

THUNDERBOLT

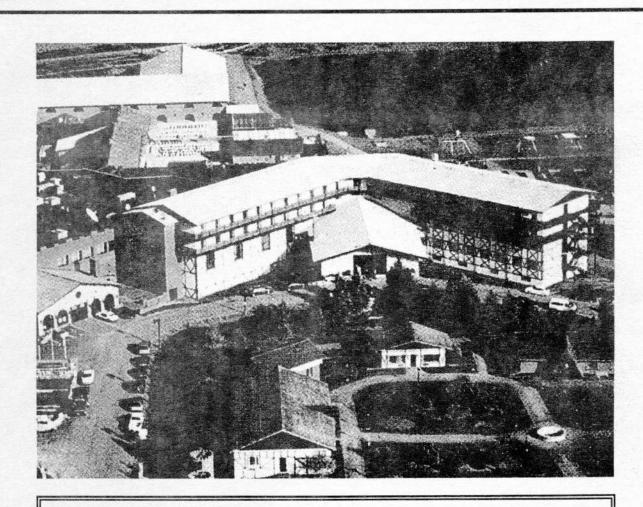
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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CENTRAL EUROPE

Spring Issue 2000



Friar Tuck Inn Resort & Convention Center

54th Annual Reunion Catskill Mountains, NY Sept. 6-7-8-9, 2000

THE THUNDERBOLT

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

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan	*Samuel Klippa1965	Ralph Gunderson 1982
Jack M. Straus	*William M. Doty1966	*Arthur Doggett1983
*Shelly Hughes1949	Albert A. Belvedere1967	*Bernie Cove
*Julius Ansel	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968	Carroll Brown1985
*Walter H. Edwards Jr1951	Pat DiGiammerino1969	John Hobbs1986
Leo Schneider1952	Casey Szubski1970	George Pletcher1987
Finley Heyl 1953	*Charles Altomari	*Charles Schmidt 1988
* Lawrence J. Redmond 1954-55	*Harold H. Dopp 1972	Edward Reuss1989
*Lt. Gen. Robert H. York1956	Louis J. Volpi	Charles J. Lussier
*Harry W. Lockwood1957	Bernard O. Riddle	Edgar H. Haynes 1991
*Raymond J. Voracek1958	Robert G. Taylor 1975	Ned Smith
Charles Abdinoor1959	Mike Skovran	Louis Sandini
*Joseph F. Minotti	Manlius Goodridge 1977	William A. Minick
*Frank J. McGrogan1961	Joseph A. Macaluso 1978	Casey Szubski
John W. Robinette1962	*William J. Chavanne1979	Floyd Richmond
*Manuel C. Martin1963	*Samuel Klippa1980	Ketth Davidson
*Julius Boyles1964	Michael Caprio	R.C. Hamilton 1998
		Pat DiGiammerino1999

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE Please Read Carefully

IT IS IMPORTANT TO FILL OUT THE 2000 PRE-REGISTRATION FORM AND SEND YOUR DEPOSIT CHECK OR MONEY ORDER OR CREDIT CARD NUMBER TO THE FRIAR TUCK INN. BY DOING THIS YOU WILL PICK UP ALL INFORMATION NEEDED WHEN YOU CHECK IN. BRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR VERIFICATION IF NEEDED.

WE WILL HAVE A ON SITE COLLECTION TABLE FOR 2001 DUES, BUT I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO SEND 2001 DUES TO THE OFFICE BY JULY 31, 2000. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.

REMOVE YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION AND SEND IT IN NOW BEFORE YOU FORGET IT TO FRIAR TUCK INN RESORT.

YOU MAY CANCEL YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION IF NEEDED.



54nd ANNUAL REUNION OF 83RD INFANTRY DIVISION SEPT. 6 - 9, 2000 SEND ADS IN EARLY!

PLEASE Select size of Ad

FULL PAGE @ \$60.00

HALF PAGE @ \$35.00

THIRD PAGE @ \$24.00

QUARTER PAGE @ \$18.00

BOOSTER ADS are \$5.00 Make check payable and send to:

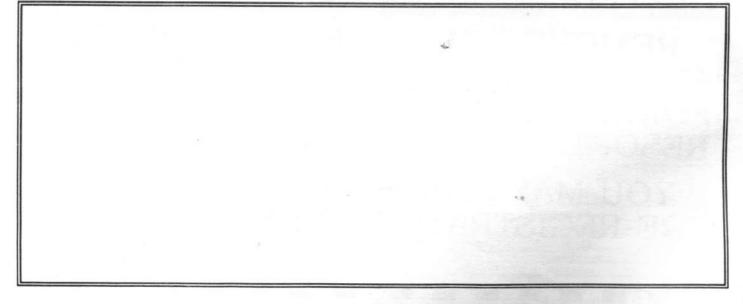
83rd Infantry Division Assn. Reunion Fund Wooldridge Press 74 Maple Street Stoneham, MA 02180

URGENT - ACT NOW

Please mail your checks for the Ad Book as soon as possible. As you know, this money is needed to help pay for some expenses for our 54th reunion.

DEADLINE - AUGUST 1, 2000

PLEASE Type or Print Ad Clearly and State Size of Ad.



Welcome to the Friar Tuck Inn!!!!

Monday's Activities Come and Join the FUN!!!

12:00 noon	CHECK IN TIME: FREE COFFEE AND CAKE IN THE MAIN LOBBY FOLLOWED BY LUNCH BEING SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM UNTIL 1:00 PM. MONKS LOUNGE HAS REDUCED SENIOR CITIZEN PRICES ON COCKTAILS. O.T.B. IS OPEN IN THE ROBIN HOOD LOUNGE PAYING TRACK ODDS.
2:00 PM	ORIENTATION OF THE HOTELMEET VINCENT VANELLI OUR M.C. AND SOCIAL DIRECTOR IN THE MAIN LOBBYHE'LL TAKE YOU ON A TOUR OF THE ENTIRE HOTEL AND SHOW YOU WHERE EVERYTHING IS LOCATED.
	WE ARE LOCATED IN THE VALLEY OF THE PICTURESQUE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS. DURING YOUR STAY HERE WE HOPE YOU WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS CHARMING COUNTRYSIDE AND ALL WE HAVE TO OFFER.
2:30 PM	OUR KING RICHARDS GIFT SHOP HOURS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BE SURE TO CHECK OUR BULLETIN BOARD FOR ANY EXTRA ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN THIS ITINERARY LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THE MAIN LOBBY.
3:00 PM	BINGO CAME, MEET IN THE NIGHT CLUBCOME TRY YOUR LUCK, IF IT IS A NICE DAY WE WILL PLAY OUTSIDE ON THE PATIO.
4:00 PM	HORSE RACING FOR SOME GREAT FUN DON'T MISS THISMEET IN THE NIGHT CLUB OR OUTSIDE WEATHER PERMITTING.
5:30 PM	CHECK BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MAIN LOBBY FOR ANY CONCESSIONS THAT MAY TAKE PLACE BEFORE AND AFTER DINNER IN THE MAIN LOBBY.
6:00 PM	HUNGRY??? THE DINING ROOM OPENS FOR DINNER. WE RECOMMEND THE 6:00 PM SEATING FOR ALL OF OUR SENIOR GROUPS. THIS IS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE SO YOU WON'T MISS ANY OF THE MIDWEEK EVENING ENJOYMENT. CHAMPAGNE TOAST WITH VINCENT, CENTO ANNI! FOR ANYONE WITH SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS PLEASE NOTIFY OUR DINING ROOM STAFF SO THAT WE MAY ACCOMMODATE YOU.
8:00 PM	MOVIETITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED! THE MOVIE ROOM IS LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE HOTEL.
REMINDER	
8:00 PM	SENIOR GROUP LEADERS SHOULD CHECK FOR NIGHTCLUB RESERVATIONS BY DIALING 458 FOR THE SCARLET NIGHTCLUB. IF THE PALACE THEATER IS OPEN DIAL 482.
8:30 PM	DANCE IN THE NIGHT CLUB TO THE FRIAR'S ORCHESTRA!

ATTENTION: IN CASE OF LATE BUS ARRIVALS, MONDAY'S TIME SCHEDULE MAY VARY UNTIL 5:00 PM

AFTER THE SHOW.

