I didn't train with the men  
I fought along side of and seen die.  
They didn't have a name for me to cry over.*

*I didn't play cards with none, or go out  
On leave to drink beer and get to know them,  
And they didn't show me pictures of their wives  
Standing on front porches holding their babies.*

*How could I keep on fighting knowing them  
And their names when they died in my arms?  
I was an infantry medic, and the bullets and shrapnel  
Had each soldier's name engraved on hot steel.  
Do the men still have the same names after they are  
dead?*

*Don't matter, I guess, because if I called them  
Nobody would answer. The guns did the talking  
And the soldiers are silent, silent forever.  
No, names don't matter in war-time.  
I'm glad I never got to know their names.*

1520 Steel Road  
Havertown, PA. 19083

Dear Bob,

Enclosed please find my check for \$10.00 to cover dues for 92-93. Sorry I wasn't able to make Omaha but looking forward to next year.

Thank you doesn't seem adequate enough for your dedication and work for the 83rd Association. I guess that's what the word "Buddy" means. You're doing it for others. Until next time, take care and God Bless You.

Sincerely  
Bill Hutton,  
"F" Co. 329th

Att: Colonel Jorg Stachel  
Camp Atterbury  
Edinburg, IN 46124

Colonel Stachel,

In 1991, Company "E", 329th Infantry, 83rd Division held their first Company "E" Reunion in Lexington, KY.

In a meeting to decide where to meet in 1992, I mentioned the Camp Atterbury 50 Year Memorial Dedication. Since I live approximately 15 miles from the Camp and my wife and I are very good friends of Ames and Helen Miller, I was well aware of the memorial and what it would be like.

We planned our reunion around the memorial dedication.

We met at the Signature Inn of Southport Road in Indianapolis. We had 39 people attend the dedication ceremony. There were 16 men from Company "E" in attendance. Of the 16, 9 trained at Camp Atterbury with the 83rd Division in 1942. We had people from Connecticut, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, W. Virginia, Tennessee, Ohio, Illinois and Michigan.

Needless to say, this was the highlight of our reunion, it made a very nice day for the close of our meeting.

I heard nothing but compliments and praise for the memorial and what you have accomplished in processing with the new while preserving some of the old.

My wife and I wish to thank you and your staff for the courtesy, generosity and hospitality shown to everyone. You helped to make our reunion a perfect one.

We wish you continued success in your career and any future projects you may undertake.

Sincerely, Bill & Nancy Ledger

Dear Bob,

Enclosed is my dues for 1992. Sorry to be so late, but illness and hospitalization took all of our time this past winter. Watching the VCR tapes of the reunion at South Dillsburg, helped in my recovery because of the humorous part of the leg contest.

Everything is back to normal now and we want to extend our compliments for running a wonderful reunion at the Pines in 1991.

Sorry we can't be with you this year, but will endeavour to go next year perhaps. Also enclosed is a picture of Eleanor and I at the Pines. Regards to all of my fellow comrades.

Perhaps you could use it for the next issue of the Thunderbolt. Hope that this finds you and your wife in good health, and we hope to see you all soon.

Cordially, Irwin B. Spandau

P.S. I just got Vol. 47 No. 4 of the Thunderbolt.



Irwin and Eleanor Spandau, at the Pines Hotel at last reunion of 83rd.



August 18, 1992

Dear Paul and All,

I did not mean to take so long in answering your letter. Time seems to go so fast. As I had said to you before, that morning I had been hit in the shoulder, and as I went past the aid station, I thought to have the medic put some iodine and a bandaid on to keep out the dirt. As I walked through the door, he gave me a shot of morphine, put a tag on me, and said I was to be sent back to the field hospital for the kind of aid I needed. Shortly thereafter, and very quickly, a tank and several Germans arrived at the station and took everybody who could walk as prisoners.

I have in a way lost time as we moved (of course, walked) back into deeper German territory. It was perhaps three or four days and I think we were at Chartrez, France, when we were finally loaded on to box cars to be taken to the camp. (Stalag IV B). By this time there were probably over one hundred or so of us gathered together. We probably spent something like four or five days traveling by train. In this camp, one half were English airmen, the other half american men, with possible 15 or so Russians.

