



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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Fall Issue 1996



Indianapolis Convention Center & RCA Dome
One of the largest consolidated convention and sports
complexes in the country.

51st Annual Reunion

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THE THUNDERBOLT

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan..... 1947
Jack M. Straus..... 1948
*Shelly Hughes..... 1949
*Julius Ansel..... 1950
*Walter H. Edwards Jr..... 1951
Leo Schneider..... 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. Volpl..... 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
Albert A. Belvedere..... 1995

* Denotes Deceased



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

We (the Kentucky) are working very hard making preparation for the 1997 reunion at the Adams Mark Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana. Everything is falling in line, each person we deal with has been very co-operative and with each member's co-operation we can look forward to a great 51st reunion.

The Kentucky Chapter will strive to give the 83rd a good comfortable hospitality room opened long hours so we have plenty room for talks with friends.

We want to promote the trip we have planned for your return to Atterbury - please make reservations.

All information will be in Thunderbolt in plenty time so you can make reservation for the reunion.

We will not have a Ad Book. Everything is costed in our Registration Fee.

The on site committee Ky. Chapter will be providing an opportunity for you to enjoy a choice of three tours. On Thursday August 21, 1997 there will be a trip to Camp Atterbury. Buss will leave Adams Mark at 9 a.m. This will be a six hour trip. The cost will be \$15.00 per person and lunch is included in the price. You may purchase items on base PX. Veterans Memorial, parks, renovated Chapel #1, old and new barracks, new air strip, renovated Chapel in the meadows. This Chapel was built during WW II by Italian prisoners of war. New Ammunition Depot. A guide will be put on each bus. Bring your camera.

On the same day, Thursday, August 21, 1997 there will be a complimentary buss trip to Brown County Little Nashville for Arts & Crafts shopping. This will be limited to the first 46 people to sign up.

On Friday, August 22, 1997 there will be a tour of some city high points of interest. (Price of \$10.00 per person) Drive by the Indianapolis Zoo, RCA Dome, Pan Am Plaza, Market Square Arena, Lookerbie Square stop for pictures, Benjamin Harris home, stop for pictures, Oblique Square, Nat'l Headquarters American Legion, Korean and Vietnam Memorial, U.S.S. Indianapolis Memorial. (Lunch on your own) Then on to the Indianapolis Speedway & Museum. There will be a \$2.00 Charge for ride around the track, etc. and a \$2.00 fee to the museum.

Floyd Richmond

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

First and foremost, I wish to thank the entire membership for electing me to serve you on the board. It is obvious you trusted me to represent you in this capacity and I truly hope that I have and will continue to serve your interests in a most positive way. This has been difficult endeavor for me as I have strived to do what I thought was best for the organization and not allow my tongue to overload my brain.

I can foresee a difficult year ahead as I try to lead, consider what is best for the 83rd, weigh your wishes and concerns, try to strike a happy medium, and hopefully conclude a year with less enemies than friends.

In the beginning I wish to set some guidelines. The board is elected to serve you the membership and not vice-versa. It is, however, limited by time constraints and two (2) meetings per year. If you have questions the board needs to answer, please put them in writing and submit them to me prior to the scheduled meetings in May and August. If you need an audience with the board, please submit this to me in writing at least a month prior to meetings in order that you may be included on the agenda. This I will strictly enforce as time is an important commodity when your board is in session. We all want to continue to have the best veterans organization in existence, and with your help and indulgence it will be.

On another note, I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of you, who sent flowers, memorials, sympathy cards, phone calls, and letters of condolence when I lost my wife. She truly loved the 83rd as I do.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you feel I may be of assistance to you or if I can clear up a question in your mind during this my final year serving on your board.

Carroll B. Brown.

Past President's Report.....

Our 50th Reunion was a success and many members complimented us on a very good reunion. Of course we had some complaints which is unfortunate, no matter how hard we tried we couldn't please everyone, ask anyone who has put one on and they will agree that it is impossible to please everyone.

The Cleveland Chapter people helped in any way that was needed as Earl Lindsey and Mike Mizerook will attest to.

83rd Inf. Div. Assoc. is a veteran group that we honor our comrades who have fallen in combat or have passed away since. The memorial service is the most important part of our reunions and the entertainment is secondary so we continue to attend if we can. Thanks to Joe Macaluso for this.

Next year the Reunion is Indianapolis Ind. and no doubt we will visit Camp Atterbury the start of it all, so we will be looking forward to another fine gathering.

So I say if you will forgive us our glitches we'll forgive your bitches

Past President
Casey Szubski



A few words about our National Chaplain Frank Harnack. He had an operation to remove his leg a month before the reunion, but was hoping to be able to attend. Due to complications he was unable to do so. He was selected to this job and we also had Earl Lindsey

take the role of Assistant Chaplain. Thanks Earl and good luck to Frank for a speedy recovery.

Joe Macaluso, coordinator of the memorial service talked Jerome Zingg to make the opening prayer which he formulated with much thought. The prayer is printed below and it is very well appreciated. Earl made this closing prayer. Both are Cleveland Chapter members.

Thanks to all who attended the reunion, which was well received by all.

Casey

PRAYER FROM MEMORIAL SERVICE AT 50TH REUNION IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dear God Above, we gather here today to pay
tribute to our fallen comrades

We thank you Dear God for the privilege you
give us, to honor them

We know they have entered the promise land and
have taken possession of all you give

They paid the supreme sacrifice for you God and
our country

We shall never forget, and will always remember
our comrades for what they gave

To keep us safe and happy

For this God we thank thee

Amen

Getting together with the old gang 83rd Infantry Division celebrates 50th anniversary of the end of the war

By **DEBBIE PALMER**
Staff Writer

When the 83rd Infantry Division had its 25th reunion in Cleveland, the organizer put in a bid to have the 50th here, too.

At the time, the veterans laughed.

"Who would have believed we'd be having a 50th?" asked Casey Szubski of Parma.

As he spoke, he was surrounded by hundreds of his former war buddies, who gathered last week for the 50th time since World War II ended. The veterans met at the Holiday Inn Independence to share memories and renew friendships forged in grim settings more than five decades ago.

Earl Lindsey of Cleveland, one of the reunion organizers, said more than 700 people from across the country were expected to attend the event, which included daily activities, a banquet Saturday and ceremonies on Sunday.

The 83rd fought in five major battles, was the first division to reach the Rhine River and earned the dubious distinction of ranking eighth in casualties.

Known as the "Thunderbolt" division, it also picked up another nickname during the war. The division was called the "Rag-Tag Circus" for its habit of picking up any abandoned German vehicle that would run -- cars, buses and even fire trucks -- and using it.



SUN PHOTO BY JAMES J. VOTAVA

Though its numbers have depleted, members of the 83rd Infantry Division have faithfully gathered each year to share memories of their exploits in Europe during World War II. Local members who met to swap stories recently include, from left, Ted Karageorge of Parma; former Parma resident Bob Uher, who now lives in Lakewood; Casey Szubski of Parma; and (front) Jim Lindsey of Canton.

"They'd put a coat of paint on it and a white star and it would be an American vehicle," Szubski said.

Szubski, president of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, said there are about 35 members in the Cleveland Chapter. While some 31,000 men fought in the 83rd during the war, membership in the national association now stands at about 1,500.

"I was sending Christmas cards to 80 or 90 Fellows. I'm down to about two cards," said Alex Staniszewski of Parma.

The 83rd was actually formed in the first World War and was reactivated for the second. It was an Ohio division, made up mainly of men from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

They have since scattered across the country, but returned here last week for the reunion.

One was Jack Staus, who is said to have been the first American soldier in Berlin.

When Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower halted the 83rd about 35 miles outside of Berlin, Straus and a friend decided they still wanted to see the city.

"It was my idea. We just drove in there," he said.

"He was nuts," added Bob Uher of Lakewood.

With parts of the town on fire and snipers still shooting, the Americans got concerned when darkness fell - they had no place to sleep. Then they met some Russian officers, who invited them to stay in the in a house they had taken over.

It turned out one of the officers had studied in the United States, spoke English, and served as interpreter for the night

"We had a marvelous time," Straus said.

Until last week, Staniszewski hadn't been to a reunion since the first one, held a year after the war ended.

"I figured it was so close, I'd stop by and see if I could find anyone I knew," he said.

Szubski, 75, has plenty of war stories to share when the division gets together. He remembers arriving in Normandy just after the invasion and sleeping on a ship that, battered by a storm, drifted from the pier.

"We had to abandon ship at 2 o'clock in the morning, when you couldn't see your hand right in front of your face," he recalled.

The ship sank in six feet of water. The next morning, special trucks drove into the water to recover equipment from it.

The 83rd also fought in the Battle of the Bulge, after capturing the port of St. Malo at Brittany. The division took up the capture of 20,000 Germans who had given up, but did not want to surrender to France, then went on to help clear out Luxembourg.

Szubski, who has been to about 45 of the 50 reunions, said the get-togethers give the veterans a chance to talk about their memories, especially if they run into men they actually fought alongside.

But 50 years of reunions have brought together even those who never met during the war.

"By going to these reunions, everyone has become friends," he said.

From the Office.....



By the time you receive this #1 Fall issue, 15 weeks have passed by. It's hard to believe as we age, time seems to go faster.

I want to clarify that membership dues for the fiscal year 1996-97 was recommended and approved at the membership meeting to be increased to \$15.00 per year and widows would pay at least \$5.00 a year.

I urge you to read this column very closely. Some changes will be made in the procedure in the future. All of the application fees for the tours and pre-registering fee will be sent to Nat'l office to be processed. You will be sent a conformation receipt for them. You will receive a conformation from the hotel when you send in your package registration form. Maybe I need to clarify for you that the 4 night or 3 night or 2 night for regular group rate which includes 2 meals and room rate. This the hotel collects from you and they will provide the meal tickets for the registration packet. Your cooperation with this system will be greatly appreciated. There will be a designated area to pick up your registration packet and you will be on your way. The purpose of this is to eliminate a long waiting line. For those who do not pre-register there, will be a on site registration that will be a slower process. Dead line to pre-register will be July 24, 1997. If for any reason you would have to cancel you may do so with a full refund.

Bob Derickson, Nat'l Sec.-Tres.

83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.

50th Annual Reunion Aug.14, 15, 16, 17, 1996
Cleveland Chapter -- Independence, OH

INCOME

Registration	\$37,663.00	
Ad Book	8,800.00	
Crafts + 50/50	781.00	
Goodtime Cruise	\$11,962.00	
Total Income		\$59,206.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Holiday Inn	\$31,058.00	
Ad Book Printing	2,910.00	
Refund Deposits		
from Nat'l Treasurer	1,250.00	
Hospitality Room	2,305.00	
Equipment Rental	654.00	
Reunion Planning Expenses	2,997.00	
Refund Deposit for Cruise	1,000.00	
Cruise Refunds (Illness)	412.50	
Cruise Deposit	2,000.00	
Bus/Vans - Cruise	1,628.00	
Cruise Food & Entern.	7,229.05	
Flowers & Decorations	601.29	
Telephone & Stamps	175.12	
Entertainment	3,056.75	
Total Disbursements		\$57,276.71

NATIONAL \$ 1,929.29

RETIRED BOARD CHAIRMAN:

Our 50th reunion was a great success. Thanks to the "Good Lord" for those who were able to attend.

Casey Szubski, Earl Lindsey, the Cleveland Chapter and their wives are to be commended for a very enjoyable reunion.

I would like to say it was an honor to work on the board for the past five years, and five years previously.

It was a privilege to work with the board members. Thanks to all the members for their support.

Special mention should be given to Joe Macaluso, our troop commander, for always running a great memorial service.

It is always a pleasure to see all the members, wives and guests at the reunion. Looking forward to our 51st in Indianapolis, Ind.

I wish Carroll Brown, our new board chairman, good health and good luck in the coming year.

Al Belvedere, Co. K, 331st Inf.

P.S. Enclosed are pictures of the Philadelphia Chapter and Wives, visiting our Monument to Veterans of all wars, erected in Leisuretownte. Anna and I are residents and I was instrumental in forming a Veterans' Organization of which I have been

President. We have 350 members.

---DECEASED---

Here we go with the first list of deceased for this new year. Our sympathy goes out to all the families of these veterans. We will miss them all.

<u>Deceased</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Reported By</u>
Bailey, John H.	"D" 329th	Friend, Evelyn McClarren Whit East of 83rd
Ball, Hazel	Widow of Johnnie Ball	
Bisbee, Ivan G.	"C" 330th	Wife & Bob Parsons
Boyer, Donald	83rd SIGNAL	Sal Scicolone
Burt Sr., James L.	HQ. "331st"	Wife, Martha
Cutlip, Orval G.	"D" 331st	Al Shrawder
Dobb, Edward	83rd SIGNAL	Wife, Betty
Geissler, Earl E.	322nd F.A.	John G. Daum
Harbon, Anthony Jr.	A.T. 329th	Grace Brick
Hirko, John	"C" 329th	Wife, Lois
Intrieri, Tony	83rd BAND	Zeno King
Johnson, Niles Jr.	"F" 329th	C.R. Whitcomb
Jones, Owen	"F" 331st	Floyd Richmond
Madison, Guy	"Cannon" 331st	Maxine Hargis
Mills, Earl	308th ENG.	Wife
Olin, Watkins, J.	"L" 330th	Ellane Walkins, wife
Richardson, William	330th MEDIC	Ben Johnson
Seiger, Kenneth	"H" 329th	Don Rickert
Teague, Kenneth	HQ	Unknown
Urserly, William (Bill)	"A" 329th	Bob Grobelny
Walton, James W.	83rd BAND	Zeno King
Waples, Arthur	"B" 908th	Pat DiGiammerino
Wilms, Glen F.	83rd Q.M.	Wife, Edith
Wirth, Eleanor	Wife of Frank Wirth	Frank C. Wirth



Historian's Corner



To many of us, the accomplishments of the 83rd Division in World War I (the one that was supposed to end ALL wars) is, at best, a bit hazy. We all know, first hand, the many, many major battles it endured and conquered in World War II - but just what did it do in WWI?

Here is a brief, but factual summary, taken from the National Archives about the 83rd's role in that war of 80 years ago.....

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EIGHTY THIRD DIVISION.

In Compliance with War Department instructions, the Eighty-third Division (National Army) was organized at Camp Sherman, Ohio in September 1917. The Division was composed of drafted men from Ohio and West Virginia and remained in training at Camp Sherman until May 1918.

The first units embarked for overseas on June 4th and the last units arrived in France on June 21st. Upon arrival in France, the division was designated as a depot division and was ordered to the Le Mans area.

Here the division was broken up and the Artillery Brigade and special units, such as Engineer and Signal troops were sent forward as corps and army troops. The other organizations of the division were held in the area and trained as replacements for the combat divisions at the front.

Major General Edwin F. I. Glenn commanded this division from the time of its organization until it was demobilized. The design of the division's shoulder patch, as approved, was a black inverted triangle on which is superimposed a golden monogram of the letters O.H.I.O.

The division was composed of the following units:

329th, 330th, 331st,

Infantry Regiments

322nd, 323rd, 324th, Machine Gun and Field Artillery battalions.