9:30 PM

INDOOR POOL, SAUNAS, STEAM ROOM AND GYM ARE OPEN 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM ALL WEEK

SHOWTIME IN THE NIGHT CLUB. WHO'S APPEARING? CHECK THE SHOWCASE IN THE

COMPLIMENTARY MAKE YOUR OWN ICE CREAM PARTY IN THE REAR OF THE NIGHT CLUB

Tuesday's Activities

7:00 AM	SMELL THE COFFEECOME TO THE MAIN DINING ROOM AND COFFEE OR TEA IS PROVIDED FOR YOU.
8:00 AM	FOR A HEARTY BREAKFAST, THE MAIN DINING ROOM IS NOW OPEN WHERE YOU WILL BE SERVED.
9:30 AM	AQUASIZE CLASS (WATER AEROBICS) WITHOUT STRAIN IN THE INDOOR POOL WITH DANIELLE.
10:00 AM	EVERYONE IS INVITED FOR A NATURE WALK IN THE MOUNTAINS, WE WILL BE WALKING 4/10 OF A MILE TO OUR NOTTINGHAM VILLAGE ESTATES COME AND JOIN IN THIS VIGOROUS WALK.
11:00 AM	MONKS LOUNGE AND OUR O.T.B. SIMULCAST THEATRE ARE NOW OPEN REDUCED PRICES FOR SENIORS. NYS LOTTERY GAMES AVAILABLE.
11:00 AM	BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT ON THE COURTS – FRIAR TUCK OLYMPIC MEDALLIONS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WINNERS.
11:30 AM	DANCE LESSONS IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUB. LEARN THE FRIAR TUCK DANCE CALLED THE "TAZZA CAFE", "THE CHICKEN DANCE" AND "THE ELECTRIC SLIDE"
12:00 NOON	LUNCH IS NOW BEING SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM.
1:30 PM	BINGO GAME, MEET IN THE NIGHT CLUBCOME TRY YOUR LUCK, IF IT IS A NICE DAY WE WILL PLAY OUTSIDE ON THE PATIO.
2:30 PM	HORSE RACING FOR SOME GREAT FUN DON'T MISS THISMEET IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUB OR OUTSIDE WEATHER PERMITTING. FREE RACING PROGRAMS.
4:00 PM	MINI-GOLF TOURNAMENTPRIZES AWARDED TO THE WINNERS!!
5:00 PM	CHECK BULLETIN BOARD FOR EXTRA ACTIVITIES THAT MAY TAKE PLACE.
Before and After	JUSTINE COSMETIC DEMONSTRATION - GET YOUR FREE RAFFLE TICKETS. ONE LUCKY WINNER WILL RECEIVE A LOVELY DOOR PRIZE! ALSO HAVE A FACIAL BY OUR PROFESSIONAL BEAUTY CONSULTANT. MODEL GETS A PRIZE AS WELL AND ALL GUESTS THAT ATTEND RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY BEAUTY BOOK! DISCOUNT WATCH DISPLAY SPONSORED BY FRITZ'S FASHIONS!
6:00 PM	HUNGRY??? THE DINING ROOM OPENS FOR DINNER. WE RECOMMEND THE 6:00 PM SEATING FOR ALL OF OUR SENIOR GROUPS. THIS IS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE SO YOU WON'T MISS ANY OF THE MIDWEEK EVENING ENJOYMENT.
8:00 PM	FEATURE MOVIETITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED! THE MOVIE ROOM IS LOCATED IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF THE HOTEL.
8:30 PM	THE NIGHT CLUB IS NOW OPEN COME DANCE TO THE FRIAR'S ORCHESTRA, IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIAL REQUEST FOR ANY OF YOUR FAVORITE OLD SONGS, DON'T BE SHY JUST ASK.
9:30 PM	SHOWTIME IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUB. WHO'S APPEARING? CHECK THE SHOWCASE IN THE MAIN LOBBY.

AFTER SHOW

COMPLIMENTARY CORDIAL COCKTAIL PARTY IN THE REAR OF THE NIGHT CLUB.

Wednesday's Activities

7:00 AM SMELL THE COFFEE...COME TO THE MAIN DINING ROOM AND COFFEE OR TEA IS PROVIDED FOR YOU. FOR A HEARTY BREAKFAST THE MAIN DINING ROOM IS NOW OPEN AND WILL BE 8:00 AM SERVED. 9:30 AM BUY ADMISSION TICKET AT THE DESK IN THE CENTER OF THE LOBBY TO THE ANTIQUE CARRIAGE MUSEUM AT CARSON CITY. IT'S JUST THREE MILES FROM THE HOTEL. ADMISSION FEE IS ONLY \$3.00. THIS MUSEUM HAS BECOME A NEW YORK STATE LANDMARK DATING BACK TO THE 1800'S. YOU WILL ENJOY A PROFESSIONALLY GUIDED TOUR OF THE TOWN AND THE MUSEUM. GENERAL STORE, A SMALL PETTING ZOO AND A TWO MILE TRAIN RIDE. THIS IS A \$14.00 VALUE. ALL THIS AND MORE FOR FREE!!! DON'T MISS IT. BUSSES LEAVE EVERY 15 MINUTES. 10:00 AM FIRST BUS LEAVES FOR ANTIQUE CARRIAGE MUSEUM. 11:00 AM CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR EXTRA ACTIVITIES. THE MONK'S LOUNGE IS OPEN - REDUCED PRICES FOR SENIOR GROUPS ALL DAY!!! 11:00 AM AQUASIZE IN THE INDOOR POOL WITH DANIELLE. LUNCH IS NOW BEING SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM. 12:00 NOON 1:30 PM DINGO GAME, MEET IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUB...COME TRY YOUR LUCK, IF IT IS A NICE DAY WE WILL PLAY OUTSIDE ON THE OUTDOOR PATIO NEAR LAKE. HORSE RACING FOR SOME GREAT FUN -- DON'T MISS THIS...MEET IN THE SCARLET 2:15 PM NIGHT CLUB OR OUTSIDE WEATHER PERMITTING. FREE RACING FORMS. REMINDER TALENT SHOW IN THE NIGHT CLUB TONIGHT!!!! CAN YOU SING OR TELL A JOKE OR MAYBE DANCE? JUST SIGN UP AT 8:30 PM IN THE NIGHT CLUB, FULL OF FUN LAUGHS AND SURPRISES. 5:00 PM COMPLIMENTARY COCKTAIL PARTY IN THE NIGHTCLUB. (IF WEATHER IS GOOD OUTSIDE ON THE PATIO) ENJOY VINNY'S JACKPOT RACE OF THE WEEK. ALSO ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL EXTRA VAGANZA OF HOT AND COLD HORS 'DOUVRES, FRUIT AND CHEESE DELIGHTS. 6:00 PM DINNER IS BEING SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM. ENHANCE YOUR MIDWEEK VACATION WITH THE WIDE VARIETY OF DELICIOUS SELECTIONS ON OUR MENU. 8:00 PM FEATURE MOVIE IN THE MANCHESTER ROOM. TITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED. 8:30 PM THE EVENINGS FUN IS ABOUT TO BEGIN IN THE NIGHT CLUB. DON'T BE SHY COME AND JOIN IN. BRING YOUR CREATIVE AND TALENTED FRIENDS. DANCING BEGINS IN THE NIGHT CLUB. 9:00 PM HAT SHOW IN THE NIGHT CLUB. WEAR YOUR OWN CREATION. 10:30 PM LATE NIGHT COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN FOR LATE NIGHT SNACKS.

HAVE A PLEASANT EVENING!