About the middle of September, 25 of us were sent not too far from Hallie to work in a sugar beet factory. It was out in the country with nothing else around, except farm land. We worked in two shifts, twelve hours a day. On weekends we changed so that one week we worked days and the next week we would work nights. Of course, this was a seven-day operation. This was not the worse for we had a fair place to stay and a couple German women prepared the food. We were here until the middle of November and then went back to our camp.

Our job was to make the sugar into brown sugar, and then it was sent to Hallie to be refined into white sugar. Then I was back in camp over Christmas time.

About the middle of January or so, 50 of us were sent to Chemonitz to work. It was winter time and cold, and snow was on the ground. The living was rougher now than it was before. What they had us doing here was digging up the middle of a street when a water line or sewer line was blown up. We would dig back far enough for the city workers to repair the line and then proceed back to the camp. of course, no transportation of any kind was made for us, so we walked back.

Our guards were older men, perhaps 70 or so. It was not easy for them either. As the Russians moved closer and closer, we were moved south and east, and perhaps were very close to Czechoslovakia when the war ended. We were in Russian territory, but within six or so hours, we were in "American hands."

Yes, I was a jeep driver for the 81 M.M. guns.

I hope this finds you all well and fine. We, Bernice and I, are not too bad. We seem to be busy all the time at something, and Bernice is still the associate pastor at the church.

Love to all,  
John and Bernice



Mr. & Mrs. John Smith Governor, Jr., of Lynchburg, Va. celebrated their 50th. Anniversary with a part at the Mariott, and a cruise to the Bahamas. He is a retired pharmaceutical representative and she is a retired artist. Their Children are John S. Governor IV of Nashville, Tenn., Kenneth E. of Charleston, W. Va. and Michael G. Governor of Lynchburg, Va. married May 30, 1942, six grandchildren, one great grandchild, she is the former Virginia C. Saunders. John served in I & M 331st.



#### HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The children of Marvin and Emily (Chiono) Hughes honored them with a luncheon-Reception in Mesa, Arizona on June 6, 1992.

Marvin and Emily Hughes were married in Tucson, June 10, 1942.

They have five children: Donna, Francine, Bill, Marvin Jr. "Beanie," and Helen. Thirteen grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Marvin Hughes retired as Power Plant Maintenance Supervisor in Ajo, Arizona. Emily retired as self-employed accountant and part time public school teacher.

They enjoy retirement living in the Mesa, Arizona area and traveling the country roads.

Marvin was with the 329th Inf. HQ Co. 83rd Div. during WWII.

Marvin Hughes  
5909 E. Albany  
Mesa, AZ 85205

Dear Bob,

Following is information for publication of the next Thunderbolt. E Co. 331st.

Our company had a good turn out for the Omaha Reunion and a good time was had by all.

We had the following 10 veterans and their wives attend.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Farr  
Mr. & Mrs. Buford Funk  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Bledsoe  
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Olden  
Mr. & Mrs. Willis Hansen  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Payne  
Mr. & Mrs. Jake Esbenshade  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Deliman  
Mr. & Mrs. Al Henry  
Mr. & Mrs. George Kohler.  
"E" Co. 331st.  
Jake Esbenshade.

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6-13-92

Dear Mr. Derickson:

Just a note to say how deeply I appreciate all of your support and cooperation. Thanks to you and the "Thunderbolt", I have heard from two men who were nearby when my father died in combat -- Leo Trim and Ralph Sluder. Several others who knew him but were not in the vicinity that fateful day also have been in touch. Independently, through military journals and maps, we have pinned down where it happened to an 800-yard area in the hedgerows, and secondly we can return to France and go almost right to the spot.

It has been wonderful and so worth the effort and the emotional upheaval I feel I know my father much better now through the men of the 83rd. But your help and understanding has been pivotal to it all, so I had to write and tell you how successful we have been and how grateful we are.

Thanks & God Bless  
Joe Finnigan  
12415 Ballas Trails Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63122.

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Dear Bob,

Sorry that Frances and I will not be attending the reunion in Omaha. We are certainly going to miss it and the trip out there. Our intention was to continue our annual trip to the Ohio State Fair in our motor home on to Omaha which would have been a great trip.

