



THUNDERBOLT

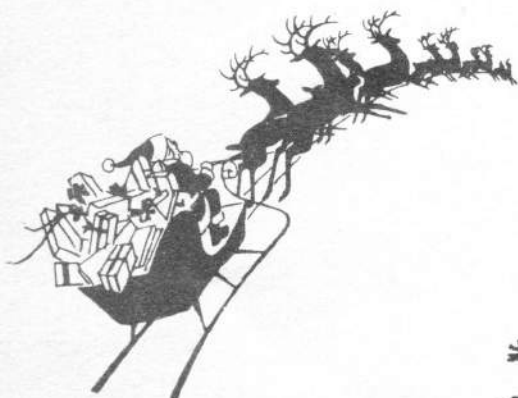
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 51 Issue No. 1

Winter 1995

Merry Christmas



50th Annual Reunion

Independence OH. - August 14, 15, 16, 17, 1996

THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication - 83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.

The THUNDERBOLT is written for all members of the 83rd Infantry Division World War II and is published at 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013-8907

Editor - Robert Derickson

STAFF REPORTERS

Ambrose Tynan..... 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury, MA 02136
Nick Francullo..... 10 Bessom St., Lynn MA 01903
Joseph A. Macaluso..... 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122
Alan Fisher..... 1 Bolero SP. LKS. C.C. Village, Fort Pierce, FL 34951
Kid Williams..... 8202 Eastmoor Rd., Mentor, OH. 44060

Francis G. Beerhalter..... 4548 Valley View St., Pittsburgh, PA 15214
Stanley Bielen..... 71 Glenwood Terrace, Fords, NJ 08863
John G. Daum..... 746 Fairfax Rd., Drexel Hill, PA 19026
Ellsworth S. Massie..... 2514 Lincrest Rd., Joppa, MD 21085
Leroy Johnson..... 2555 Hiway 261 Newburgh, IN 47630

*HONORARY PRESIDENT - Gurney S. Jaynes

LIFE MEMBER - Lawrence Redmond

ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Casey Szubski
8221 Bertha Ave., Parma, OH
301-745-2331

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Earl Lindsey
6600 Rogers Ave., Cleveland, OH 44127
216-883-1724

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Mizerock
12041 Woolridge Dr., North Royalton, OH 44133
216-237-1140

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Stanley Bielen
71 Glenwood Terrace, Fords, NJ 08863
908-225-0169

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Robert E. Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Rd., Hamilton, OH 45013-8907
513-863-2199

JUDGE ADVOCATE

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

HISTORIAN

John Prinzi
4433 Oakley Greenes, Sarasota, FL 34235
914-276-2109

CHAPLAIN

Frank M. Hornack
Rt. D. 2 Box 370 F, Latrobe, PA. 15650
412-834-8315

ASST. JUDGE ADVOCATE

Anothny P. Nugent Jr.
333 W. Meyer Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64113
816-363-8724

ASST. CHAPLAIN

Matthew Pintar
P.O. Box 186 Mingo Church Rd.
Finleyville, PA. 15332
412-348-7898

SERGEANTS-AT ARMS

Bob Grobelny
1581 Lander Rd.
Mayfield Height, OH 44124

Dominic Christopher
26501 Shoreview Rd.
Euclid, OH 44132
416-731-1571

Sam Cordiano
30911 Roosevelt Rd.
Wickliffe, OH 44092
216-585-0071

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Albert A. Belvedere
65 Westminster Dr. So.
Southampton, NJ 08088
609-859-9111

Carroll B. Brown
115 Brown Drive
Sweetwater, TN 37874
615-337-6822

Keith Davidson
4145 Burton Lane
Minneapolis, MN. 55406
612-729-9069

Salvatore Scicolone
5709 Wellesley Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-5245

August Farias
P.O. Box 7-356
New Bedford, MA 02742
508-994-5863

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..... 1951
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. Robinette..... 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
Ned Smith..... 1992
Louis Sandini..... 1993
William A. Minick..... 1994
* Denotes Deceased



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all Thunderbolts!

As I said at the meeting in Myrtle Beach what goes around comes around. You will remember I was president at our 25th reunion in Cleveland in 1971 and Walter Meczka was reunion chairman. Walt made the bid for the 50th reunion.

Two and a half years ago we started to work on plans for the 50th with the Convention Bureau. After checking the hotels in the city we found that the rates quoted were too high or banquet facilities were inadequate. We then went to the Holiday Inn in Independence Ohio, a short 5 miles south of the center of Cleveland. This is an excellent facility located in an area of business office buildings with many restaurants close by, both fast food and up-scale. The hotel has ample parking and offers free pickup at the airport

We have a program set up that will feature a river and lake dinner cruise on Thursday Aug. 15, 1996, see flier in other sections of the book also Earl Lindseys report for further details.

There are 340 rooms allocated to us for the reunion also several motels across the road, however their rates are approximately the same so get your reservations in early as possible, also the boat cruise. We passed out fliers and reservations in Myrtle Beach and the reservations are coming in already.

As you all know the ad book is very important in planning activities so we are hoping to get your usual response to our request for ads.

Our treasurer for the reunion and ad book is:

Henry Trzeciak
57 Greendcliff Dr.
PH# 216-662-3607

So there it is, let's hear from you as soon as possible and wish you all the very best of health and welfare.

Sincerely
Casey Szubski

FINAL REPORT FROM YOUR EX-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

I really enjoyed the Myrtle Beach reunion and Meadows - Lacy and all those who put it on deserve high marks for what they did. Everything was Great!!!

Once again I want to say that it has been an honor to serve on your board for the past five years. Al Belvedere is your new chairman and you are all aware of his health problem. With Anna at his side we are all hopeful for his recovery and that he will be able to fulfill his chairmanship. Al is one of the finest men in our association that I have ever known.

I also want to thank all of you that purchased my tape. I really hope you all enjoyed it. Just remember, when you purchase the tape the profits go to the 83rd Association.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in Cleveland for the Big 50.

Best Wishes to all,
Jim Burton
Co. "D" - 329th Reg.

Executive Board Chairman

I'm sorry I was unable to attend the Reunion in Myrtle Beach. Hopefully I can attend Cleveland Reunion. I have been out of the hospital 1 1/2 weeks and am feeling much better. I want to thank everybody for cards and telephone calls. I hear everyone had a good time at Myrtle Beach, sorry I missed it. I'm looking forward to the 50th Anniversary Reunion.

Al Belvedere
Executive Board Chairman





HELLO from the Office.....

To all of you who attended the reunion held at Myrtle Beach, with the Dixie Chapter in charge, it was really a good one. I am sure that everyone who attended had a good time. To those of you who could not attend, we certainly did miss you. We had sixty-five members who had to cancel out for some reason or other. We certainly hated that, and hope that next year you will be able to be with us. The weather was good all who wanted to go swimming in the ocean were able to do so. We watched them from the patio in our room.

Registration was a busy time as always. Those of you who had heeded our advice and sent in your dues early and had registered early found that you could go right through the line. Those of you who had not paid your dues in advance had to wait. Maybe next year we will be able to convince you to get your dues in early. Thanks to Bonnie Hoover, Virginia Palazzolo, Dot Brennan and Mary Francullo for all the help you gave so kindly to Pearl. That is a tremendous job with everyone crowding around the table and wanting to be taken care of all at once. Can't be done men. Be patient. Thanks to all the widows for paying their dues. Next year all widows will pay \$5.00 dues. All expenses are increasing. Please pay your dues graciously, and send them in early.

Plan on a really good time. Cleveland Chapter is planning a great one for us.

We say "Farewell" to Jim Burton and thank him for his five years of dedicated service. Jim was always willing to help out at all times and was never too busy to talk and help me out. Thank you Jim. You were great!

We talked to Al Belvedere the other night. He is now home and we wish him the very best. Look forward to seeing him at the Board meeting in May. Al has a super nurse in his wife "Ann". We say "Hello" to a new Board Member. August "Mousie" Farris. His enthusiasm will keep all of us busy.

Pearl came home from the reunion and had 2

to have foot surgery again. Was in a cast for five weeks. She now gets around in the wheel chair. We are hoping that in a couple of weeks she will be able to progress to a walker.

The 1997 reunion will be held in Indianapolis, Ind. More on that later. We want to take this time to thank all of you for the wonderful support you have given both of us this past year. May all of you have "A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON." We will be thinking of all of you.

Bob Derickson

REUNION CHAIRMAN REPORT

I came home from Myrtle Beach. The 49th Reunion had a wonderful time. Now that the 49th is over, I have to get my head together for the 50th.

This is my first time at a job like this. I will be working with Casey Szubski, Mike Mizerock, and Henry Trzeciak to help put this Reunion together, for all to have a good time.

The main event, the Dinner Dance will be a cruise on the Good Time III. We had fliers at Myrtle Beach for the cruise and hotel reservations. Get them in as soon as possible. It will be 400 persons for the cruise and 340 rooms for the hotel. Other things of interest are the Rain Forest, Cleveland Zoo, Jacobs Field, Tower City, WW2 Sub (COD), Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Thistle Down Race Track, Sea World and many more.

Earl Lindsey
6600 Rogers Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44127
(216) 883-1724

Send all book fees to:

Henry Trzeciak
57 Greycliff Dr.
Bedford, OH. 44146 3439



**83RD INF DIV. ASSOC.
HOLIDAY INN
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO
(Aug. 13th through Aug.18th, 1996)**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>
Tuesday Aug. 13, 1996	Nothing Scheduled		
Wednesday Aug. 14, 1996	Registration Hospitality Room Entertainment	1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.	
Thursday Aug. 15, 1996	Breakfast On Your Own Registration Hospitality Room Golf Tournament GoodTime III Cruise-Board Bus at Hotel Board Goodtime III Cruise - Dinner - Live Entertainment Cash Bar \$37.50 / Person Make Reservations A. S. A. P. Cocktail Party - Entertainment - Music (At Hotel)	10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:00 P.M. - 3:30 P.M. 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. To Be Announced 5:00 P.M. 6:30 P.M. 7:00 P.M. - 9:30 P.M. 8:00 P.M. - 12:00 Midnight	
Friday Aug. 16, 1996	Breakfast On Your Own Registration Business Meeting Ladies Free Bingo - Prizes Awarded Hospitality Room Dinner Entertainment - Floor Show - Music	10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.	
Saturday Aug. 17, 1996	Breakfast On Your Own Registration Business Meeting Hair Dressing Time (Women) Memorial Service Catholic Mass Hospitality Room Gala Banquet Dinner Entertainment - Music - Dancing	8:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. 3:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. 4:00 P.M. - 5:30 P.M. 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M.	
Sunday Aug. 18, 1996	Buffet Breakfast Departure - Farewell	7:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.	

Some Functions Time And Place Subject To Change

Chaplain's Corner.....

The following names have been sent to the office. Joe read a total of 112 names at the Memorial Service at the Reunion at Myrtle Beach. The Sympathy of the entire 83rd goes out to the families of these men who were our brothers a long time ago.

Name	Unit	Reported By
William Appleby	783rd ORD	Rags
James M. Alexander	"B" 908th	Wife, Ruth
Norris Bacham	783rd	Rags
Ralph Baron	"A" 308th	Jim McCulla
John Casella	"M" 330th	Gale Baker
Harry Eichler	"D" 330th	Joe Macaluso list
Peter Enderie	308th ENGR	Joe Macaluso list
Jake Espenshade	"E" 331st	Ed Haynes & Keith Davidson
James R. Freeman	"E" 329th	Daughter, Diana
Furman Epps	No Unit	Joe Macaluso list
Lewis AB Ernathy	"C" 330th	Joe Macaluso list
Robert Glasgow	HQ 329th	Joe Macaluso list
Earl Graham	783rd ORD	Rags
Gurney Jaynes	"H" 331st	Mike Petetti
Walter O. Johnson	None Given	Frances Klippa
Edward Johnstone	"C" 323rd	Pat DiGiammerino
Chester A. Kolman	"F" 331st	Ellsworth Massie
Alton Lancaster	"F" 331st	Joe Macaluso list
Harlan MacMillian	783rd	Rags
John D. Marsh	HQ 329th	Mailed card returned
Frank Martin	"K" 331st	Gerald Willey
Bethel Murray	"D"st	Al Shrawder
Stanley Nelson	A.T. 331st	Pat DiGiammerino
George Partanen	"B" 330th	Nick Boyd
John Reuter	"CN" 331st	Card Returned Marked Deceased
Albert Scaggs	783rd	Rags
Ernest A. Schmidt	1st BN. HQ. 331st	Wife, Verona
Anthony Theodore	"CN" 330th	Joe Macaluso list
James Undercofler	"D" 329th	Joe Macaluso list
Russell Wheeler	"H" 329th	Joe Macaluso list

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Fall 1995

This is my first article as your new historian, so please bear with me.

Fifty-two years ago just after turning the tender age of 18, I learned as a raw, almost still-wet-

behind-the-ears recruit that the first cardinal rule in the service was: DON'T VOLUNTEER. With the passage of time (and probably because of the onset of senility too), I totally forgot that rule. I VOLUNTEERED and presto, I am now your new Historian.

To try to replace Kent O'Connell - who has done a magnificent job as the Historian for the past quarter century - is an awesome task to ask of anyone. I'm not sure I can do it but I promise to try my very best.

But I need your help!

According to our association's by-laws, the duties of HISTORIAN include ".....to collect and maintain files of published and unpublished unit histories, pictures, papers and other documents concerning the Division's units....."

To help me accomplish these tasks, I ask that you please search through the memorabilia of your military service in the 83rd for anything that may be interesting and/or unique and which may deserve a place in the archives - and thus for future generations.

If you have anything that you think fills that bill, send it to me at the address shown on the cover of this THUNDERBOLT issue. If it is feasible, and you so request, the originals will be returned to you after they are reproduced for the archive files in the Association's office.

At this time, Kent O'Connell has in his possession all of the documents, after-action reports, etc. which he has amassed during his tenure as the association's historian. He has been asked by the executive board to send those records to the office. There, they will be reproduced for our permanent archives and returned to Kent.

For the record, I quote that which the board wrote to Kent recently: "The Board wishes to convey its utmost thanks, appreciation and gratitude on behalf of the membership for the many years of selfless devotion and service you rendered as the 83rd Division Association's Historian. You are truly to be commended for your twenty-five years of outstanding performance...."

Here, I'd like to add my own personal thanks to Kent for a super job well done and my best wishes for an improvement in his health so as to permit him and Nancy to meet his old buddies at next year's HALF CENTURY celebration in Cleveland.

To paraphrase Kent:

We were INDEED the VERY best!!!!
B. John Prinzi, Historian



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

North Coast Goodtime III Cruise

August 15th, 1996 – 6:30^{PM} - 9:30^{PM}

Boarding by bus 5:00^{PM} at Holiday Inn

Entertainment – (Music-Dancing-Dinner)

Cruise Cost \$37.50 Per Person

Busing Included

Reservations as soon as possible!

Limited availability – respond soon.

Make reservations by check or money order to:

Michael M. Mizerock

12041 Woodridge Dr.

North Royalton, Ohio 44133

Organization: 83rd Infantry Division

Function: 50th Reunion

ALL REQUESTS FOR THE ABOVE GROUP MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 1, 1996

Please reserve accommodations for

Name _____ Company _____
LAST FIRST

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

No. of persons _____

Signature _____ Phone Number _____



DON'T FORGET —
MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER
PAYABLE TO HOLIDAY INN INDEPENDENCE
DO NOT SEND CURRENCY

ORGANIZATION 83rd Infantry Division
FUNCTION 50th Reunion
ALL REQUESTS FOR THE ABOVE GROUP MUST BE RECEIVED BY August 1, 1996

DATES Tuesday, August 13, 1996
through
Monday, August 19, 1996

Please reserve accommodations for		Print or Type
NAME	LAST	FIRST
ADDRESS		COMPANY
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SHARING ROOM WITH		NO. OF PERSONS
SIGNATURE		PHONE NUMBER

MONTH	DAY	YEAR
-------	-----	------

ARRIVAL DATE

MONTH	DAY	YEAR
-------	-----	------

DEPARTURE DATE

CHECK IN TIME 4:00 PM
CHECK OUT TIME 12 NOON

WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM REQUESTS FOR RESERVATIONS UNLESS THEY ARE ACCOMPANIED BY A CHECK EQUAL TO THE FIRST NIGHT'S RENTAL OR A CREDIT CARD NUMBER GUARANTEEING THE RESERVATION. UNSECURED RESERVATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION AT 6:00 P.M.

CREDIT CARD NO. _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____
☐ AMEX ☐ DINERS CLUB ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ DISCOVER ☐ HOLIDAY INN
(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

PLEASE CHECK PREFERRED ACCOMMODATIONS

****NON-GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS WILL BE RETURNED TO SENDER****

_____ SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$65.00 + TAX = \$74.43
 _____ DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$65.00 + TAX = \$74.43
 _____ KING \$65.00 + TAX = \$74.43

_____ SMOKING
 _____ NON-SMOKING

IF RATE REQUESTED IS NOT AVAILABLE, NEAREST AVAILABLE RATE WILL BE ASSIGNED. RATES ARE SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE TAXES. NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 19 OCCUPYING THE SAME ROOM AS PARENTS. ROLLAWAY BEDS: \$10.00 + TAX PER NIGHT — CRIBS: NO CHARGE (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY)

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM SPECIFIC ROOM TYPES, CONNECTING ROOMS, ETC. WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE YOUR PREFERENCE AND WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUEST AT CHECK-IN.