Thursday's Activities

8:00 AM	GOOD MORNING! BREAKFAST IS BEING SERVED IN THE DINING ROOM
9:00 AM	INDOOR POOL, SAUNAS, GYMS & GAME ROOM OPENONCE AGAIN YOU CAN ENJOY OUR OUTDOOR AND INDOOR JACUZZI'S.
9:30 AM	AQUASIZE IN THE INDOOR POOL WITH DANIELLE.
10:00 AM	SHOPPING TRIP TO KNITTING MILL\$1.00 PER PERSONBUS RETURNS BY 12:00 NOON. ENJOY THIS SCENIC RIDE THROUGH THE BAVARIAN WOODS. THE FRIAR'S GIFT AND SOUVENIR SHOP, LOCATED IN THE LOWER LOBBY IS OPEN TODAY UNTIL 3:00 PM. THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE TO BUY SOUVENIRS!!!
10:45 AM	COUNTRY WESTERN LINE DANCING!!!"LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED".
11:00 AM	SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENTMEET AT THE COURTSTROPHIES TO THE WINNERS. OTB OPENS IN THE ROBIN HOOD LOUNGE. TRACK ODDS!! MONKS LOUNGE OPENS WITH REDUCED PRICES ONCE AGAIN ALL DAY FOR SENIORS.
12:00 NOON	LUNCH IS NOW BEING SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM.
1:30 PM	BINGO GAME, MEET IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUBCOME TRY YOUR LUCK, IF IT IS A NICE DAY WE WILL PLAY OUTSIDE ON THE PATIO.
2:15 PM	IT'S POST TIMEHORSE RACING FOR SOME GREAT FUNDON'T MISS THISMEET IN THE SCARLET NIGHT CLUB OR OUTSIDE WEATHER PERMITTING. FREE PROGRAMS.
3:30 PM	HORSHOE THROUGHING TOURNAMENTPRIZES AWARDED TO THE WINNERS!!!
4:15 PM	GOURMET STYLE COOKING CLASS IN THE MONK'S COFFEE SHOP. (DON'T MISS THIS!!) OUR CHEF WILL PREPARE HIS GOURMET SPECIAL OF THE WEEK RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES. EVERYONE THAT ATTENDS RECEIVES HIS RECIPE AND A SAMPLE DISH.
6:00 PM	FOR A DELICIOUS DINNER. TONIGHT IS ITALIAN NIGHT FIESTA, FIESTA, COMPLIMENTARY PEACHES AND WINE ON ALL TABLES. FIESTATHE DINING ROOM IS OPENYOU WILL TRULY FEAST ON OUR EXTENSIVE MENU.
Before Dinner	BE SURE TO CHECK OUR BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MAIN LOBBY FOR ANY EXTRA ACTIVITY AND/OR CONCESSION FOR THIS EVENING THAT WOULD TAKE PLACE AT 7:45 PM IN THE MAIN LOBBY.
Before and After Dinner	JUSTINE COSMETIC DEMONSTRATION - GET YOUR FREE RAFFLE TICKETS
7:30 PM	FEATURE MOVIE IN THE MANCHESTER ROOM. TITLE TO BE ANNOUNCED.
8:30 PM	DANCING IN THE NIGHTCLUB! ENJOY THIS LAST NIGHT TOGETHER WITH US THIS WEEK AND PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GREAT SHOW WITH YOUR HOST VINCENT VANELLI.
9:30 PM	IT'S SHOWTIMEFOR A RUNDOWN ON WHO IS APPEARING, CHECK THE SHOWCASE IN THE MAIN LOBBY!
10-20 DM	THE COFFEE SHOP IS NOW OPEN FOR LATE NICHT DESCRIPTS

THE COFFEE SHOP IS NOW OPEN FOR LATE NIGHT DESSERTS.

10:30 PM

Friday's Activities

SMELL THE COFFEE...COME TO THE MAIN DINING ROOM AND COFFEE OR TEA IS

PICK UP ALL CHARGES THAT YOU MAY HAVE SUCH AS PHONE CALLS, ETC...

8:00 AM	FOR A HEARTY BREAKFAST THE MAIN DINING ROOM IS NOW OPEN AND WILL BE SERVED UNTIL 9:30 AM.
9:00 AM	INDOOR AND OUTDOOR POOLS, JACUZZIS, SAUNAS AND GYM ARE NOW OPEN.
10:30 AM	IF YOU ARE CHECKING-OUT, PLEASE LEAVE ALL ROOM KEYS AT THE FRONT DESK.

PROVIDED FOR YOU.

7:00 AM

ALL LUGGAGE MUST BE IN THE HALLS BY 9:00 AM

HAVE A SAFE, PLEASANT TRIP HOME! HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN SOON! HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR STAY AS MUCH AS WE HAD HAVING YOU AS OUR GUESTS!

> SINCERELY, THE CARIDI FAMILY

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear Buddies,

Hopefully you have all survived this "crazy" winter and those of you who suffered from colds & flu are now well and healthy.

Plans are going well for our reunion in Sept. in N.Y. Its shaping up to be a busy and fun time.

Friar Tuck has received many reservations for the Baseball Hall of Fame tour, which is an all day affair - bus ride - lunch - and admission to the Hall for the price of \$42.50 per person. It is not necessary to send a deposit.

For those of you flying, you'll fly into stewart airport in Newburg, N.Y. Please notify Friar Tuck <u>before</u> your arrival so they can coordinate their pick-ups. There is no charge for pick-up or return to the airport. Phone 1-800-832-7600.

There is parking on the premises, no charge.

Also, there are plans for golf tournaments so bring your equipment.

Don't forget your ads, as they are very important.

Pat DiGiammerino

Executive Board Chairman

I am proud to be your first millennium chairman and will do the best of my ability to serve the 83rd Division Association. Our 53rd reunion was a great one, and I want to thank R. C. Hamilton and Mitch Kirchner who did an excellent job.

Now that we are in the new millennium we must work together as a team.

My congratulations to our new board member John Prinzi who did a excellent job as our 83rd Inf. Div. Historian. My heart also goes out to the ladies who also did an excellent job in the past.

I hope you all had a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.

Please send your ad's for the Ad Book.

Board Chairman August Farias

from The Office



Again I want to remind you about the Pre-Registration form which is a slip-in between the cover and the pages of this Book. When you open your magazine if you should not find a Pre-Registration form please notify me by a postcard or a telephone call and one will be sent to you.

You will find an additional flier with the package Pre-Registration form for special daily rates. Based on double occupancy; four night stay will be \$374 per person, three night stay will be \$286 per person, two night stay will be \$198 per person, one night stay will be \$105 per person. Come enjoy a visit with your friends and buddies.

A new Roster is in the making and it is important that you make known any change in your address or telephone number and that includes your area codes. Today they are changing area codes all over the nation.

Last I want to apologize for this issue being late due to the passing of Pearl on March 4, 2000. She suffered terribly the month of February. God bless her and let her rest without pain. I certainly do miss her. She was a great wife and mother to our six children and enjoyed many friends. She was so proud to be a part of the 83rd with me for the past 20 years of her life.

Bob Derickson Nat'l Sec.-Tres.



OLD GLORY

Deceased List

Our sympathy goes out to all the families of these veterans. We will miss all of them.

Name Beauton, Walter J.	Unit Co. B 331st	Reported By Wife
Benoit, John J.	Co. B 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
Beyer, Clement A.	453 AA	Pat DiGiammerino
Cormier, Edgar J.	Co. A 331st	Pat DiGiammerino
Daniel, Col. William J.	Unknown	Uvah Jean Falk
Fishman, Sylvain J.	Co. F 329th	James Davis
Foster, Edgar L.	"CN" 329th	Mr. M. Goldman
Girap, Peter Jr.	Co. I 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
Ingram, Melvin	908th F.A.	Walter R. Pickett
Kisor, James E.	331st Inf.	Pat DiGiammerino
Kulpa, Stanley	1st Bn HQS	Al Shrawder
	331st	
Leonardi, Larry	Co. A 331st	Frank Hornack
Levy, Seymour	Co. K 331st	Manny Epstein
McDonald, Earl F.	Co. K 331st	George Waples
McMurray, John R. Dr.	Co. C 330th	Wife
Mueller, Vernon E.	Co. D 331st	Al Shrawder
Phillips, Frank	Co. C 308th R	osemary I Halpin
	Medics	
Price, James F.	Co. C 331st	Wife
Resnick, David	Co. A 330th	Pat DiGiammerino
Roberts, Wallace F.	Co. E 329th	Wife
Sherry, Stanley F.	331st AT	Pat DiGiammerino
Slagle, Rev. Arnold A.	Hq & Hq Co 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
Stat, Ralph	Co. G 329th	Wife
Walsh, Capt. Martin T.	Co. E 330th	Wife
Watrud, Robert E.	Co. L 330th	Wife
Weichert, Edward J.	Co. G 330th	Pat DiGiammerino
	-21 - 000111	

in Frankfort, Kentucky. RT and Betty Brooks and John and Hazel Hudnall were our hosts for the Christmas party meeting. They planned a tour of the Kentucky museum and Vietnam Memorial in Frankfort. Both were very interesting and enjoyable. We missed all of those who couldn't attend due to other family and community activities in December. We hope they can attend our spring meeting in Northern Kentucky.