However, the dates set for the visit of our youngest (2 1/2 yr. old) granddaughter from Atlanta, Ga. coincides with the Omaha dates.

It is imperative that we spend the 2 weeks with her since we think we should get acquainted with her at the early point in her life.

Have a great reunion and best regards to all. See you perhaps at one of the chapter reunions.

I am enclosing my dues for 1993.

Best Regards  
Earl F. McDonald  
1st Sgt. Co. "K" 331st Inf. 83rd

Chaplain Matthew Pinter

This is to inform you that I recently received the notice of the death of:

Edgar Jordon Smith  
1702 North Hills Drive  
Bedford, VA. 24523

He was born March 26, 1917 in Pulaski County, VA.

His is survived by his wife - Janie Carol Clarnick Smith., brother - Douglas Eugene Smith., Sister in law- Omie G. Smith.

He was buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pulaski, Va. on Tuesday, June 23, 1992.

Graveside services included full military honors.

Edgar retired from the Norfolk Naval Station. He was a disabled veteran and recipient of (3) Purple Hearts. He served with three different divisions in five European Campaigns.

He was a member of the 63rd Division Association, the First Division Society and the 83rd Division Association, more specifically Co. "K", 331st Inf. 83rd Division.

He also belonged to VFW Post 03160 in Norfolk, Moose Lodge #39 in Norfolk, Elks Lodge No. 321 in Lynchburg and was a 30 year member of the Refrigeration Service Engineering Society and a life time member of the DAV.

Other organizations included the Dixie Chapter, 83rd and the 83rd Div. Assn. He loved to attend the reunions as did so up until ill health forced him to discontinue. He will be sorely missed.

Earl F. McDonald  
1st Sgt. Co "K", 331st Inf. 83rd Div.

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Dear Mr. Derickson

Col. Walter Stern of the J.W.V. referred me to you as secretary of the 83rd Infantry Division. My dad, Benjamin Gottlieb was killed July 23, 1944 at St Lo, France during the battle of the hedgerows south of Carentan.

He was a Pvt., 329th Infantry regiment of the 83rd Division. I do not know his company.

I would very much like to contact anyone who knew my dad and who could tell me anything he could remember. They can call me collect at 212-460-8015 or write to me at the above address. Generally, I am home M-Fri. from 3 to 7 P.M. 10-11:30 P.M. or on weekends. My dad was sent overseas about Jan. 1, 1944. His basic training was at Spartansburg, South Carolina at Camp Craft. I know very little about this man and even the smallest detail would mean a great deal to me. I regret that my mom has been unable to speak of this loss except in very limited ways.

God's blessings upon you and all the brave men who served our country so well.

Respectfully,  
Michael Gottlieb  
550 Grand St. J9D  
NY, NY 10002





Pvt. Ben Gottlieb

**MEMORIAL DAY Monday, May 27, 1991  
by Michael Gottlieb**

Memorial for Private Benjamin Gottlieb killed in combat  
during the battle of the hedegroves St. Lo, France,  
July 23, 1944

How much blood can the earth soak up?  
The Earth herself cried out: "Too much blood!"

The trees stand, silent sentries.  
Mute witnesses to the carnage and the bloodshed.  
Recording men descending into the animal kingdom.

The battlefield is long quiet.  
The cannons no longer spew out their deadly venom.  
Bullets no longer cut the air.  
The cries and screams of the wounded shrouded in silence.

Mercifully, the rains have washed away the blood.  
Cemeteries neatly arranged the gravestones.  
On the surface, all seems tidy and peaceful.  
Yet, broken hearts continue to bleed.  
And choked throats silently sob.

Governments took their marching orders from the  
consciousness of humanity.  
And men simply killed each other.  
Strangers slaughtered each other to satisfy the  
consciousness of humanity.

Dad, I see little boys walking with their dads.  
Dad, I see dads playing with their sons.  
We never walked together, Dad. We never played together  
We never talked, We never shared.  
Dad...I never knew you.

Dad, the other kids all had their dads. Why didn't I have you?  
A dad to guide and teach me the ways this treacherous society.  
Dad...I never knew you.