Holiday Inn - Independence
ATT: RESERVATION OFFICE
6001 ROCKSIDE ROAD
INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131-9709

CHAPTER

New England Chapter News

Before we get into another great reunion story. We the New England Chapter gang would like to thank Chuck & Bernice, Spike & Gloria McCartin for that great cookout of June 25th at Chuck's estate. We had a great turnout at the Continental Breakfast. It was tops.

I would like to welcome into our Chapter Americo & Marie George of Warwick, R.I. and we all hope to see you at more of our times. Welcome again.

Received a letter from the Ferreira's that Spike and Father McCartin's, Brother James McCartin Sr. passed away June 27 at the age of 79. We of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to the McCartin family. Also to Chuck Abdinoor that friends of the New England Chapter will be saddened, by the loss of Rennie. He always cooked either breakfast and grilled our cookouts. Rennie Ilg was a retired Mass State Police Lt. He served in the 90th Inf. Div. during WWII. He was a buddy of Chuck Abdinoor & enjoyed our cookouts with his wife Ellen. He will surely be missed by our Chapter.

After spending two weeks in Kentucky visiting Mary's family we drove down to Myrtle Beach where we met Jim and Dot Brennan and settled in anticipation of enjoying a week of sunning on the beach, eating too much and seeing all our friends in the 83rd. We managed to do all of this and were very happy to have such a good turnout from the New England Chapter.

Attending were Mary and myself, the Brennans, Smiths, Etzels, Simons, Messinas, Burkhardts, Champys, Mudres, Orsines, Faras, Pettitis, Walshs, Petruccis, Al Tartaglia, Ferreira's, Abdinoor's, Davis, McKees. We missed Ray & Helen Rudd who were unable to come due to poor health and we extend our sympathy to Gloria McCortin on the death of her sister. Also to Joe Petrucci on the death of his sister who passed away Aug. 9th.

We of the New England Chapter would like to say thanks to Wm Minick and Lacy Satterfield and all there staff for such a great time in Myrtle Beach and to Pearl Derickson and her staff at the registration desks. It is a hard job and a thankless one - Thanks again. We need you.

The New England Chapter is very proud to have August "Mousie" Farias elected to the executive board. He is a true blue 83rd member and has made all the reunions and he will do a good job. Good Luck Mousie. I missed Asst. Judge Advocate Tony Nugent and hope he is O.K. Hope to see you in Cleveland.

My surprise at the reunion was when my wife Mary was working at the registration desk. Ben Cunningham of

Madison, Tenn. with his wife Martha asked if her husband was Nick Francullo and she called me over and this was Ben's first reunion but a 83th member for years. Ben was Hq. Co. 3rd 330th S-3, boy this was one of my happiest moments and we shed a few tears talking about all boys in our unite and do you remember this and that.

Ben and Martha I hope to see you at the next reunion.

Hope that John and Stacy Marysz are O.K., as we missed seeing them also Catherine and Leon Collins and Vitie Atkocius.

Got a note from Anson Willard of Newport Vt. that he is not able to make a reunion as his wife Rose is on oxygen, but she gets around. Hope she will get better Anson.

Got a letter from Chuck Abdinoor that on the way home from reunion they stopped to see Paul Reed and spent the evening with him and his wife Delores.

On the way down to the reunion, Chuck stopped in Garland N.C. to see John Bullard and to talk him into coming to the reunion and he did. Good job Chuck.

Thats it for now,
Your Buddy
Nick Francullo
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th

P.S. New England Chapter members your dues for 1996 are now due.

Nick Francullo
10 Bessom St.
Lynn Ma. 01902



New England Chapter Girls.



New England Chapter Men.



The food is good Chuck!



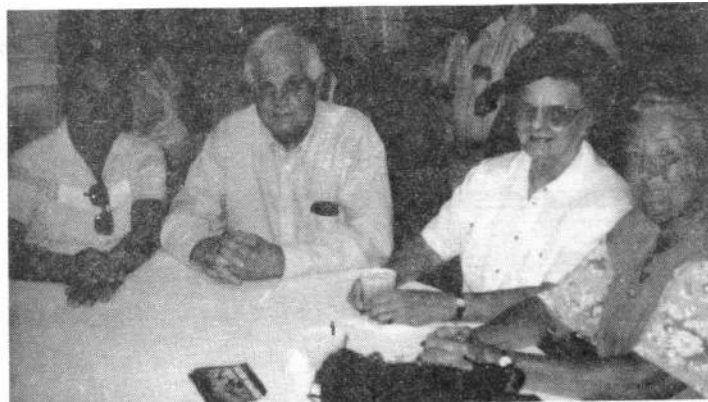
New England Chapter Girls.



August Farias our New Executive Board Member.



Joe, just listen to your boss!



New England Chapter - Chuck & John Bullard - Co. A 330th

New Jersey Chapter

The members of the Chapter who attended the reunion at Myrtle Beach had a wonderful time. Our thanks to William Minick, Lacy Satterfield and all the wonderful people of the Dixie Chapter for putting on a great and memorable reunion.

Attending from the chapter were Joe and Hazel Barton, Stan Bielen, Manny Epstein, George Foster, Ted and Irene Guzek, Sam and Edith Manzi, Fred Policastro, Bernie and Ida Rosenberg, Frank and Mary Sabine, Cookie Seneca with son and daughter-in-law, Charlie Sihlanick, Joe and Dot Skerka, Andy Socha, Ralph and Sally Stat, George and Vi Waple, Emil Wehling, Russell and Marguerite Whitehead, Harold and Doris Everham.

Fred and Addie Rein and Joe DePeri had to cancel their reservations. Fred due to health reasons, Joe who is still working, had a business pressure keeping him home.

George and Vi Waple and Harold and Doris Everham left early for home. Vi fell in the hotel bathroom injuring her leg and back, Harold came to the reunion with injured hands. I was hoping George and I would be able to get in a round of golf. We'll get em next year in Cleveland.

Joe and Dot Skurka called to tell us they arrived home on Thursday following the reunion. Sunday they drove to Atlantic City where they stayed for 3 nights. They hit 4 jackpots!!! Please, please show me how you do it.

It was great seeing 4 members of 1st Bn Hdqs. 331 at the reunion, Buck Muidrow, Jim Davis, Mike Skovran and Leo Schneider. Buck had suffered a stroke. He was brought to the reunion by his daughter. Buck was always one of my favorite people, going back to days together in the 83rd. Jim Davis is well and can still ride a motorcycle if he chose. Remember his accident in Luxembourg. Mike has become the ladies man, every time I saw him he had 4 ladies around him. What's going on Liz? Leo hasn't changed, still keeps on the move even though he is now retired. He told me he still is in touch with Bill Guiliana, Bob Withey and John O'Neil.

Also attending the reunion were Daniel and Marie Auvray along with Christine Bienvenu from the Normandy Region of France. They were guests of George Naylor at his home and then at the reunion. They were a delight to be with and I along with Manny spent quite some time with them. Christine is a french beauty and I felt it proper to introduce her to Warren Rangnow and his Ordnance Buddies, who I understood would appreciate the introduction. Well....listen to this, the following morning when I was passing beneath Warren's balcony, I was struck by a cascade of water. I looked up quickly but couldn't spot the culprit. Imagine my surprise when later that night he confessed. Could it be...???, I'll leave it up to you to decide.

One morning I asked Manny, Andy and Emil to join me on a tour of Myrtle Beach. I drove up to where the first reunion was held in 1965 at the Ocean Forest Hotel. The hotel is gone and taking it's place is beach front condos. All of Myrtle Beach has had tremendous growth since our first reunion there. It is only second to Las Vegas as the fastest growing area in our country. It has so much to offer, a great place for a reunion or a vacation.

Note to Father McCartin: we had no mass at the reunion because no priest from the local church would come. Those who wanted to attend mass went to the church. We missed you.

The New Jersey Distinguished Medal was presented to Andy Socha, Emil Wehling, Ted Guzek and Carolyn Voelkner for her husband Bob at the Teaneck Armory on Sept. 26th. Bernie Rosenberg and Joe DePeri Choose to have theirs sent by mail. Fred Rein and I will have ours presented on Oct. 18th.

That's it for now, except to wish you all "Happy Holiday Season and a Happy and Healthy New Year!!!"

Stan Bielen
1st Bn. Hdqs. 331st

Boston Chapter News

Boston Chapter had a wonderful time at the Landmark Hotel meeting with our buddies from the 83rd Division Association.

Thanks to the Dixie Chapter for an excellent 49th Reunion. Your hard work and long hours certainly paid off. I must add it was nice to see Dick Riddle and a few more down in the south.

Boston is already making plans to be at the 50th Reunion in Cleveland, Ohio next August. Many of us have been looking forward to this reunion in Cleveland. I hope everyone will be able to make it. Cleveland Chapter, I know, will do their very best to have a successful 50th Reunion.

Boston Chapter has a meeting on October 14th 1995 in New Hampshire near the Vermont line. At this time of year it will be nice seeing the foliage while traveling. Nancy and I are staying there for a few days. Some of the other members are doing the same. Our meeting there should be a good get together.

My buddy Ray Bjork of the 330th Infantry G and H Company has been ill in the recent months. We wish Ray well. We will

begging to visit him within the next couple of weeks. Many of Ray's friends were asking for him at the reunion this year.

Our Boston Chapter has been very well attended every month. Tony Piantedosi and Hy Goodman do a fine job with the meetings being in order and also with the records.

Thanks to Albert Remy for his work to protect the War Veterans in Congress.

We are also grateful for the hard work Bob Session has been doing for the Veterans in Maine.

Charlie Lussier is doing a great job setting up our Christmas Party for December 2nd. Charlie had a rough year with a heart condition. He has made a marvelous comeback with the love and care of his wife Rita. Charlie had alot of laughs with his old buddies from 331st Anti Tank Company. John Marek for one, that's all I can remember by name right now.

Chet Marley of Ashland had to cancel out of the reunion because of poor health. He is doing fine now and says he will be at the next Boston Chapter Meeting.

We sure missed Al Belvedere and his lovely wife Ann at this years reunion. Lou and Lucy were lost without you too. Al we are glad to hear you are doing well. Looking forward to Cleveland.

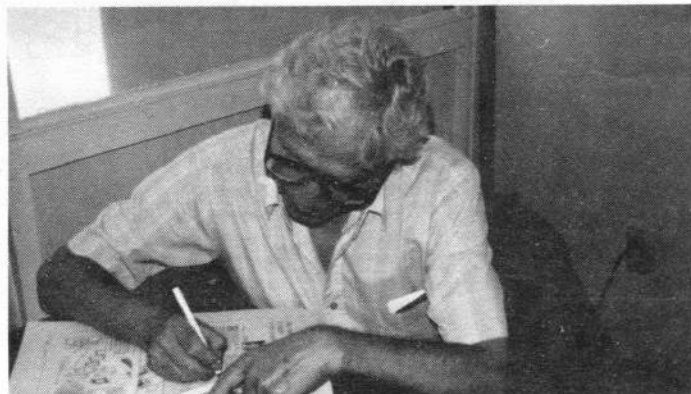
Bob Hunnewell had 329 "I" Company at his table and with the help of Fred Sylvia he kept his men in line. Bob Hunnewell is one of the Boston Chapters entertainers along with Dick Armstrong.

Pat DiGiammerino is doing a good job bringing in new members to the Chapter.

Congratulations to Augusta Farias on being elected to the Executive Board. Best of luck to you in the years ahead. Next time use your real name. Ha, Ha!

That is all for now.

Amby Tynan
Boston Chapter Reporter



Tony Vaccaro - 83rd Div. Photographer



Mike Malik - Belting It Out - Boston Chapter



Tony Vaccaro with 83rd members - Boston Chapter



Honored Guest Mary Jonckeu from Belgium at Battle of the Bulge Luncheon.



Vern Mueller, Bernie & Jean Cove at Reunion - Boston Chapter



Alexander Uhlig from Germany - fought against the 83rd Div in Carentan - Boston Chapter

Cleveland Chapter News

Hello you all,

In July the Cleveland Chapter celebrated with a huge cake Warren and Mary Jane Owen's anniversary, Dominic "Godfather" Christopher's 83rd birthday along with the young Earl Lindsey, Bob Miller, Al Lacinski and Paul Dallos.

In August the members talked of their plans of flying or driving to Myrtle Beach among other things.

Our committee for the 1996 Cleveland Reunion:

President	Casey Szubski
Vice President	Earl Lindsey
2nd Vice Pres.	Mike Mizerock
Treasurer	Henry Trzeclak
Secretary	Joe Beloc
Sargeant at Arms	Bob Grobelny
" " "	Dominic Christopher
" " "	Sam Cordiano
Reporter & Historian	Kid Williams

Casey and committee are working hard for the 50th reunion. It will be Cleveland's Bicentennial year. I hope you all can make this a special reunion and vacation.

Sixteen members of the Cleveland Chapter were able to attend the 49th reunion in Myrtle Beach, S.C., From what I hear the Dixie Chapter gets congratulations for a good reunion. We had a pleasant stay at the Landmark. Great weather too.

On Sunday my wife and I headed further south toward Charleston, S.C., We left the highway to see a little of Historic Georgetown. We didn't find our way back to the fast highway but drove a pleasant road to finally end up at Patriots Point to see a Naval and Maritime Museum. 'Toured the aircraft carrier Yorktown "The Fighting Lady". As the rains started we drove into Charleston to the narrow streets, beautiful old houses and nice parks. We stayed at a hotel on the Ashley River in time to have dinner with a spectacular rainbow starting from the ocean and settling into the river. A sign that Hurricane Marilyn wasn't going to trouble us.

Our tour driver, the next day, had a wealth of information on the city. We even toured the Citadel campus.

North to Williamston for a night then to Nags Head and Kitty Hawk the Wright brothers (Ohioans) first flight sight. Kill Devil Hills an earlier hurricane area. When we reached Virginia Beach the ocean was really kicking up because of high Marilyn winds. One night in Charlottesville then up on to the Skyline Drive and later a tour of Harpers Ferry "Where the Civil War started". A night in Federick. We scratched D.C. from our trip possibilities and headed home with many pleasant historical memories. Jim Burton's tape playing in the car made the final day most enjoyable.

Times fly so we would like to wish you all Happy Holidays.

Sincerely,
Kid Williams

As a U.S. infantryman in World War II, Tony Vaccaro took more than 4000 photographs of life on the front lines in Europe—perhaps the most complete visual diary by any serviceman in any war.

The Soldier Who Shot The War

WHEN HE was in high school, Tony Vaccaro dreamed of becoming a professional photographer. When he landed in Normandy as a soldier six days after D-Day in 1944, however, he was little more than an amateur with big plans and a dime-store camera. But by the time World War II was over—50 years ago next month—Vaccaro had created what may be the largest and most complete visual diary of any soldier enlisted in any war: more than 4000 pictures covering everything from basic training to the war's aftermath.

The young infantryman went on to a successful career as a photojournalist. It was in the

cauldron of battle, though, that he learned how to master his camera and to follow his instincts. "I had to learn fast," recalled Vaccaro, now 72.

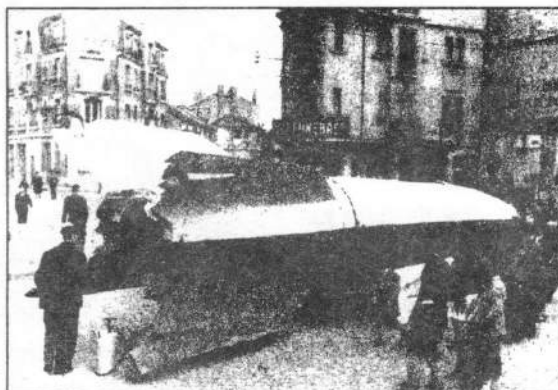
Vaccaro's goal was to work for *Life*, the fabled weekly picture magazine. His plan was to create a portfolio dramatic enough to get a foot in the door. In boot camp, Vaccaro got permission from his major to take photographs as long as it didn't interfere with his military duty. Once in Europe, his commanding officers also agreed to the plan. Throughout the war, Vaccaro worked with an M-1 rifle in his hand and a 35mm camera around his neck.

He was placed in an intelligence unit to gather information and interview civilians about Nazi troop movements. His duties enabled Vaccaro to spend his days as he wished, and he often volunteered for patrols as they searched for the enemy.

Vaccaro dedicated himself to recording the realities of war. "I said to my-



Anthony Montano



Tony Vaccaro

self, 'Don't worry how good the picture is going to be—take it, no matter what,'” he recalled. War meant death, of course, and Vaccaro documented plenty of it, as experienced by both the Allies and the enemy. Looking at his photos, one understands what Vaccaro meant when he said his pictures express “the feeling you get when you're there.”

Whenever his battalion liberated a town, Vaccaro scavenged the drugstores and camera shops for film stock. He developed the film as he shot it, often at night in a pup tent, borrowing helmets to hold his developing fluids. Vaccaro planned to send the developed negatives to his sister in the U.S., but after a military censor destroyed his pictures of Normandy, he guarded his work. He even went AWOL—which could have resulted in serious punishment if he had been caught—to retrieve negatives that a military editor had

claimed for his own. Vaccaro eventually amassed more than 500 feet of film. The amateur Argus C-3 camera he used was inferior in every way except one—it was nearly indestructible.

Vaccaro's photos are still largely unknown in the U.S., although he has tried to interest several art galleries and



Tony Vaccaro



Top left: Tony Vaccaro as a 21-year-old GI in 1944. Clockwise from top right, a few of the many poignant photos he took during World War II: A dead German soldier lies in the frozen mud; another German returns home to find his house and family gone; during a weapons exhibit in Rheims, France, the residents gather around an unexploded German V2 bomb in 1945.

Tony Vaccaro

museums. They have been exhibited and praised in Europe, however, and his pictures earned him the most prestigious medal in France, the Legion of Honor.