158th Artillery Brigade

165th and 166th Infantry Brigades

308th Trench mortar battery; Engineer Regiment; Field Signal Battalion; Headquarters train & Military Police; Ammunition train;

329th, 330th, 331st Field Hospitals & Ambulance companies

The strength of the entire division on May 1, 1918 was 39,100 officers and enlisted men.

Various units participated in the following campaigns for which they were awarded the Silver Band:

Aisne-Marne offensive - July 28th to

August 6, 1918

Meuse-Argonne offensive: Sept. 26 to Nov. 11, 1918

Vesle sector: August 7 to Sept. 14, 1918

(Casualties were not included in the documents I received from National Archives.)

The division debarked at Hoboken, N.J. on January 20th, 1919, proceeded to its Headquarters at Camp Sherman and was demobilized shortly thereafter.

Remember, we were

INDEED THE VERY BEST!!!

B. JOHN PRINZI

YOUR HISTORIAN



The Executive Board



Wives & Guest of Executive Board

CHAPTERS

Dixie Chapter.....

The 50th Reunion of 83rd Inf. Div. Assn. is now history. We owe a debt of gratitude to each one in the Cleveland Chapter from the reunion chairman to the ladies who made items for the crafts tables. Also to our national officers and executive board, each and every one goes our vote of thanks for a job well done.

I spent 5 most enjoyable days, meeting both long time friends and new ones. We welcomed 14 new members in our business meeting and got them acquainted with the rules of business and moved along with the necessary task of looking ahead to the years ahead.

Dixie Chapter was well represented our very own "Carroll Brown" chairman of the board was present and carrying on business as usual in spite of the recent death of his beloved wife and our friend, Ruby - Carry on Carroll! We've behind you all the way. It is so good to see so many friends together after 50 years. Time has taken its toll but we are still strong and have great leaders. I see many more good years for our great group of Thunderbolts.

Our widows are a special group and such a positive force in our organization. They showed up by the dozens and added much to the celebration and festivities of our days together.

Early arrivals were plentiful. The boat cruise dinner was great. Hospitality room was the best. Cleveland chapter C.P. was open and well supplied with food and drink at all hours. Everyone just worked and worked and we thank each of you.

The banquet and entertainment were just what the doctor ordered for us again. Thunderbolts who think we are 50 years younger when we get together.

Our Memorial ceremony just gets better and better. Much hard work goes into making it so impressive and meaningful.

To each one involved, I give a vote of thanks.

Sunday came too soon for us and we went our many ways, promising and planning to meet again next year. Many will be able to keep these promises! Some will be unable. Lets remember each one in the year ahead and especially the love ones of our dear departed comrades who have meant so much to us over the years.

After 50 years I got a chance to visit my good friend George Johnson and his lovely wife in his home in Flint Michigan. What a reunion we had. He couldn't make the national but he made 9 men from "A" 322 that I saw that same week. Then I invited Bill Manning in Aberdeen S.C. Our C.O. during the training and fighting years. He made 10 men from from "A" Btry 322. I didn't know he was so old "82" last week.

We followed a roster and talked about everyone in the

Btry. It was a most enjoyable time for me, tying up loose ends after all these years.

Lets plan now for next year and be there in Indianapolis n 1997.

Today in Montana, good friend Charles Kerr of California and "F" 330 pulled me over on Interstate 90. He was on the way home from reunion and I on a sight seeing trip. Had a good visit and moved on our ways.

Lets keep our departed and their loved ones upper most in our thoughts and prayers until next time.

Your reporter, E.S. Massie



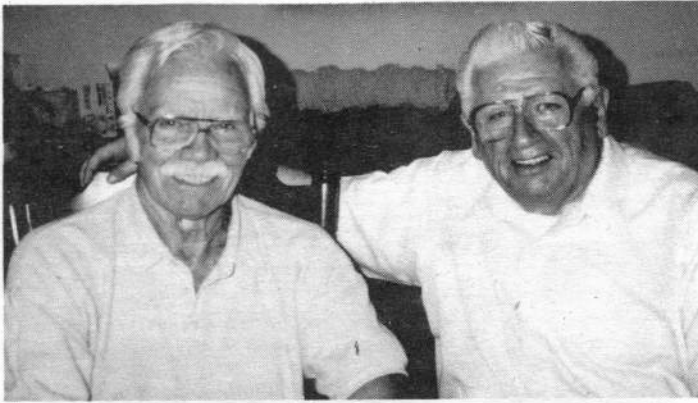
Roy Whitacker and wife June with two buddies and wives for the first time in 50 yrs. Roy is president of Dixie Chapter.



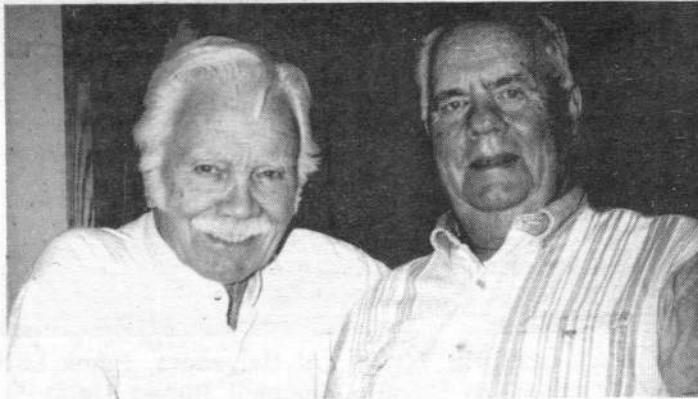
"A" Bty. 322: 8 good men you can tell because they wear the white hats. Benbow, Sechrest, Cyr, Massie, Zingg, Karageorge, Anderson, Cromer. Zing and Anderson are original, Cadre from 3rd Field Artillery, Ft. Riely Kansas. First time together since 1945.



The Lowkas (2nd timers) welcome their new friends from Florida (1st timers). The future looks bright for us with all these young folks coming in.



I finally found and visited George Johnson in Flint, Michigan after 50 years. quite a story behind this friendship.



Former Bty. Commander William Manning "The old man" visited in his home in Aberdeen, S. D. Stayed up most of the night catching up after 50 years of separation.



Cleveland Chapter.....

It seems 83rd members enjoyed themselves at the 50th reunion. I myself had a grand time, even more so with my old Buddie from Delaware. It was his third reunion in 50 years (the ones I missed). We visited much of the four days together talking old times, good and bad. Tom Corish is now a new member of the Cleveland Chapter.

The women of Cleveland are to be commended for the handmade crafts and selling of them during the reunion.

Our Sept. 15th meeting was attended by twenty-three men members and their wives. The F.O.P. hall rocks with merrymaking. There is talk about a bus trip to Indianapolis for the '97 reunion.

Our Christmas party will be held Dec. 14th at Ruggles' Inn on Harvard Ave. We expect a good turnout for it. We hope you ALL have a safe, healthy and Merry Christmas.

From A to Z
Kid Williams
Cleveland Chapter, Reporter

Philadelphia Chapter

Several members, and their wives, decided to drive down to Leisure Town, New Jersey, to see the Veterans Memorial that Al Belvedere took an active part in raising the money to have erected. This is a memorial to all veterans and is located in front of the Community Hall. Another member, Jim Fish, along with his wife, Ceil, also live in Leisure Town, an adult community. Al Belvedere and Jim Fish, with their wives, met the other members at the Coastline Restaurant for a pleasant lunch. They then guided us down to Leisure Town and showed the community to everyone. We then went to Al Belvedere's home for a social hour, and we took pictures in front of the Veterans Memorial.

In other news, I have to report that Marie Stevenson and Betty Russo both had bypass surgery. At the last report, both are recovering nicely. They asked me to thank members who sent cards wishing for their recovery. Another member, Anthony Harbon, Jr., who served in AntiTank 329 passed away. Members attending his funeral were Low Volpi, Harry Kirby, Manny Lima, Frank Meyers, Joseph Matzak, John Daum, and Norman Schuster. Norm Schuster is a long time friend who worked with Tony Harbon before the year. At the funeral, he spoke of their many happy memories.

John G. Daum, Jr.



MEN AT LEISURE TOWN Al Belvedere, Frank Loeb, Alan Tatham, Al Silverlo, Michael Russo, John Daum, George Pletcher, Lou Volpi, Harry Stevenson, Manny Lima, Jim Fish, Harry Kirby.



ENJOYING LUNCH: Al & Anna Belvedere, Al & Mary Silverlo, Frank Loeb, Alan Tatham, Michael Russo.



LADIES AT THE MEMORIAL: Dotty Helne, Marie Stevenson, Mary Silverlo, Jean Pletcher, Margaret Daum, Lucy Volpi, Anna Belvedere, Ceil Fish.

New England Chapter.....

First of all I would like to thank John and Ester Ferriera for our July 20th cookout at their home in Chelmsford, Ma. and it could not have been done without barbecue cooks John and Ester's sons Larry, John, son-in-law Ray and friend Don and daughter Jacklin and their gang.

Thanks gang and we all love you for that.

Now for the reunion it was another great time and hope we all can keep it up.

Our New England Chapter was well represented with Chuck & Bernice Abdinoor of Dracut, Ma., Frank & Reta Burges of Dracut, Ma., August "Mousie" Hazle Farias of New Bedford, Ma., John & Ester Ferriero of Chelmsford, Ma., Nick & Mary Francullo of Lynn Ma., Dutchy & Helen Smith of Lynn, Ma., John & Stacy Marysz of Westminster, Bill "Spike" & Gloria McCarting of Lowell, Ma., Jim & Dot Brennan of Warwick, RI, Joe & Helen, Patrucci of No. Prov., RI, Al & Ann Tartaglia of Johnston, R.I., Mike & Marie Champey of Middletown, Ct., Vitie Atkocius of Forestville, Ma. Grace Brick of Minersville, Pa., Nick Boyd of Hazel PK, Mich, Mike & Nina Petitti of Spring Hill, Fla, Paul & Dolores Reed of Balt. Md.

We missed the Davis and hope Betty is getting better. The McKee's, the Walsh's, the Collins's, Budd Balfe, the Muder's, the Simons, the Etzel, Ray & Helen Rudd, Fred & Nellie, Messina, Wilfred Burdin and the Burkhard's and I hope everything is O.K. and hope to hear from you all.

After the reunion John & Ester Ferriera took off for Calif. and hope they had a good trip.

The Brennans & Francullo's took off for Lancaster, Pa. for a few days and then Jim & Dot took off for Md. to see his boy hood buddy and Mary & I took off for Ct. to say Hello to our daughter and then back home great trip.

Received a phone call from Dutchy Smith and Donald Rickert that Ken Seiger of H.Co. 329th had passed away.

We would like to welcome to our Chapter Francis and Pat Hovey from Lowell Ma. and a Co. L. 329th man. "Thanks John Ferriera for getting him to join.

Received some info. from Chuck Abdinoor to put in the N.E. Chapter news.

The Abdinoor's will be heading to Naples Fla. this winter and June & Joe Zens and also Manny Epstein, incidentally their granddaughter Joelle is in the Coast Guard and is traveling or cruising in the Caribbean.

Chuck said that Jim & Dot Brennan were flashing in there window at passer buys in the parking lot at the reunion Ha Ha Ha!!

It was good to see that Kent (Abe) O'Connell was finally recognized for his tireless work as Div. Historian. He

certainly deserved it.

The New England Chapter Appreciates his fine dedication and I am sure all the other Chapters & men do also.

O.L. Cook (Cookie) was on the dance floor all the time, you can't keep a good man down.

Let's all Push for Manny Epstein to be the next man on the Executive Board in Indiana, he certainly deserves it, one of the longest members of the Association, Go for it Manny!!

It certainly was a pleasure to see Stacy and John Mar-yez in Cleveland, you can't put a good man down. John had major surgery, and looks 100% better. Did you know John is a double for Andy Rooney of 60 min. notice him next time.

Ingrid and Karl Burkhard missed the 50th. There first priority was a cruise to Alaska Lucky People.

Paul & Dolores Reed from Baltimore, Md. were there with members of A. Co. 330th, They had a good turnout, Frank & Rita Burgess, Walter Pillian our Sgt. York with Pearl, Shorty Glasser with his wife and Chuck & Bernice Abdinoor and three other members showed up the last night.

Gloria & Spike McCortin recently purchased a new car, also missed Fr. Frank McCortin in Cleveland. He is Spike Brother and usually makes our reunion and says mass for us.

As usual Dutchy & Helen Smith were at the reunion and were down for breakfast every day.

You know that Helen was there to check the quality of the food and to make sure Dutchy tipped the waitress a big 20% of there check, poor Dutchy he has to make the big decesions.

It was good to see Nick Boyd of Hazel Pk M and also Vitie Atkocius of Balt. Md. Yes Vitie the big boss did not get me HaHa.

We of the New England Chapter would like to give Ralph Gunderson of the Fla Chapter a big congrafulation for being elected to the Executive Board and he will do a great job. Good Luck Ralph.

Also missed seeing Tony Nugent of Kansas City Mo. and Ben & Martha Cunningham of Madison Tenn.

Martha had eye surgery and it is time consuming and hope to see you all next year.

Ben would like more 3rd Bn 330th men to make next years reunion so lets go men.

Received a note from Anson Willard of "H" Co. 331st that he is not able to make a reunion as wife Rose is on oxygen, but she still is abe to get around. Take care of her Anson.

Also a not from Harry Davine of Pittsfield, Ma. of Co. I, 329th that his wife Elaine passed away this past June.

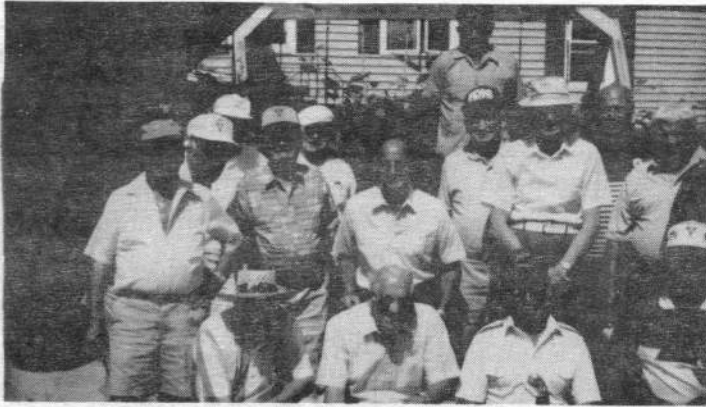
We of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to the Davine Family.

Your Buddy Always,

Nick Franculla, Hq. Co. 3rd Bn 330th

Oh Yes, Your Chapter Dues are now due \$5.00 to Nick Fraaaaaancullo, 10 Bessom St, Lynn Ma. 01902. and also your Association dues are now \$15 for 1997 so lets keep this great Association going strong

Thanks



At Cook Out - N. Eng. Chapter.



Ferriera's Cook Out



Nick & Mary's 50th Anniversary



L. to Rt.: F. Burgess, Glasser, P. Reed and Chuck



Mike & Marie Champey



McCartin's & Smiths

Holland

We were somewhere near Mastrick, Holland, with a day to kill since we were in reserve. Several of us went to explore a Dutch water mill. Most of the machinery was made of wood and leather belts to turn the grindstones. The stream supplying the mill pond had neatly mortared stone wall banks and was only about eight feet wide. One G.I. decided to wade across and found it was eight feet deep. The current slammed him in to a grating in front of the spillway for the undershot mill wheel. We got him out, poured schnapps in and put him in front of a fire in a nearby farmhouse to dry.