Dear Mr. Derickson,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my father-in-law; Johnnie Green. He was a member of 3rd Bn HQ 330th. He was in the 83rd Infantry Division from 1942 at Camp Atterbury until he returned in November 1945. Over the years he has lost touch with his former buddies and the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

He has asked me to write to you in hopes he could find any of his former platoon members who are in the enclosed picture. This picture was taken by him "somewhere in France". Some of these men were wounded during the campaign and he lost touch with them. Hopefully, your association may be able to shed some light on what happened to them.

Also, if there are any other members of the 330th who might have known my father-in-law we would like to hear from them as well.

Please send any info you have to:

Johnnie Green  
P.O. Box 481  
Biscoe, North Carolina 27209

Dear Bob,

Recently I attended a meeting where a widow of one of our deceased members was in attendance. She had copies of a book available for purchase that was written by her husband. Half of the book was about the battle of Normandy and half was a personal account of a battle of a political nature in his home county that occurred shortly after the war.

The authors name is Frank Carmichael and he commanded "H" Co. 329th until he was wounded and evacuated to England. He belonged to the 83rd Association and attended a number of reunions prior to his death. Mrs. Carmichael said she had not received any "Thunderbolts" since that time.

It would be greatly appreciated if she was returned to the mailing list as she has not moved and still receives mail addressed to Mrs. Winifred Carmichael at 508 Riverside Drive, Clinton, Tn. 37716.

I thought if it were publicized in the "Thunderbolt" about the book that some of those who knew him and possibly others might like to have a copy of which sells for only \$3.00 and is available by contacting Mrs. Carmichael.

Sincerely,  
Carroll B. Brown  
"E" Co. 329th Inf.





7430-180 S.W.  
Edmonds, WA 98026  
August 29, 1980



Dear Bob,

Sorry we couldn't see you all in Omaha, but I'm undergoing a cornea transplant and cataract work on my right eye. So I'm staying pretty close to home. We had a nice surprise the other day. The door bell rang and we were honored by a visit from Curtis and Ester. It was a rare treat.

We are both well except for some growing old pains.

I am enclosing my dues and a very rare picture. Maybe some of the fellows will appreciate it. It is a picture of the first squad first platoon "F" Co. 330th Infantry 83rd division. I'll try to identify the people in the picture.

Top Row L to R. Livio Talenti, Robert Lehde Jr., Joe DeViva (B.A.R. Man), Henry Mosca, Sam Garza. Bottom Row L to R. Sgt. Jim Bartolomei, Allen Havens (B.A.R. Man) S. Sgt. Robert Fleming,

Missing from the photo are Hartwell and Waldroop. Since then I know that Jim Bartolomei is deceased. I've lost contact with the rest. The photo was taken in Furholz, Germany.

Noreen and I are planning on going to the 50th Anniversary in France.

We hope will see you there. I guess I had better arm myself with more caps to give away. We sure had a good time on the last one. This time we'll all have to crawl on the bus on our hands & knees in San Ture.

Well God Bless you all and I hope you enjoy the picture.

Your Buddy

Allen Havens



Earl F. McDonald

Dear Bob,

Here is an article I thought I had enclosed with a previous letter to you. Hope you can find room to put it in one of the coming issues of the "Thunderbolt".

Earl and Frances McDonald of Oxon Hill, Md. Recently celebrated their 50th Golden wedding anniversary.

Earl, a retired career Army officer from Virginia and Frances from Pennsylvania met when he was assigned to the 3rd (Horse) Cavalry Regiment at Ft. Meyer, Va., commanded by general (then Colonel) George S. Patton, Jr. of World War II fame.

Earl was detailed by Lt. Gen. Ferenbaugh, the military district of Washington Commander, to do the original research for the start of the 83rd Division Association. He was also a member of the Washington Chapter.

As a original cadre member of the 83rd division he was first assigned to "M" company 331st. He was subsequently assigned to "K", 331st the unit he served with until the end of the war. He also served with the 15th Inf. Regt. 3rd Division during the Korean (1950-51) war.

Earl and Frances have four children - Susan Pettibone of Frankfurt, Germany, Dorna Hall of Newington, Va., Maria Kuhns of Mitchellville, Md and Andrew McDonald of Oxon Hill, Md. They also have nine grandchildren.