Now some sad news. Wallace Roberts passed away Feb. 23/00, Pearl Derickson on March 4/00, and Norman Weaks on April 7/00. They all will be greatly missed.

During the winter break, Earl Hoover had an aneurysm removed from his abdomen and Bob Derickson had to have a tumor removed from the bile duct one week after Pearl was buried. Both Earl and Bob are doing well now.

Bob Derickson 3 Bn Hdqtrs. Co. 329th



John & Hazel Hudnall and Betty & RT Brooks were hosts of Christmas party at Hampton Inn at Frankfort, Ky.

Chaplain Manny Goodridge, President Chester Wilson, Sec.-Tres. Homer Rickenbaugh



Kentucky Chapter men - nobody fall in the pool!

CHAPTERS

Kentucky Chapter News..

Floyd and Alberta Richmond were our hosts for the October 22-23 meeting at the CourtYard Motel in Kokomo, Indiana. As always there was plenty of food and everybody enjoyed visiting and playing cards. The Kentucky Chapter has a policy that the officers serve a two-year term. This was the year for officers to be elected. Chester Wilson became President, having served as Vice President. The following officers were elected: Floyd Richmond, vice president, Homer Rickenbaugh, Sec.-Tres., Manny Goodridge Chaplin, and Bob Derickson, reporter. We had 26 in attendance. We were sorry to learn that Paul and Doris Lear had a car accident after leaving the meeting and were thankful that no one was hurt.

Our December meeting was held at the Hampton Inn



Women of the Kentucky Chapter

Cleveland Chapter.....

We had to cancel our January meeting because of the snow storm we had. Our Mess Sgt. Mike Mizerock had to freeze the food and make other arrangements. I talked to him the other day and he said everything is go for February. Hope we have a sunny day.

Our Xmas party was a success. Good food and liquid refreshments were great. We had a surprise during dinner. Who should walk in but Charlie Sihlanick from little Ferry, new Jersey. Casey and Eleanor Szubski met him at the airport and brought him in. Lots of hugs and kisses. You all know Charlie He's a great guy. We all love him.

Called Emily Czeck to find out how chester was getting along. He had a slight heart attack in December but is doing fine. He has other problems but Emily says hes tough and doing OK.

Warren Owen is still on dialysis 3 times a week. He's hanging in there.

Casey & Eleanor Szubski became grand parents of twins in December. A boy and a girl. Szubski's son and daughter-in-law are doing fine and so are the twins.

Casey is having a cataract removed Feb. 11, 2000. Good luck Casey. Hope all goes well.

George Calore is taking care of his wife, Martha. It's tough but he's doing a good job.

Mike & Ann Mizorock became great-grandparents again. Congratulations to both of you. That makes 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grand children. Pretty hard to beat I'd say.

Little bit of sad news. Dominic Christopher's brother died in January. Our condolences to the Christopher family.

A poem I saw in a magazine.

"Soldier"

I was that which others did not want to be.

I went where others feared to go, and did what others failed to do

I asked nothing from those who gave nothing, and reluctantly accepted the thought of eternal loneliness...should I fail

I have seen the face of terror; felt the stinging cold of fear; and enjoyed the sweet taste of a moment's love.

I have cried, pained, and hoped...but most of all,

I have lived times others would say were best forgotten.

At least someday I will be able to say that I was proud of what I was..."A SOLDIER"

By George L. Skypeck

Stay Healthy, Bob Grobelny, "A" Co. - 329th

Michigan Chapter News.....

The Michigan Chapter has been hibernating, as everyone else has been doing, except those that go down south, for the winter months. Here in the cold north we like the winters. We like the now and ice, and the heat in the house to keep us warm.

Haven't heard much from anyone, so as they say, no news is good news. In the coming mouths we are planning to have three meetings as follows.

APRIL 13TH - JULY 13TH - OCT. 12TH

We will meet for lunch @ Richards Chalet Restaurant, 23920 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, Mich 48124/1833, 1-313-565-0484. (Meeting between 1 & 2 P.M.) (Come early and enjoy togetherness)

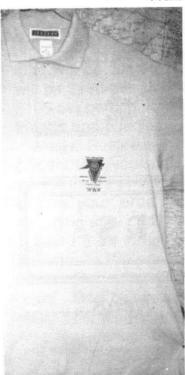
Please notify Vito Palazzolo if you will be attending, to

make reservations for you.
Thats it for now,

Co. "G" - 329th

Vito Palazzolo, 20.000 Lancaster Harper Woods, Mich. 48225or call 1-313-881-2364

Front Views







Back View

Shirt also can have a large logo as on the back of jacket.

Pittsburgh Chapter News......

Twenty-nine persons turned out for the chapter Christmas Party held at Diets Bar and Grill in Blawnox, Pa. Each lady in attendance received a box of home-made chocolates. Officers for the upcoming two years are: president, Sal Scicolone; vice-president, Mike Rudy; treasurer, William Mattes; secretary, Charles Caven; Sergeant-at-Arms, Andrew Churpak; Publications, Francis Beerhalter; Historian, Lawrence Leonardi; Trustees, Joseph Danylo, Francis Beerhalter, William Demario; Chaplain, Matthew Pintar. One member died recently: William Harrold. We recently received a letter from Felix Marra of Fairmont, W. Va. He religiously sends in his dues and fund raising money. At the February meeting \$20.00 was approved for an ad for their program book for Man of the Year for VFW 1810 VFW.

The following newspaper article appeared in the Westerrmor and Sunday section of the Tribune - Review of June 6, 1999.

They met at a Mister Donut, in the middle of one of those long, lazy, early-retirement mornings. The old schoolteacher noticed the other man's cap. The insignia -- a target made from the letters in OHIO, written one on top of the other -- marked him as a Thunderbolt member of the Army's 83rd Infantry Division.

The 83rd fought on the beach at Normandy, and at Brittany and Ardennes, and in the Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns of World War II. Frank Hornack fought in all five, then came home to teach geography at Greensburg Salem Middle School.

The man in the cap enlisted later. But he knew of others from the 83rd, right here in western Pennsylvania. They were meeting in a few weeks; would Hornack want to come?

He did. And he kept going, the first Sunday of every month, to the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Brentwood.

But not today. For this, the 55th Anniversary of D-Day, Hornack and the others have gathered at Arlington National Cemetery, near the grave of their commander, Gen. Robert C. Macon. They will lay a wreath there, and another at the base of a new monument to the 83rd, a foot-high granite block with five stars on top.

Hornack will lead a prayer. As a chaplain's assistant, he used to carry a portable church organ onto the battle-fields. "We had good attendance," he remembers. "There were no unbelievers in the foxholes."

He also will read an original poem, which ends with this stanza:

Five Bronze Stars are what we gave
To be among the "rest of the brave"
With God's will came victory
Trust God to give us eternity.

The 83rd's survivors don't have that long. There are about 1,600 members left, but their number is falling. Last year 130 of them died.

"A lot of them are dying now," said Michael Rudy, 74, of Loyalhanna. "We're getting up there, you know."

But they keep meeting. The 83rd has hosted reunions every year since 1946. The three-day events still draw 600 participants.

"It's amazing, the comradeship you see when these men are with their buddies," said John Prinzi of Sarasota, Fla., the 83rd's historian. "There is just no better bonding agent than being in battle together."

Those battles changed these men's lives. "Frank fought that war every night for a year and a half after he came home," said Norma Hornack, who lives with her husband in Unity Township.

Normandy was by far the worst of it. "It was a mess, a real mess," said Frank Hornack, now 76. "We were supposed to relieve the 101st (the "Screaming Eagles" Airborne Division). But they were so shot up they weren't even a unit any more."