After the war, Vaccaro had a successful career at *Life* and other picture magazines, including *Look* and *Flair*. Yet the old pro still can be overwhelmed by the photos he took so long ago. Whenever he looks at them, Vaccaro said, he feels like he's back in the war: "I'd be putting the negative in the enlarger, and I'd remember exactly the words the soldiers were saying, sometimes their last words."

The painful memories are eased by knowing that the pictorial record he created stands as a testament to everything he and the other GIs experienced. "Now the world will know what happened," said Vaccaro.

BY TIMOTHY D. CAHILL

Warren, Ohio Chapter News

Another great reunion has come and gone. For those who were fortunate enough to attend this 49th annual reunion of our association at the Landmark Hotel in Myrtle Beach in September we extend our sincerest congratulations and heartfelt thanks to President Minnick, Reunion Chairman Lacy Satterfield and all of the Dixie Chapter for a job well done, it couldn't be better. However let us not forget to thank and congratulate Bob and Pearl Derrickson and all of the group behind the registration desk for their fine work and efforts. Many people do not realize that there is much preliminary work and preparation that has to be done prior to a reunion, preparing membership card, identification tags, meal tickets etc. and etc. Thanks again gang.

The Warren Chapter was well represented at this reunion, our President Charlie Tomazin and wife Ann drove in from Warren. (and didn't get lost). Chuck and Madeline Jordon, our newest Chapter members (A Co. 331st Inf.) drove in from Phalanx, Ohio without any problem. Mike and Liz Skovran chickened out as far as driving is concerned and flew in. Three of our lovely ladies wives of deceased members of our Chapter, like the true 83rds their husbands were drove the 800 miles from Warren together. They were Marge Voracek, wife of Ray Voracek, Birdie Titus, wife of Leroy Titus and Angie Phillipone, wife of Joe Phillipone. We thank them for coming and opening up their suite on the fifteenth floor of the hotel as the Warren Chapter CP. We enjoyed their company very much. One more note on the reunion, old lucky Mike Skovran won the Wednesday 50-50 raffle of \$150.00.

John Caparanis had planned on attending and wanted to come but due to recent surgery just wasn't up to it. We are sure that under the expert nursing of his lovely wife Helen he will be ready for our 50th reunion that will be held in Cleveland, O. next year. (only fifty miles away) John Shamrocks health problems precluded him and his lovely wife from attending. We missed them to. And last but not least Babe and Thresa Gautschi could not attend due to previous commitments. We missed all of our Chapter members that could not attend.

The sad news from Warren this year is the passing of two of our Chapter members. Ted Halubka passed away on January 15, 1995. Ted was probably our most consistent and proficient golfer along with being just one of a heck of nice guy, always willing to chip in and help when needed. His only failing in golf was that he couldn't get through to Mike Skovran on the proper fundamentals of golf so that old Mike could get good enough to shed his perennial title of duffer of the year. Another great guy and dear friend Joe Phillipone passed away on March 17, 1995. He too was always cheerful and ready to help out in anyway possible. In spite of his failing eyesight he too was a good golfer. After each golf match Joe would go out on the golf course alone to search for lost golf balls and somehow he would find many of them. Our Joe had one

commendable trait and that was to tell it like it was whether it was complimentary or otherwise. Joe and Ted we miss you both very much. The Warren Chapter golf league still meets every Tuesday however it is down to two golfers, Charlie Tomazin and Babe Gautschi. We haven't had any reports on their scoring.

Several people asked about Dimps Minotti wife of former deceased Chapter member Joe Minotti, she is still involved with her daughter at the Cafe 83 on North River Rd. here in Warren. Her phone number and address is listed in the Warren phone book.

The Warren Chapter still meets once a month, during the winter months we meet at the homes of Chapter members. We met at the home of Dolly Halubka, wife of deceased member Ted Halubka, in September. Incidentally Dolly is now visiting her son in Florida.

Our October meeting will be held at the home of Babe and Thresa Gautschi on October 29 and it will also be our annual Steak Fry.

December 9, 1995 will be the date of our annual Christmas Party and it will be held at the Cafe 422 here in Warren. We invite all of the widows of our departed members and it sure is nice to see them once again. Any one else should happen to be in the area please come. We are all in the phone book or our 83rd roster.

It sure was nice to see many of the old faces (and I mean old faces, but beautiful faces at the past reunion) You just can't beat what we have, the members of the 83rd Association. It was great to see our honorary member Joe Macaluso and wife Mena, Stan Bielen, Manny Epstein, Ed Reuss and so many others to numerous to mention so just try to keep coming, because we will.

We wish to congratulate Casey Subski and the new officers of the Association and we shall be looking forward to seeing them next fall in Cleveland. Fortunately for the Warren Chapter it is only about fifty miles from here.

In closing we all hope that our Jewish friends had a nice holiday season that has just passed and to all others we wish them a happy and joyous Christmas season.

Mike Skovran.

Dixie Chapter News

Here is 3 pictures, 2 of "M" Co. Hope you have room for them in the Thunderbolt.

It was Mr. & Mrs. Bob Bouressa's first reunion.

Our prayers go out for Ray Kotarski who has cancer. Hoping this finds you and Pearl in good health.

Best Wishes,
Roy R. Wilson, "M" Co. 329th



Mr. & Mrs. Ellsworth Massie with the Grand Prize at Myrtle Beach - Dixie Chapter Reporter



R to L - Arthur G & Majorle Adrian - Maj. Ret. Roy R. & Alto Wilson "M" Co. 329th.



Robert D & Levarne Bouressa Ex. POW Anthony Leone & friend Pat. "M" Co. 329th

The plans are all completed. Now is the time for action. I leave home early for a 700 mile drive with my wife so I can arrive Tuesday after a short visit with the Livingstons of Pomaria, S.C. It was a great visit with long time friends Mary and Felix, helped out on the farm and a building project, over ate, celebrated, was ready for the 49th Reunion.

Arrived on Tuesday to find 83ders who seemed like they lived there. Some had been there several days already. Saw many "Dixie" members and friends, lost no

time in getting in the spirit of our 49th meeting.

Events were moving right along. New faces appeared daily. Many human interest were taking place. Four men of "M" 329th together for the first time in 50 years. Three wounded, one wounded and captured in the same action finally together again telling "knock knock" jokes. Men attending for the first time looking for a face remembered and looked for 50 years. I'm grateful for the opportunity to help some in their search.

Well made plans sometimes fall apart in the execution. Who knows what happened to the seating at the Gatlin Bros Show?? It was just about as bad as it could be, but got worse! Like true 83ders all rose above the problem and enjoyed the evening in spite of the giant sized S.N.A.F.U.

People just kept coming. It was getting better each day. Our ladies were busy with registration, crafts, and raffles. Refreshments were plentiful and served up expertly by those on the various committees. I could name each one but won't. Just accept our thanks if you hauled supplies, poured drinks, sold tickets, made jelly, alghan, quilt, crafts or kept goodies on the tables, decorated the tables and all the other tasks too numerous to mention.

Our president and reunion chairman and each one deserve a "Hearty Thank You" from all of us. A special "Thank You" goes to "Honey Bee" who drew all the winning tickets. "Dixie" had more than 60 chapter members and wives present.

My heart was truly touched by the presence of so many of our widows. They are a treasure to us. They really made my day. Keep on being a part of our reunion. We need you so much. A word to our "First Time" people. We've wanted you for almost 50 years. We're so happy we've found you and look forward to seeing you next year in Cleveland.

It was my privilege to help our newest member find a connection to his past service in our 83rd Div. Grady West trained with us then volunteered for the "5th Rangers", scaled the cliffs of Point DeHoc on D Day. His services was with "F" Co. 329th. He found us, joined us in time to witness our memorial service. I'm sure he appreciates the help from Lou Gaybrant and Doc Kieth in helping pick up some lost connections. There is a heart warming experience connected with each of our new members. Welcome to each one of you! This year they came from many states and made our association much better by being a part of it.

George Naylor "F" 331st our new "Dixie" president had 3 French guests present. They added much to the excitement and enjoyment of the meeting. Food and music were out of this world. I just loved the dancing couples who never stopped. They jitterbugged like 20 year olds, never sat down, just asked for more and more and got it. I didn't dance but took notes, but lost them before I could put them together. Forgive me please.

It was good to see Tony Vacarro back with us. I hope he can realize his dreams of righting some wrongs in the reporting of the 83rd accomplishments and the showing of his most noteworthy collection of WWII photos.

I'm keeping my ears and eyes open for good news. Each event builds to the climax. "The Memorial Service", Capt. Mac and his crew did a magnificent job as always. Many tears were visible as the 112 names of our deceased in the past year were read. Those who placed the wreaths, sang their songs, lead the prayers, played taps, Color Guard, each one present added to an unforgettable experience. And it would get better.

The Banquet was tops. Table six was the best for me. I'm sure you feel the same way about yours. Music, old and new, something for everyone was the order of the day. It could not get any better - I do love it so!!

Sunday morning breakfast was truly a "Going Away Affair". Afterward, Many tear stained "Good Byes" The Troops loaded up and departed quietly and sadly. I chose to stay another day - You just can't imagine the difference in the atmosphere unless you were there. Quiet and subdued was the tone of things. Many took advantage and stayed on. It was time well spent. Now we look forward to next year in Cleveland. I'm sure Casey and his crew will be ready for us.

Till then its Gatlinburg for "Dixie" we've been doing it for 22 years. Thanks to our hosts "The Carroll Browns for 19 years and The Jacksons more recently. Each year its a whole new game celebrating. Being alive and grateful for friends and comrades coming together to share our friendship and most importantly - Remembering those who have given their all for country, family, and friends.

Your Reporter

E.S. Massie

-Special- We are saddened by absence of Bill Coffey "B" 308 Engineers due to sickness. He had attended at least 46 reunions. He and I grew up as boys just one ridge apart till I turned him over to the Engineers. Best Wishes Bill and Erma!

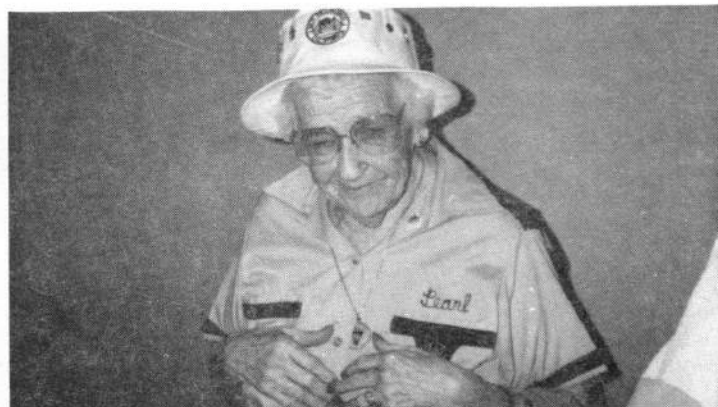
322 "A" 83rd Report.

In alphabetical order, 7 men made it to Myrtle Beach in 95. Benbow, Fogelman, Massie, Rankin, Sechwest, Sihlanick, Zingy. This group had not been together at one time in 50 years. It was worth waiting for. Sorry! All you A Btry men out there, we just had to occupy the position and carry out the five missions without you. As much as we enjoyed it, we want you to know we missed you. We were counting on you and some had to do double duty. We are looking for you next year. Cyr, Karageonge, Cramer, Johnson, Blandford. I'm looking for you to be there. We lost one good A Btry man this year - Earl Ross is missed by all his family and friends. He was a fine Cannoneer till the mission was completed!

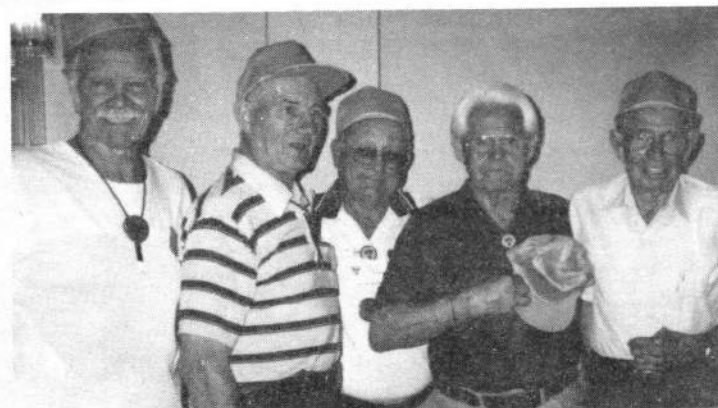
E. Massie



George Naylor "F" 331st with French guests.



Pearl Direckson - Still going strong!



Five men of "A" 322nd together for 1st time since 1945 on "The Blue Danube"



Newest member Grady West & wife with new friends of 83rd.



"Best Looking Couple on the Floor" - Tony and Pat "M" 329th



Dixie Ladies at the Craft Tables - Way To Go!

Pittsburgh Chapter News

Thirteen members of the chapter attended the reunion in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, September 14, 15 and 16. Francis Beerhalter, wife Joann, daughters Gale and Ann, grandchildren Brandon and Chilse; Rocco Caltafamo; Charles Caven; Joseph Danylo; Jules Desgain, Wife Agnes; Paul Diethrich, wife Rita; Frank Hornack, wife Norma Jean; Lawrence Leonardi; John Marek; James McCulla; Michael Rudy; Edward Reuss, wife Lee; Salvatore Scicolone, wife Theresa. A half dozen others would have attended but due to the chapter's scrapping of a chartered bus at the September meeting due to the lack of interest and the high price. At the reunion your reporter renewed acquaintances with John Marchel, 2nd plt. Co. H 329 who last attended a reunion in 1951. Also two former members who are now residing in Florida attended: Glenn Wible and Louis Kanes. Ralph Baron died in the latter part of the summer. He had been in ill health for some time; therefore unable to attend meetings. Theresa Scicolone fell and broke her left knee, requiring surgery on June 23 at Shadyside Hospital. She was in the hospital for five days. At the August meeting Ed Reuss and Joe Deluca attended, both of whom were recovering from surgery. On September 18 Ezio Alicandri (Smokey) entered At. Margaret's Hospital for Bronchitis. He previously had been suffering from this and became progressively worse, necessitating a five day stay at the hospital. He is currently recuperating at home. His brother Hugo had a triple bypass operation on Sunday, June 23 at St. Francis Hospital. He has a total of twenty-two years in service. At the December, 1994 meeting Felix Marra joined the chapter. He was originally from California; moved to Fairmont, West Virginia, then travelled to Pittsburgh and joined. Since then he has not appeared at any meetings. At the August meeting I learned he has a heart condition and unable to travel, but he has fulfilled his chapter obligations. After reading this some of you fellows that reside in our back yard would think of joining. I talked to several men at the reunion about joining, perhaps this would be a good time. We meet the first Sunday of each month at the VFW Post 1810, Route 51, Brentwood, Pa. at 2:00 p.m. I may be reached at (412) 931-0728.

At last count chairman of the Christmas Party Greer Thompson has 39 reservations. It will be held at the Lamplighter Inn, Delmont, Pa. Your reporter has a daughter Ann attending Perry Traditional Academy, currently a senior. In her junior year she made honor roll for the 1994 - 95 calendar year. She will graduate in June, 1996. Lastly this article was submitted by Charles Caven. According to Chuck the soldier mentioned in this article served for a time in the 83rd Div.

Fran Beerhalter
"H" 329th

Philadelphia Chapter News

The Philadelphia Chapter has paraded in the Memorial Day Parade in Narberth, PA. for the past twenty-five years. On October 7th, they had a parade commemorating their 100th Anniversary of the town's founding. The Philadelphia Chapter was asked to join this parade. We were represented by Lou Volpi, Harry Kirby, Harry Stevenson and Norm Schuster; along with various family members they rode in two vans.

The Philadelphia Chapter is also planning to get together for a Christmas Dinner over at the Coastline Restaurant in New Jersey. The date is December 10, at 2:30 P.M.

We were saddened by the loss of Bill Appleby, and also Andrew Carrol. Both were longtime 83rd members.

Al Belvedere was back in the hospital for more treatment, and I had a note from Jim Prentice saying that he was suffering from a broken rib. Also, I was recently hospitalized for some surgery, and at this time I am slowly recovering.

John G. Daum
D - 330th



Kentucky Chapter News

On Oct. 13 - 14, The Kentucky Chapter met at Louisville, Holiday Inn Southwest (Shively) Kentucky, for the fall meeting. We had a good turn out of the regulars as well as some of the members we hadn't seen for awhile. We also had as guests of the RICKENBAUGH'S Gordon and Alma Hanger. Wilson Day's deceased brother used to be a member of the Chapter, so we were glad to see his wife Dee Day as a guest of Wilson and Vi. Day.

Manny Goodridge showed up for the first time in awhile. He said he felt better than he had in quite awhile, guess on those overhauls the doctors must have got the parts back in the right places. Larry and Jessie Dalton made it up from Georgia to visit their children in the Louisville area and join their many friends in the Kentucky Chapter. Ames and Helen Miller attended they handed out a copy of their local newspaper detailing some of the many things they are involved in at Camp Atterbury, sounds like they are busy, busy, trying to keep the memorial and grounds looking good.

A abundance of food showed up at this meeting, seems that everyone brought something, so a lot of different recipes just had to be sampled, plenty to drink was also available and it didn't take long for a line to form at the food table.

For the evening meal we formed a convoy and drove out to Mike Linnings Place for a meal ordered off the menu the helpings were very large, I don't think anyone was able to clean their plate.

Back at the motel Friday Night we had a enjoyable game of bingo where everyone was a winner.