A renewal of their wedding vows was preformed in St. Columbia Church., Oxon Hill, Md by The Rev. Walter Lawrence. A reception followed with 140 friends and relatives and 83rd division association members.

One of the highlights of the event was the attendance of Earls mother who will be 95 August 18, 1992.

Sincerely

Earl F. McDonald

Co. "K", 331st

24 Mel Mara Drive

Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Dear Fellow Veterans,

History is very much like a window of our experiences and reflections. It has taught us our mistakes and given us our victories over tyranny, in the many wars that we have fought. Not the least of which has been the legendary history of World War II. Within the battlegrounds of fear, anxiety, courage, compassion, bravery and sweat, we, of the 83rd Infantry Division, have truly found out what we are made of!

Simple, ordinary men, in countries all over the world, were brought together on a strange battlefield to fight for their very existence, in order to eliminate forever the tremendous hatred, tyranny and barbarism wrought upon the world by Germany and Japan. Here, then, on this strange battlefield on World War II, brave soldiers such as the men from the 83rd Infantry Division, displayed the courage and fortitude that preserved our freedom.

Perhaps one of the greatest privileges of my life was to be a part of this with the 83rd, to be able to see, feel, hear, and experience history and to record this firsthand in a diary that I kept throughout the war.

This original diary has recently been updated to include the 40th Anniversary of D-Day in 1984, celebrated with a contingent of the 83rd in Belgium, France, Luxembourg, and Germany. As seen through the eyes and the emotions of "just another soldier", I try to show what went on in the mind of every soldier as we fought.

The revised edition, Called Lost Diary, (lost on the battlefield when I was wounded), is now being readied for publication. You can reserve your copy now for only \$20. Don't delay! Only a limited number of this true collector's item will be made available. To order your copy today, please send a check or money order to: Irwin B. Spandau, 24 Gabriel Lane, Willingboro, NJ 08046. Be sure to include your name, mailing address daytime phone number. Please respond by December 15, 1992. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Irwin B. Spandau (329th Inf. - Co. G)  
24 Gabriel Lane  
Willingboro, NJ 08046  
(609) 871-1572

Hello, Veteran KEY!

A few days ago I got a book "HISTORY of the 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION". I got it by a German historian and I'm looking for war memories. In this book I could read that you have been in Germany and was captured with three comrades in BADETZ near ELBE River. You were liberated by your own Division on May 5th. Do you remember these days in prisonship? I should like to know something about. What happened that you had to go in prisonship and so on! Do you still know the three other comrades? I was officer and fighting against the 83rd Div. in this part of Germany. I'm 72 years old. On Friday the 13th (April 1945) I went with a reconnaissance patrol in direction of FLOTZ - near BADETZ (about 10 km far) It was pm 17 hours and I crossed a field to get to this village FLOTZ. Suddenly we got fire out of a house outskirts of FLOTZ. We didn't know that the Americans had already crossed the ELBE River. We put down in the furrows, nobody was wounded. Here we're waiting for darkness for we couldn't move us before. Now we went in direction of this house and nobody could see us. Then I crept to the outside door and I heard voices - English spoken. I crashed the door open and cried "HANDS UP!" Four American GI's stood in front of me and took their hands up. Together we went in the cellar of this house and I asked for the situation in FLOTZ, because I was surprised about American Occupation.

My soldiers, or better some of my soldiers stayed outside of the house and had to look for movements. The Americans and I were talking over the war and spent the night in this cellar. One of my soldiers had to go to find the rest of my company, but he returned and couldn't find anybody in this darkness. So I lost the connection to my company and the battalion too. In the morning April 14th three of my soldiers were wounded and we didn't have anymore ammunition. Looking out of the window upstairs in the house I only saw American GI's and tanks. There were no voices of fights and I couldn't see any German soldiers.