The men still talk about that when they meet. "Every year the stories get taller and taller," Prinzi said. But they also talk about golf and grandchildren and their health. They toast their fallen friends, 3600 of them were killed in action -- but they hold off on the liquor until the end. And even then they watch the door, looking for lost faces.

I'll tell you, it's something when you go to these things and you meet a guy you haven't seen in 40 or 50 years," Rudy said.

Hornack took the trip to New York's Ellis Island a few years back. Another 83rd member saw the OHIO symbol on the side of the bus and followed it into the Catskills. At the hotel, he rushed into an elevator and came face-to-face with a friend he hadn't seen for 50 years.

In 1994 they gathered in Europe, for the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. "I had no desire to go back," Hornack said. "But I was very thankful that I did. The second time through was a lot easier."

"Today's reunion will be a somber one, with "Taps" and "Amazing Grace" and an honor guard. But it will not be the last. Organizers already are finishing plans for an August meeting in Lexington, Ky. And they have received another invitation, this one from members of the German unit they spent much of 1944 fighting. The Germans have their own reunions, and they'd like members of the 83rd to come.

"That would be something, to go and see those guys," Rudy said. "You fought with them, you shot them, and now you're friends."

Francis G. Beerhalter 147 York Rd. Cranberry Twp., PA 16066-2153

New Jersey Chapter News.....

January 26, 2000

I was supposed to go to Atlantic City today, but a Northeaster Storm hit us with lots of snow yesterday so I cancelled and instead having the time I decided to write this article. I probably saved myself quite a bundle as they haven't been paying me the way my luck has been there lately. I did take my usual group to Atlantic City on January 11th and had Frank and Mary Sabine (D Co., 331st) they live in nearby Edison, New Jersey to join us. I believe Mary came home a winner. It was good to have them along.

Fran and I probably spend about 30 days a year in Atlantic City and have never hit it big. It is amazing to hear of people who go a few times a year and do. I ran into Dutchy and Helen Smith from the New England Chapter at Ballys a few months ago and they told me they won \$75,000 at a tournament and \$10,000 another time.

Well we'll keep trying.

Fran and I baby-sat for our grandchildren in the town of Shamong and the next day went to Sunday Mass with them. We met Al and Anna Belvidere who are very active at their parish. They both look great and are planning on

going to the reunion.

I want to thank all who sent in their chapter dues. It was nice to get a note along with the check. I received a postcard from Russ and Marguerita Whitehead from Spain. Their son is a missionary and is headquartered there. Russ and his son went for the Battle of the Bulge ceremonies held in both Belgium and Luxembourg last December and told me he was one of only two US Veterans attending. They had a wonderful time and were treated royalty by the locals and dignitaries at the events.

Manny Epstein sent me a letter he received from Daniel and Marie Auvray. Rags, you remember them as Christine's aunt and uncle who were at the Myrtle Beach reunion. They are planning to attend the reunion in New York from what we understood in the letter. They didn't

mention bringing Christine along.

I received a number of calls from George Waple. His book has been keeping him very busy. He went to his hometown in Virginia to speak about it and also had a book signing at Barnes and Noble in Long Branch, New Jersey. Also George informed me of Earl McDonald's passing. They both came from the 3rd Calvary to cadre the 83rd.

Joe and Hazel Barton sent their best wishes and are planning on being at the reunion in the Catskills. Fred Klein wrote that his New Year's Eve in Paris was great.

The TV coverage from Paris was spectacular.

Received a interesting phone call from Richard (Dixie) Dickson (B Co. 329). We have never met but were both at the 50th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy. He sent me a copy he wrote of his time in combat and also the time spent recuperating from his wounds sustained in Luxembourg. I found it to be very interesting. I hope you have sent a copy to the 83rd exhibit at Carlisle Bar-

racks.

Charley Sihlanick and Andy Socha went to visit Emil Wehling at the nursing home. They said Emil gets around well but is confused. When Charley and Andy were leaving, they said it was time to go and didn't realize Emil was right behind them ready to leave.

We talk to Irene Guzek often about Ted and she has her hands full taking care of him. She needs full time help for him and the difficulty is finding a qualified per-

son.

A few of us meet every third Friday of the month at the VFW in Garfield to enjoy the comradery and share a pizza. Joe DePeri has taken over for Ted Guzek to bring the pizza to the meeting. We trust that you can uphold the standards established by Teddy. We wish you well in this most important position. PIZZAMAN!!

I received a book for Christmas by Gerald Astor titled "The Greatest War, Americans in Combat 1941-45" There is a number of pages written by Tony Vaccaro in the book. Tony was the 331st Regiment photographer and has exhibited his photos both here and abroad. The book sells for \$39.95, see if your library has a copy.

That's it for now, My best wishes to all of you.

Stan Bielen 1st Bn. Hdgs. Co. 331st

Dixie Chapter Pictures



Tony Viglioni, the oldest, meanest Drill Sgt. in WW II with two Beauties from Georgia.



F Co. 331 well represented with five present.

Dixie Chapter News.....

December 15, 1999

After a most pleasant visit with the Livingstons at their home in South Carolina, enjoying their southern hospitality, viewing their 40,000 + display of Christmas lights and eating enough for a whole darn section, we arrive in Gatlinburg on Tuesday to find, that no one has checked in.

Checking further I find I'll only be alone for one night for 10 rooms are filled on Wednesday. Thats only the beginning. Kathnyn has her shopping done by now and is ready to get into

the Christmas spirit.

Our hostess Flo Jackson arrives and sets things in order. Refreshments start to flow, eats are plentiful. Ray Whitaker and June, his wife are everywhere. John Cox and Virginia come in and as president John has everything going as it should.

Carroll Brown lends a big hand. Elaine Watkins is here never still for a moment. Arthur and Charlotte Loukas fly in from Texas with two hams for the hungry troops.

By nightfall we have 47 more rooms filled with important people from Florida to Mississippi to Maryland they come, besides from all those other Dixie Strongholds.

Each one is important. The widows especially!

They are one beautiful group. Laura Kowalek from Cleveland on a bus tour saw our sign, came in to visit us. She is widow of Casey Kowalet our National Chaplain of many years. What a delightful treat! We hope to see you again soon.

All kinds of notables show up. Two Charter members, O.L. Cook, Dick Riddle manage to set a good example for us not so old members. Dick had 10 members of his family present but is beat out by Flo Jackson with 11 present.

Twas great seeing the family groups. The Singletons and McCrays making a great showing. Maybe next year.

Many manage to get tickets to the music shows. Only good reports come back from them.

Its Friday and we have the hotel full. Its a great feeling to walk down the halls on sit in the lobby and everyone you meet is just a close personal friend that you have waited a whole year to be with again!! What a feeling it is!

We enjoy so much seeing the Co. groups Capt. Hill B 329 had 4 new present. Sam Badgett 3rd Bn Hq had 4 new present. "F" 331 was well represented. "F" 330 with O.L. cook always had a good group present.

Its getting better all the time. The parade is worth the whole trip. Traffic is terrible our music man was delayed, got started late and just kept on playing. Dancing is still going strong when I had to call it a day.

Some can't make it due to sickness. We miss each one and pray for their recovery.

Business is handled in good order with 50+ attending, the meeting under the leadership of President Cox.

Banquet night is upon us! Everyone is dressed in his Sunday cloths. I look around and say, "Who are all these folks" It doesn't take long to find out!! Those Dixie and Bluegrass boys tell it like it is. A fantastic meal is ready. speeches are minimal, entertainment is ready. Mr. & Mrs. Santa arrive with gifts for the exchange. No one is left out. A great trip is had by all. We look forward to next year, same time, make your plans early. I don't want you to be left out!!

Your Reporter Ellsworth Massie



3rd Bn Hqtrs 329 with four good men.



Capt. Hill Co. B 329 with 2 old timmers and 1 new man.



Div. Arty. in place for all fire missions. 908 A and 322 A. We really need a good forward observer!



Sgt. Biller watchesparade eith some of his great crew.

New England Chapter News

Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and also wish you all a healthy 2000.

We in the New England section have been having some great weather and hope it will continue for the next two months.