On Saturday morning at the business meeting the following officers were elected. President Floyd Richmond, Vice President Earl Hoover, Secretary Treasurer Homer Rickenbaugh, Chaplin Owen Jones, Reporter Leroy Johnson.

We would like to thank Fred McGowan for the excellent job he did as our president and wish him well in his future endeavors. It wasn't easy rushing from Florida back North, to and fro, just to fulfil the office.

We also owe Manny Goodridge a vote of appreciation for the many years he has put in as our Sec. Treasurer. He has handled the job in a me-

ticulous manner that takes a lot of time and effort. I always enjoy his war stories especially about the Normandy as he spent a lot of time with 3rd. Bn. 331st. where I was, I was very surprised that he remembered Colonel Cheils no longer than he was with us, and that he could remember him in detail. He needs to write a book while his memory is so good.

We would like to thank Ames Miller for the report on "Camp Atterbury and for reminding us of the celebration there next August hope he can have success on his projects.

After the business meeting we drove to the Patton Museum where we viewed a movie about the life of Patton. We then toured a crowd museum that was loaded with groups of school and scouts. We drove a short distance on the post to the Leaders Club where we had our dinner, after which we broke up the convoy and returned to the motel every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost, I think Floyd Richmond was the first back. at least the ones in his car were the palest.

Back at Holiday Inn we had a drawing for more gifts among them a carving by Wilson Day of an Amish Man, Ruth Rickenbaugh was the lucky winner of this. A very happy Pearl Derickson won the 50/50 pot, her only regret was it wasn't earlier so she could have taken it shopping, she's like me had never won before. A total of 43 attended, 21 of them being members, a very successful meeting brought about by the hard work and attention to detail by the hosts Alton and Beverly Carter and Marvin and Wanda Hayden. I don't know where they came up with so many gifts but they kept coming in a steady stream. Thanks also to Alex Ford for his donation that was auctioned off for the chapter the bottle of whiskey was won by Jessie Dalton.

Let us don't forget the Christmas Party at Piqua, Ohio second week-end in December at Comfort Inn. This is always a success and is well run by our hosts Alfred and Doroty Henry, Bob and Lois Brinkman and Fred and Doris McGowan. If you don't attend this meeting Santa Claus may not come to see you, a letter will be out on it later. See you in December.

Your Reporter Leroy V. Johnson

COMPANY SECTION

329th Inf. Reg.'tl Hq. Co.



You fellows of 329th Hdqtrs. Co. that were not there missed a great reunion this year, June 23, 24 & 25, 1995. Always the week-end AFTER Father's Day.

It was the 16th reunion. The first few were pot lucks. This proved to much a chore for those coming from Iowa, Pennsylvania, Alabama and others who came a long distance so the group decided to have a catered meal on Sunday noon.

The past nine (9) years the reunion and future reunions being held at St. Marys, Ohio. The group gets rooms at the S. & W. Motel (they save ground floor rooms for us. (Very nice rooms, and accomodating people.) S. & W. phone No. is 419-394-2341. When making room reservations always! Make sure they understand that you are with the 329th. Ask for Nick, if possible, and use Frank Fauner's name.

Some of us go on Thursday and come home on Monday. We, Frank & Lois Fauner always have room 243. All meals are eaten less than 1 mile from the Motel at Orchard Tree. Which is a very nice restaurant Orval Ellis, who lives in St. Marys gets the caterer for Sunday noon, and reserves the K of C. hall in which we gother for fellowship. It is air conditioned as are the rooms at S & W Motel.

The K of C Hall is a little over 1 1/2 miles from S & W Motel. This year there were 14 fellows of 329th plus, 9 wives and 3 family members. We encourage family! Over the years the ladies have enjoyed the reunions as much as the men themselves.

With everyone working together, getting reservations in motel and for Sunday dinner - we have had one of the greatest reunions.

Those in the picture are: Front Row L. to R: Robert Houseknecht, Louise Hess, Lois Fauner, Eileen Lemaster, Betty Zimmerman, Esther Houseknecht, Gladys Tuckor, Elbon Tuchor. 2nd. Row. - Paul Zimmerman, John North, George Hess, Virgil

Shabe, Roger Lemaster, Orval Ellis, James Townsend, Frank Fauner and Herbert Berner (behind the flag.) a few not in the picture who had to leave early are: John and Mary Raikos, John McShane and Darrell Thorpe.

Deceased members of 329th Hdqtrs. Co.

Danny Newell
Nobel Johnson
Robert Glasqlow
Wilbert "Web" Cowgill
Dale Horn
Donald Brice - 1st. Sgt.
Roland Dacier
Capt. William Wheeler.

329th Hdqtrs. Co. next reunion will be June 21-23, 1996 at St. Marys, Ohio.

Frank M. Fauner
403 Edgewood Dr.
Wausen, O. 43567
Phone (419) 335-9363

323rd Report

At the 49th reunion was Tony Piantedosi, Dave Hurt, Edward Nowak, Richard Magill, Pat DiGiammerino, Dustin Starbuck, Harold Michael, Eddie McCouch, Don Willis, Willie Snodgrass, and Amby Tynan. We all had a great time in Myrtle Beach.

Major Dustin Starbuck was on the golf course breaking his own record. We are proud that he is such a good golfer representing the 323rd FA Bn. Don Willis left his golf clubs home. Don is recovering from a heart operation. I must say he looked like a new man for Atterbury. Al Covi was missed this year for his golfing skills, however, I think Starbuck can give you a good game.

Harold Michael and Dustin Starbuck went on a reconnaissance at Myrtle Beach. Thank God Starbuck went or they would not have made it back. Bob Costello I am sure will comment on these two.

Willis Snodgrass, Ed McCouch, and Ed Nowak had many laughs along with Don Willis and myself Sunday morning when we all had breakfast together before parting.

I would certainly like news from anyone in the 323rd to put in the book.

I forgot to mention Olivia Maynard as also in attendance. Thanks for all the fine work she does for the Boston Chapter.

Walter Koss and Amby Tynan are still waiting for Dallas Williams.

That is all for now.
Amby Tynan

Co. "F" 329th

Over But Not Forgotten:

The 49th 83rd Annual Reunion - Thanks Dixie Chapter for a good time. In attendance nine "F" Co. men and eight of their ladies plus the Anderson's daughter Karen, scattered up and down South Ocean Blvd.

South '95 - What a Great! group of guys/gals, twenty-six in all.

After action report of South '95 complete with pictures.

Fuller - Keith "Duo conducting the solemn moments of remembrance.

Acknowledgements:

Mini 1st Timers - Lou Gaybrant, Lou says the Password July 4, 1944 was Bathing Beauty the countersign? Any Comments. Al and Dutch Sperling, Al's experience as a P.O.W. interesting however not very pleasant. They are now transplanted Floridians. Ferguson will chide me if I fail to mention that Al in an ole Atterbwian.

"Remembering Eunice Fishman", late wife of Sylvain J. Fishman, a two page article by Margaret Inman in the February/March 1995 issue of Top Notch Toys a popular pet magazine showcasing Eunices many talents and accomplishments. Doc Keith for his open letter to past and present "F" Co. men.

In Sympathy:

Clemons/Newcomer Families - Lois Newcomer wife of William Newcomer - Sister of Bertha Clemons passed away August 26, 1995.

Andrew Carroll Sr. Family - Daughter Marg Ordnung notified us that Andy passed away May 12, 1995.

Congratulations:

V.B. Tex/Mildred Atchison - 50th Wedding Anniversary - August 17, 1995.

Roy/Margie Arnfield will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary October 1995 in England.

Reconnections:

Alphus C. Smith - An Atterbwian - Former S/Sgt. 1st Platoon - 5822 18th St. Zephyrhills, Florida 33540.

Van J. Olsen - Joined "F" Co. Sept. 1945 - TB Vol. 50 No. 3 Page 33 - 410 E Fair Harbor Ln. Houston, Texas 77079-2562. Grady J. West - An Atterburian - Cpl. 4th Platoon transferred to 75th later joined 5th Ranger Bn. 1012 Tossum Trot Rd. N. Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29582. Grady tried to locate "F" Co. men at the 49th Reunion assisted by Ellsworth Massie "A" 322nd FA without much success. Where were all of us? Thanks Ellsworth for taking care of our buddy now a new member of the association.

Thanks:

To Ed "Bazooka" Zerucha for his gift of the 50th Anniversary Lapel Discharge Pin (The Ruptured Duck) to "F"

Co. men and others. Many expressed their thanks when corresponding with the writer.

To all who gave - The response to the request for expense/ad book \$ was great! If you were not in person at the 49th you did participate thru your contribution to "F" Company's two full pages in the reunion ad book.

Here & There:

Charles Anderson - knee replacement Jan. 18, 1995 attended 49th doing great!. Wright Jr. Cotter's son Tom is still experiencing problems from his devastating mine accident. Wright is coming along but slow after his bout with a bleeding ulcer, Lucille has to stay well. Niles and Delphia Johnson still having some problems still remaining supporters of "F" Co. Lutkemeiers doing pretty good expect to be at North '95. Dottie Hutton gave Bill a scare but everything reported better now. Ray Mitzefelt hanging in there. After angioplasty, sinus problems and now a defibrilator implanted, "Helicat" Helleckson is becoming a "Kitten". You all know I'm kidding don't you? About the kitten part, expected at North '95. Billie Collins had back surgery in Dec. '94 coming along pretty good. Hammonds made it home from South '95 then spent two weeks getting well, didn't say from what. They will be Crabby but expect to be at North '95. Joe Putnak reported his wife Geraldine broke her hip in August no update at this writing. Grace Reeney writes Virg had a collapsed lung in April due to a hole which at the time of her letter seemed to be sealed, however he was still very weak. Margie Arnfield broke her arm in September, doing well I guess as they head for England in October. Margaret Ferguson doing excellent, attended the 49th with friends John and Millie Dollscqua of Michigan learn all about beach chairs, next time you see her just ask! Mort Goldman CN 329th supporter of "F" Co. and originally with is going to work on getting some of his men interested in Cleveland in '96. He will renew acquaintances with "F" Co. men while there. At Myrtle each the last time I checked the book no CN 329th were registered. Come on fellows give Mort a hand. Frebonyaks planning on attending North 95, expecting a total of thirty.

"We Were Together Then - Let's Get Together Again"

Coming Up

50th Anniversary Reunion
August 15, 16, 17, 1996
Cleveland, Ohio

Dues are due now for 1996 - Check your cards

C.R. Bob Whitcomb
1314 Center Lane Dr.
Ashland, Ohio 44805-3403



783rd Ordnance Company

It seems a little odd to be writing this - but Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Of course that is also a reminder to send your Christmas cards with all that's been happening in your life so I can pass it on. That having been said I know most of you would like to hear how the reunion went.

I think we were pleasantly surprised at the number (26) who turned out to represent the Company.

We couldn't believe our eyes, Bill Manning was standing in the lobby and then along came Herman and Norma Hackstock in their trailer. It was great to see them again. But like all things in life our emotions have a way of being leveled off. No sooner had we passed all our happy greetings around when word arrived that our good buddy Billy Appleby had died. It wasn't a complete shock as I had already forewarned the group of Bill's poor condition. The Division will remember Bill and Martha for all the years they lead and entertained us while calling the square dances at the reunions. Bill and Martha had also been very active in the Philadelphia Chapter before moving to Pottsville, Pa. Bill's ready smile will be missed but for now our loving thoughts are with Martha.

The other great treat was having nephews Keith and George Waltz transport George Harris to the reunion to help celebrate his 86 birthday. Once again the reunion was a learning lesson. Milly Doggett, undoubtedly impressed with my writing of Hut Two, brought her own manuscript. The contents were both interesting and shocking. Can you imagine Arthur being an avid fisherman? Fisherman are quiet people! And how about the fact that Art was not only a Sunday School Superintendent for ten years but he was also President of the Board at his Church. After all those times in Europe that I called him a "big dummy" now I'm concerned how I'm ever going to get to heaven. My one consolation is, the Pope is addressing the United Nations today so maybe he'll cover this situation.

Jim Jones also came home smarter but he's not so sure about the Best Western help. While paying his restaurant bill Jim said, "Eins, zwei, drei vier." The cute cashier quickly exclaimed, "Oh, your from Canada."

Poor wife Ginny didn't fare much better. There was an on going conversation of all the various eating places in town. One has an odd sounding name called "Fuddpuckers." As poor Ginny tried to express this word, in perfect English, she accomplished a transposition and expressed an odd

sounding word that Arthur never allowed in Sunday School.

Bob Hammond and friends Jack and Joanne were on a great historical vacation. On leaving Myrtle Beach they traveled up see the sights of Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

Once again the Wiggins brought their delightful daughter Sally. Along with witty wife Mimi they sure counteracted the sad jokes of Ray.

For the second time at a reunion Carl and Alyce Fredericks had a new car damaged. Their car was parked right by the front entrance but this didn't stop the punks who pried off the spoiler on their trunk lid.

It was Hersch and Midge Weavers turn to have one of those medical years but they looked and acted great. Doc and Agnes Pfeifer were their usual cheerful selves. They have been traveling to and fro the whole year. Al and Ruth Bensimon were our next door balcony neighbors. Al was terrific. He pointed out to me the best two legged deer on the beach.

For us a highlight of the reunion was meeting the group from last years 83rd 50th Anniversary tour. Evelyn and Chuck McAuliff, 1 Co. 29th were snapping pictures with three cameras. Evelyn and Dixie Dickson, "B" Co. 29th, and young Judi and Mike Johnson, whose dad served with the 29th, had the pleasure of eating with us. It was Judi who wore the T shirt which she had made that said, "I read Hut Two."

Unfortunately I was forced to share the charms of Miss Christine Bienvenu, a Caen college student, who lives outside of Carentan. In truth we had to outflank another 331st guy by the name of Stan Beilen. He was her self-appointed body guard. I couldn't believe he fell for the old gag, "Stan your wanted on the phone."

On the home front Frank Salontay called to touch base. He was in good spirits as his legs were much better....First Officer of Officers Mess has called many times inquiring about everybody and everything...The Labbes offered an apology. They were all set for the reunion when their home parish in Louisiana and it's twin in France decided to exchange visits in September. Easy we'll be waiting to hear of your France experiences...Some more sad news. Just this minute I thought of Earl Graham. I called his niece in Tulsa to learn that Earl died on September 7, 1995. Earl was a good Sgt. that I worked with daily. They don't come any better. He was a leader who humility and respect....Joe and Betty Brown canceled at the last moment because of an eye problem. I just checked on Joe in Florida and he is fine but busy bailing out his swimming pool.

That's it from the east coast for now. Keep the reports coming, stay healthy and happy holidays.

Hut Two,
Rags Rangnow

Co. "G" 331st Infantry

After returning home from another successfully reunion, I decided to take things easy for awhile. The shots I am taking seem to tire me out and I do have to go home in the afternoons and take my nap.

While in Alexandria Va. I called Selma Corder, he has been a regular at attending the reunions. In the last year he has also had some health problems and cannot travel to far from home. We are hoping that maybe next year he can attend in Cleveland.

G Company did have a good turnout at Myrtle Beach. Mike Mizeroc, Troy Mayse, Edgar Perry, Ivan Yoder, William Rippley, and one individual, I believe his name is Shelby, that served with "G" Co. at Breckenridge then was assigned to "E" Company. A nice turn out considering that we have 5 names were on the list of 112 members that died during the year.

It is always good to see the members of "G" Company, and I am hoping next year in Cleveland we will have a better turnout. I also want to include the names of Birdie Titus, Angie Phillipone and Mrs. George Smith, who husband was in "G" Company and passed away.

It is good to see the widows of former members of "G" Company.

Also a regular attendance, although her husband was a member of the Artillery, Marg Voracek.

Also in attendance was Tony Vaccaro, the photographer from Bn. Hq. What a wonderful display of picture. He now has his photos from World War II on exhibit in three or four countries in Europe.

At the memorial services, I reviewed for the members of the Association how history seems to pass the 83rd by. We did not receive credit for many of the successful battles in Europe.

The first, how an Infantry Battalion from the 329th held off the Germans in the town of Rochefort, Belgium, this was the furthest penetration of the Battle of the Bulge. Next, how the 83rd was the first American troops at the Rhine, the Germans blew the bridge, and the 83rd was the only American Division across the Elbe River, and how the 69th Division got credit for the first American unit to meet the Russians.

On November 3 this year I have been invited by the Reserve Unit that occupies the Kingston Mote Reserve Center in Parma Ohio to speak at their banquet. You can be sure that I will let the new members of the army reserve command know what a proud tradition that they must uphold. I believe that as members of the 83rd Division in World War II, we did not let our families, and our friends, and the rest of the country know what a great contribution that we made during World War II. We should all be proud, and bow our heads to no one.

Many of the members that attend the reunion were wounded early in Normandy, and those that joined us late, are not familiar with all the five major battles that the 83rd Division was part of.

Don't know if I mentioned it, but I did locate another "G"

Company member. Phillip Graff who now lives in North Hollywood. It was good to hear from him, he was a member of the 2nd Platoon and then Co. Headquarter, where he worked with Phil Wiggenghauser.

In a letter to me he related his first experience as a replacement with "G" Company, whoever was leading him and the other replacements near St. Malo, took a wrong turn and was exposed to heavy artillery fire from the Germans. He said that he made a promise that night, if he got out of it alive, he would never complain about anything. He was a good soldier, and was a great help in Company Headquarters.

Capt. Mac

Co. "A" 329th Infantry

There was only one other "A" Co. man and his wife at the reunion at Myrtle Beach and that was Ed Mudre and his wife Carm. I tell you guys, you've missed a grand reunion. A great beach and lots of sun. Bernice and I were out there everyday, sucking up that sunshine and the Gatlin Brothers sure put on a great performance.