Then, we decided to go fishing in the mill pond. We lacked fishing gear, so we used British concussion hand grenades dropped from a small boat. The current carried the grenades well away before exploding in a mound of dirty, white water. We then scooped up dozens of stunned fish, eels, a snake and a small crayfish. A local Dutch boy pointed out the edible ones. One of our city bred G.I.s in the boat thought the eels were snakes and when one revived, he panicked. He tipped over the boat and we had two more to be dried and schnapped. The farmer's wife cooked the fish and we supplied coffee and chocolate. They spoke no English; we spoke no Dutch.

We then left to help win the war.

Hal O'Neill, 83rd Signal

136 Rider Ave. Patehogue, Ny 11772

Warren Ohio Chapter.....

Over but not forgotten, another great reunion has come and gone, a very special one, our 50th, who would have ever thought 50 years ago that it would come to be.

Our special thanks and appreciation go out to Casey Szubski, Earl Lindsey, Mike Mizerock and all of the rest of the fine Cleveland Chapter Members and their Wives for all of their fine efforts. More accolades to the Cleveland Chapter for the great Chapter CP they offered and I know it was great because I spent quite a bit of time there. The Warren Chapter was well represented again at our reunion this year but then why shouldn't it be, we only live 50 miles down the "Pike" to get there. (Special note to Stan Bielen) All of the members of the Warren Chapter with one exception were able to attend. Led by our chapter President Chuck Tomazin and followed by the rest of the troops namely: Chuck Jordon, Babe Gautschi, John Caparanis and Mike Skovran. We must not forget to thank our lovely wives for coming with us, I do believe they enjoyed it. The wives of our deceased members were also there in full force which included Birdie Titus, Angie Philapone, Mildred Kelly and Marge Voracek. I guess once an Eighty-third always an Eighty-third. Thanks ladies for coming and honoring us with your presence. Only one Warren Chapter member, John Shamrock was unable to attend but I am sure he was there with us in spirit.

Joe Macaluso must be mentioned here and thanked for another great job organizing and presenting a great and solemn memorial service. Joe has done this for so many years that we might be inclined to take it for granted. Those tears that flowed at this service were real Joe, it must be a sign of a job well done. So again Joe thanks to you and your daughter Monica for her fine selection of marching band music. (No Marine hymn this year) Of course Jim Burton's singing is always appreciated.

The Warren Chapter is now entering the fall and winter season with the greatest of spirit and togetherness. It seems as the years go by the togetherness gets greater, however with the loss of so many of our Chapter members it has become somewhat subdued and sad, but we must go on and we will go on. The first event of the fall season was our annual steak fry held in conjunction with the forty third (43) anniversary of the chartering of our Chapter by the National association. This event was held on October 6, 1996 in the gazebo (garage) at the home of Liz and Mike Skovran. Once again we had full participation of all of our members. As you all probably know the Warren Chapter has the distinction of being the first chartered Chapter of the Eighty Third Division Association. We are quite proud of this distinction and we can thank Joe Minotti and George Cooley for their perseverance many years ago in getting us organized and started as a chartered Chapter. Of the twenty three names listed on this charter only two members namely Charlie Tomazin and Mike Skovran remain active in our Chapter.



L. to R.: M. Jordin, Liz Skovlah, Birdie Titus, Pat Shainrock, Dolly Hacobka, Ann Towazin, Helen Caparanis, Trosa Gautshi, Angie Pholapohc.



Home of Liz & Mike Skovran, L to R: John Shamon, Chuck Jordon Babe Gautschi, Mike Skovran, John Caparanis, Charlie Tomaza

Our annual Steak Fry was a great success and the steaks were really great and delicious thanks to the expertise at the grill of Charlie Tomazin and Babe Gautschi. No complaints from anyone as they grilled the steaks to the taste of every individual member. The Ladies of the Warren Auxiliary under the direction of their President Helen Caparanis did their usual fine and excellent job of providing the many delicious and ample condiments. Thanks Ladies. Everything went off without a glitch but one and that was that Mike Skovran forgot to put the Italian bread and butter on the table. He heard about it (didn't he Dolly Halubka). Chuck and Madeline Jordon were honored and presented a gift from the Chapter on the occasion of their fiftieth (50th) wedding anniversary. Chuck just returned home from his annual trail riding trip with his horse Chip. Chip the horse didn't look tired but Chuck did. John and Helen Caparanis are awaiting their tenth (10th) before making their annual hiatus to Florida for the winter months. Charlie and Ann Tomazin returned recently from Georgia when they visited their son Chuckie and family. Chuckie (young chuck) recently moved their upon his promotion and are now living in their new home. Angie Phillapone will be going to Florida after the first of the year for her annual hiatus.

Our event will be our November and final meeting of the year. This will be held at the home of Babe and Thresa Gautschi on November 17, 1996. We will close out the year with our annual Chapter Christmas Party which will be held at the Fiore Restaurant here in Warren on December 15, 1996 beginning with a cocktail hour at 5:00 p.m. to be followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. A full menu will be offered and any 83rder in the area is invited to attend. Our address and Telephone number are in the 83rd roster.

The Warren Chapter extends our sincerest congratulations and best wishes to our new slate of National Officers who will be hosting our 1997, 51st reunion in Indianapolis. From all early indications gleaned so far they are off to good start.

With the Holiday Season approaching the men and women of the Warren Chapter family wish to take this opportunity to extend to their buddies and families of the 83rd throughout the country, the best of season's greetings, health, happiness for the New Year.

Mike Skovran
Warren, Ohio Chapter

New Jersey Chapter.....

Here it is October 6th and time for me to get out the Chapter article. It seems like just a few weeks ago we were together celebrating our 50th 'Reunion, enjoying the companionship with all our dear friends and sharing another good reunion.

Our thanks to Casey and Earl and all who participated in the planning and running the reunion.

Attending from the chapter were Vitie Atkocius, Stan Bielen, Joe DePeri, Manny Epstein, Pat DiGiammerino, George Foster, Ted Guzek, Emanuel Lamb, Sam Manzi, Fred Policastro, Frank Sabine, Adolph Seneca, Mike Skovran, Andy Socha, Don Theibolt, George Waple, Emil Wehling. We missed those of you that couldn't be with us and hope we can see you in Indianapolis next year.

Cookie Senica had his daughter and son Jim with his wife Darlene accompany him to the reunion. They are a fun group and we really enjoyed the time we spent with them.

Cookie gave me this information to put in this article. Cookie is from Oglesby, Illinois.

The Veterans Associations and Civic Organizations of the City of Oglesby, a city of 3700 people will dedicate a Memorial Monument to all veterans of World War II on Sunday September 9th. Eight Hundred Eleven names will be inscribed on this monument.

Cookie's name is on the monument and he is proud that a city of that size could do that many others have failed to honor the veterans of WWII.



It was great to see the following men from 1st Bn. Hdqs, 331. Wilson Day with Viola, Jim Davis with Mary, Mike Skovran with Liz and one of our medics Norman Earls at the reunion. They all looked great.

I and George Waple were able to get in a round of golf at the tournament held at the reunion. It was a lot of fun and the excitement shown by John Caparanis being able to play in a foursome with Sylvester Smith a buddy he hasn't seen since they served as platoon leaders in Company B, 331st was wonderful for both. I met Sylvester later thru Andy Socha and found him to be a very interesting and likable person.

Those of you that left the banquet early missed seeing a new dance created by our Jersey Chapter member Tony Hroncich. Tony did a wild polka with his wife as his partner sitting in a wheelchair. Tony has named it the Wheelchair Polka.

We, Fran and I were able to see the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame by joining Joe DePeri and his daughter Joanne, her daughter Casey and boyfriend Joe who did the driving.

Now on to other news, Dot Skurka called to tell us about the Boston Mini-Reunion. She and Joe enjoyed themselves. Emil Wehling and someone from Edison from the chapter attended. Also attending was Fred Policastro.

The big news at the Bielen house is our daughter Joyce and John McNally are proud parents of a daughter. Her name is Emily Frances and she was born September 10th. Fran and I are thrilled as Emily is a first child for a daughter. We have three grandchildren from our son Ken.

Don't forget our Christmas Party. It will be held December 1st at Cryan's Restaurant in Metuchen. This is a great deal as we have a full course dinner with choice of entree and a 4 hour open bar. Any 83rd member is invited and can bring guests. \$20.00 covers all.

While on the subject, all of us from the chapter, wish you all a Joyful Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 1997.

I want to thank George and Vi Waples also Jim and Darlene Senica for the pictures they sent me taken at the reunion. I have included some for the Thunderbolt with this article.

Note; Rags, I haven't had time to respond to the letter you received from Christine, but appreciate the copy you sent to me. I've got to admit, her sign-off to you "Loving you in all ways" and I got a "Bye Bye" when she wrote me, that devastated me. It seems like my only alternative is to commit my reserves. Those of you that are interested in this saga, KEEP TUNED!!

That's it for now, stay well!

Stan Bielen
1st Bn. Hdqs. 331

P.S. Thanks to Ben Johnson from Lebanon, Tenn. for your encouragement.

Pittsburgh Chapter.....

Nineteen members attended the 1996 reunion this past August in Cleveland. In the process of returning home a few had unfortunate experiences. Charles Caven and Paul Diethrich were involved in slight accidents and no injuries. The most serious occurred in Macedonia, Ohio when Joe Danylo's car was hit by a man who ran a red light. No injuries to passengers Jim McCulla, Michael Rudy and Ed Walsh, although the car was inoperable with almost \$5,000 damage. They were transported home by Larry Leonardi who extended his stay at the Holiday Inn and was contacted there by Joe.

The next day Jim McCulla drove there to transport the luggage. Your reporter had an alternator go bad on a vehicle he borrowed for the trip. It required three jump starts (one by Ed Cox of Cleveland) and two by the hotel staff at various times of the two day period. Had to keep the engine running at the two rest stops.

As reported in the last issue Jim McCulla presented his project to be enshrined in the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall Museum in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh.

The following books were also presented to the museum for display purposes: "The Atterbury File" and "The 1987 History of the 83rd Inf. Div. including "The Thunderbolt Across Europe and Record of War Deaths." The 50th Anniversary Book was also presented. The hall is a 10-story building with a 1700 seat auditorium, grand ballroom, military memorabilia and an extensive Civil War library. It's probably the largest veterans memorial in the U.S. The hall went up between 1908 and 1920 as a monument to Civil War veterans, but was re-dedicated in 1963 to the memory of veterans of all wars. It's a must-see for all persons living in the area or elsewhere.

SHORT NOTES: John Consiglio, a member of the original chapter died recently. Mike Fitch was hospitalized in Oakland VA Hospital in June for an infected foot. August 2 was the 49th anniversary of marriage for "Andy" and Marge Churpak. His sister Anna passed away in September. Rocco Catalfamo was hospitalized for pneumonia recently after being soaked with rain at a football game. Deceased members of the chapter were remembered with a brief memorial tribute at the September meeting. National chaplain Frank Hornack and his wife Norma Jean made an appearance at the October meeting. He thanked the members for all their phone calls, cards and get-well wishes while he was in the hospital and recuperation.

"Fran" Beerhalter
4548 Valley View St.
Pittsburgh, PA 15214-1329

Boston Chapter.....

As we close out another year, Boston Chapter has had a successful year. Our attendance at the meetings has been which makes us a strong unit (we have 12 meetings a year).

Pat DiGiammerino had a nice letter from Larry Redmond's Brother which he really appreciated as Larry was very close to the men in the Boston Chapter. He helped to make us "Top".

We are back from the Cleveland Reunion. I met Lou Sandini on the way home in a restaurant in Danville, PA and it was just like another reunion.

Our July Meeting was held at Frank and Rose Youngs home and everyone had a great time. Thanks to Rose and Frank.

On August 10th we had our meeting at Chet and Laurette in Ashland, N.H. Nancy and I could not attend as we had a family event on the same day. However, I was told a good time was had by all. Thanks Chet and Laurette.

Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino had the next meeting on September 14th in Malden, MA. Jim Prentice was down from N.H. Jim did not make the reunion as he was sick but looks good now. The attendance was good. Mike Amicone was back after his operation doing fine. Thanks to Pat and Ginny.

Our October Meeting will be held at Larry and Fran Arrigos in Norwood, MA.

Happy Holidays to All.
Amby Tynan

Robert A. Gaetani, at 65; was lifelong Malden resident, U.S. Army veteran of W.W. II

Robert A. Gaetani, a lifelong resident of Malden and retired shipyard supervisor, died Tuesday at the Malden Hospital after a lengthy illness. He was 65 years old.

Mr. Gaetani was born in Malden and remained a lifelong resident. He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran and worked as a supervisor in the Material Department of the Boston Naval Shipyard for over 30 years before retiring at 55 years of age. Mr. Gaetani was a member and Treasurer for the Italian American Citizen Club in Malden, a member of American Legion Post 69 and a member of the V.F.W. in Melrose.

Mr. Gaetani was the husband of Dawn L. (Anderson) Gaetani of Malden and the son of the late Angelo and Lena (Moscone) Gaetani. He was the father of James R. Brown of Haverhill, Melissa A. Casucci of Florida and Lori C. Anderson of Stoneham. Mr. Gaetani was the brother of Virginia DiGiammerino and Louise Iafallo, both of Malden, Arthur Gaetani of Calif., Ronald Gaetani of Tewksbury, Richard Gaetani of Medford and the late Francis Gaetani and Henry Gaetani. He was also the grandfather of Michael James Brown.

A funeral Mass for Mr. Gaetani will be said in St. Peter's Church, Malden on Friday at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in Puritan Lawn Cemetery, Peabody.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the A.J. Spada-

fora Funeral Home, 865 Main St., Malden.

Donations in Mr. Gaetani's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 654 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., 02215.



Some of the "BIG" Boys at Young's house



Boston Chapter "C.P."



Philly Chapter Showing off their Bocce Medallions



Mr. & Mrs. Leo Beland from Rhode Island at their first mini-reunion at Friar Tuck Inn in N.Y.

A Report On The Visit To Ray Bjork

On June 18, 1996, a group of the Boston Chapter met at the home of Pat DiGiammerino to arrange for a hospital visit to Ray Bjork who has been ill for a long time; having been subjected to a stroke.

Pat's wife, Ginny, served a light collation about twelve thirty which was enjoyed and relished by all. Charlie Lussier kept amusing every one with his jokes while the women were working around and the men were preparing to go to visit Ray Bjork "Bedcheck" as he has been nicknamed for a long time. In a moment of silence in honor of Larry Redmond, a poem in his honor was circulated and read by all the gathering.

It was soon decided that only men would go see Bedcheck in order to keep the crowd down. The women would remain home to play cards. So five of the men set out for the Tewkesbury State Hospital. Namely: Tony Piantadosi, Charley Lussier, Pat DiGiammerino, Larry Arrigo and Louis R. Sandini. They took off at approximately 2:15.

On the way Pat and Lou got into a philosophical discussion about the direction the National Organization seems to be taking. Thus provoking amusing remarks from the rest of the experts. After taking directions from Charlie Lussier and he, being corrected by Tony Piantadosi, I don't think either was ever there before, they almost got lost; but they finally got there.