Received Xmas cards from some of the boys or men from 3rd Bn Hq Co. 330th Capt. Ben Cunningham of Madison Tenn. and his wife Martha. She has an eye condition and not able to get around. also Joe & Anna Buli, Wayne & Janet Turner is doing OK now after having 3 units of blood. Good luck Wayne, Albert Vivio, Russ & Vera Wagner wife Vera was in the hospital for high blood pressure and doing OK, Fred & Nellie Messina, "Big Roynor & Virginia Burcham had there 50th Anniversary June 18, 1999 and are doing OK at the age of 87 and 86. Also good old Bob Blaut of Alexandria, Ky, Wilfred Burdin is doing OK at 85, Ray & Helen Rudd. Ray had a small cancer taken off his face and doing OK, Nick Boyd, Manny Epstein, OL Cook and buddy Vitie C Atkocius.

Boy all you guys are old I just turned 77 on June 5, 1999. I think me and Chuck Abdinoor must have been the babies of the outfit. Ha Ha!.

Also heard from Scott & Cheryl and Oscar & Linda Harrington.

Talked with Chuck Abdinoor and they are off to Fla. for a few months.

Received a call from John & Ester Ferriera that on Dec. 23, 19999 his sister Theresa Simard, age 69 had passed away. We of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to the Simord and Ferreira families.

Also received a card from the Davis's that Betty is having trouble with her legs and Bill with back problems. Hope every thing comes out OK at the doctors.

Chuck Abdinoor just sent me some news. They are in Ft Pierce, Fla and Chuck is anxious to try out his new rod and reel that he got for Christmas. They will be down there for four months.

Dutchy Smith was operated on recently for a heart problem and coming along nicely. He was in H Co 329th.

John Ferreiro is still driving Ester up a wall with his driving. I hate to see how he drove when he was eighteen years old, Ha Ha.

I saw Mousie on TV again, He was on the Today Morning Show, outside as the camera was panning the audience. Looking forward to see some old buddies mainly Paul & Delores Reed from Baltimore also Handsome Harry Harrison who lives in North Carolina. He is taking good care of his wife Clara who has alzheimer. One of these days he will make the reunion. He was with Chuck in Co. Co.B 330th.

Gloria McCartin, wife of Spike has moved to California to be near her daughters. We sure miss her and Spike. Went to see Father Frank McCertin, Spike's brother and spent a few hours with him and enjoyed lunch at the Novitiate and introduced me to the Priest; that are stationed there. There was two Priests that were Chaplains in the Army Divisions. One was in the 79th Div. and I will get the other Priest's outfit next issue.

Hope all is well with everybody. Also received a letter from Capt. Bunningham of Madison Tenn. He was our 3rd Bn 330thand a good one and he would like to know if anyone has Lt. William R. Notbhm. He took command of K. Co. and one night in the Hurtgen forest was captured. He had a letter after the war, but has lost track of him. He retired from the service as a Lt. Colonel.

If anyone knows has his address we would like to know.

Thanks.

Kerl and Ingrid Burkhard are doing OK.

Talked to the Brennans and they are all doing OK also.

Thats it for now.

Nick Francullo Hq. Co. 3rd Bn 330th



Our great women - New England Chapter



Cook out - New England Chapter



Chuck Abdinoor Rep. 330th - Memorial Services



Son Nick and daughter Terry, wife Mary at WWII diploma ceremony.

Boston Chapter News.....

The penultimate year of the century. What a year for the Boston Chapter! From the depths of despair to the joy of our Xmas party. We should be proud of the membership. The way we put ourselves together and we produced and attended the ceremonies for our deceased members at the graves of Bob Hunnewell at Bourne, on Cape Cod, and Al King in Norway, ME. We should be proud of such members as Fred Sylvia, who presided over the Hunnewell ceremony at the Cape and Bob Sessions who arranged the Norway setting traveling from all areas of New England, a great number of our membership attended these ceremonies, and I haven't as yet mentioned the marvelous ceremony we had at our mini reunion described in the last THUNDERBOLT issue. Such men as Sylvia, Tisdale, DiGiammerino and Sandini who fill the gap when there is work to be done. Now I want to mention Charlie Lussier who ran another successful Xmas party at the Ramada Inn at Seekonk Massachusetts. Charlie never fails, he is always there to run a good party.

If eel as though I am repeating the same things we do year after year when I describe our party activities. We arrived at the hotel to our splendid quarters and a hospitality room where food (hors d'oeuvres) and drink was freely dispensed to those who wanted it. This went on all afternoon. Although some of us went shopping in the stores around us.

When the evening arrived we all went to the dining room. A beautifully decorated room with a dance floor. Against one wall was an easel with well taken photographs of all our ceremonies and also a great many prize worthy pictures taken at the dedication of the 83rd monument in Washington at Arlington National Cemetery. All these pictures were taken by a very capable Fred Sylvia.

The Chaplain (Charlie Lussier) called for a moment of prayer and silence for our departed comrades and then we all sat down, drank a toast with a drink paid for by the Chapter and ate a sumptuous meal of our choice. Meanwhile music was playing and some of us got up and danced. Led by Jackie Remy we all sang the standard Xmas carols. Jackie also entertained us with some beautiful solo singing. Next * ta (Charlie Lussier) Claus entered with a flourish and the usual Merry Xmas greetings. After kissing each girl (who sits on his lap) he distributed all the gifts. After singing and dancing for a while longer.

The annual Charity drawing was made by Mike Caprio. First prize was won by Harold Everham of New Jersey -- who later donated the winnings to the Boston V.A. Hospital -- Second prize was won by Lou Pace of North Carolina. Third prize went to Lou Volpe of Pennsylvania. Fourth and fifth prizes went to Ruffelo of New York and Whitty also of New York. There were also several other small prizes.

After the drawings there was more music and dancing -then we all went to the hospitality room where there was some
drinking, more jollity and merriment tempered somewhat by the
absence of Dick Armstrong who used to play the accordion until all hours of the night. Sufficient to say that a good time was
had by all.

The next morning a free breakfast was served to all the distant travelers by the hotel.

Our only wish is to have the same good times for many more years to come.

Ambrose Tynan



John Tisdell (N.H.) is that a loaf of French Bread?



Pat Worrick with Santa - Marion Cooke waiting her turn.



Don Haley from Pa. enjoying Christmas Party.



Pat DiGiammerino at Al Kings Memorial Service



That's a naughty story Santa. - Boston Chapter



Gang from HDQ. BTRY. 323rd F.A. - Boston Chapter

Looking Younger Than Your Age By Sue Chuzi (Florida Chapter)

Have you ever noticed how people simper with delight when someone says "You don't look your age." This goes for both men and women, although Napoleon once said "A woman's age and a cannon's mouth are not to be looked into."

It makes me wonder. If you are 50, do you look 40, 45, or 48? How many years do you take off? How much younger can you look at 60, 70, or 80?

I think maybe it will be helpful to have a book showing various ages, but I realize this would pose problems. It's something like picturing the days of the week. Has anyone ever seen a picture of Wednesday, or any other day? Everyone would have a different picture of the ages of people.

But I thought of a solution. Look at yourself in a picture taken 10 years ago, and compare it to one taken recently. It's an eye-opener! The passage of years is plain to see. Take off your glasses and look again. There! You may look younger than your age!

COMPANIES

"B" Bag 329th.

I can't wait to see the green stuff coming up, and the white disappearing for another year. It was great to receive all the Xmas cards this year and especially for all of the kind words on the "B" Bag. We received 16 cards from "B" Co. Thanks alot, to bad we can't make a reunion all together. It was depressing to read all about the health problems that we are all experiencing in our later life. I've heard that Vic & Marge Premro were rear ended and both suffered severe whiplash, and are under doctors care. "Red" Geyer still has his health problems. "Jiggs" Janke has serious health problems. Bill Coombs in Florida is also ailing. Ray Snapp (the company barber) is also ailing and the Balards, get well everybody.

I also heard that our fearless leader, Capt. Hill, made it to the Gatlinburg reunion and had a great time along with the Meltons, Taylors, Beams, and Pirkles. I didn't hear of any present Al Trofimuk and his vets are still taking on the V.A. hospital in Chicago. They are talking about a veterans march in Washington this summer. Good Luck Al.

A short "B" Bag Story

After arriving at Camp Atterbury, I had to go to the latrine. Posted above the urinals "Don't throw butts in the Bowels." I told the fellow what a dumb SOB was to put that sign up.