The memorial service was held indoors, "Capt. Mac." Macaluso G-331st read off 112 names that died over the past year, our ranks are getting smaller.

Bernice and I attended the "A Co." Mini-Reunion Aug. 10, 11, 12th in Evansville, Indiana. Blackie Mossman and his charming wife Margaret hosted it. It was held at the Executive Inn. They did a bang up job. Everyone had a great time. The hospitality room never went dry or ran out of food or snacks.

There were 8 of us that showed up with spouses or family or both. Blackie and Margaret Mossman, Orville and Ann Craft, Fred and Jean Hensley, Carl and Lee Pliske, daughter and son-in-law John Lawrenz and Carl's son, Patrick, Bob and Bernice Grobelny, Bill and Bert Tisher and daughter Chris. Roy and Shirley Champion and Albert Wise and son Gary. Al Wise did not stay the whole time. He left early one day. He got to coughing real bad and decided he better go home. Below are three pictures taken at the mini reunion. - Top - Bob Grobelny, Bill Tisher, Fred Hensley, Blackie Mossman - Bottom - Carl Pliske, Orville Craft, and Roy Champion.

Ladies - Shirley Champion, Jean Hensley, Ann Craft, Margaret Mossman. - Bottom - Bernice Grobelny, Bert Tisher and Lee Pliske.

That Sunday morning we said our good bye's hoping to see each other again real soon. Don't Forget "Cleveland" Next Year!! Shortly after we came home I got a letter from Bert Tisher. She tells me that John Ivans was to have some kind of surgery. Did not elaborate. Bert also talked to Joe & Mary Belardo. Joe does not drive Anymore. Both aren't feeling to well.

Our "Medic" John Camp called me yesterday. Mrs. Ur-sery told him that "Bill" died Oct. 5th 1995. He had cancer. He's the one that always cheered up the platoon and would make up rhymes to make you laugh - he will be missed. Our condolences to the family.

John mentioned that Owen Wilson had a kidney re-moved in January and had a hernia operation in April. El-mer Beasley was in the V.A. hospital and had cancer on lung.

"Tiny" Jim Kinzie had some problems and lost some weight - Grady Adair is doing OK. - John Camp had some surgery done on eyes (lazer) but doing OK. He said he's hanging in there.

Bill Tisher gave me an old Thunderbolt news paper dated April 28, 1945. I thought you might be interested in the article.

The initial crossings of the last important natural barrier before Berlin were made by Co. A and Co. C of Col. Edwin B. "Buckshot" Crabill's 329th Infantry. The river crossing was virtually unopposed but the fight to gain the West bank preparatory to the trip across was a knock-down drag-out battle marked by one of the infrequent appearances of the Luftwaffe and the presence of civilians fighting along with German troops.

Barby, the town at the River's bank was bitterly defend-ed by Wehrmacht and SS driven to the last ditch stand before the division's Berlin bound push.

Over the Elbe at Barby, less than 60 miles from Berlin was one of the main bridges and railroad lines leading to the Nazi capitol. While the dough boys were fighting in the outskirts of the town, an engine pulling 30 freight cars attempted to cross the bridge and head toward Berlin. It was demolished through the combined efforts of the 322nd field artillery and the 329th cannon company.

At 1300 the first Infantry men climbed into the assault boats and six minutes later were across the 150 yard stretch of water.

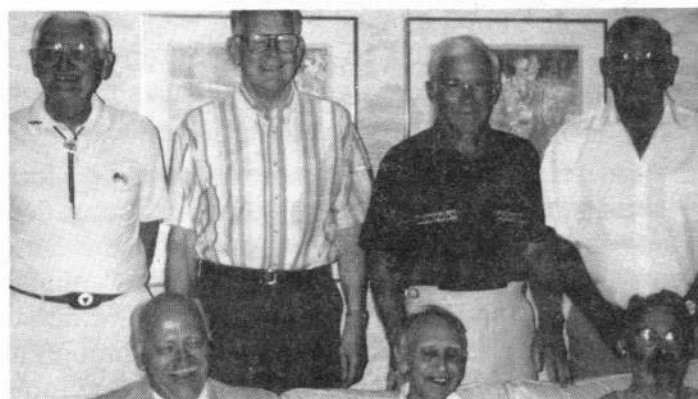
Sgt. Ray T. Hoppenrath of Chicago, Ill. said of the crossing, "After the battle they put up yesterday and the hell they threw at us last night, it was like sailing on Lake Michigan.

This is all for now fellows. Stay healthy and keep in touch. And don't forget next year's reunion in Cleve-land, Ohio. A good time is planned by our committee.

Bob Grobelny "A" 329th
1581 Lander Rd.
Mayfield, Hts., Ohio 44124
(216) 449-5085



"A" Co. - 329th Mini Reunion - Top Row L to R. Shirley Champion, Jean Hensley, Ann Craft and Margaret Mossman. Front Row L to R. Bernice Grobelny, Bert Tisher and Lee Pliske - Evansville, Indiana Aug. 10, 11, 12, 1995



"A" Co. - 329th Mini Reunion - Top Row L to R. Bob Grobelny, Bill Tisher, Fred Hensley and Blackie Mossman. Front Row L to R. Carl Pliske, Orville Craft and Roy Champion. Evansville, Indiana Aug. 10, 11, 12th, 1995



**Top - Pliske, Tisher, Grobelny and Blackie Mossman
Botton - Hensley, Craft and Albert Wise**

Co. "E", 330th

For a few minutes in September 1995, I re-lived a memory: I was standing behind a "Sherman tank trying to keep warm with the heat from its exhaust. The snow was deep and it was bitterly cold. We were moving up.

Then the memory faded. Instead I was still behind a Sherman tank, but it was part of a display at the Camp Atterbury Veterans' Memorial. It was a beautiful autumn day. All was quiet and we were at peace.

This was my first visit to the Memorial. It was a thrill to see the good old 83rd insignia mounted with nine other service patches on that memorial wall. Silhouetted against the light wall was a statue of a GI, dedicated 15 Aug. 1992, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the reactivating of the 83rd Division.

In the foreground was a small pond and fountain, flanked by beds of marigolds and other flowers. Surrounding the wall, along with the Sherman tank was a collection of other military equipment, ranging from 155 Howitzers, amphibian "Ducks", and a field gun from WWII, through the Patton tank of Korea, the Huey helicopter, rocket launchers, armored personnel carriers of the Viet Nam War, to the HMMWV of Desert Shield/Storm.

Although I never trained at Camp Atterbury, I was one of the 18 year old youngsters who joined the 83rd as a replacement at the Battle of the Bulge. I sure am proud to have been a member of that organization. One of my first memories was being taken under the wing of several older fellows who were seasoned infantrymen. I thank the Lord for those men and the help they gave me as I was introduced to battle.

Sincerely,
Milton Pruitt
E Co., 330th
19 Bradford Blvd.
Frostproof, FL 33843



Co. "D", 330th

HELLO BUDDIES:

Once again, here comes this adopted member of Co. "D", I am sure that many of you were able to attend this our 49th Annual Reunion and had the pleasure of that good old Southern Hospitality, as only those men and women of the Dixie Chapter know how to render.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the reunion this year due to my health, but like Father Time, I am not getting any younger and there comes times when I have to give up the things that I like to do most. Missing a reunion having attended for so many years is hard to take. After the reunion comes the first issue of the year of the "THUNDERBOLT", and as you read through it and look at the obituary column and see the list of the names of so many men that you will never see again, it makes you wish more and more that you had attended.

Before I get carried away, I wish to thank each and everyone of you who so graciously contributed to the success of the Co. "D" 330th page in the Reunion Ad Book. I was a little disappointed at not hearing from some of you, but I know that between living on a fixed income and poor health, you just had to set it aside. I wish to thank those of you who came to my aid to make the page a success.

I would like to take a minute out right now and remind all of you that we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the 83rd Infantry Division Association this year. Over these 50 years, our association has had some rough times, but thanks to those men who lent their support to keep our association afloat. Many of you were not members back in the early days of our association, and know nothing of some of those great men.

As many of you know, this year, the Cleveland Chapter will be our host chapter and those wonderful men are hard at work trying to make this 50th anniversary reunion, a reunion to long remember so long as this association exists. It is not an easy job, and your support is most welcome. Start planning now so that when that final night comes and we sit in the banquet room, pledging a toast to our 50th anniversary, that you can raise your glass high and with pride that we have been able to assemble for these many years.

I have said many times that I will not be connected with the ad book and I am afraid that the time has come that I must step down, but there is a possibility that I may call on you men of Co. "D" once again for your help, so put those couple of dollars away now and see what happens.

Thank you all for your help in the past and may GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Your buddy
Larry Redmond

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here we are again, starting off another great year in the history of the great 83rd Infantry Division Association. As you all know, we are starting the 50th year of this great association. Over the years we have had many trials and tribulations, but thanks to our great leaders we have been able to survive.

I felt very bad that I was unable to attend this years reunion, but my health isn't the best and there are times when I have to sit on the sidelines and watch the parade go by.

A special thanks is to be extended to those of you who so generously contributed to the success of our Co. "H" page in the ad book. I was a little disappointed with some of the men who failed to answer my letters, but thanks to those of you who came to the rescue. I know that there are many of you, who like myself are unable to be as generous as we once were, and also there may be some of you due to health conditions are able to be as active as you once were.

Once again we offer a tip of the hat to our Dixie Chapter members for the fine job they did in putting on a very successful reunion. Every year we are fortunate in that we have such fine men who give so much of their time to try and furnish us with a great reunion. This is no easy job. I know only too well having had the chance to work with reunion committees for so many years.

As we sit back now and try to settle down after such a great reunion, we have to start thinking about Christmas, which is just around the corner, then New Years which reminds that another year in the history of our life has passed, and as the time flies by, we can't help but think of those wonderful men in Cleveland who are so hard at work trying to give us a very successful anniversary reunion. May we all start planning now to be able to be in Cleveland for our 50th anniversary reunion. It is a long time since we left the battlefields in Europe, but with these reunions we have been able to pick up where we left off and continue that family friendship.

Let us all take a minute out to say a silent prayer and thank GOD for having been able to serve our country in a time of need, and have been able to carry on the friendships that we have done for these many years. May GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

Your buddy
Larry Redmond

Another reunion has come and gone, but this was exceptionally a good one for us. Most of the attendees were staying at the GRAND STRAND MOTEL, and with a large three bedroom suite and adjoining two bedroom suite we were able to bet together as one big family. There were twenty-three (23) members of our company there including first time reunion for Harry Fetzner, accompanied by his two son-in-laws (whose names I failed to write down.) Attendees were: Harry & Rose Adkins, Merle & Grace Akam, Ewell Cotney & friend Arlene, Bernie & Jean Cove, Paul & Mary Dallos, Whitfield & Doris East, Ralph & Geri Gunderson, Harry & Barbara Gravelyn, R.C. & Louise Hamilton, Bynum Hancock and son, Art & Peggy Haught, Jim & Harriet Lynch, Dan & Doris McDermott, Bill & Jeanette McKee, and brother Kendrick & Jean McKee. John Miklos, Vern & Ruth Mueller, Bob Pflieger with son & friend. Ray Richter, Frank & Mary Sabine, Norm Schuster and friend Tom, Al Shrawder and friend Charlotte & Henry Trzeciak.

After the reunion we stayed on and Monday took a tour of Charleston S.C. and explored the town. Tuesday we drove to Wilmington, N.C. to see the U.S.S. NORTH CAROLINE, then went to the Ronnie Millsap show. A few had to leave Wednesday but 20 of us drove to Calabash, N.C. for a delicious meal. All in all, I'm sure everyone had a great time.

We missed George and Polly Odenweller, who were absent because of serious illness. Geri & I are going up to Ohio and will see them in mid-October. Also missed: Frank & Dana Sharp who had a conflicting schedule; Andy Churpak, George Komlos, Dottie Nagel, Marcella Nolte and Lorraine Schuster. The Haughts also had an accident on their way to the reunion at Florence, S.C. Their car was totaled but they were unhurt, made the reunion but still suffered the stress and inconvenience of the entire incident.

Al Shrawder was able to locate S/Sgt. Arthur Ryan on his farm in W. Va., due to age and infirmities he is unable to travel. Al also reported he has re-located Milan Evkovich and Mario Vallony. Mario reported the death of Mike Chitjian. Al had two other deaths to report, Capt. Harold Woodson, about 1977 and Robert Bohne about 1989.

Hey Guys, take care of yourselves, this is getting to be an epidemic. May I quote the late Jim Bowie of New Jersey - "Remember fellas, it's later than you think." Take Care y'all.

Ralph B. Gunderson
Reporter

453rd "AAA. AW." Bn.

Having just signed on with the 83rd association, I have received some back copies, and the current copy of the Thunderbolt. They make interesting reading and bring back many memories of the happenings of some fifty odd years ago.

I was trying to get copies of some of the publications about the 83rd. In this search I made contact with Pat Di-Giammerino, who very speedily brought my search to a halt. He had the answers, and the publications I wanted.

Through our correspondence I was invited to cast my lot with the 83rd. association. Because of the prompt attention, and excellent help extended to me, I signed on with the Boston Chapter, even though I live in the Cleveland, Ohio area.

Some of our men from the old "ACK-ACK" outfit also belong to the 83rd. Inf. Assoc. and I found their names in your roster. All but two have belonged to the 453rd. association for some time. I wrote to the two individuals and received replies from both of them.

Since 1992 I have been trying to keep an updated roster of the 453rd. It's a tough job, unless we can get our members to get updates to us. Some help is available through some computer programs, but you must have a few good clues to start the search.

I was a member of "B" Battery 453rd. from its formation until discharge in November 1945. The 453rd. have a reunion each year over the Labor Day weekend. This year will be our 49th. We are going all out, to try to get as many of our old buddies to attend, to help us celebrate our 50th anniversary of return from the E.T.O. It will be in Pittsburgh, PA. As with the 83rd Reunions, many tales are "swapped" about the years gone by.

I remember many a time being challenged by an 83rd. Division member, while stumbling around in the dark along the Ruhr River, and not knowing the "Password" for the day, but a simple reply of "ACK-ACK", would get us through. About this same time many of the guys got to see Mickey Rooney and Bobby Breen, doing one of those U.S.O. Jeep tours at the Ruhr. I can't remember the town. Enclosed is a picture of Mickey Rooney, Lt. John Gould, Sgt. Gus Santagata, another Lt. from the 453rd. I believe Henry Heddon, all now deceased. The others may be from the 83rd.

Many a member of the 83rd Div. "Hitched a Ride" on one of our Tracks, as we plodded along with the "Rag Tag Circus." Glad to oblige.

The 453rd. also established a "Provisional Battery" composed of Quad Fifties, to help the 83rd. Patrol the Loire River, at the time of Lt. Sam Magill's exploit. Dinah Shore was the entertainment this time. Remember Mair-sy Doates?

Some of our group landed before the 83rd. arrived in Normandy. They were attached to other Divisions, for Aircraft protection, but pressed into Hedgerow straffing, to help clean out the dug in "Jerrys" so that the doughs had more of a fighting chance to make it across the heavi-

ly fortified fields. Then assigned to the 83rd.

I have been trying to get some information about a Major Speedy, I don't know what regiment he belonged to, but he was a member of the 83rd. Div. He may have been killed in action at a later date, but was very active with his Jeep driver in and around the St. Malo area. Any help would be appreciated.

My wife, Irene and I returned to England and Normandy for the Fiftieth Anniversary of "D DAY". We were the only ones to return from the 453rd. We went on our own, and were treated very well by the people of Normandy. A very hectic crossing of the Channel was made during the famous storm of June, which was a duplicate of the Storm in June of 1944. We visited places where we had trained, in England, and given a warm welcome there. We were the only persons to return to the Town of Maiden Newton, near Dorchester, in Dorset. Of all the British, Canadian, and U.S. GI's that had been billeted in this town, we were the only ones to come back. Needless to say they did everything but "Kill the fatted calf for us".

We will not be able to attend the reunion in Myrtle Beach, because of the closeness of date of the 453rd. reunion. Will definitely make it to Cleveland in 1996. "Lord willing and the creek don't rise."

In the 83rd. roster I found two names of members of the 83rd. Assoc. that live about a half mile from me. Both of these gents have been contacted, and invited to attend one of our mini reunions held about three times a year in North Eastern Ohio. We get together with our wives for a luncheon date, and gab fest.

Mention has been made of your advertising booklet, but I don't know the ins and outs about it. What advertising goes into it, where is it distributed etc? These are things I think should be published in The Thunderbolt for us neophytes.

I will send you an update of the 453rd. reunion the first week in October. If you would like to use this letter, or any subsequent letters in the Thunderbolt, feel free to do so.

Sincerely, Fred C. Pearson.

Roster Corrdinator for the 453rd. AAA.AW. BN.



Lt. John Gould, Santagata, Rooney, I believe Lt. Heddon.

Survivors Still Honor The Heroes

The Battle of the Bulge is not forgotten. Those who were there see to that.

By Ralph Vigoda
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

WAYNE - The 83rd Infantry Division insignia - the one with the five battle stars and the "Thunderbolt" nickname - was visible on the bolo tie clasp that rested on his chest. The medals affixed to his cap, including the Silver and Bronze Stars and Purple Heart, caught the glint of the sun.

But it was only during the playing of "Taps" when he hoisted himself out of his wheelchair with his left hand and saluted with his right, that you could read the words on the back of Norman Schuster's jacket:

"Battered bastards of the Bulge."

In December 1944, Schuster was one of them, struggling with hundreds of thousands of other Allied fighters during the Battle of the Bulge, when the German army made a last-ditch, ultimately unsuccessful, effort to break through the Allied lines at their weakest point.