What had happened? I was in a bad situation, but I had to decide. And there were these three wounded men. So I spoke to my American prisoners and said that one of them should call to his comrades of the other side of the street, because I couldn't continue the fight. One of them opened the house door but the comrades on the other side of the street were shooting to the opened door. Quickly he shut

the door. Fortunately he hasn't been wounded. Some minutes later he tried it once more and called not to shoot. He spoke to his officer and came back. Now I went in American prisonship. My memory to this hour is humiliating. I had a very bad treatment and was surprised above. The Americans I had in prisonship before, I didn't ask them for their own things anywhere. But I was taken aside and had to throw all my things on a manure heap. The belt, the cap, the cigarettes, my bag, a little piece of bread and so on. I had to empty my pockets and was lead to a corner of this farm. There I had to take my hands up and to look to the wall. I couldn't see what happened with my soldiers and the wounded men. I never saw somebody again!!! Still today I am asking for my men. Two days later an American took my watch and my ring. I had a terrible way in prisonship for the next ten weeks. "RHEINWIESENLAGER," St. Mere Eglise (in France), BOLBEC and LE HAVRE. But I was a robust man just 25 years old. From LE HAVRE I escaped in December 11th and reached my family in HAMBURG the 29th. I heard that the veterans of the 83rd meet in September in Florida. I'll meet in September about five comrades near BADETZ! We couldn't meet us there before, because it was the other Germany. I don't know these five comrades but they took a trip to there as I did too for looking the graves of our killed comrades. Each of us went there during the last year and left behind his name by the mayor of the little village WALTERNIENBURG. BADETZ is 5 km

far. If one of the GI's is still alive who I took prison I should like to know.

Can you find out who was situated in FLOTZ? What a company? Perhaps I can get an address of somebody of this company. I don't know what happened to my soldiers and to the rest of my company. I should like to know too what happened with the wounded and killed German soldiers. And what happened with the killed GI's? I heard you brought them (the Americans) to the Netherland and Belgium. Around Badetz, Walternienburg, Forderstadt and so on (Elbe - Westside) there are many graves. Many graves with "unknown soldier". That's un intelligible to me. The Germans, killed on the eastside shall have been brought to the westside of Elbe river by the Americans. May that be? If you cannot answer my asks, perhaps you know somebody who can. Waiting for an answer - please not to long! I say kindly regards

I hope you can read and understand my English, for I didn't speak it since a many of years.

If any one should remember anything about this. Please write to:

Mr. Kayes O. Key  
Ropute 1, Box 132  
Locust Grove, OH 74352

Dear Bob:

As I mentioned to you during our great reunion in Omaha, I think it would be beneficial to all if something was said about Tilly, under the picture of the Plaque. Also, if the wording is not discernible, a caption of the inscription would be fine.

Tilly Kimmes, Secretary of CEBA. What is CEBA? Who is CEBA? CEBA is an organization founded in 1972, of dedicated people from Luxembourg, who perpetuate the history of the Battle of the Bulge.

Their aim is to educate people about the significance of this great battle, to teach the new generations of the bravery of the armed forces who fought in it, and to acclaim the final victory of liberation from the German occupation.

Tilly, in her capacity as secretary of this organization, has welcomed countless groups of returning service men who visit Luxembourg.

Her complete fluency in English enables her to be the welcome ambassador for her country and to convey to all, the deep appreciation the Luxembourg people have for the Americans who liberated them.

She has received our 83rd Division on numerous occasions and everyone who has met her appreciated her voluntary dedication to this arduous, constant, task of greeting all these outfits.

Another one of her accomplishments is her contributions to the creation of the American Museum in Clervaux. Our division is represented there.

Tilly has visited the U.S. many times as guests of various units.

The above plaque is in recognition of the untiring efforts she has performed for those Thunderbolt men who have returned to visit Luxembourg.

Sincerely,  
Al Bensimon  
783rd Ord.



Pearl and I went to Louisville on September 4 and presented the plaque to Tilly. We spent the day with her as the group she was visiting with had gone on a tour. What

a lovely lady she is. We truly enjoyed our day. Tilly was very pleased with the plaque.

The Plaque reads "Tilly Kimmes "A Great Lady" The 83rd Infantry Division wishes to pay tribute to you for all your wonderful contributions to all of us both during WWII and in all the 48 years since. We Love and respect you very much.