It seems that the hospital likes to have visitors come to see the patients; they were really treated well there. First, they were given badges, then escorted to Bedcheck's room where two orderlies (or male nurses) got Ray out of bed and put him in a wheelchair for them and wheeled him down to the rec room and left him with them.

Ray Bjork was really depressed about his condition. However, he talked coherently and he recognized them immediately. He especially missed Mike Caprio and wished he was there with them. While they were talking, a nurse came in with a Polaroid camera and took two pictures for them. They were given to Louis R. Sandini who promised to make copies for everyone and one enlargement for Bedcheck.

About this time Charlie Lussier got into one of his stories about when he was inducted. He swears that it is a true story. He was walking along one of the streets at Fort Devens one evening, ill-dressed in his uniform as all the inductees were, when he met a major. Charlie walked by without saluting. The major called him back and said "Can't you see what I'm wearing? Meaning the major's insignia. Charlie responded, "What are you complaining about----look at what I'm wearing.

Ray's son soon showed up with Ray's dog and you

could see his face brighten up considerably and the visitor's were somewhat relieved, they hated to see him so down in the dumps. They now were able to carry on a more pleasant conversation with Bedcheck until it was time to leave at about 4:30 P.M. They left promising to come back. They also, thought Pat DiGiammerino, promised the nurse to bring her some chocolates the next time any one of them visited, most likely Pat, who had been there several times before. She had been so nice taking their pictures etc.

"They returned to Pat DiGiammerino's house where the women were still playing cards. They broke the game up and took the girls out to dinner at a very fine place in Malden called Palmer's Pantry.

After dinner the meeting broke up every one feeling great for having gone to see their buddy and try to make him feel better.



Riding the "Choo Choo" at Carson City, N.Y.



M/SGT. Kennet Rogers uniform - Sgt. of the Guard at Nuremburg Trial



COMPANIES

Co. "G" - 329 Infantry

We all had a great time at Cleveland. Attending were: Virginia and Francis Markuns from South Boston. During the past year they became grandparents for the ninth time. A GIRL; CONGRATULATIONS! From Cleveland they were going to Niagara Falls.

Virginia and Vito Palazzolo from Michigan. Virginia fell and hurt her back. She was standing on the couch dusting. THAT'S A NO-NO. She had surgery. She still worked registry. Vito is going to Italy in August.

Lois and Bob Brinkman from Ohio met Helen and Ames Miller from Indiana. They went to visit John Fay from Illinois. He is doing fine. Misses Doris. If anyone goes near Cerro Gordo, Illinois give John a call 217-763-8961 and visit him.

Bernice and John Cupino from Binghamton New York. John had a bad year. Fell on the ice two times. OH! OH! Once slipped on the grass. Had two operations on his knees. He also lost a brother and sister and his house was robbed. Bernice's dogs had 17 puppies. Two litters (collies). She has collies for sale. 607-798-7657.

Jim Griffin from Florida has three grandchildren. Misses his wife. His two daughters keep him busy.

Grace and John Askey from Pennsylvania. John had cataract surgery. Traveled to North Carolina, East Coast, to Camp Breton and Prince Edward Island. They brought Bob Cowder from Company 329 Pennsylvania along.

Etha and Leonard Reynolds from Virginia. Leonard is doing fine. Etha kept us listening to her stories.

Lena and Tony Hroncich from New Jersey. Tony did his usual Polka dancing. He sure is better than Fred Astaire. Ruth Morgan was his Ginger Rogers.

Ruth and Chet Morgan from Ithaca New York stayed in Florida for two months. They stopped in Daytona Beach to visit Babe and Bounce Freitag but they were out. They have a new grandson making it nine.

Jane and Richard Baran from Ohio came to meet 329 Company G at the reunion. Richard is the brother of Philip Peter Baran who was killed in action on July 15, 1944.

Joe Hudock from Ohio. Best barber in the 2nd Battalion. He cut many of the Company G GI's. Even "Colonel Bowen" had his hair cut. He is 88 years old. First reunion he came to all the Company G gathered around talking how he cut their hair in the Hedge Rows in Normandy.

Babe and Bounce Freitag celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in February. They have a new granddaughter, making 10 grandchildren. They were in Florida with the rest of the snowbirds.

MISSED BY ALL:

Jim and Shirley Randsdel from Illinois had to cancel due to sickness. All are praying for you.

Luella and Sterling Rubright from Pennsylvania. Sterling is

having back problems. Come on Sterling we need that Boomp Band.

Helen and Ames Miller from Indiana.

John Fey from Indianapolis.

Sally and Ralph Statt from New Jersey.

Babe Freitag

102 Philip Ave., Elmwood Park, N.J. 07407

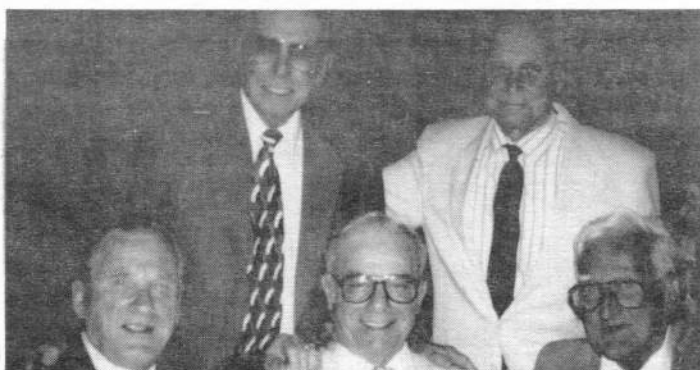
Co. "M" 329th

Here's three pictures of "M" Co. 329th. With much begging Ray Kotarski's doctor put off cancer treatment for a week to let him come to our 50th Reunion.

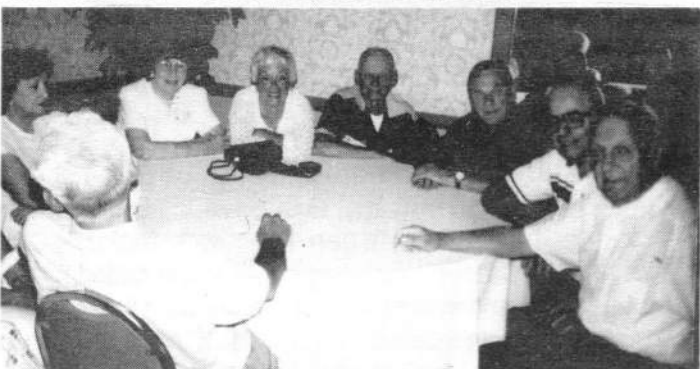
Best Wishes & Good Health to you and Pearl Roy Wilson, "M" Co. 329th



Mr. & Mrs. Ray Katariski, son & grandson ("M" Co. 329th)



Robert Bouressa, Anthony Leone, Ray Katariski, Roy Wilson, Arthur Adrian - Maj. Ret.



Ray Katariski, Alta Wilson, Levarne Bouressa, Marge Adrian, Arthur Adrian - Maj. Ret., Robert Bouressa - P.O.W., Anthony Leone, James Lindsey

1997 Pre-Registration Form

83rd Infantry Division Association Reunion

August. 20, 21, 22, 23, 1997 at Adams Mark Hotel

Please Type or Print

Full Name _____

Nick Name for Badge _____

Unit _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip +4 _____

Phone () _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Nick Name for Badge _____

SPECIAL EVENTS

Amount

Registration Fee Per Person	25.00	_____
(For Entertainment, Hospitality & General Expenses)		
Membership Dues 1997 - 98	15.00	_____
Widows Dues 1997 - 98	5.00	_____
Camp Atterbury Bus Tour (Thursday - 15.00 per person)	15.00	_____
City Bus Tour (Friday - 10.00 per person)	10.00	_____

Thursday, August 21, 1997 Complimentary Bus Tour Brown
County - Nashville, Indiana. Arts & Crafts - First forty-six people
to sign up. Check # of people in block who are going.

Total _____

If you need to cancel. You will receive a full refund.

PLEASE SEND: Check or Money Order Payable to 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc.

Mail to:

National Office
3749 Stahlheber Road.
Hamilton, OH. 45013-8907
Attn: Bob Derickson

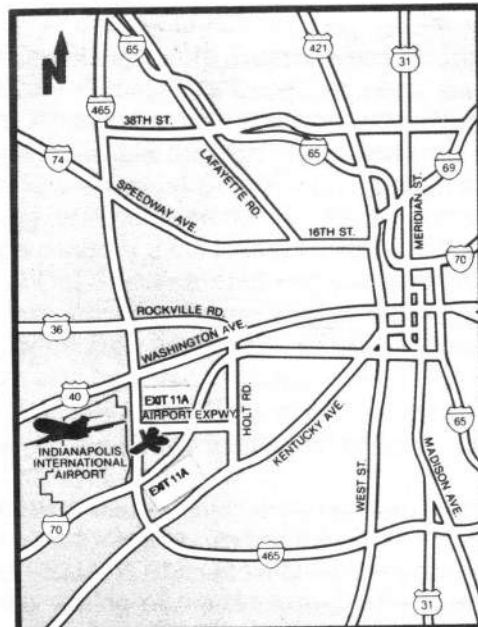
I have a reservation at
the Adam's Mark on _____.

Check in time 4 p.m.
Check out time 12 noon.

Adam's Mark Indianapolis
2544 Executive Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46241
317-248-2481
317-248-1670 (FAX)
1-800-444-ADAM (for any Adam's Mark).

A confirmation of your reservation
will be mailed to you.

When you stay at the
Adam's Mark Hotel,
you're at an unbeatable
location. You're just
minutes from the airport
(with complimentary 24-
hr. shuttle service) and
minutes from down-
town. Easy access to
interstate highways
makes the Adam's Mark
a convenient destina-
tion from any part of the
city, the state or the
country.



Adam's Mark Hotel Indianapolis,
Attn: Reservations,
2544 Executive Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46241

The Adam's Mark Indianapolis is pleased to host

83rd Infantry Division

August 19-24, 1997

To ensure accurate reservations, please complete this reservation request and return it before 7/14/97. Requests received after this date will be accepted based on room and rate availability. Reservation requests must be accompanied by a deposit equal to one night's room rate plus 10% occupancy tax. This deposit will be applied to the last night of the reservation.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED WITH CREDIT CARD OR \$100 DEPOSIT

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☐ 1 Bedroom Suite
☐ Hospitality Suite

<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Nts.	1 Person	\$353.39
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 Nts.	2 People	\$398.78
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Nts.	1 Person	\$276.39
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 Nts.	2 People	\$321.78
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Nts.	1 Person	\$199.39
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Nts.	2 People	\$244.78

Special Requests (subject to availability)

- ☐ Roll-Away Bed (\$10 per night) ☐ Crib (no charge)
☐ Wheelchair Accessible Room
☐ Nonsmoking Room
☐ King Bed ☐ Two Double Beds

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Arrival Time: _____

Departure Date: _____

Additional Guest(s): _____

☐ I have enclosed a check in the amount of one night's room rate plus 10% occupancy tax.

☐ Please charge one night's room rate plus 10% occupancy tax to the following credit card:

☐ MasterCard, ☐ Visa, ☐ American Express, ☐ Carte Blanche/Diners Club, ☐ Discover, ☐ JCB

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date _____

I understand that I am liable for one night's room rate plus 10% occupancy tax which will be covered by my deposit in the event that I do not arrive, cancel by noon on the date of arrival, or depart earlier than scheduled.

Name of Credit Card Holder _____ Signature of Card Holder _____

- Check-in time after 4:00 p.m. Check-out time is 12:00 noon. Occupancy tax is subject to change.
- Cancellation or modification of reservation must be made at least 48 hours prior to arrival to avoid forfeiture of deposit. Ask for and retain cancellation number until you receive refund of deposit or credit to credit card.
- No charge for children under 18 when sharing room with parents and using existing bed space.
- All hotel accounts are subject to credit arrangements at time of registration and payable at departure.

Please call 317-248-2481 for reservation assistance.
We look forward to being of service!

453rd. AAA. (AW) BN.



Pictured from Left to right: Fred Pearson; Dave Bell, John Dickens, Jim Dalton, Mike Manzo, Lou Martin, Wilber Cornelius, John Loch, Mike Morick, and Frank Lawrence.

Well our Summer Get Together and our Annual Reunion is a thing of the past. We had couples from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio attend our North East Ohio get together. Two newcomers were in attendance this time. Picture of the men attending our late summer event enclosed. Twenty two persons were in attendance.

Our next Mini-Reunion will be held on Saturday, October, 19th at the Unionville Tavern in Unionville Ohio. That is about 50 miles east of Cleveland. We expect an even greater turnout this time. Many of our members are finding it harder to get to our Annual Reunion, so small mini localized reunions are more convenient for them.

Our Annual Reunion, (our fiftieth) was held in Lewisburgh West Virginia on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of September. We had representatives from Washington State, Oregon, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, Oklahoma, Illinois, and Indiana.

We missed the Starkeys this year as Wilma was quite sick, we hope she gets well soon so that she will again be able to get back into the fold and "Fraternize" again. Do we know what Fraternization is? We wouldn't have done that, would we?

Our numbers are declining, many of our old comrades have left us in the past few years. It behooves us all to try and keep our records up to date. I am getting notices of Deaths that occurred two to three years ago.

The 453RD. AAA. (AW) BN. 1997 Reunion will be held in Columbus, Ohio. the weekend of September, 12th, 13th, and 14th. This event will be hosted by Ruth King, widow of Roe King that passed away this past Spring.

Our Official photographer this year came from Pittsburgh. He and his noble assistant (his wife) did a bang up job in Pittsburgh last year, so they were invited to Lewisburgh this year. They made a great Video in 1955, and made another this time.

Our Hosts in Lewisburgh were Ernestine and Bill Buzard and their family. Ernestine's Daughters spent many hours, and many miles to promote Reunion 1996. Many door prizes were available through their tremendous work. The girls also arranged Scenic tours through the Area, all courtesy of local merchants. Rocky Hamed made the arrangements for a trip through BRIER INN, formerly Secret Fall Out Shelter for our Legislative Branch of our Government, until the Secret was unfolded by a Newspaper Reporter a few years ago. Elizabeth Kirschner made Aprons and hand crafted items. Hand crafted items were also made by Luther Kirby and Ernestine Buzards daughters. I hope I haven't forgotten anyone. Our Wives made out royally.

Our guest speaker was excellent Ken Hechler, secretary of State of West Virginia, and author of the book "The BRIDGE at REMAGEN", He told of his experiences that led up to the writing of the book and subsequent Movie.

I did give him a copy of an old Spearhead dated March 25 1945 Telling of a Patrol from Company B. 330 Inf. crossing the Rhine. This must have been about the same time as the Crossing at Remagen.

I attended the 83rd Div. Reunion in Cleveland to meet Rags Rangow and Pat DiGiammerino. Needless to say they were found very easily. Pat has been very helpful to me in collecting Books and Data about the 83rd. They introduced me to several members of the 83rd. that I did not know before 1996.