He asked me what was wrong with it. I told him that the word was Bowls and not Bowels. He didn't say anything. An hour later I went to the latrine, lo and behold the sign was corrected. The next morning at reveille I saw the man that was next to me. First Sgt. John Szymanski. I often wonder what happened to him.

Yesterday is History Tomorrow is Mystery Today is Present and that's a Gift

"B" Company Friend Forever Bob Uher 12700 Lave Ave. Apt. #1602 Lakewood, Ohio 44102 1-216-221-2012

OVER BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Memorial Service North '99

February 24, 25, 26, 2000 dates of the would have been South 2000 which had to be cancelled due to lack of interest - health - time or money??? Regarding Replys to South 2000. Gomer Pyle had words for such a happening Shame! Shame!

Of course Christmas 1999, Lavona and I thank all for the beautiful cards.

HERE & THERE: Since North '99 it's been my pleasure to receive notes, letters and phone calls from many of you, which I enjoy very much. Keep it up. I will always try to pass some of the info. along with the thought in mind of keeping "F" company together as a family. If I don't mention yours or repeat myself just chalk it up to old age. The Zeruchas seem to be about the same. Ed continues with his veterans service to those less fortunate than himself. He enjoys doing it and it comes completely from the heart. That's Great! Newells expected to be in either South 2000 or North. Now we know which one. A few months ago Bill Meyerhoeffer experienced a pain in his chest. Examination disclosed a spot on his left lung. It was diagnosed as cancer, it then moved to the ribs. Bills first chemo treatment was Jan. 5th which he tolerated very well. Because of early detection the prognosis looks good. After three monthly treatments and weekly blood checks in between, a complete reevaluation will be made. Please offer a prayer for the very best for Bill. Lewises house will be all painted inside and out by this summer so if your out or up that way stop by and check it out. Dale's cataract surgery last May went well. Langenkamps, Marie says Ado about the same, knows the family but that's about it. Our Love to you Marie. Mort Goldman keeps in touch which is appreciated. He and Dot attend numerous Elder Hostels which I understand from him and others are very interesting and educational. Fickles are planning on North 2000 in Ashland, hoping all of "F" Co. Vets will be there. Fullers may still be at their Florida retreat. Elva has been taking a series of test for an up and down blood pressure. George says he's still shakey at times. Colters, their moving day is getting closer and closer. Both are having some health problems plus anxiety brought on battling the coal company. Mildred Atchison staying busy with church friends and short tour bus trips. Health good for an old woman, (her words not mine Ha!).

IN REMEMBRANCE: Sylvain Joel Fishman, November 4, 1907 - November 14, 1999 "Pops" as he was affectionally called was a combat medic assigned to "F" Co. 329th who in spite of adverse weather conditions, regardless of enemy fire and without regard for his own welfare attended our wounded and those in need with compassionate/professional care. As a result of bravery under fire Sylvain was awarded a Bronze Star Medal in addition to a Combat Medic Badge and other ribbons. Sylvain was a faithful member of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, attending his last National Reunion at Pitts-

burgh in 1990. He was a charter member of the Florida Chapter, contributing much to its' founding. "Pops" was one of "F" Companys most loyal and supportive members. A member of B'Nai Israel Synagogue Jackson, TN. Also a member of the Johns Lodge #332, a Mason in good standing for over 50 years. Funeral services were held November 17, 1999 at the North Chapel of George A. Smith and Sons Jackson, TN. with burial in B'Nai Israel with Masonic Rites at gravesite. "Pops" is now with his beloved wife Eunice, may they rest in Peace.

THANKS: To all who have sent in contributions to our postage and expense fund since the last newsletter.

COMING EVENTS: 54th Annual Reunion - Friar Tuck Inn Resort & Convention Center - Catskill N.Y. - September 6-7-8-9, 2000.

North 2000 Ashland, OH October 8-9-10-11, 2000 J'EVER NOTICE: People Asking Why! Doesn't Somebody Do Something! - Forgetting They Are Somebody.

C.R. "Bob Whitcomb 1314 Center Ln. Dr., Ashland OH. 44805 - 3403

"F" Co. 329th Memorial Service North '99







Co. F continued.....

F Co. 329th Infantry Regiment 83rd Infantry Division Newsletter

Dear Buddys,

Sunday: October 10th 29 Co. "F"ers enjoyed an evening meal in the C.P. featuring an entree of pulled pork, Maryland style, complemented by all kinds of other delicacies and desserts making a feast to behold, all carried in dishes.

Monday: Horace Greeley reportedly said "Go West Young Man, Go West," instead a seven car caravan, 25 members, headed South from Ashland on a beautiful sunny fall day. The start of a 112 mile trek thru southern Ashland County.

Stops along the way included breakfast-brunch in Londonville at the Village Pantry and Soda Shoppe replete with an old fashion soda fountain, where you "Step Back to the 40's & 50's, cherry cokes, lime phosphates, jukeboxes and the like.

Thru the rolling countryside to Berlin, that's pronounced Ber Law, stopping at Schrock's Amish Farm to view a 20 minute slide presentation on Amish traditions, tour the main and attached dawdy "haus". The Quilt Barn was of interest to some while there.

Next stop Kidron, while on the way passing many Amish farms, businesses, horse drawn buggys, farm wagons some hauling cattle, school houses, school children walking home. This time of year wearing shoes earlier would have found them barefooted with shoes tied together and slung over a shoulder.

In Kidron a stop at Lehman's Hardware. Stop at a Hardware you say! You just had to be there. A leading doomsday spokesman, referring to Y2K, call the store indispensable for survivalists. The store is running five to seven months behind filling orders mostly because of Y@K fears. As customer in Maui, yes the Hawaiian Island Maui recently called in an order for a dozen wood burning stoves.

Tired and ready to sit down we continued a short distance to Applecreek for an evening meal at the Dutch Heart restaurant. Then back to the Barn (Motel) to relax in various ways. Those in the C.P. were entertained with enjoyable music rendered by our own George Fuller and his harmonica.

Tuesday: Today's most memorable moment at least to me was the Memorial Service conducted by Doc Keith, George Fuller, Harold Newell with an assist from DeLaris Keith. What a beautiful and fitting tribute to our living and decreased comrades. The service was recorded on tape, any interest leave me know and we'll see what we can do.

Our ranks are thinning, three known so far since North '98. So keep in touch with one another.

The cards you all signed and wrote short messages in were sent.

In the evening with Oscar Harrington doing the driving and the writer giving directions a quick trip was made to Ashland's hospital emergency room for removal of a well imbedded tick from Russ Whiteheads' belly. While it was somewhat of an unusual occurrence it needed the serious attention, as Russ in the past has had Lymes Disease. Nothing to fool with. By the way the Whiteheads are headed for Europe in December '99 so Bon Voyage Whiteheads.

Wednesday: Our traditional departure breakfast was held at Bob Evans. It was nice and thankfully uneventful, which was not the case at North '98. However even then no one was hurt. That's all for North '99.

Nov. 4, 1999 I called Sylvain Fishman his birthday 92nd. He was on oxygen so was only able to converse with him thru an attendant in his room. He talked a little into the phone. However the only part I could understand at all was his expression of our loyalty to him. I interjected Sylvain was extremely loyal to "F" Company. The attendant indicated he had received our cards, understood who was calling and had a smile on his face. She added he was failing very fast. On Dec. 1, 1999 I called the skilled nursing center and learned Pops (Sylvain) had died a couple weeks ago. To date I have not been able to ascertain the exact date.

I received a long letter from Marie Crabtree. They are having a really tough time of it. John as you know has had Parkinson for a long long time. Friday Nov. 12, '99 he fell, one of many in the past 2 years, breaking his right hip in 3 places. Surgery was performed connecting the breaks with a long screw. Beating all odds John came thru the ordeal. As of Nov. 20th John was in a nursing home in Fostaria. However on Nov. 29 Marie was able to bring him home. She reports he is doing pretty good considering. Marie herself has health problems plus all the responsibility of caregiver. Will try to keep you informed.

Back always I said that's all for North '99 - I forgot! The group at North '99 were very generous, as a result Co. F's Kitty is in good shape to cover usual expenses. However as Bill Ferguson always admonished me don't ever refuse money. So any who were not at North 99, should you care to contribute please do so. It will be appreciated and used as you wish.