**T/3 MARK PEARRE KEMPER**  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.  
WELDER, ELECTRICIAN, MECHANIC  
783 ORDNANCE  
KILLED IN NORMANDY BY FELLOW  
SOLDIER WHILE ON NIGHT GUARD  
9 JULY 44

Nephew would like to talk with anyone who may have served with Mark during 1942-44.

GARTH KEMPER  
BOX 437  
Charlottesville, va. 22902  
Call Collect: (703) 672-2849





MEMBERS OF THE 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION.....



# I WANT YOU... TO RETRACE YOUR STEPS IN EUROPE!



## IT'S OUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY!

It has been a long time since the 83rd Infantry Division trod the roads of Europe together, but the memories of our gallant service still linger vividly in the minds of those who were there. **So, we're going back!** To be sure of our place in "living history," we are starting now to make our plans. The demand for available lodging & other facilities for this historic 50th Anniversary is already unprecedented. **We must act now**, and to assist us in our planning, *Galaxy Tours*, the "veteran of veterans tours" has offered us two unique opportunities.

1. Our custom-designed 83rd Infantry Division Tour insures visits to (and our participation in) the special events in *Eupen, Duren, Remich, Remerschen, Grevenmacher, St. Malo, Carteret, Saintenry* and the areas where we served! And remember, Galaxy's basic tenet remains *personalization* of the itinerary to allow you to revisit the special places important, perhaps, only to you. Simply tell us where you want to visit; we'll do our best to get you there!



2. **GUARANTEED PRICES** are available! It may seem "too good to be true," but it's a fact! If you **register now** and participate in Galaxy's exclusive *Time Payment Plan* or *Pay in Full*, **your 1994 tour price will be guaranteed at 1992 prices!** YOU SAVE MONEY! Plus, you will be fully protected by a comprehensive and **FREE insurance** policy, protecting your money and providing complete cancellation and travel insurance coverage. It's a WIN/WIN situation! You won't find better value anywhere!

**Make your plans NOW to take part!** REGISTER TODAY for this extraordinary 50th Anniversary program; it will never happen again! **Mail your reservations today!** You can make the 83rd Infantry Division part of history once again! **JOIN US!**

**But this time, leave your boots at home!**



### ABBREVIATED 1994 ITINERARY.

Saturday, May 28 - USA/ALOFT.  
Sunday, May 29 - BRUSSELS.  
Monday, May 30 - BRUSSELS/SPA  
Tuesday, May 31 - SPA/LUXEMBOURG.  
Wednesday, June 1 - LUXEMBOURG.  
Thursday, June 2 - LUXEMBOURG/REIMS.  
Friday, June 3 - REIMS/ST. MALO.  
Saturday, June 4 - ST. MALO/CATERET.  
Sunday, June 5 - CARTERET.  
Monday, June 6 - NORMANDY, D-DAY +50!  
Tuesday, June 7 - NORMANDY/PARIS.  
Wednesday, June 8 - PARIS.  
Thursday, June 9 - PARIS/USA.

**FOR A DETAILED  
BROCHURE, CALL, TOLL-  
FREE, 1-800-523-7287!**



**Register By Dec. 31, 1992 And  
You Can Save Over \$700 Per Couple!**

Due to last minute interest we have decided to give an extension to register. After this dead line you can register at prevailing cost in 1994.

***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.

**Bolo Ties, Necklaces, \$5.00 Each  
White Golf Caps \$8.00 Each**

**(Postage and Handling Included)**

**Contact the Association Office**

**83rd Reunion** will be held at the  
**Howard Johnson Hotel, Daytona Beach, Florida.**

**Dates are:**

**September 30 - October 1,2, 1993**

**DUES ARE DUE NOW  
FOR 1993**

**THUNDERBOLT**

**DEADLINES**

**Deadline for ALL articles to be published in Thunderbolt must be at this  
office by Oct. 10, Feb. 10, and June 10**

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

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.  
3749 Stahlheber Road  
Hamilton, OH 45013-9102

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

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CITY, or TOWN & STATE \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ 83rd Division

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Please Enclose A Check or Money Order.

**DUES \$10.00 PAYABLE TO:**

Robert Derickson  
3749 Stahlheber Road  
Hamilton, Ohio 45013-9102

Office Phone:  
(513) 863-2199

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**BULLETIN**

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