I met Dan Pelose who had been trying to find a long lost Buddy from the 83rd. That evening I plugged the name of Victor Abraham into my Computer Program and found the person's Widow. He had been dead for five years. The widow was overjoyed to hear about her husband and Dan and she had quite a get together via the Telephone.

At the present time I am trying to locate a few others from the 83rd.

I have had a good response from Members of the 83rd. in trying to get copies of old Spearhead and Thunderbolts from the War years. Between 453RD. Members and 83rd. members I now only need Volume 2 Issue 3 dated Feb. 10th, 1945, Issue 7, dated March, 17th, 1945 and issues number 10, dated April 21st, 1945. I have Volume 1 Issues 1 through 5 of the Thunderbolt, last date of May 26th, if there are any issues published between May 26th. and the end of July 1945. I am looking for them also. All originals will be returned to sender after I get Masters made up. I have had several requests for copies from many 83rders, around the Country. After having made masters, copy costs are running at Five dollars for the issues I have, plus postage, of about Three dollars.

Fred C. Pearson 453rd, Roster Coordinator
5704 Middle Ridge Rd.
Madison, Oh. 44057-2838

Co. "D" - 331st Infantry

It's that time of year again to get something in to Bob so he can fill the Thunderbolt. Since the last report the Reunion has come and gone. Had a disappointing turn out of the Company as we had only 14 guys, which is a pretty bad showing for us. The Akams, Celluras, Clement, Dallos', Gravelyns, Gundersons, Hamiltons, Lynchs, McDermotts, Mueller, Pflieger, Richter, Sabines, Sharps and Marcella Nolte were in attendance. No one knew why the Adkins weren't there. Hope they are O.K. Frank Cancasci as usual passed us up. We heard Andy Chupak is having health problems. Ewell Cotney called me to say he couldn't make it. As most of you know, Bernie Cove has had health problems of late so wasn't there, they are in So. Falsburg N.Y., intending to sell their home so Florida will be their sole residence. No one had heard from Whit East, hope all is well with he and Doris. Harry Fetzer had such a great time at his first Reunion in Myrtle Beach, he was hoping for the 50th. We missed him and his son-in-laws. Bynum Hancock and the Harmon's were no-shows. Art Haught said it was too far considering his health. George Komlos sent word it was not a good month for him. Bill McKee is unable to attend in August. Frank Meyers didn't show as Stan Rummel wasn't well and couldn't bring him. John Miklos had made reservations but due to his operation was unable to come. The George Odenweller's were all set to be there, when Polly slipped and fell putting her out of commission for a while. Norm Schuster was advised by the Dr. not to make the trip as he had just returned home from the hospital. Al Shrawder took the easy way out, had a 6-bypass on Monday before the Reunion. He came out beautifully, and with all new "Ones" is good for another 75 years!!

Hank Trezeciak was one of the movers & shakers of the Cleveland Chapter at the Reunion - then became ill and had to miss it.

The consensus among the guys is that August is a bad month to hold a Reunion. September has many more pluses. - cooler weather, less crowded, less expensive, impossible for some members to get away from business due to peak season; None have school children any longer that makes August a must. SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF PREFERENCE.

Shrawder, Gravelyns, McDermotts, Muellers, McKees are going to join Geri and I in Las Vegas the latter part of October for some R & R. expect to enjoy a mini reunion!!

Hope to see the Celluras, Sharps, Miklos and maybe Coves and Haughts at the November Florida Chapter Meeting. Just heard we lost Lt. Jim Burt, 331st, who was a Florida Chapter Member. Our sympathy to Martha.

Since this Will be the only Thunderbolt for the rest of the year, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a most Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,
Ralph B. Gunderson

Co. "K" - 3 Bn. - 330th

Those that were at the 83rd National meeting in Independence, Ohio August 13 to 18.

Homer & Ruth Evelyn Rickenbaugh
Paul & Doris Lear
Chester & Helen Wilson
Lester & Loraine Volkmer
George Palmero
James Kincade & wife
Sam Manzi & wife
Paul Schweikut & wife
Paul Hogrefe

My wife & I enjoyed visiting with everyone there and we also enjoyed seeing our friends from the Kentucky Chapter. I hope we can have more at Indianapolis next year.

Homer Rickenbaugh
"K" Co. 3rd Bn, 330th
& 3rd Bn. Hq. Co.

Co. "L" 329th Inf.



The standard on the table compliments of Al Burkevage, seated L to R: Robert Keck, Al Burkevage & Laddie Lawrence

This is my first time writing, hope you all had a good time in Cleveland. We surely did. L Co. 329th had a fine turn out. Had 8 members present. They are as follow's: Sam Stepanovich (who we welcomed back from the deceased, mix up huh) Albert Burkevage, Henry Smith, Laddie Lawrence, John Dougherty, Robert Keck, Richard Green, & BJ Prinzi, who is the division Historian.

Your Pal Always
Laddie Lawrence

Co. "G" - 331st Infantry

What a wonderful reunion in Cleveland. The Macaluso family had a very enjoyable time, thanks to Casey, Mike, Earl and all of the men and women of the Cleveland Chapter. There was a lot of planning and hard work that went into the reunion to make it a success.

G Company had a good turnout, Mike Mizerock, who did an excellent job on the boat trip, Kenny Baird made his appearance, Edward Walsh came in from Pittsburgh, and yours truly. We were fortunate in having two new members show up for their first reunion. Phillip Graf came in from California, he was a member of Company Headquarters and worked under Phillip Wigenhauer. Edward Foy came in from Texas with his wife, Emily. Ed was a member of the 2nd Platoon. Ed Foy and Phillip Graf joined G Company about the same time in Normandy.

It was great to see these two members of G Company after 50 years. Like the rest of us, their hair has turned to white. Also in attendance were Birdie Titus and Angie Phillipone. Both of their husbands were original members of G Company.

Our list is getting small, however, we still have some 30 members in the Association.

Next year we can look forward to a good turnout in Indianapolis. Had a letter from Dale Housley from St. Helena, Oregon, he wanted to attend the reunion, but he was having a family reunion in Oregon about the same time.

After leaving Cleveland on Sunday Morning we drove to Columbus Ohio for the Dedication of the New Army Reserve Center. It will be known as the 83rd Infantry Division Memorial U.S. Army Reserve Center. It is quite a Monument to the 83rd from its activation in World War I, into World War II, and as a member of the Army Reserve Program. After World War II, there was a 83rd Division in the Army Reserve. In the 1960's it became an Army Reserve Command. Some of the units in the Reserve Command served in the Persian Gulf War of the 1990's.

Under the present Defense Plan the Army Reserve Commands were placed on an Inactive status. This new Reserve Center will serve as a Monument and a Memory to all that have served with the 83rd in its long history.

If you ever visit Columbus, Ohio, make an effort to visit the Memorial.

The Executive Board asked if I would represent the Association at the Ceremony in Columbus. I Agreed, and had the honor of delivering a speech on the 83rd's participation during World War II. It was a short version of the speech that I delivered to the Reserve Unit in Parma, Ohio in November 1995.

In addition to the speech, I shared the honor of cutting the Ribbon to Open the New Reserve Center. Assisting me in cutting the ribbon was the Female Soldier of the Year for the 83rd Reserve Command.

Since returning home, Mena and I had the pleasure of celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary. The children arranged the party, and it was quite a celebration. We were able to have all eight children and the sixteen grandchildren together for the celebration.

It was a good dedication to the family that prays together stays together. I want to thank those members of G Company, Kate Pangle, Birdie Titus, Angie Phillipone, Marge Voresch for the floral displays and to Mike and Ann for the beautiful candy dish.

We have had a wonderful life together and were fortunate to have the facilities and the finances to give all of the kids a good education, and it was very rewarding to see them grow up together.

Capt. Mac

329 "B" Bag

The other day I saw the 83rd caravan pulling out of Cleveland, and saw it heading west in the sunset. It took a lot of good memories of a great reunion. Old "B" Co. had a good turnout. The Dickson's, Premro's, Taylors, Hennies, Pirkles, and Yours Truly. Lou Kanen was there but I never got to meet him, also Kitty Thomas, the widow of Ed Thomas was present. We also had 3 members come for the first time. John Hardiman, who was a company runner and his wife Vera were there. I found out he lives about 20 miles from me and never knew it. The last time I saw him was in Zerbst. Herb Jacobs who was a Lt. in the company at Breckinridge and was later transferred out, brought his wife Fran to the reunion. Finally an older fellow accompanied by his son joined us. His name was Abe Robinson from N.J. He is 80 years old. He was a replacement on the beach and went all the way to Germany. All of "B" Co. had a good time and congratulate the Cleveland Charter and their wives for a good time.

I found out that Jesse & Carolyn celebrated 50 years of marriage. Congratulations to you both and many more years of happiness and reunions. Talked to Capt. Hill before this reunion and he still under the weather, but still feisty. He goes to the corner coffee shop every day with his cronies take good care of yourself Capt. Also heard that Lt. Cohen is selling Carpets in St. Joe Missouri. I always knew he was a carpetbagger.

Now for the bad news! Mike Fleischer Passed away recently in Warren Ohio. He had a twin brother, both were in our company. The brother was transferred to another company. Our condolences to his wife and family. At the reunion I heard that John Hirko passed away after Christmas. John came to our Company from an Hungarian Battalion, that was being disbanded. He went most of the way with us. John and his wife attended many reunions. He was quite a good golfer. To Lois and his family our deepest sympathy. While we were sitting down at the reunion, they wanted to know why Hank Reda wasn't there as he lived in Cleveland. I called him up and was told he just got out of the hospital, and didn't want to talk to anyone. His wife said he isn't doing to well. Hank our prayers are with you. You were one of the best in "B" Co. or in the Div.

I haven't heard from J. Spickler, C. Melton F. Ballard Red Geyser, B. Plummer, or Jiggs Janke. Drop a line or give a ring. Let me know how you are doing.

Incidentally I gave the company flag to Jesse Pirkle. He is to pass it on to somebody else in the company.

A short "B" bag story - In the states we had a fellow by the name of Peter Fekas, who was from Charlottesville Va. He went to a military School before he came to "B" Co. He showed us the manual of arms, like the Queen Ann salute. For some reason the company commander did not like him one day after a field problem where we fired blanks, we were told to clean our guns. The Company CO then called us out for inspection. He went directly to Peter Fekas's rifle. He said it was dirty and had him dig a 6 x 6 and bury his rifle and was told it would cost \$87.00 for a new one. Peter was later transferred to the 4th Div. and I later learned he was killed in the hedgerows.

If you see some one without a smile give him yours.

"B" Co. friends forever

Bob Uher

12,700 Lake Ave.

Lakewood Ohio 44107

1-(216)-221-2012

783rd Ordnance Co.

And suddenly here it is Oct. 4 but as you read this your almost ready to sit down for another Thanksgiving Day dinner. How come the passing of the years keep speeding up? Did Einstein have a theory on this? I know his theory on gravity was right because I noticed, on my full length mirror, about half way down, there appears to have developed concave lines of sagging distortion.

To report on the Cleveland reunion I must be frank and honest. When your meeting all your old time friends you can't help but have a good time. The problems were our wives during and after the Saturday night banquet. They were quite outspoken for being held as a captive audience by the long winded and dry speeches from the head table. Perhaps this would be worth addressing at a board of directors meeting.

Attending for the 783rd were "7 card flush," Al and Ruth Bensimon, Easy and Lou Labbe, Bob Hammond and his caretakers Joann and Jack Keller, George Harris and his two devoted butlers, Keith and George Waltz, Charlie Rohrer accompanied by his charming daughter Linda and Hersch and Midge Weaver accompanied by their brand new car. If this sounds like everyone needs a helping hand it's just not so. Ray and Midge Wiggins staggered in all by themselves as did Carl and Alice Frederick, the lone cowhand, Jim Jones plus Ginny and me.

Our special quest is held to last and that is Frank Salontay and his patient dog. Frank came to visit us two days and he was almost like Santa Claus. One day he insisted on carton of golf balls, beautiful caps and Cannon towels, to be split among all our golfers.

What happened next was one of the humorous highlights but the joke was on me. As Frank had to get his dog back to his doghouse he asked me to distribute the goodies to the golfers. "No problem." I found Jim Jones just as he was leaving for his family reunion and loaded him up. Then I took in Wiggins supply, where I met Carl who inquired, "Where the heck did you buy all those caps and colorful, neat towels?" I relayed Frank's generosity to Carl who then asked, "Gee, can I have a cap?" Naturally I said, "Take your pick! "Carl did but then he picked up the bag of towels and was quickly off around the tables showing the goodies to all the GIRLS. Must I complete this story? Someone engaged me in a conversation and during the whole conversation I kept hearing familiar, unnamed voices saying, "Oh Cannon towels." "I can use this on my bowling ball," "That's a pretty blue, let me have that one!" By the time I got loose both bags were empty. Now for the rest of the story. I told Frank exactly how these 783rd women behaved Poor Carl, he didn't stand a chance. Frank felt so bad that I hadn't got a hat he mailed us two, gold plated ones, of the proper key, "For Franks a jolly good fellow." Repeat.

Don't tell anyone but there is no known medical report for this issue. I've only heard from the Pfeifers and the Gilmans and they have no complaints. Lets hope no news is good news.

We were looking for some of you fellows in Cleveland. Some were expecting Snooks and were hoping to see Hackstock, Burns, Byrars, Hendrix and Manning. Drop us a line and let us know what your doing. For sure everyone seems busy. Believe it or not my "Hut Two" keeps me busy til ten at night writing letters and speeches. One interesting writer is a fellow 83rder, Bob Parsons of 2401 McIntyre Ct, Franklin Tn. 37069. from F 331st. His was the very tough task of being a replacement in Belgium. His 83rd book "Remembrances" is an account that will surely recall some of your infantry memories.

Another very interesting fellow is an honorary member of the 83rd who did his fighting in Korea. His name is Jim Swope from Reading, Pa. He is the fellow who wrote that interesting article in last summers Thunderbolt. He found an original 83rd Jeep in a barn and has now restored it to a 1944 vintage. He has also been fundamental in creating the WWII War Museum located in the Reading Airport which holds an annual show in June. Not only was the 83rd Jeep on hand but so were 41 WWII aircraft including the last "Black Widow". which the museum is restoring. If that isn't enough Jim also teach's an elective high school class on American Wars. Four hundred pupils have signed up! He takes them to West Point, Carlisle, Aberdeen and Washington. He has promised me that if I come up to talk to his class he'll bring his Jeep and let me drive it. Lt. Gilman, inasmuch as Less Wolf is smiling already, would you care to join me?

So there now I've told you what I've been up to. How about some of you fellows, that we haven't heard from for awhile, letting us know what's going on in your life. Believe it or not I now have an Internet address for you computer buffs. The address: HUT TWO @ Erols. Com

"Why?" you ask. Well, now we will be able to advertise the 83rd's history on a world wide, bulletin board. Christmas is coming and Hut Two has proven to be a great gift. The Chinese aren't the only smart ones.

So in closing I'll have to tell you a little tale on Art Doggett. Being from Kentucky he has been known to bet on a horse here and there. One of the Doggett's friends from the area has informed me they saw Milly and Art coming out of church with Milly rapping poor Art on the head saying, "How I many times have I told you - it's Hallelujah not Hialeah!"