Yesterday, during ceremonies at Valley Forge Military Academy honoring those soldiers, Schuster, 73, was transported from his home in Sellersville to continue to fulfill a promise he made 50 years ago.

"When we were in the hedgerows, and the first bombs went off, I made a vow that if I got out alive, I'd keep alive the memory of those who never made it," he said. "We're not the heroes. The heroes are still over there. We're the survivors."

About 50 of those survivors gathered in front of the Battle of the Bulge monument on the academy's campus to tell of their experiences and commemorate the May 8, 1945, declaration of victory in Europe.

"It's hard to believe 50 years have passed. It's just hard to believe," said William Nickel of Ridley Park, a battlefield medic. He spoke for many of the gray-haired and gray-bearded men, all in their late 60s and 70s, who were teenagers or in their early 20s when they got some cruel lessons in frontline combat.

Despite the passage of time the men, members of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, remembered names, dates and events as though it were just yesterday that they were carrying rifles and canteens in such places as Malmedy, Belgium; Carentan, France; and along the Elbe River in Germany.

"It was one of the most significant, if not the most significant, battles of World War II," said Rear Adm. Virgil Hill, academy president, in his welcoming remarks. "The vic-

tory at the Battle of the Bulge paved the way for the eventual victory in Europe."

The battle, he added, "was a model of the indomitable spirit of the American fighting man."

Fred Vitale of Springfield talked briefly about his time along the northern Luxembourg border. Nicholas DiPhilipo of Lansdowne recounted his journey from North Africa through Tunisia and Sicily and England to his eventual spot along the Siegfried Line. George Moles said he simply wanted to thank his hero, Stan Wojtusik, president of the chapter, who organized yesterday's program.

"If it weren't for 'Stosh,' I wouldn't be here today," he said.

Moles, of Audubon, and Wojtusik, of Philadelphia, both now 69, met 51 years ago during basic training in South Carolina. They ended up in the same company and were shipped overseas together. In mid-December 1944, they were taken prisoner in the early days of the Battle of the Bulge.

"When those (German) tanks found out where we were, they turned the torrents in our direction," Wojtusik said. "It was a matter of holding off their infantry as much as we could. But our bullets were just bouncing off those tanks."

The two buddies spent more than five months as POWs. After one of the grueling, 18-hour work days, said Miles - he started basic training at 150 pounds and was down to 89 when he was liberated - he collapsed, suffering from frostbite and pneumonia.

It meant, he knew, death. "When you dropped in a prison camp, you just stayed where you fell," he said. "But Stosh picked me up and carried me into the camp. He saved my life."

The two remained in contact for a while after the war, before Moles moved to Florida. They talked periodically, but as many as a dozen years would go by when they didn't see each other. That changed when Moles returned home to Norristown. Yesterday, Wojtusik called on Moles to place a wreath at the foot of the monument.

Wojtusik reminisced about "Snake Eyes" and "Hollywood," two of the German camp guards who were particularly mean-spirited.

"When the Russians came into the camp, they asked if anyone could speak Russian," Wojtusik said. "I said I could talk Polish, so the commander asked me to have the men point out any guards who mistreated us."

The POWs motioned to Snake Eyes and Hollywood.

"They were taken aside and shot," Wojtusik said. "That, I guess, is what happens in war."



NOTES & LETTERS

A woman gets into a taxi at the airport and gives the driver her address. He starts out and she says, "Wait a minute. It looks like you're going through the tunnel; take the bridge." He drives on and she says, "Can you drive a little faster, you'll miss the light - wait a minute, slower, there's a guy on your tail and he's making me nervous. Now when you get off the bridge make a left, I can tell you're about to make a right." When he finally gets her home she says, "How much do I owe you?" He says, "Nothing, you did most of the driving."

Sent in by Charles B. Stine Sr.

Dear Bob and Pearl:

It was a pleasure to once again meet you at our 49th annual reunion, may we be able to attend many many more.

I was saddened to receive word that one of Co. "K"s buddy had passed away on the 18th of Sept.

Frank Albert Martin
122 Altce Street
Marrietta, Ohio 45050

I met him in Knoxville, Tn. during our reunion there. I hope the enclosed pictures will be able to appear in the winter edition.

I thoroughly enjoyed the reunion and meeting all of our buddies regardless of what units they were in.

Wishing you good health and God's Choices blessings - always in my prayers.

Mr. F. L. Ciampa
850 S. St. Andrews Pl#6
Los Angeles, CA. 90005-3347
"K" Co. 331st.



Ellsworth Massie - Dixie Chapter - Sunday Morning breakfast buffet at Landmark Hotel, Myrtle Beach S.C. Photo by Frank Ciampa



Four of "K" Co. 331st Reg. buddies at 49th Reunion of 83rd Inf. Association. L-R: Manny Epstein, Wilder Mathena, Frank Ciampa, Earl McDonald. 9-16-95. Photo by Frank Ciampa



Franklin L. Ciampa, "K" Co. 331st, Mr. & Mrs. John Hobbs - W. VA - Dixie Chapter - Taken at Landmark Hotel Myrtle Beach S.C. Photo by Frank Ciampa



Jim Burton (Executive Board Chairman) Co "D" 329th. Signing several of his tapes of popular songs of the 40 - 60's. Taken Landmark Hotel Myrtle Beach S.C. 83rd Inf. Assoc. 49th reunion. Photo by Frank Ciampa



Mr. & Mrs. Paul Ours - Breakfast Buffet - Landmark Hotel, Myrtle Beach, S.C. 49th Reunion of 83rd Inf. Association

This was sent to me from Bill Wiegand (Phil.) Just though it would be of interest to us young guys.

Bill Parr

32 Herod St.

Cranston, RI 02921-1137

John W. Corry, 97 was last survivor of WWI company

By ZINA VISHNEVSKY
PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

John Wilbur Corry felt he had a special role in history as the last living survivor of Company F of Ohio's 83rd Army Division. Throughout the years, he had organized reunions for the dwindling ranks of the original 80 members of the World War I unit.

Then, in 1989, when his buddy John Collins died in Xenia, making him the last survivor, Mr. Corry spent the better part of a year writing and rewriting his autobiography and planning his funeral. He referred to dying as "kicking off," and when he did, he wanted to be ready.

Mr. Corry, 97, died Monday at Bradley Road Nursing Home in Bay Village, of a heart attack. He had recently been diagnosed with cancer.

He left behind his life's story, typed by his daughter-in-law, Mary. It begins with the young enlistee's recollections of traveling to the front lines in Europe aboard the old Carpathia, the "tramp steamer" that picked up the survivors of the Titanic in 1912. Tramp steamers were mostly freight carriers that had a few passenger seats for those who could not afford ocean liners.

"Her engines were in such bad condition they couldn't keep up with the convoy of transport ships and gun boats, so they went all the way over alone up the northern route where it was really cold, to keep away from the submarines," he wrote.

Mr. Corry served one year in France in Teloché and at the Officers Training Center and Langres.

He was a graduate of Clifton High School in Greene County, where "Professor" Wayne Hayes, father of future Ohio State University football Coach Woody Hayes, was his mentor.

He made his way through Columbia Law School by working two jobs during the summers. His moot court evaluator and the signer of his diploma was Harlan F. Stone, who became U.S. attorney general and then a Supreme Court justice.

Mr. Corry practiced law in Cleveland and eventually became a partner in the firm Griswold, Leeper, Miller & Corry. He was the last survivor of the partnership.

He was on the board of directors of the Third Federal Savings and Loan Association and the thrift's special counsel.

He was married for 54 years to Genevieve Drake, who died in 1976.

Mr. Corry is survived by a daughter, Eleanor E. Wait of Lewes, Del.; and son, John Drake Corry of Lakewood.



Wilson Fitzgerald points out the patch of his World War II unit on the Normandy poster Monday. He did the framing for the poster donated to the Maine Veterans Home.

Vets home given painting of 'bloody' D-Day invasion.

Kennebec Journal
Augusta, Maine

AUGUSTA - A portrait of the Normandy Invasion presented to the Maine Veterans Home in Augusta on Monday stirred up some memories for at least one World War II veteran who was on hand for the presentation.

The portrait, a numbered print by noted military artist George L. Skypeck, features numerous scenes of Normandy and the D-Day invasion, and includes details of the various allied military units involved in the fray.

The painting was presented to the veterans by Arthur Klingel, the national commander of the AMVETS from New York.

Veteran Wilson Fitzgerald, who was in a field artillery unit, firing 105mm howitzers, during the invasion, was quick to recognize scenes portrayed in the portrait.

"Everything that hit the beach is right there in that painting," said Fitzgerald, who grimaced as he pointed out "blood beach," in the painting. "...it sure was bloody."

Fitzgerald noted that, as is the case with many other veterans, he couldn't always talk about Normandy easily.

"It was quite an experience. I'm finally able to discuss it now," said Fitzgerald. "I talk about it to overcome it."

The portrait will be displayed in the lobby of the Maine Veterans Home.

"We certainly appreciate what the AMVETS have done for us in Maine," said Maine Commander Arthur Wickham.

83RD Infantry Division Hosted In Dracut

The MERRIMACK JOURNAL - July 1995

The New England Chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association held their annual cookout at the home of Charles and Bernice Abdinoor in Dracut. Veterans of World War II, they had the distinction of being the closest American unit to Berlin when the war ended, having established a bridgehead across the Elbe River and holding until linking up with the Russians. Many of the men from the New England area served under the command of Generals Hodges, Patton and Simpson in Normandy, Brittany, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe.

Any former member is invited to join the National Association and may do so by contacting Robert E. Derickson, Secretary-Treasurer, 3749 Stahlheber Road, Hamilton, Ohio 45013-8907 or contacting James Brennan of the New England Chapter, 136 Phillips Ave., Warwick, RI 02888.

Abdinoor is a former National President of the Association serving from 1959-60, and can be reached locally at 68 Loon Hill Road, Dracut, MA 01826.

The New England Chapter meet every year, and will be holding their annual reunion in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Most of the veterans attending the Dracut reunion with their wives, travelled from Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, and Maine.

The purpose of this letter is to ask your assistance in learning about (and locating, if possible) our uncle, Jacquelin Stuart Cooley. He was a Second Lieutenant with the 330th Infantry of the United States Army within the Eighty-third Infantry Division. His service number was 0-516095. He was born August 22, 1920 in Fairfax, County, Falls Church, Virginia, the son of Jacquelin Smith Cooley and Nellie Leah Graham Cooley. He entered military service from Maryland. He was awarded the Silver Star Medal for gallantry in action on July 6, 1944 near Carantan, France. In August, 1944, he was shipped to a VA hospital in California. During his stay at that institution, he received VA benefits under the number 17-809-254. Sometime before Thanksgiving, he disappeared from that facility.

If you remember Stuart Cooley, what can you tell us of him as a person? What was he like as a comrade as an officer? Do you remember any stories he told? Can you describe this July 6 battle? Were you aware of Stuart's physical/mental condition following the battle? Did you have any contact with him following this battle? Do you know any individuals he might have contacted after the war?

Any information you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

Jane S. Robbins, Nancy R. McCullough
10909 Montgomery Rd.
Beltsville, MD 20705

A Boy in Blue, A Boy in Grey

A boy in blue, a boy in grey
Met on a battlefield one day.
The eyes of both were flashing fire
Killer instinct their one desire.

Before they fired a fatal shot,
Some sixth sense told them they should not.
Looks of amazement crossed their face,
As recognition took its place.

The guns were lowered, eyes went bright,
With recognition - sheer delight.
Brother George and his brother Ben
Long separated meet again.

Ben of the Blue and George of the Grey
Both turned around and walked away.

At Gettysburg

At Gettysburg they fought and bled,
Some returned and some were dead.
Some were wounded, some were whole,
Still they aided toward the goal.
Serving God and country dear,
Keeping Union ever near.
Thoughts of loved ones uppermost,
Left no time for idle boast.
Must protect myself from harm,
Yet my fear must not alarm.
Devil's Den, The Charge, Culp's Hill;
Blood and Guts -- they had their fill.
Guns are silent, peace serene,
Rules above the bloody scene.

Jean C. Smith
321 N. 71st St.
Harrisburg, PA. 17111-5204



A Thank You From The Heart

Bob, I would like to borrow a corner of the Thunderbolt to thanks all members of the Kentucky chapter for the beautiful carnations I received while I was in the hospital for heart surgery on June 29. At my age they were more beautiful than the nurses. (Not that I still don't look at both.) Also, it was nice to see the smiling faces of Marvin and Wanda. A thank you to all. Hope to see you in September and October.

Alton L. Carter
330th Medic



The pride of those veterans of World War II who served in the Tennessee Maneuvers was evident during a memorial monument dedication ceremony at Cumberland University in Lebanon on July 27, 1995.

The World War II Tennessee Maneuvers Commission unveiled a monument dedicated to the soldiers and civilians who lost their lives during the 2nd Army Maneuvers which were headquartered at Cumberland University.

The monument was unveiled, followed by a rifle salute and the playing of Taps while scores of veterans gave salute.

The monument, located on campus reads: "Here on this campus was located Maneuver Director Headquarters, Tennessee Maneuver Area, 1942 - 1944."

"In memory of the 268 service men and 9 civilians who died during maneuvers. There were trained 850,000 Americans who served in Europe and the Pacific Theaters."

Our division, the great 83rd, was here during July and August, 1943.

Ben Johnson
2nd Bn. Medics, 330th

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here we are having just completed the 49th Year of our National Association, with having had a very fine Reunion sponsored by our Great Dixie Chapter. When the Webster Dictionary was printed, they must have made a tour of the South to learn the real meaning of two words that they wanted to put in it, one was Southern and the other was Hospitality. They really found it down there and after all these years the South is still well known for it and it was proven at this Reunion.

I fell bad that I was unable to attend, but from what I have heard, the welcome mat was really spread out down there in South Carolina. I understand that the Dixie Chapter did everything possible to make this 49th Annual Reunion one to long remember.

As we enter into the 50th Anniversary of our great Association, the groundwork has been laid by the Cleveland Chapter to give us another great Reunion. Putting on a Reunion gets harder and harder each year due to the increased cost of living. The Hotel expenses have increased tremendously and the Entertainment has increased, which makes it hard to try and cover the expenses without having to increase the registration fee. Years ago we were able to maintain our own Hospitality Room and purchase our own liquid refreshment, but today with Unions we must obtain their bartenders, and purchase the refreshments from the hotels at their exorbitant prices.

As we start this year off, I wish to call on each and everyone of you to bear with us and lend your support. Let us make this the 50th Anniversary of our Great Association the greatest Reunion ever held.

One thing we must hold in mind is the importance of the Reunion Ad Book, this book plays an important role in helping to finance these reunions. I know that many of you like myself are living on a fixed income and you can't spend foolishly, but this is not a foolish expenditure, it is for the help and success of our great Association. Let us start right now and set aside at least one dollar a week and put into your Ad Book Account, so that when it comes time to lend your support to the Ad Book, you can sit down and write that check without having to take this money from some other bill that is there waiting for its check.

In behalf of the great Dixie Chapter as well as all the other reunion committees, I wish to say thanks to all of you for your support. The Good Lord willing, may we all be able to meet in Cleveland to celebrate this our 50th ANNUAL REUNION.

Your Buddy
Larry Redmond



Châteauneuf d'Ille et Vilaine

OCT. 95
DEAR BOB:

For some time a Frenchman, Francois Chouin, has been asking me to help him identify the unit that bivouacked at St. Helen near DINAN, FRANCE, in early August 1944. His memory of specifics is dim.

I believe that it is probably not a 6th Armored Div. unit because they arrived in the area on 1 Aug. and left the area on the night of 4 Aug. 44. This scarcely qualifies for the 1 to 2 week stay he mentions.

I have also talked with Bill O'Connell and have requested his help.

Could/would you put this notice in your next Division News Letter or post at next Reunion? Please edit as you wish.

"SEEK IDENTITY OF UNIT IN ST HELEN, near DINAN, France, in early August 1944. Francois Chouin, then a boy, wishes to contact the 6th Armored or 83rd Inf. Div. GIs who befriended him. Write him at 7 rue de la Gare, 43240 ARVILLE, France."

Warmest regards, Bob.

Honoring The 83rd

During the memorial service at Myrtle Beach Joe Macaluso gave an interesting and informative speech pointing out the three historical places in battle for which the 83rd was given little or no credit. This got me to thinking. How can we make sure that the 83rd receives its proper place in the history books? The answer is simple and it only requires a little effort on our part.

Each of us has an interesting story to tell and the U.S. Army Military Institute is very much interested in not only hearing about your life with the 83rd but it will also preserve it for all time in the archives branch at the War College of Carlisle. I had the pleasure of visiting this famous institution and this is what I discovered. They have 5,600,000 items of diaries, letters and memories. Roughly I counted about ten items from the 83rd. There is another department that contains 780,000 photographs, again there were just about a dozen representing the 83rd. It's up to us to change our image.

Last month retired General Robert Smith from our Hq. Arty contacted me. He had spent some five years as Deputy Commander at the College in Carlisle. He informed me that the 83rd has its own room. The disturbing part is, with the exception of one small picture, the room is empty.

I have asked a former Lt. Colonel, Joe Brown, who served with us for three years, to check the size of this room. Through our board of directors we hope to put something of real 83rd historical value in that room.

In the meantime I would like to ask you to go through your memorabilia of letters, photos etc. These items can have a permanent home and will be made available to students of our country's military history. Your donation will be established in your name and will stand as a record of your service. Your name, address, and military unit are entered into an electronic database to facilitate management of the information. You will be asked to fill out a multiple choice questionnaire with plenty of space to write your own thoughts and reflections. All letters and packages you send are postpaid.