Happy Thanksgiving,
Rags Rangrow

323rd Report

In August the Tynans' went west to attend the 50th reunion of the 83rd in Cleveland, Ohio.

We left Boston a little early and stopped in Altoona, PA to visit Don and Amy St. John. Don took me to his Club (where non-members were not allowed to pay). I enjoyed having Don pay the bill. That night I met Bill Shaner's son Jerry. I spent the evening with them and had a wonderful time.

The next day Sandy (Shaner's daughter) and her daughter Angie went to dinner with us along with Don and Amy St. John. Afterwards Sandy took us over to her sister Sharon's new home. We certainly enjoyed meeting everyone again.

We arrived in Cleveland, Ohio the next day. I met Eddie McCouch, Willie Snodgrass, Harold Michael, Erwin and Norma Erhardt with their son Erwin. We all missed our buddy Walter Harding and his wife Esther. However, Walt was not feeling well this summer so maybe he was not up to the long trip. I forgot to mention my good friend, John Sabo and his wife Jerry were also at the reunion. It was nice to see the Sabos'.

Don Willis is falling behind on his letter writing lately. I guess he has been spending his spare time on the golf course.

Dustin Starbuck is now in Richmond, VA. I had a phone call from him and he seems to like his new location.

I was just on the phone with George Connors. He is doing well and will attend the Boston Christmas Party on December 14th.

I tried to look up William George in Cleveland and was unable to locate him. If anyone hears from him, let me know.

Larry Boyle is doing okay. I sent him a picture of a group of us which he was happy to receive.

Americo George was operated on in recent months for a heart condition. I talked with him after the operation when he was home recuperating.

A note to Bob Costello, your troops were at the reunion., Will Medling Gene Desh and Ed Nowak.

Bob, I hope you are in that nice pool everyday keeping in shape.

Pat DiGiammerino met his Old Top Kick, Alex Staniszewski from Parma, Ohio. Boy! they had a lot of reminiscing to talk about.

Tony Piantedosi and Dom Christopher were there from Charlie Battery. It was great meeting Dom's wife Ann again.

Frank Wirth was unable to be at the reunion. His wife Eleanor passed away. Our Condolences to Frank and his Family.

Amby Tynan
323rd F.A. Bn.

Co. "F" 329th

OVER BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: The 50th Reunion President Casey Szubski and his convention staff Earl Lindsey, Mike Mizerock and others for their cooperation in providing "F" Co. 329th with a beautiful C.P. for it's contingent of 20 members plus wives and guests, a total of 40. "F" Company salutes them, wanting them and the Association to know how much all "F" Co. appreciated their recognition of a companies need. It helped make our time together most enjoyable. The entire Reunion, the location, entertainment, business meetings, religious provisions, the always revered Memorial Service, so honorably conducted by Capt. Mac, to the Gala Banquet from our point of view was well planned and executed. A few Glitches and Bitches, this was so appropriately addressed by President Casey.

IN MEMORANDUM: Niles William Johnson Jr. November 6, 1918 - July 14, 1996. Faithful supporter of "F" Co. and the 83rd Association. Thanks to Wright J/Lucille Cotter "F" Co. was represented at the funeral July 17, 1996. Words cannot fill the void, but Delphia and family should know they all have our concerns, compassionate thoughts and prayers in this time of sorrow.

RECONNECTIONS/FIRST TIME ATTENDERS: Lowell Fickle, Justin, CA - In 1995-96 Roster learned of the Association while on tour in Europe by virtue of having stayed in the same hotel outside Houffalize, Belgium as did Jules Desgain during one of his trips abroad and his note in the guest book extolling the 83rd Association. Lowell applauds Jules and the 83rd organization for it's fast response to his written inquiries. Attending with Lowell his brother-in-law Jack Pell and guest.

Harold Newell - wife Jane, 6900 Whitman Ave, Ft. Worth, TX 76133, 817-292-5534. Farmer Lt. Newell joined us in Jan. '45 was wounded in April '45, near a road block many of us remember, on the way into Horn. Just learned of the Association thru his brother-in-law in Columbus, Ohio.

CONDOLENCES: Our sympathy to the Lou Gaybrant Family in the death of son Michael Gaybrant.

HERE & THERE: A most welcome call from Mildred Atchison. She's doing well, says a Big Hello to all. Trust Dottie Hutton's and Jane Newell's injuries, incurred while at the 50th are much better now. Marge Arnfield is still having trouble getting her feet and legs to respond to treatment, a very painful condition that she endured while in Cleveland. We'll hope for the best for you gals. The writer will be taking treatments for prostate cancer thru Feb '97. We will miss South '97 which by the way will be Feb. 20 thru Feb. 23, 1997. Punta Gorda, Fl. hosted by Bill/ Arline Nickell, All who can plan Now! to attend. Doc Keith reported no real problems as hurricane Fran passed thru his area. A big heart, helping a friend in business, keeps Doc working 4 days a week. Better give it some thought buddy! Margaret Ferguson had cataract surgery Sept. 25th, everything went beautifully, now enjoying improved vision. Sylvain "Pops" Fishman will be 89 years young come Nov. 4, 1996. He's still sharp! Buddys do your thing.

C.R. Bob Whitcomb

Co. "A" 308 Engineers

Our 50th 83rd Div. Reunion was a great success this year at Cleveland, Ohio. There were around 750 men and wives and guests and in Company A there were 9 of us, and we sure did miss the rest of the "Gang". We had good visits with Charles and Elenore Auer, and Dottie and Paul Gunderson, and Frank and Nellie Blakely, and Larry Arrigo. Everyone had a great time on the boat ride according to Nellie and Frank. The rest of us visited with each other, participating in the many activities provided for us. We received notes from other men of our company. Bertha Peterson wrote on July 20, "George is dying with cancer. Has a brain tumor and one near the heart. Has gone down to 150 pounds. Was in a wheel chair all the month of May. Right side paralyzed. Cannot breathe sometimes. Gets pains in chest. When we returned from the reunion we received the memorial notice that he had passed away on August 25th. We were saddened to hear this and gave Bertha our condolences and best wishes. I tried to call Earl and Evalyn Graham on Sept. 30th but received no answer. I talked to Evalyn before the Cleveland Reunion and Earl was in intensive care with cancer. We did get in touch with them today, Evalyn told us that Earl is taking chemotherapy once a week, til February. We are all wishing him the very best. We got a note from Frank Davis, "We will not be going to Cleveland due to medical conditions of Pearline. She is a brittle diabetic plus she had a heart attack 3 years ago. We have been advised by her doctors at Emory hospital not to get too far away. Her blood sugar is fine for weeks and suddenly drops to nothing. My health is good. I still cut my own grass, paint my house etc."

My wife and I drove to Schaumburg, Ill. to visit Ray Bankowski while we were in Illinois, visiting our first great-grandchild born on June 14th, a big boy. While at Ray's home we learned that his wife, Joan, had passed away. We had a nice visit with Ray and he is coping with his loss. Then we received a note from him and he wrote, "My lung scan and needle biopsy all four turned out great, all negative. I was very happy to hear that news when called. But I am still very weak; walking is a strain and it's hard to make plans for anything. If able to I will fly into Cleveland for a day or two to visit with you all." Ray did not make it to the Reunion. We send our best to him.

A note from Bob Clary said, "We do not plan to attend the '96 Reunion. My 2nd hip replacement forces a renege on this. "Sorry" and from Andy and June Brand, "Many thanks for your continued interest in Co. "A" 308th Engineers. June and I will not be able to attend this year's reunion. Best regards to all the boys." And from John Hanft, "Sorry can't make the reunion. My best to those that do." That was in July, and in Sept. we received a card from him stating that he saw the note in the Thunderbolt from former citizen of Zerbst. "I may drop him a line and lean on my memories of the Elbe.

We had a long letter from Pete (Ansel) Petersen. "Wish I could make it to the Reunion as it's fairly close to

here but my digestive system is still as it's always been since radiation a few years ago. Can't trust my stomach to behave natural. Did go to Tomahawk to visit my grandson, and great-grand-daughter in June. My oldest brother, 84, and I drove up in my van a 10 hr. drive. We hit cold and wet weather so couldn't fish too often. But my great-grand daughter, Kaylone and I had a great time. She's 28 months old now. I still put in 2 to 3 half-days a week as a team volunteer at the hospital. We're short of volunteers now, 3 have died, and 2 are in the hospital with heart trouble. It's to be expected as the volunteers are 65 to 85 years old. I still enjoy it. Good company with the nurses, other volunteers and other hospital workers. Lots of kidding. I have a lot of rare good friends. But I miss the buddies of the Co. A, 308 Engineers. I have a beautiful 4 months old stud colt, a registered quarter-horse, an acquaintance is to show it at a quarter horse show in Omaha in late fall. A chestnut with a blaze and white socks. It should win some points for me. My youngest grand-son, Chad, his wife, and their daughter, Ashley, 34 months old, live here yet, so we get so we will see them often. Chad and I fish together when we can in nearby small lakes using a 14 ft boat and electric trolling motor and a fish locator. Some times we even catch some fish, bass mostly. Even little Ashley caught a 4 lb. large-mouth bass (only keeper we had), and helped us eat it that night. I'm to help my daughter and her husband who are the promoters of the horse PRCA Rodeo Contestants Association. Brian, my oldest grand-son, his wife, Tracie, and their son, Gavin, 9 months old, we see on a weekly basis. You met them in Omaha at our Reunion there. When you get to the Reunion this year greet all the buddies of Co. A, 308 Engineers. I miss going to another. I wish them all the best health and their families, as well as you both. Buddy Ansel Petersen, "Pete to you and the rest."

From Owen Wellman, "----won't be able to attend. Yes, you're right we are very proud to be a member of this Association."

Thanks a lot for all of your letters, notes, and cards. It seems a little early right now, but have a nice and safe Holidays in December and January, 1997.

Thats all for now.

Sincerely,

Gordon Doeringsfeld

7451 Western Circle Dr., Brooksville, Fla. 34613

WANTED

VOICE RECORDS FROM WORLD WAR II

A tape will be made of your record(s) and sent back to you. The record will be preserved in Washington, D.C.

For info please call or write:

Ned Connors
29 Allen Avenue
Barrington, RI 02806
Telephone: (401) 246-0164



FOR ALL THOSE BORN BEFORE 1945

WE ARE SURVIVORS!!! Consider the changes we have witnessed: We were born before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, plastic, contact lenses, frisbees and the Pill.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ballpoint pens, before panty hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, drip-dry clothes -- and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. How quaint can you be? In our time, closets were for clothes, not for "coming out of". Bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens. Designer jeans were scheming girls named Jean and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with your cousins.

We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and Outer Space was the back seat at the drive-in theater or Dave's Top Hat.

We were before house-husbands, gay rights, computer dating, dual careers and commuter marriages. We were before day-care centers, group therapy and nursing homes. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, electric typewriters, artificial hearts, word processors, yogurt, and guys wearing earrings. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness - not computers or condominiums; a "Chip" was a piece of wood; hardware meant hardware, and software wasn't even a word.

In 1940, "made in Japan" meant junk and the term "making out" referred to how you did on your exams. Pizzas, "McDonalds" and instant coffee were unheard of.

We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 cent stores, where you bought things for five and ten cents. Borden's or Shamrock sold ice cream

cones for a nickel or a dime. For one nickel you could buy a bag of popcorn, make a phone call, buy a Pepsi or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy Coup for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity, too, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, CRACK was in the sidewalk, GRASS was mowed, COKE was a cold drink and POT was something you cooked in. ROCK MUSIC was a grandma's lullaby and AIDS were helpers in the principal's office.

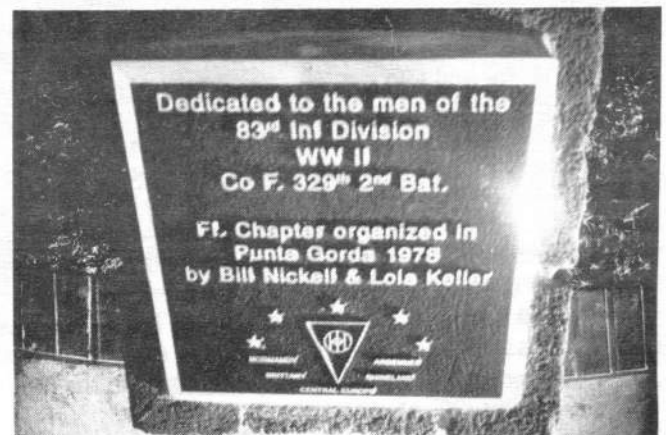
We were certainly not before the difference between the sexes was discovered but we were before the sex change; we made do with what we had, and we were the last generation that was so dumb as to think you needed a husband to have a baby!

No wonder we are so confused and there is such a generation gap today!!

BUT WE SURVIVED!!!!!! What better reason to celebrate!!!

Frank Morris

83rd Div. 331 Bn. Co. "K"



On July 4th the city of Punta Gorda, Fl. dedicated a veterans memorial at Lashley Park. These are 20 pedestals with plaques on the top of different organizations. American Legion, DAV's and others. I thought it would be nice to honor the 83rd with this plaque.

Please put the picture in the Thunderbolt.

Thank You

William & Arline Nickell

150 W. Retta Esplanade

Apt. 214

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

941-575-8746

William H. Buzzard
Burr Rt Huntersville W. Va.
Marlinton 24954

This is something I've been meaning to do for sometime, pay the dues and become a member of 83 Inf. Div. Association Inc.

I was in the 1st platoon "A" Battery no 2 gun crew 453 AAA AW Bn.

We were some of the first heavier Equipment on Omaha Beach landing from an LCT Boat 6 foot of water. Spending our first night of the beach. We were in the hedge rows when you all came in the 101 Div. was ahead of us.

They landed only one or two guns & crews everyday or two. The first fight the 83rd was in was on the 4 of July. I talked to a couple of survivors the same day. We were set up about 300 yds behind you.

My gun crew had 12 guys in it not all survived. We got some replacements from time to time. We finished our war across the Elbe River at the Truman Bridge. Enough of that.

I would like to become a member & would like to have the summer Issue 1996 if possible.

We, I and my wife are hosting a 453rd Reunion 50th. at Brirers Inn Lewisburg W. Va (13th, 14th, 15th of Sept. 1996.)

We are going through the Bunker at the Greenbrier Resort on the 15th.

William H. Buzzard
Btry "A" 453

To My Buddies-Wives & Friends:

First of all, I want to thank all the many, many people who came up to me and told me how much they enjoyed my tape that they purchased at the Myrtle Beach Reunion. Many said they played it several times as they drove home.

There may be many members who have been unable to attend the reunions and may not know me. To those of you I'd like to let you know I have attended most reunions and I sing for the Memorial Services and at the banquet dance programs. Also, I have been on your Executive Board for 5 years.

The tape I am talking about were songs I recorded when I was a professional singer from 1946-1966. I had them copied and put on a cassette and I was very pleased with the results. There are thirty (30) plus songs. Popular - Classical - Irish - Show tunes, etc. They are our kind of songs.

Your association sold around 100 at the Myrtle Beach reunion. They have purchased another 100 and I would appreciate your sending away for a copy. For those who have one you may want to purchase more and use them for Christmas gifts. It's that time of year. Two reasons to order. 1st - the tape is very good. Over thirty (30) terrific songs. 2nd - All profits go to the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Use this coupon to order and I know you will be pleased with your purchase.

Your Buddy,
Jim Burton
Co "D" 329th Regiment

Growing Older

*Growing older day by day and most of us living
on prayer or a friend who really cares.*

*Some are in pain and others do not feel,
but life goes on day by day for it is God's will.*

*We are all here for a purpose
which we may not understand.*

*For God watches over us all whether
we are white or black, short or tall.*

*We all love life though it is only day by day,
so with my friend and God's will I'll make
another day.*

*And when I go to heaven
I can look back down and say,
'Those are all my friends I left behind
but will meet again some day.'*

T.K. Brannon
June 16, 1996

Hope From The Heart

Hope is the only thing we have left for today;

With Clinton and Gore there is a new way.

*Though the road may be rocky, and there are
many hills to climb,*

*Our Congressmen and Senators can vote for a
change in time*

*Failure to do so will punish us all,
And our government, though strong,
may only fall.*

*It's not education that started it all;
It started with selfish greed which is
within us all.*

*But I still have hope for the color of us all,
So may God Bless America before it falls.*

Words from the heart.
By T.K. Brannon

'The Blue and the Gray'

by Francis Miles Finch

*By the flow of the inland river,
whence the fleets of iron have fled;
Where the blades of grass quiver,
asleep are the ranks of the dead;
Under the sod and the dew,
waiting their judgement day;
Under the one, the Blue,
under the other, the Gray.*

*From the silence of sorrowful hours,
the desolate mourners go;
Lovingly laden with flowers,
alike for friend and foe;
Under the sod and the dew,
waiting their judgement day;
Under the roses, the Blue,
under the lilies, the Gray.*

*So, when the summer calleth,
on forest and fields of grain;
With an equal murmur falleth,
the cooling drip of rain;
Under the sod and the dew,
waiting their judgement day;
Wet with rain, the Blue,
wet with rain, the Gray*

*No more shall the war-cry sever,
or the winding rivers be red;
They banish our anger forever,
when they laurel the graves of our
dead!
Under the sod and the dew,
waiting their judgement day;
Love and Tears for the Blue,
Tears and Love for the Gray.*



A Day On The Road.....

Three of us were assigned to a messenger jeep. The windshield had to be flat on the hood to avoid reflections and the winter winds at even thirty miles an hour were bitter. WE put up a board in place of the windshield and learned to drive with a bobbing motion - peer at the road, duck down behind the board, pop up for another look, etc. The sides were built up with sheet metal until only our heads showed when sitting upright. We cut a hole through the firewall and put a pipe on top of the exhaust manifold - this heated one foot at a time and smelled of hot iron. When feet were so cold you could not feel them, you used the throttle on the dash in place of the gas pedal. The cable cutter on the front bumper was festooned with stove pipe, a small stove and other essentials. Like many others, we had "acquired" a trailer for additional items, but it was of German manufacture and did not tow very well.

We were ordered to run messages to Antwerp where we hoped to get or borrow a G.I. jeep trailer from some rear echelon commando outfit - such as Mess Kit Repair. Outside of Antwerp, a spic and span MP jeep pulled us over. They were estatic as they listed our sins - I only recall a few - filthy vehicle, unauthorized modifications of vehicle, driver had no license, assistant driver's illegible (got wet), all unshaven (beards kept faces warm), filthy uniforms (I was wearing both of mine), and a real gem - no shot records! We were taken to an MP captain where we offered to plead guilty for a nice warm cell. He told us, "You combat zone slobs are a disgrace! I want you to deliver your message and be out of my area in three hours!" I always suspected he fumigated his office after we left.

And then Fate stepped in - as we passed a dock area we saw a lot with hundreds of brand new jeep trailers. WE drove by and a trailer followed us out. So we adopted it and gave it a home. We even donated our old German trailer in it's place. When peace broke out we returned it as "an abandoned trailer along with several other vehicles that had adopted the 83rd Signal Company.

The new trailer towed easily, had brake and tail lights. It carried our stove, pressed coal dust bricks for fuel, cases of 10 in 1 rations, two jugs of schnapps (for the radiator?), a 110 volt 60 cycle radio, a 220 volt 50 cycle radio (French and Germans had different currents in adjacent towns), out trading and souvenir collection - swords, sniper rifle, Every pistol, etc. Also, it carried extra gasoline, pots, pans, tools, tow chain and folding cots. On our way back to our billet, we traded coffee for a dressed chicken and a stewed rabbit.

All in all, a good day.
Hal O'Neill
83rd Signal

NORMANDY

1944

As a result of heavy losses of personnel and equipment on July 4th and 5th, little notoriety was given to the commitment of the mortar platoon of Co. D, 331st Infantry as riflemen to lead in a fresh attack. Capt. Souders of Co. D, who at the time, was acting battalion commander, was ordered to continue to press the attack with all available personnel. The only viable force around was the mortar platoon. Their losses had been minimal.

The platoon left their mortars in their sunken road position, and under the command of Lt. Gravelyn moved forward to continue the attack on the enemy. One really could not call them riflemen since their weapons consisted of pistols and carbines. At the battalions front line the platoon was provided with two tanks for fire power, and with the platoon leader leading the way abreast of the tanks, they moved down the slope toward the swamp. One still wonders what they were expected to do once they got there. Nevertheless, orders were orders so on they went.

The tanks blazed away with machine guns and cannon while drawing equal fire from across the swamp. The hedgerow the platoon was crawling along angled down toward the swamp so that most return fire swept over their heads. Halfway down the field one of the tanks took a direct hit and was knocked out. Soon after, the other tank took a glancing hit under-neath and caught fire. The crew came tumbling out of the hatch like popcorn dragging one injured member with them. Why the Germans didn't finish them off remains a question. They were not known for their charity.

In any case, the mortar platoon continued their advance while the Germans now gave them their full attention. Without the tanks and their fire power, the platoon was extremely vulnerable. Lt. Hulen who was the third man back yelled to halt. As Lt. Gravelyn turned to look, he watched a tree trunk lift off the hedgerow, complete with roots, settle down on Lt. Hulen's head. As Lt. Hulen pushed himself free, he was able to pass on orders from Capt. Souders to turn the platoon around and move back to the nearest hedgerow. Lt. Hulen's face was all bloody so he was sent to the battalion aid station. He never rejoined Co. D again.

While the platoon was moving back, Lt. Gravelyn almost made a fatal decision. Anxious to see what Capt. Souders wanted, he jumped to his feet and ran diagonally across the field hoping to use the disabled tanks as cover. The first high velocity shell went by him on his left so close and with such a roar it pulled him to the ground exploding up the field. With a bounce off of the ground he abandoned his field. With a bounce off of the ground he abandoned his diagonal approach to safety and headed straight for the hedgerow, his initial goal. The second shell passed like the first but it cleared the hedgerow and

exploded in the next field as Capt. Souders was crossing it. The Captain's intention was to intercept Lt. Gravelyn on his return along the original attack route.

Sgt. Norm Schuster was the first to reach Capt. Souders but his wounds were such that it resulted in his removal to the aid station, where he later died.

Before he was moved, Capt. Souders did manage to convey instructions to Lt. Gravelyn to put all available men in a defensive mode and wait further instructions from Regiment. With the help of Lt. Musselman and 23 of his men, this was done. The mortar platoon and a few riflemen held the line, the greatest penetration made by the 331st Infantry until relieved by the 4th Division.

Respectively submitted by
Harry C. Gravelyn
Co. D, 331st Inf.
83rd Div.

"Dedication of Freedom 4th of July"

Our Independence Day was celebrated with Gusto for many years in the past
Honoring those who fought and died so the freedom we had would last

We found out in the last century to keep that freedom we had to fight
And as Americans we always rallied and supplied the might.

I think Abraham Lincoln said it all in his Gettysburg Address
Near where men of the armies of the north and the south lay at rest
That a new birth of freedom would result from this war and we as a nation would be dedicated to freedom forever more

But how many of our young people today look at a grizzled old man
And wonder if he is a veteran who fought for the freedom of our land
It seems today that too many of us celebrate that day just as rest and fun
Forgetting those who gave us that freedom to have that fun in the sun

This day should be celebrated and dedicated to all of those who went forth
So let us remember those who gave all now and forever on July 4th.

Robert L. Gerber

The Rag-Tag Circus -- They Make History

By Ernest Lelser
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 83RD INF. DIV. ACROSS THE ELBE, Apr. 14 (Delayed) -- Gen. Simpson himself sent down to find out how they ever did it.

This rag-tag "traveling circus," that rode and fought over more than 200 miles of Germany in some ten days, keeping up with the best of American armor, just didn't belong in the books of modern warfare.

It was impossible but the 83rd Inf. Div. did it. From the time they were relieved from the bridgehead they had secured across the Elbe and held the bridgehead on the far side, they had not only kept up with the armor -- they had outstripped it.

They used any kind of transport you can name -- tanks, TDs, trucks, and jeeps, all bursting at the seams with GI passengers, and then added to that were German cars, trucks, fire engines, bicycles and even wheelbarrows.

They Found Plenty

Except for a day or so they had absolutely no attached trucks to haul their fast freight so they made do with whatever they could find along the road, and they found plenty.

Strange things happened in that ten day blitz-things that could only have happened to this "Coxey's Army."

The other day as they were rolling along a little German sedan was weaving in and out of the column passing vehicles. No one would have noticed it--there wasn't anything usual in this convoy about a German vehicle--if the driver hadn't kept honking his horn imperiously.

Pfc. David Webster, a signal company man from "Terre Haute, Ind., took a second look at the car and saw that the guy inside had on a German uniform -- with red collar patches. The 83rd had captured a German general who was going east in even a greater hurry that they were.

Overtook Convoy

In another case the column overtook a German convoy, consisting of a colonel and his staff, travelling the same way on the same road.

Up with the First Bn. of the 329th Inf. Regt. fighting their first real battle since they took off, the men were still reminiscing between ducking shells at the perimeter of the Elbe bridgehead. They were bitter about some of the things they saw.

S/Sgt. Dean Derey, of Bristol, Tenn. described the British and American prisoners they had freed in their sweep, about how they had cried when the 83rd came along and how the German guards had previously beaten the civilians who so much as offered them a glass of water in their death march across Germany.

57 pistols, a shotgun and a rifle away from some German Army doctors who insisted they had a right to carry them. Pfc. John Shuford, of Marios, N.C., told of his capture of two boys, one nine years old, and another 11, wearing a full Wehrmacht uniform in a trench by the roadside.

Joseph P. Mulligan
737 Laurel Ave.
Clifton Heights, PA 19018
Ser. Btry. 324 FA

Dear Bob:

Just received my summer issue of the Thunderbolt and on page (25) I read the article about Buddy Ben Douglas, Bob I actually cried and I read the story what this poor man has endured in life since he was wounded on July 12, 1944, I showed the story to my wife and she cried to.

He deserves a lot of credit for his bravery and stamina for the pain and suffering he has endured through his life.

I tell you Bob when you look back about how we fought and sacrificed and all the buddy's that we lost to protect this great nation of ours, especially with all the crime, drugs, and terrorist bombings, the world trade center, Oklahoma city, and the latest T.W.A. flight 800 right here in New York, it makes you wonder was it worth it.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Ben and his wife Ginny, and I hope that the V.A. comes through with the money for that (80) bed veterans unit at OSU medical center. I am going to write a letter to our national Commander of the V.F.W. and see what can be done.

Sincerely your buddy
Roland N. Grebinger
"B" Company 330th Reg.
"B" Btry 324th F.A.

P.S. Hope this letter makes the next issue of the "Thunderbolt".



Dear Bob & Pearl,

First of all I want to thank you for my membership card and I wanted to write to you but wanted to wait til I saw all of my doctors and got some results --- and then "Tony Harbon" passed away and his wife gave me the word that Tony wanted me to arrange the funeral. Tony was with 329 anti-tank but only lived about 15 mins. from our house and we were very close friends. He belonged to the Phila. Chapter and also showed up at all our "Veteran Programs" with his 83rd shirt that I had gotten for him. He was buried in that 83rd shirt and cap. Lou Volpi and some of the fellows from the Phila Chapter showed up, his priest said a few remarks and then I said remarks about Tony and our reunions and about the 83rd. We had about 30 WWII veterans there and a bugler to play taps.

Tony was in the hospital for about four weeks or more. The doctor that took care of my bleeding from the bladder also took care of Tony. When I had my last appointment with this doctor he said I was O.K. and didn't want to see me till January, but he said he couldn't do anything for my Army Buddy cause he had cancer of the prostate and colon. Was too far gone. So Tony hung on for about three weeks.

I was bleeding out of the bladder for about 8 weeks - had an operation done in another hospital by a urologist where he scrapped the bladder, cauterized it and the bleeding was supposed to stop. It didn't. He blamed the bleeding on the radiation treatments I had for the prostate over 2 years ago. My PSA is down to 0.3 So they knew it wasn't the prostate. Anyway the Tuesday we were supposed to leave for the reunion (Lou & Lucy Volpi were going with us) I wasn't feeling good and told Lorraine I should get checked out before we left for the reunion. I had pain in my chest and got short winded. Call the emergency in the hospital and was admitted. We know the head nurse in the emergency room and I said I wanted to get out so I could go to our reunion and her and Lorraine walked away and Lorraine came back and said we were not going to the reunion.

That was Tuesday. They took all kinds of test of blood and the heart. Found out that the heart was beating twice as fast to put oxygen into the blood and I didn't have enough blood. My blood count was 7 - my red cells were down, my white cells were down and my platelets were down (which they always been because of the hepatitis C I got 9 years ago from a unit of blood)

So they gave me two blood transfusion and some platelets and my count went up to 9 and I felt better and while at that hospital which is our local hospital I was recommended a Urologist and he said you've been bleeding too long and we got to do something. I said go ahead - I'm here so lets get it over. He went up the bladder and drained all the blood out and then said Man! you got a big mother clot fastened on to your bladder and thats got to come out. He tried while I was there in bed but couldn't get it out so took me to the O.R. and got it out. Now he doesn't want to see me til January.

While the reunion was being held I went and had stress test for the heart and just had an appt. the other

week and the "heart specialist said. The small arteries were somewhat damaged but the good ones weren't and he put me on some medication and doesn't want to see me for 2 years. I got a new family doctor and she's concerned about my sugar. Its up to 330 and she put me on another sugar pill. (I don't want to go on insulin) So I have an appt. with her next week and see where we go from here. The only thing the "blood doctor's" came up with is I may have to go and get blood transfusion - Oh! Yes, nest week I have an appt. with the liver doctor because of the hepatitis C damaging the liver.

Outside of that I'm in great shape for the shape I'm in. But believe me I really wanted to make the reunion. Lorraine and I were all set to start packing but it never happened. Although I got phone calls from my buddies, Capt. Gravelyn send me an "Ad Book" and my buddy R.C. Hamilton from Merion, Kentucky send me an 100th Anv. Cap. "D" Co. 331" is going on a mini reunion in "Las Vegas"

Sometime in October - but we won't make that one but are looking forward for the one next year. God Willing - we will make that one.