This is the Army's central repository for historical source material. This is where our Division and all its glory can live on but it's up to us to supply the missing parts of our history. To obtain a World War II Survey questionnaire or further information, please write to the U.S. Army Military History Institute, Attn. Coordinator, World War II Commemoration, Carlisle Barracks, Pa. 17013-5008

To end on a positive note, and excuse me while I level my halo, I think you will be pleased to know that my book "Hut Two", which is a complete history of the 83rd in WWII, is in the libraries of West Point, Aberdeen Proving Grounds and the U.S. Army Military Institute. There are also copies in France, Holland and Luxembourg. Tilly Kimmes, of the C.E.B.A. foundation of Luxembourg wrote, "Your book is a matchless performance of a GI on the frontline with a sense of humor. I'm proud to know by name Big Jim Jones, Reds Rennie, Old Dog (Doggett) and Les Wolf. 'Kudos' for Hut Two."

So we all have to do our part in spreading our history. And I want to thank all the guys and widows of the 83rd who have purchased "Hut Two" for you too are preserving and passing along our memorable history

Rags Rangnow
783rd ORD



Ed Dierksen of Clinton shows off his prized American Flag.

A Special Flag by Everett A. Streit

This is a story of an American flag.

It will never rate space in history books along with the sagas of Betsy Ross who legendly fashioned the first national banner, of Francis Scott Key who was inspired to write the "Star Spangled Banner" after watching Old Glory under fire at Fort McHenry or of the Marines raising the flag over Iwo Jima.

But I think the story is worth telling because it no doubt is the only American flag made by a German hausfrau using fabrics from a window curtain for the white stripes, part of one of Hitler's swastika banners for the red stripes and one of her dresses for the blue field on which she appliqued stars cut by hand.

The setting for the story is a small town in northern Germany called Lavedah. The time is the waning days of World War II.

Involved is a Clinton man -- Ed Dierksen, 328 N. 9th St.

Dierksen fought with the 83rd Infantry Division in the offensive which brought the American troops into Berlin. There the drive was halted, apparently to allow the Russians time to reach the city so they could share in the role of conquering heroes.

After Berlin had been secured, many Yanks were scattered to rear-area billets, usually in small German village homes. Dierksen and his buddy, John Wilson of Beaver Falls, Pa, bunked in one of them.

The pair soon decided a flag of the victors should be displayed. They had not been issued one and there naturally were none available among the townspeople.

But their involuntary hostess happened to have been a seamstress before the war and the two 19-year-olds sweet-talked her into making the desired flag.

After the war the two men brought the flag back to the states with them. For many years they annually have exchanged it so that each one could share in its possession.

Currently it is in Clinton and, despite some loving care, the 50-year-old flag is showing signs of deterioration, which is a matter of deep concern to Ed and his wife, Amy, because they don't know how to check it.

But I'm confident that anyone who can get an American flag sewn in the heart of wartime Germany eventually will come up with an answer.

"THE SHRAPNEL PUT A TWO-INCH HOLE IN MY HELMET AND A DEEP WOUND IN MY SCALP..."

Fred Sheridan, is a retired US Army Colonel. But back on June 6, 1944, he was on the Normandy coast, a staff sergeant trying to do his job while German soldiers were trying to kill him.

"I was with the 18th Infantry, 1st Division, the 'Big Red One,'" he says.

I was in the second wave to hit Omaha beach that morning. I remember that I had resigned myself to the fact that I wasn't going to make it. Even coming to the beach was rough, 75 percent of the men in the landing craft were seasick."

Sheridan says that a month before the invasion he had gotten his military driver's license and at Normandy he was asked if he could drive and he said yes. They grabbed me, gave me a jeep and said, step on the gas and go. Now I wasn't a good driver, I hadn't really practiced with the jeep and I hadn't even driven a car before then.

It was bad on Omaha beach, there were lots of smoke and confusion. I drove that thing, I don't know how many bodies I drove over; they were all over the beach. Everything was a mess.

At one point, Sheridan's helmet bounced off his head and landed on the floor of the jeep.

There was a first sergeant there, lying on his side in sort of a gully. He looked up and saw me and yelled, "Hey, you stupid S.O.B., put your helmet on. So I put it back on and two minutes later I got hit by shrapnel that left a two-inch hole in the helmet and gave me a head wound."

Sheridan remembers that after he was tended to by medics he laid down along a roadside and awaited evacuation. During that time, General Omar Bradley was driving through the area; he saw the wounded soldier and stopped. "I got to my feet and saluted him," says Sheridan. "Then he yelled at me, a wounded soldier doesn't get up, not even for a general."

Eventually, Sheridan was taken aboard a hospital ship and returned to a hospital in England. But two weeks later his wound had healed enough to allow him to return to his outfit in Normandy.

Shortly after he got back he was assigned to the 2nd French Armored Division "because I could speak French." On August 11, French troops under the command of Gen. Jacques Leclerc were the first Allied soldiers to enter Paris. Photographs of that momentous event will reveal Sheriddan driving the jeep that carried Leclerc.

Sheridan came away from WWII with four Purple Hearts. Of D-Day, he says, "The American people at the time thought that Normandy was a cakewalk. It wasn't."

A week after Paris was liberated, Sheridan was transferred back to the "Big Red One" -- but not before Gen. Leclerc awarded him the "Croix de Guerre" a French military decoration given for bravery in battle. He remained with the 1st Division until December 1944 when, during the Battle of the Bulge, he was transferred to the 69th Infantry Division (Fighting 69th). It was this outfit that met the Russians at the Elbe River in April; Sheridan got there about an hour after that historic encounter. On the following day he began duty as a driver for General Bradley.

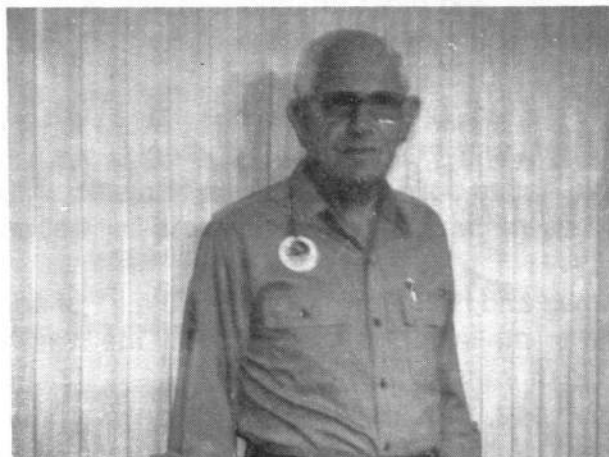
Millers take memorial under wing

by Harry McCawley
The Republic

Ames and Helen Miller have been spending a lot of time at Camp Atterbury these days. "At least two or three times a week," Ames, a Columbus resident, said. "We go up and tend the memorial, take care of the flowers, things like that."



Camp Atterbury's float which was in '95 parade in Columbus, the local observance of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.



Bob Derlickson is able to wear a uniform shirt he wore while in the service.

And that doesn't count the time they've been working on Camp Atterbury's float which will be in Saturday's Celebration '95 parade in Columbus -- the local observance of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II.

"It's really going to be something," said Helen, not bothering to hide the pride in her voice.

Ames was referring to the Camp Atterbury Veterans Memorial on Hospital Road near the offices of the camp commandant.

The impressive monument fronted by a fountain and surrounded by dozens of pieces of military equipment will be a special gathering place Sunday morning for scores of people with close ties to the deactivated installation -- veterans who served with units dating back to World War II and nearby residents who have always felt a kinship with the facility.

At 11 a.m. that group will rededicate the 3-year-old memorial, capping a weekend of activities in which Bartholomew County has been paying tributes to the veterans of all wars.

I would venture that it would be difficult to find anyone in that crowd with closer ties to Camp Atterbury than Ames and Helen Miller.

Col. Gary Willis, Atterbury commander, won't even bother looking.

"They're gems," he said earlier this week. "They've been with the memorial project from the beginning, and they've stayed with it. They're the best kind of volunteers you can ask for."

Volunteer doesn't quite describe either Ames or Helen. Their dedication to the camp involves more than just doing good deeds. In one respect, it's part of them.

"We go back to when it was Camp Mud-bury," Helen laughed.

That would have been July 1942 when Sgt. Ames Miller and other members of the 14th Cavalry arrived at the newly created camp from Fort Riley Kansas.

A clue to just how new the camp was when Ames arrived is in his first assignment.

"We had to build the sidewalks," he said. "It was all dirt at the time. We had barracks but not much else."

Ames and his fellow soldiers had a lot of adjustments to make at the new camp. One was their method of transportation.

In 1942, the cavalry designation was literal. Soldiers really did ride horses, and Ames spent a great deal of the period he had been in the Army before arriving at Camp Atterbury in the saddle.

He is not exactly a horse lover. "That time sure

proved to me that the Army thought a lot of their horses," he laughed.

At Camp Atterbury, the 14th Cavalry became part of the 83rd Infantry Division.

That required starting over.

"We were an established unit," he said. "Mostly non-coms and officers, very few privates. We had to do basic training all over, which meant that the officers and non-coms did the same things."

There was a pause when Ames said that, and he then corrected himself, "Of course, I didn't see the officers dig any ditches."

After completing their training, members of Ames' unit began training others who were pouring into the camp. He was at Camp Atterbury for more than a year and then shipped out for Europe, hitting the beaches a few days after D-Day.

He became acquainted with Columbus quickly, visiting the small town shortly after he arrived.

"Still remember it," he said. "We were restricted to base, but some of us decided to hitchhike to town. We came up on some officers in a car that had become stalled so we helped get it started.

"They asked if they could give us a lift into town, and one of our fellows said that we were restricted to base. I laughed and told him that the officers were in the same boat.

"We wound up going into town together."

Columbus was a sea of Army khaki in those days. There wasn't much to do, but on one visit he met a young woman named Helen. They began dating and before Ames shipped out with his division they were married.

Helen stayed in Columbus, and when Ames returned they made it their home.

In the years since, they saw the camp go through a series of ups and downs, determined largely by the conflicts in which the country had become engaged.

Eventually it settled into a training facility for National Guard and Reserve units.

In the late '80s, the commander, Col. Jorg Stachel, spearheaded a number of efforts to recreate the history of the camp.

One was to restore the Prisoner of War Chapel built by Italian POWs in 1944, and another was to launch the drive for the memorial on Hospital Road.

Two of his earliest recruits were Ames and Helen Miller.

They didn't think twice about getting involved and staying involved.

**TWICE WOUNDED, "I KNEW THE
END WAS NEAR, I COULD FEEL IT" --**

On D-Day, June 6, 1944, North Carolinian Colonel Edwin Holt, 83rd Infantry Division, along with other officers of the 83rd were summoned to a big ol' castle in England that was surrounded by guards, you never saw such security.

In that setting, the officers were told about the invasion of Fortress Europe and given plans for their participation. They would land on Normandy on D+4, June 10, and support troops already there.

Because of German resistance, the invasion timetable slowed and Holt's division wasn't called until D+6, June 12. We got on the ships at Plymouth and got over there, but there was very rough water and a lot of people got hurt going down the nets hanging from the ship. So they called it off and we sweated out two days on board ship.

When the 83rd landed they were ordered to relieve and worn out 101st Airborne who had encountered ferocious German resistance.

"I'll tell you how bad it was," says Holt, To stop their tanks, people from the 101st had set up in foxholes on opposite sides of where the tanks were to come through. When a tank tried to go in between them, the men in one foxhole would throw a rope to the other foxhole, attached to the rope were anti-tank mines. They'd blow the tread off the tank, then shoot the Germans as they came out of the turret.

Holt says that on July 4 the Germans broke through and we got the hell beat out of us. You never heard about that.

General Lawton Collins, commander of the Army's 7th Corps, called Holt in. Your outfit is on the beachhead and intact enough to launch an offensive, Collins told Holt, who was a regimental operations officer. We need a hole punched through the German lines. We'll give you priority to call on 11 battalions of artillery.

That was a hell of a lot of firepower, says Holt.

With a piece of chalk, Holt drew his attack plan on a board for the general. Among the things he had to take into consideration were the facts that the Germans had jammed com-

munications from battalion level on down and that with tall hedgerows all over the countryside, you never knew who would be on the other side of one, a German or an American soldier.

Holt launched the attack at dawn the next day. By 4:30 p.m. the infantrymen, tanks and artillery had accomplished the objective. There was no breakthrough, but the Americans had gained some breathing room.

On July 11, already suffering from a concussion, and tired to the point that he became careless, Holt led an effort to rescue a trapped battalion. He climbed aboard a 1 1/2 ton truck mounted with a .50 caliber machine gun and took off towards the battalion. In the fighting that followed, he was shot.

I woke up on the beach, naked, with a tag around my neck, he says. I had been wounded in the leg, I had a cerebral hemorrhage from an explosion two days earlier. I had a horrible headache and I was suffering from combat exhaustion. I knew the end was near, I could feel it.

Facing his Maker or not, Holt was able to pick himself up, wrap a blanket round his nakedness and walk on board the ship that took him to England.

Later, Colonel Holt was to return to duty and eventually command three prisoner-of-war camps, the last of which contained 30,000 war criminals, many of whom had participated in the Holocaust.

Submitted by Roland N. Grebinger
"B" Co. 330th Reg.
"B" Btry 324 F.A. BTRY.

Anyone knowing or having information about the death of Cpl. James B. Tankersley of Balto. MD. Reported K.I.A. while driving a officer in a jeep near St. Lo on July 5, 1944. Please contact:

William E. Tankersley
5805 Gambrell Road
White Marsh MD. 21162-1905

Thank you
Bill Tankersley
Korean War Veteran
19th Inf. Reg. 24th Div.
First to Fight

"SPOOKS IN THE PRIVY"
by Dick McKeel - The Piddlin Poet

The service station trade was slow
The owner sat around,
With sharpened knife and cedar stick,
Piled shavings on the ground.
The country bards were present, too,
With glittering blade and bough,
Had I retained the things I heard,
I'd be much wiser now.

No town facilities had they,
The log across the rill
Led to a shack, marked "His and Hers"
That sat against the hill.
"Where is the ladies restroom, sir?"
The owner leaning back
Said not a word but whittled on,
And nodded toward the shack.

With quickened step she entered there
But only stayed a minute,
Until she screamed, just like a snake
Or spider might be in it.
With startled look and beet-red face
She bounded through the door,
And headed for the car just like
Three gals had done before.

She missed the foot log - jumped the stream
The owner gave a shout
As her silk stockings, drooping down
Caught on a sassafras sprout.
She tripped and fell - got up, and then
In obvious disgust,
Ran to the car, stepped on the gas,
And faded in the dust.

Of course we all desired to know
What made the gals all do,
The things they did, and then we found
The whittling owner knew.
A speaking system he'd devised,
To make the thing complete,
He tied a speaker on the wall
Beneath the toilet seat.

He'd wait until the gals got set,
And then the devilish tyke
Would stop his whittling long enough,
To speak into the mike.
And as she sat, a voice below
Struck terror in the dear,
"Will you please use the other hole,
We're painting under here."

RE: EDWARD FLEB PLAXIN, Russian National living in Pairs, fighting with French underground against Germans in WWII who voluntarily enlisted and served with "D" Company, 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry Regiment of the 83rd Division from August 2, 1994 to February 1945.

Dear Mr. Derickson,

I enjoyed our talk yesterday and hope that there are "D" Company survivors who will get in touch with Mr. Plaxin.

My wife and I became closely acquainted with Plaxin on a cruise this spring in the Black Mediterranean Seas. He joined "D" Company near St. Meri eEglise during the march to St. Malo. He received no pay for his services because payrolls were closed in USA before the 83rd went to Great Britain. He was issued a weapon, ammunition, food rations, uniform and fought with his unit in France, Luxembourg and part of Germany. He was "discharged" from U.S. Army in February and was returned to Paris. All documents and records pertaining to PLAXIN'S service were destroyed in Records Center fire in 1973. Plaxin is anxious to hear from any of the survivors members of "D" Company for the above time frames. (8/2/44 - 2/28/45) His address is:

Edward G. Plaxin
Leninsky Ave. 91, Apt. 18
117313 Moscow, Russia
Tel. 095-132-20-08

My address is:

Colonel Frank C. Caldwell, USMC (Ret)
4404 Terry Landing Rd.
Alexandria, Va. 22309
(703) 780-1696

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely
Frank C. Caldwell

P.S. The Dept. of Defense is preparing a Certificate of Appreciation for Mr. Plaxin for his contribution to the war effort. It will be hand carried to Plaxin in Moscow.

Survivors Still honor the heroes.

By Ralph Vigoda
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

*The Battle of the Bulge is not forgotten
Those who were there see to that.*

WAYNE -- The 83rd Infantry Division insignia -- the one with the five battle stars and the "Thunderbolt" nickname -- was visible on the bolo tie clasp that rested on his chest. The medals affixed to his cap, including the Silver and Bronze Stars and Purple Heart, caught the glint of the sun.

But it was only during the playing of "Taps," when he hoisted himself out of his wheelchair with his left hand and saluted with his right, that you could read the words on the back of Norman Schuster's jacket:

"Battered bastards of the Bulge."

In December 1944, Schuster was one of them, struggling with hundreds of thousands of other Allied fighters during the Battle of the Bulge, when the German army made a last-ditch, ultimately unsuccessful, effort to break through the Allied lines at their weakest point.

Yesterday, during ceremonies at Valley Forge Military Academy honoring those soldiers, Schuster, 73, was transported from his home in Sellersville to continue to fulfill a promise he made 50 years ago.