Lorraine is doing real good - Still working at The Court House" in the Recorder of Deeds and Loves it. The only trouble is on week-ends she has to get caught up with the work at our "new place". Troy, our son comes over and Mow's the lawn (every now and then) and helps out - but we love the place. All on one floor and no steps. The only steps are down stairs to the recreation room and they have a railing and I have been up and down.

I have everything up here, my room has a big window that looks out front and I can see everybody that comes in. It used to be an office. So I have my desk and chair, phone, bed, all my stuff for painting, book racks built on one wall. So I can contend myself all day in here, get tired and take a nap. The kitchen's handy and I make the meals.

The other week I got this letter from Capt. Gravelyn" to send to you and put in the Thunderbolt. He and I were together most of the time on July 4 & 5 in the Hedgerows.

They can say what they want to about the Battle of the Bulge but to me that was two of the worst days that came out of the war. I was with the captain when the two tanks were knocked out.

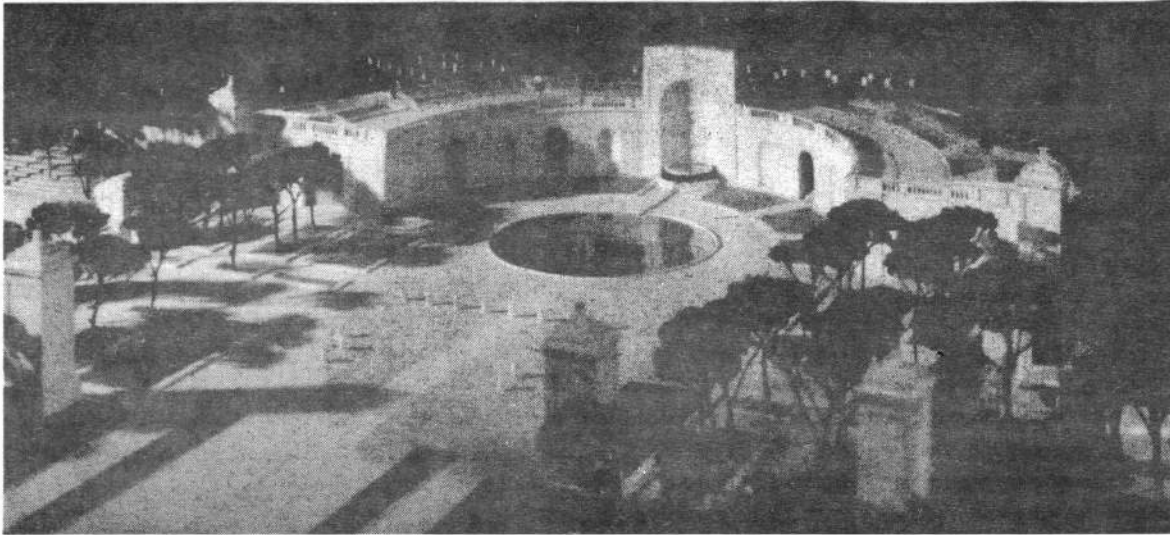
I was with Capt. Souder when he was hit. He had shrapnel go thru his stomach and out his back. We made him as comfortable as possible but his screams were so loud we told him the Germans were on the other side of the Hedgerows. So instead of screaming he used to put his knuckles of his hand in his mouth and bite down on them til they were bleeding. The medics took him back to the aid station and back to the beach where he died while being loading on a ship to take him back to England to a hospital.

Also enclosed is an obituary of Anthony Harbon Jr. He was always so proud of the 83rd Inf. Div. and going to the reunions and also attending the Veterans affairs in his 83rd shirt.

Lorraine say's hello to you good people and again I want to thank you for the 97 card and everything you do for me.

Take care - stay healthy - Good Luck and God Bless.

Norm Schuster



Architect's model for the Women in Military Service for America Memorial. Will be built at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC. The Memorial will honor the 1.8 million women who have served in the U.S. military. (WIMSA photo by Hoachlander).

Women's Memorial Being Built In D.C.

NATIONAL VETERANS NEWS NETWORK

Arlington, Va. - The Women in Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc. has selected The Clark Construction Group, Inc., Bethesda, Md., to build The Women's Memorial. The \$14 million, 33,000 square foot memorial, which will honor all women who have served in the U.S. armed forces since the American Revolution, will be built at the historic Grand Entrance to Arlington National Cemetery in the nation's capital.

"With the selection of Clark, we begin the construction phase of an effort which began nearly 10 years ago," said retired Air Force Brigadier General Willma L. Vaught, Foundation president. "Clark is an experienced construction firm with a superb reputation for projects involving restoration. We look forward to working with the Clark team for the next year and a half." Memorial completion and dedication is planned for the Fall, 1997.

The Women's Memorial was designed by Marion Gail Weiss and Michael Manfredi of Weiss/Manfredi Architects, New York City. The firm of Lehrer McGovern Bovis, Inc. has been selected to manage the construction phase.

The design restores the historic hemicycle built in 1932 by McKim, Mead, and White to be the ceremonial entrance to Arlington National Cemetery. The entrance way was never completed. The Weiss/Manfredi design uses water and light to symbolize the roles of military women to whom the structure is dedicated.

In the Memorial's lower court, in the center of the hemicycle, jets of water will meet and flow into a central reflect-

ing pool. The Memorial's Education Center will be constructed below grade, directly behind the hemicycle. The Center will include a 196-seat theater-style auditorium, 14 exhibit alcoves, a computer registration area, and a Hall of Honor.

Visitors will also be able to ascend to an upper-level terrace, which will follow the curve of the hemicycle. Glass panels inscribed with quotations by and about women who have served our country will be placed along the upper terrace. These glass panels will serve as skylights for the Memorial's Education Center, and the words from the inscribed quotations will reflect onto the walls and floor of the exhibit gallery.

Clark's project team will face several challenges during the construction of the Memorial. "Limited access to the site as well as the constraints of a tight site will require careful scheduling and logistics planning. Also, we will have to be extremely cautious during excavation, installation of support systems and pile driving operations because the back wall of the hemicycle is adjacent to several grave sites. It is important for us to preserve the dignity and historical significance of the surrounding area while minimizing any disruptions to the Cemetery's ongoing operations," said Clark project executive Mike Alto.

Clark Construction recently completed the restoration of the historic Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery, which has served as host to hundreds of dignitaries and military ceremonies for more than 80 years.

For more information about The Women's Memorial and how to include the name of a woman veteran, living or deceased, into the Memorial's historic roll of honor, call the Memorial Foundation at 1-800-4-SALUTE, or write: WIMSA, Dept. 560, Washington, D.C. 20042-560.



Stephen L. Harris - 3rd from left



Stephen L. Harris
Somewhere in Europe



Stephen L. Harris
--?

Dear Mr. Derickson:

Enclosed are photographs of my brother Steve L. Harris and buddies. He was KIA Jan. 11, 1945, 83/331/AT Co. If possible, please publish these in the THUNDERBOLT. If anyone could respond to them I would be grateful.

I am going to try to make it to the reunion.

Sincerely,

Godfrey Harris
4209 Abbingdon Ct.
Westlake Village, CA 91361
(818) 889-3323 - (800) 729-3423



Dear Mr. Derickson:

You know as we advance in age some persons have a tendency to embellish on the truth about how they won the war and either by design or perhaps a hazy memory they get their facts wrong. However in the summer issue of The Thunderbolt there was such an embellishment of the facts, I can't let it pass, without setting the record straight especially since most of the Heroes of the 3rd Bn. 329th have gone to meet their makers

The article by Col. Speedie about him and his Speedies Raiders doing so well at the Elbe River Bridge Head and capturing Zerbst was entirely erroneous. Col. Speedie you were in command of the 3rd Bn. at that time, in fact you were not even there.

As 3rd Bn. S2 practically since Camp Atterbury and the only officer left of our great staff which was commanded by Col. George C. White, who passed away two years ago this December. I must set the record straight out of respect and admiration for Col. White whom I was in business with for several years and a life long friend. Col. Speedie if you will read the copy of April 28, 1945 Thunderbolt you will find verification of my statement.

I have copies of the Commendation given to Col. White by Col. Crabill praising him as the Commander of 3rd Bn. on the drive to and the crossing of the Elbe River.

As for your getting an enemy mortar in your hip pocket in Zerbst the last combat day of the war, you are badly mistaken. For your information the 3rd Bn. walked into Zerbst without a shot being fired and I have Commendations to prove it.

Col. Speedie go back to your Officers Club and spin another yarn not involving the 3rd Bn. 329th because I was there.

Sincerely yours,
Paul W. Mac Farlane
Maj. Ret.

Dear Sir:

Please let Sergeant Hatfield of Company C - 330 Reg. know that I am O.K. It was on Dec. 15, 1944 in the Hurtgen Forest @ 5:50 AM when a shell hit my foxhole. He and another sergeant helped save my life, by putting a turnaquet on my leg. My leg was amputated but it saved my life. I want to thank them for all of this help and would like to hear from them.

Sgt. Benjamin J. Franko
52 Grove Ave.
Metuchen, N.J. 08840
Co. C - 330 Inf. Reg., 83rd Division
Phone # 908-549-0561, you can call collect.

Fighters for Freedom



Frank



Raymond



Henry



Ralph



Eldridge

The Five Good brothers, **Frank E., 34, Raymond R., 22, Henry W., 20, Ralph, 27, and Eldridge, 25,** are doing a "Good" job in Uncle Sam's army, but they all would appreciate news from their friends, according to word received by their parents, **Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Good.** Waverly, Route 1.

Three of the brothers are overseas, Frank, a sergeant, and Raymond, a private, are in India, and Henry, a private first class, is in France. Ralph, a private, is a member of the M.P. Det., at El Paso, Tex, where he is stationed at 104 South Don Street. Eldridge, the last of the brothers to enter the army (he reported for active duty on Aug. 11, 1944), is at Ft. McClellan, Ala., where his address is 35239481, Co. A, 17th Tng. Bn., 5th Regt., I.R.T.C. A former employee of the Kroger Grocery & Baking Co., Columbus, Eldridge's wife, **Mrs. Florence Good,** and two children, **William and Mary Jane,** live in that city.

Frank and Raymond had been stationed at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and Ft. Jackson, S.C., respectively, when they were as-

signed to overseas duty. Imagine their surprise when they found each other aboard the same ship after their journey to India was half completed. They are now stationed in different places, but have seen each other four times since their arrival overseas last January. A former Mead employee, Frank enlisted in Piketon and reported for duty on June 16, 1941. He is attached to a troop carrier squad and his present address is 1504-0262, APO 467, C/O Postmaster, New York, N.Y. His wife **Mrs. Odgelee Good,** lives in Dayton.

Prior to his induction on Aug. 24, 1942, at Piketon. Raymond assisted his father in the trucking business. He is now attached to a general hospital and his address is 35440641, APO 465, C/O Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

Henry and Ralph entered the service in October, 1942, the former being inducted from Piketon on the 26th, and the latter from Chillicothe on the 10th. A former employee of Beam's hatchery at Xenia, Henry is attached to the infantry in France, where his address is 35449176, APO 83, C/O Postmaster, New York, N.Y. His wife, **Mrs. Louise Bennett Good,** lives on Route 1, Piketon. Ralph's wife, **Mrs. Juanita Good,** and children, **Janet Maxine, Louis Gene and Marilyn,** live on Route 2, Waverly. He is a former Mead employee.

Besides their five sons in the service, Mr. and Mrs. Good also have two other sons, **Basil** of Frankfort and **Everett** of Piketon.

Dear Mr. Derickson,

Just to let you know that Ray was able to obtain the information that Jim Van Russell wrote to you about. Ray Hayward had a copy and sent it to him.

The Village of Patchogue has agreed to co-name Main Street as Veterans Blvd. on red, white and blue signs for several blocks.

On D-Day we had a ceremony on the beach with several veterans organizations and their color guards, local politicians, rifle salutes and one, elderly LCI (Landing Craft Infantry). There was local TV and newspaper coverage.

I went to see Kent O'Connell and he was up and around.

Joe Kalinowski is in the hospital and I plan to visit him this afternoon. Joe, Ray Hayward and I represent the 83rd in this area.

Take care and God Bless!

Hal O'Neill, 83rd Signal

Dear Bob,

I know its hard to find out stuff after 50 years but could you ask if anyone remembers Lt. Allison of Co. "G" 330th and if they do can they tell me when he was killed?

Thanks Paul,
Paul and Gartha Matranga
1808 East Nelson #B
North Las Vegas, NY 89030-5589

WELCOME BACK AND DANKESCHOEN!

"A Tribute to All U. S. Veterans Who Have Served in Germany Since 1945"

AN INVITATION FROM THE CHANCELLOR OF GERMANY

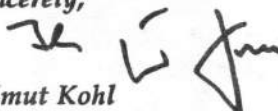
MESSAGE OF GREETING

As former members of the American Armed Forces, I would like to bid you and your families a very warm welcome in Germany. We will be delighted to have you here!

The United States and Germany enjoy a close and enduring friendship. We share the same fundamental values, the belief in freedom, democracy, and the rule of law. In our American friends, more than in anyone else, we Germans found succour and support on the road to reunification.

I would be very glad if as many of you as possible could visit us here in Germany. Why not come and show your children this beautiful country of ours which owes you so much!

Sincerely,



Helmut Kohl

Chancellor, Federal Republic of Germany



This extraordinary greeting represents the sentiments of not only the Chancellor but of his countrymen as well. This program was created to honor the United States and its military forces who have served in Germany (at any time from 1945 to the present) for the role they played in the reunification of their country and the preservation of their freedom. It represents the "first time in history" that any nation has been "HONORED" for its service in PEACE instead of war! This will be "an unusual but genuine homecoming" for American families returning to the communities where they lived and worked in the years since 1945.

Custom-designed, "individual" Fly/Drive travel packages - Fly/Rail programs - and Group Tours have been created with a host of benefits to mark the occasion of each veteran's return. A "Nostalgic Journeys" Passport will identify each veteran and their family members as "V.I.P.'s" entitled to receive free gifts and discount coupons for a variety of items including a "Certificate of Appreciation" in many communities. And in many areas, German citizens will host a "Hospitality Day" to escort each American family to selected sites.

Fly/Drive Packages include round-trip airfare via Lufthansa Airlines from the U.S. to Germany, hotel with breakfast for six nights and a car rental for six days. Prices start at just \$999 per person from Boston, New York and Washington, D.C. only \$1149 from Miami, Atlanta, Dallas or Chicago and just \$1209 from Los Angeles or San Francisco. Similar attractive rates are available for Fly/Rail Packages and Group Tours.



For a descriptive brochure and details, contact
GALAXY TOURS, P. O. Box 234, Wayne, PA, 19087
Or call, toll-free 1-800-523-7287; (610) 964-8010
(Fax: (610) 964-8220; E-mail: nj@galaxytours.com)

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

Anyone wishing to purchase shirts, coats, and caps may write to:
Vito C. Palazzolo, 20000 Lancaster, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225
for information. He will send you an application form.

Bolo Ties, Necklaces, \$10.00 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
Indianapolis, Indiana
Dates are:
August 20, 21, 22, 23, 1997

DUES ARE DUE NOW
For Fiscal Year (Aug. 1996 - 97)
DUES will be \$15.00

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

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.
3749 Stahlheber Road
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BULLETIN

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 Thlrd 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.**