When we were in the hedgerows, and the first bombs went off, I made a vow that if I got out alive, I'd keep alive the memory of those who never made it," he said. "We're not the heroes. The heroes are still over there. We're the survivors."

About 50 of those survivors gathered in front of the Battle of the Bulge monument on the academy's campus to tell of their experiences and commemorate the May 8, 1945, declaration of victory in Europe.

"It's hard to believe 50 years have passed. It's just hard to believe," said William Nickel of Ridley Park, a battlefield medic. He spoke for many of the gray-haired and gray-bearded men, all in their late 60s and 70s, who were teenagers or in their early 20s when they got some cruel lessons in frontline combat.

Despite the passage of time the men, members of the Delaware Valley Chapter of the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, remembered names, dates and events as though it were just yesterday that they were carrying rifles and canteens in such places as Malmedy, Belgium; Carentan, France; and along the Elbe River in Germany.

"It was one of the most significant, if not the most significant, battles of World War II," said Rear Adm. Virgil Hill, academy president, in his welcoming remarks. "The victory at the Battle of the Bulge paved the way for the eventual victory in Europe."

The battle, he added, "was a model of the indomitable spirit of the American fighting man."

Fred Vitale of Springfield talked briefly about his time along the northern Luxembourg border. Nicholas DiPhil



The Battle of the Bulge monument of the Valley Forge Military Academy campus drew veterans yesterday. They told of their experiences during what academy President Rear Adm. Virgil Hill called one of the most significant battles of World War II.

lipo of Lansdowne recounted his journey from North Africa through Tunisia and Sicily and England to his eventual spot along the Siegfried Line. George Moles said he simply wanted to thank his hero, Stan Wojtusik, president of the chapter, who organized yesterday's program.

"If it weren't for 'Stoch,' I wouldn't be here today," he said.

Moles, of Audubon, and Wojtusik, of Philadelphia, both now 69, met 51 years ago during basic training in South Carolina. They ended up in the same company and were shipped overseas together. In mid-December 1944, they were taken prisoner in the early days of the Battle of the Bulge.

"When those (German) tanks found out where we were, they turned the turrets in our direction," Wojtusik said. "It was a matter of holding off their infantry as much as we could. But our bullets were just bouncing off those tanks."

The two buddies spent more than five months as POWs. After one of the grueling, 18-hour work days, said Moles -- he started basic training at 150 pounds and was down to 89 when he was liberated -- he collapsed, suffering from frostbite and pneumonia.

In meant, he knew, death. "When you dropped in a prison camp, you just stayed where you fell," he said. "But Stosh picked me up and carried me into the camp. He saved my life."

The two remained in contact for awhile after the war, before Moles moved to Florida. They talked periodically, but as many as a dozen years would go by when they didn't see each other. That changed when Moles returned home to Norristown. Yesterday, Wojtusik called on Moles to place a wreath at the foot of the monument.

Wojtusik reminisced about "Snake Eyes" and "Hollywood," two of the German camp guards who were particularly mean-spirited.

"When the Russians came into the camp, they asked if anyone could speak Russian," Wojtusik said. "I said I could talk Polish, so the commander asked me to have the men point out any guards who mistreated us."

The POWs motioned to Snake Eyes and Hollywood.

"They were taken aside and shot," Wojtusik said. "That, I guess, is what happens in war."

I am in possession of a Statement by Mr. Robert A. Soulas, a member of the French Resistance who was a prisoner of Langenstein-Zwieberg. Mr. Soulas said the Concentration Camp was liberated by members of the 8th Armored Division and 39th Infantry Division. I know that the 83rd is listed as liberators.

Could you possibly place me in touch with 1 or 2 members of the 83rd who were Liberators of that camp. The purpose is to obtain a Statement to the effect that they were in that camp and what they saw.

Could you place a small article in your newsletter "Thunderbolt" asking one from the 83rd to get in touch with me?

Sincerely
Louis A. Cavagnaro
Post Office box 1776
Sun City, AR 85372-1776

"AWAKE, THOU SLUMBERING GIANT"

O Man, thou who art so puffed up
Who struts across the stage of life
with so much noise and shaking of the fist
Thou who bares the shapely, protruding breasts
So creamy and rich to the lustful eye of man
Thou who paints thy lips and eyes and face
with all manner of art and crafts for the pleasure of the eye
Wake up thou slumbering giants
And know what is real and what is unreal
What is permanent and what is temporal as the grass itself
O Lord, how is it that man amuses himself with folly and empty pursuits?
Lord, how do we rise above the puffs of smoke our minds and hearts create?
Lord, deliver me from mine own desires of the body that consume me in fire
Dear God, help me to understand the seeming unfairness of life
When one man lives like a king only because another gave his very life to make it so
The injustice in every corner of life, dear God. Who can bear it?
I pray, dear God, for the Light that can free my heart from the bondage of anger and bitterness at the apparent injustice of it all.
Help me to be all the Selves until I can be the one Self.
Who am I my Creator? One part noble and 3 parts earthly bound.
Free me from mine own desires and obsession.
The fleshly desires of lust and my pettiness.
No one can separate me from the God within my spiritual heart.
In this harsh society, draw thy breath in pain.

By Michael Gottlieb

ATTENTION MEMBERS OF THE 83RD INF. DIV.

I've decided not to be making shirts anymore.

I've been making shirts since 1959, and the time has come to let anyone else, who would be interested in making shirts for the membership.

I will be taking orders for Jackets, gold & black golf caps - also overseas caps (gold & black) You can change the ad on the last page of the Thunderbolt News to that effect.

There must be someone who would like to make shirts now, they can contact me, and I'll show them the way.

I have stencils & patterns for any one who would want to take over for me.

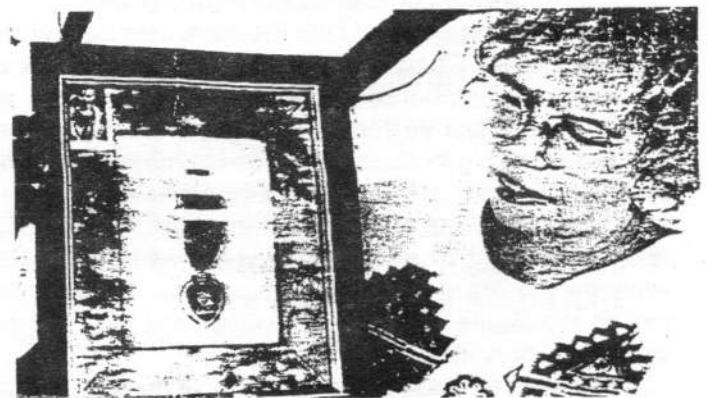
It has been very rewarding for me to see the men dressed up in the 83rd colors, and always looking good at the reunions.

For those who have had my shirts, jackets, caps, etc. I have you continue to look your best for years to come.

Thank you all
Your Uniform Maker
Vito Palazzalo
Co. "G" 329th Inf.

The War Still Isn't Over For A Little Sister Who Can't Forget

THE GREENEVILLE SUN
Bob Hurley - Columnist



Lena Craddock, of St. James, displays her brother's Purple Heart.

Robert L. "Buddy" Bennett didn't want to die, but fate said that he had to so that you and I could go on living.

That's how war is: somebody has to die and somebody has to live. They did and we didn't.

Buddy Bennett was only 18, and this is the story of his short life. It is a sad and somber reminder of the price that has been paid for your cookout on Monday.

See, remembering them is what we're actually supposed to do on Memorial Day. That probably sounds strange to those of you under 40, who have been taught that Memorial Day is simply the beginning of the summer season, the time when beach and mountain resorts kick into high gear, double their prices, and the rest of us are crazy enough to stand in line to pay them.

If you think that Memorial Day is just for fun and shopping and get-togethers, you need to spend some time with a St. James woman named Lena Craddock, the sister of the young soldier named Buddy.

"Mama died when I was six years old," she began. "There were six of us children. Some time later, two of us landed in Holston Orphanage in Greeneville, two landed in an orphanage in West Virginia, and one went to the Free Will Baptist Home at Camp Creek.

"Buddy was old enough to where he didn't have to go to an orphanage. By the time he was 17 in 1944, he was in the Army.

"I don't remember the last time I saw him. His face is just a picture in my mind."

She wrote him a letter in the spring of 1945. He never received it.

"The letter came back to me," she said. "I was 11 years old at the time, but I didn't know what the message on the envelope meant."

A stamped message on the front of the envelope said "deceased."

"I asked one of my friends at the orphanage what it meant, and she told me it meant that my brother was dead."

From that day more than 50 years ago until just last summer, Lena never even knew where Buddy was buried, or if he had been buried at all.

That's when she visited Greene County Veterans Service Officer Steve Alexander.

"In just about two weeks, Steve found out for me where Buddy was buried and all about the cemetery," she said.

But all the other details about his death, the landings he made, the battles he fought, the friends those answers.

So little is known, in fact that it is easy to conclude that Buddy Bennett was just another soldier who died in the push to end the dying that was World War II.

He fell in Belgium in fighting that came when the war was all but over, but the dance of death had to be played out to its final, fatal note, and it was Buddy Bennett who was chosen by fate to pay the fiddler.

There were 17 American soldiers named Robert Bennett who died in the war, but only one of them was from Tennessee, and only one of them had a sister named Lena.

She remembers so little on the one hand, and so much on the other.

"He was a dark-haired, good-looking kid, and he never had a life," she said while drying her eyes.

Between the time in 1941 when she came to what is now Holston Home for Children and the time Buddy left for war, she thinks he might have been in some trouble with the law in Erwin.

The family was living in Unicoi County at the time of the mother's death.

"Until Steve found out for me, I didn't know if he (Buddy) had

been buried in some ditch or if he had been buried at all," she said.

Through the American Battle Monuments Commission, Alexander was able to secure a picture of the cemetery in Margraten, Holland, where Lena's brother is buried, and there is even a picture of the individual grave site.

At the time of his death, Buddy was a private first class with the 329th Infantry, 83rd Division.

When the ferocious Battle of the Bulge of late 1944 and early 1945 plunged the world into still more darkness, Buddy Bennett was no hero. He was just a tired, scared, small-town boy trying to kill other tired, scared people in another faceless GI in a green suit swallowed up by a world engulfed in war. He was a big brother to a little orphan girl back in Tennessee who had no one to talk to and cry with after she found out he had been killed.

Buddy was six years older than Lena was, and when you're 11 years old, you have a lot of hero worship in you. Buddy was Lena's hero. He was the only person she knew who had gone off to war. She was so scared, yet so proud.

The Allies were pushing into Germany in the last two months of the war when Buddy Bennett died on April 6, 1945.

There was no effort to get the body brought home for burial, so young Buddy became one of the 93,086 Americans buried or recorded as missing in action in overseas cemeteries.

"I was not in contact with my brothers and sisters during those years," Lenoa said, "and as far as I know, no one knew a thing about his death and burial."

Since learning of the place of his final rest, she has been better able to deal with Buddy's death, but she is still unable to utter that final farewell to him.

How did he die? How did it happen? Who witnessed the battle? How long did he live after he was wounded? There is no end to the questions, and there are still no answers.

During the past few years, other survivors of American war dead have been able to accumulate vast amounts of information about their loved ones by using military records that have been declassified.

But Lena has not been able to do that, and she is confident that she will never be able to visit his grave and do a lot of the in-depth research that would be needed to trace her brother's movements throughout the last days of his life.

"What I'd really like to do is find someone who was in Buddy's outfit," she said. "Maybe they could help me. There is someone out there somewhere who knew my brother, and they might know who and where he died."

Where you in the 329th Infantry of the 83rd Division? Or do you know someone who was?

If you do, there is a little sister at 638-6548 who would dearly love to talk with you.

"All I can hope for now is for someone who was there to tell me what happened that day," she said.

On Monday, think about Lena and Buddy as you remember those who have fallen in order for you to celebrate Memorial Day any old way you want to.

For Lena, the war still isn't over, and every day is Memorial Day for a little sister who can't forget.

If any one should have any knowledge of this person please contact Donald Pardieu, 800 Woodfern Way, Louisville, Ky., 40291-2349

Five Smith Brothers In W.W. II



NED B. SMITH - BIRTHDATE - 11/2/17
DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - 11/7/40
PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - Fort Knox, KY.
RIBBONS, MEDALS AND CITATIONS AWARDED - Two Purple Hearts, One Bronze Star, Good Conduct Medal, Five Campaign Ribbons: Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe, Ardennes. Combat Medical Badge, World War II Victory Medal.
WOUNDED IN ACTION - France - July 10, 1944 (one month in General Hospital in England) - Battle of the Bulge, Belgium - December 29, 1944 (one month in General Hospital in Paris)
CONTINENTAL SERVICE - Three years, five months, four days.
FOREIGN SERVICE - One year, three months, fourteen days.
TOTAL SERVICE: - Four years, Eight months, 18 days.
UNITS YOU WERE IN - Enlisted in the Army at Fort Knox KY, was stationed in General Hospital. Received training to become a Medical Technician. Later transferred to Camp Campbell, KY, received training to become a Surgical Technician. At a later date, all A-one soldiers were ordered into combat units. Transferred to the 83rd Infantry Division, at Camp Atterbury, IN and was put into Medical Detachment, 331st Infantry as a surgical and medical technician, and stayed with the unit until I was discharged.

We five brothers were born in Washington, Indiana. Our parents were Opha and Barbee Smith. We lived there throughout our childhood and school years until World War II, when each of us went into service and each of us served in combat units. All five received honorable discharges from the service. Ned and Kenneth now live in Stuart, FL. Kyle lives in Indianapolis, IN Dwight lives in Washington, IN and Russell lives in Merton, IN. We also have a sister named Ruth Smith Small and a younger brother John Allen Smith. All are in very good health. This picture was taken at the Smith Family Reunion August 6, 1995.

DWIGHT SMITH - BIRTHDATE - 11/21/19
DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - 8/7/42
PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - Camp Atterbury, IN
RIBBONS, MEDALS AND CITATIONS AWARDED - Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Victory Medal - World War II, Pacific Theater Ribbon w/two Bronze Stars.
CONTINENTAL SERVICE - Two years, five months and twenty-one days.
FOREIGN SERVICE - One year - New Guinea, Southern Philippines and Japan.
TOTAL SERVICE: - Three years, five months and twenty-one days.
UNITS YOU WERE IN - M.P.s - 41st Engineers Battalion

RUSSELL SMITH - BIRTHDATE - 8/19/22
DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - APRIL 21, 1941
PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - Fort Benjamin Harrison - Indianapolis, IN.
RIBBONS, MEDALS AND CITATIONS AWARDED - Eame Theater Ribbon w/2 Bronze Stars, American Theater Ribbon, American Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Ribbon, Combat Infantry Badge, Rifle Expert Badge.
BATTLES & CAMPAIGN - Rhineland, Central Europe.
CONTINENTAL SERVICE - One year, five months and ten days
FOREIGN SERVICE - Two years, eleven months and twenty-five days.
TOTAL SERVICE: - Four years, five months.
UNITS YOU WERE IN - 38th Infantry Division

HEADLINE!! RIPLEY BELIEVE IT OR NOT - Ned, of the 83rd Infantry Div. met Kenneth in Manchester, England, April 1944. Kenneth, of the 82nd Airborne Div. met Kyle of the 101st Div. in December 1944 on their way to the Battle of the Bulge. Kenneth, with the 82nd Airborne Div. and Kyle with the 101st Airborne Div. were heading North to cut the German supply line to Bastogne and the 83rd Div. was heading south with the same object. All three brothers could have met, had Ned not been injured and sent to a General Hospital.

KENNETH R. SMITH - BIRTHDATE - 2/10/24
DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - 3/25/42
PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - Fort Benjamin Harrison - Indianapolis, IN.
RIBBONS, MEDALS AND CITATIONS AWARDED - Eame Theater Ribbon w/6 Bronze Stars and Bronze Arrowhead, Combat Infantry Badge, Distinguished Unit Citation.
BATTLES & CAMPAIGN - Africa, Sicily, Foggia, Normandy, Rhineland, Central Europe, Ardennes.
CONTINENTAL SERVICE - One year, one month and nine days
FOREIGN SERVICE - Two years, four months and sixteen days.
TOTAL SERVICE: - Three years, five months and twenty-five days.
UNITS YOU WERE IN - 82nd Airborne Infantry Division

KYLE SMITH - BIRTHDATE - 7/21/25
DATE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - 7/19/43
PLACE OF ENTRY INTO SERVICE - Fort Benjamin Harrison - Indianapolis, IN.
RIBBONS, MEDALS AND CITATIONS AWARDED - Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, 30 Calibur Machine Gun Badge, Good Conduct Medal, French and Belgium Citations, Victory Medal, Theatre Ribbon w/4 Bronze Stars.
BATTLES & CAMPAIGN - Rome, Arno, Ardennes, Rhineland, Central Europe.
CONTINENTAL SERVICE - Fort Benning, GA., Parachute Training, Fort Bragg, NC. Parachute Training.
FOREIGN SERVICE - Africa, Acellia Italy, France, Germany, Belgium, England, Luxembourg.
TOTAL SERVICE: - Two and one-half years.
UNITS YOU WERE IN - 515th, 517th, 551 Battalions of the 101st Airborne Div. 504th Battalion of the 82nd Airborne Div.

A MESSAGE TO ALL 83RD MEMBERS.....

Anyone wishing to purchase 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, Nicklaces, \$7.00 Each
White Golf Caps \$10.00 Each
Jim Burton Tapes \$10.00 Each

(Postage and Handling Included)
Contact the Association Office

83rd Reunion Will be held at
Independence, Ohio

Dates are
August 14, 15, 16, 17, 1996

DUES ARE DUE NOW
FOR 1996

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 - 8907

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

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