Bill Nickall - Bob Whitcomb Co. F - 329th



Co "A" 330th.....

Robert J. Hemming -

In response to your inquiry in the Winter Issue of the 83rd Thunderbolt about the history of the 330th Regiment.

I cannot furnish much on the history of the 330th since I was a replacement in Co. K in early Jan. 1945. Perhaps I can add a little into about the happenings in the town of Zerbst while we were there.

I seem to vaguely remember your last name and I probably had a few conversations with your father either in Zerbst or a little later in Bavaria.

As you know, we were in a "hold" position at that time but did send out a few night patrols. We were close enough to Berlin to see the red glow in the sky at night. We were aware that the Germans were retreating from the Russians because they would rather surrender to us.

After we were there a few days the Germans started coming in double file down the road.

We told them to throw their small arms weapons in a pile on either side of the road. This surrender was continuous for about 2-3 days, then ended. We assumed the Russians had taken any more followers as prisoners. As I recall, about 25,000 Germans passed through Zerbst and we had two piles of weapons about the size of two small houses.

We then saw 2 - 3 Russian soldiers enter the town in a jeep and they were holding a few gallons of Vodka they wanted to share.

About this same time the war ended and we were trucked to Bavaria before the Russian Army actually arrived.

I hope this bit of information can be a useful addition to your research.

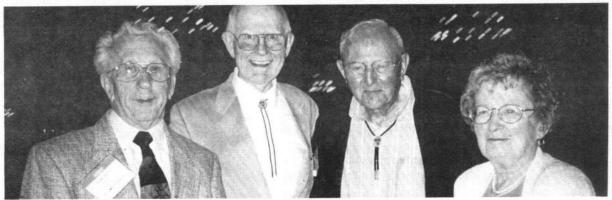
Regards Richard R. Ryan (Co. K - 330th) P.O. Box 1938 Klamath Falls, OR. 97601



First of all I must apologize to Mr. & Mrs. Earl Dunn & Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gangnath for omitting their names at our last Thunderbolt, Issue. I believe I was not at the banquet table when names and addresses were passed around. But now I believe we have a good turnout from "A" Co. for our future reunions. Heard from Walt Pillion, he was a little bit under the weather with the bug, but Pearl will take care of him. He had a good reputation, during the war with the 330th that earned him a battlefield commission. Finally heard from John Bullard. He was under the weather also and hope to see him in the near future. Also from Bob Spychala, have been trying to get him to join. He is involved with the Buffalo, N.Y. V.F.W. Bill & Flo Schiffert are from Conn., but he is to involved with the casinos, spending a lot of time with them. Frank & Rita Burgess are doing well. I get to see them quite frequently. They just came back from Florida. Heard from Lee Milligan from Kansas. He is taking good care of his wife. He is the oldest member of "A" Co. Got to meet my old squad leader Edgar Allison who lives in Carlisle, Ky. Had to go to the Lexington, Ky. V.A. to link up with him. When the receptionist heard we had not seen each other in over 50 years she yelled to her friend across the lobby about it and everybody knew about it. He was disappointed that he could not get to meet Walt Pillion after all these years but vowed to do so; some day. Heard from Dolores & Paul Reed from Baltimore. He has a problem with his arteries in his leg but that does not slow him down on the golf course. Hope to link up with him on our way back. He was close to Walt. Use to take him with him prosecuting German soldiers and American soldiers. He was in the military government after the war. Also heard from Shorty Glasser and Olive. They are completely retired. Also got a card from my old C.O. from "B" Co., Bill Farrell. He was badly wounded in BiHain, Belgium and is now living in Hawaii. Good Luck!!

That is all the news from "A" Co. but I think we can resurrect "A" Co. and have a good turnout at the Friar Tuck, I am proud to be able to represent A line Co. with so many members at last.

Your Buddy, Charles Abdinoor



Carl Dunn, Bob Gangnath, Walt & Pearl Pillion banquet at 83rd Div. Reunion 8-19-99, Lexington, Ky.

453rd. AAA (AW) BN.....

I am sorry to report that we have many Members and wives that are having serious health problems.

Not just the Flu. I have had scattered reports, that are not all compiled.

On our sick list we have, Mary Schultz, wife of Carl Schultz, who fell and broke her hip. Woodrow and Doris Plummer, per second hand reports, are still on the mend. Mike Morick, still partially immobile. Jim Dalton, with heart problems and Milly Dalton with hip and other problems. Both the Farnsworths still fighting to get their health back. Jim Hull has had a seizure and is having a hard time coping, with dizzy spells etc. His wife, Doris is still fighting her health problems, so both are in need of help. Betty Dickens, with knee problems and other aches and pains along with severe nose bleeds. My wife, Irene Pearson, with severe allergies, and now problems with her pancreas. I am sure there are others, but no information has been forthcoming.

I have been informed that we had three of our former members pass away last November. Roy Hinze 11-18-99, Clyde Beal 11-15-99 and Marcus Laramore, 11-?-99. Our condolence is extended to their families.

Our local Mini reunion in Hubbard, Ohio was enjoyed by all. Another trip was made to Henry Vanetta's Armament Museum and all concerned were amazed at the equipment that he owns and has restored. Because of operating expenses, such as lights and heat etc. he has had to put an admission donation of \$3.00 per person, a good bargain.

Many of our Members who have heard about the Museum have expressed the desire to visit there when they attend our Annual 453rd. AAA (AW) BN. reunion in Akron Ohio the week end of September 7th through the 10th.

A return to Fort Bliss, Texas, where we all got started in 1942, is planned for March 16th through the 18th, 2000. This will be in cooperation of the military. (This trip will be history when this article is being read.) We are all looking forward to going back, as it is believed that none of our group have been back since then. At least not on an organized trip.

The 453rd AAA (AW) BN. now has a site on the Military Connections Web Site.

To access

http://www.military connections.com

Jim West at jimwest@shelbynet.net has also established a web page for the 83rd Infantry Div. To find that site go to http://www.shelbynet.net/^usaf71sos

Jim has already entered in some information on the 83rd. He is still looking for more information to put on the web site.

Having just entered in to the year 2000, I thought that I had best get with a little modern technology and get on the Internet, that I had been fighting off for quite awhile,

so my email address will be at the end of this column.

Many of our group are now on the Internet and have an email address. As I compile the roster I will have a separate page for those with email addresses.

As I have learned you can get a pretty quick response to any inquiry, much better than our 'Pony Express' mail.

Submitted by; Fred C. Pearson Pres. 453rd. AAA (AW) BN. 5704 Middle Ridge Rd. Madison OH. 44057-2838 email k8uet@lightstream.net

I thought you might be able to use this. It seems so appropriate.

THE NEW SCHOOL PRAYER

Now I sit me down in school Where praying is against the rule. For this great nation under God Finds mention of Him very odd. If Scripture now the class recites, It violates the Bill of Rights. And anytime my head I bow Becomes a federal matter now. Our hair can be purple or orange or green, That's no offense, it's the freedom scene. The law is specific, the law is precise, Prayers spoken aloud are a serious vice. For praying in a public hall Might offend someone with no faith at all. In silence alone we must meditate, God's name is prohibited by the State. We're allowed to cuss & dress like freaks, And pierce our noses, tongues, and cheeks. They've outlawed guns, but FIRST Bible. To quote the Good Book makes me liable. We can elect a pregnant Senior Queen, And the unwed daddy, our Senior King. It's "inappropriate" to teach right from wrong, We're taught that such "judgements" do not belong. We can get our condoms, and birth controls, Study witchcraft, vampires and totem poles. But the Ten Commandments are not allowed. No Word of God must reach this crowd. It's scary here I must confess, When chaos reigns, the school's a mess. So, Lord, this silent plea I make: Should I be shot, My soul please take.

-Author Unknown-



783rd Ordnance Co.....

There's only one good thing about the time lapse of these articles. As I'm writing this we have a foot of snow on the ground and by the time you read this Wiggins will be planting his onions around his new, red, outhouse.

Of course you have noticed that so many of the Thunderbolt articles these days are reading like Dr. Kildares medical reports. It makes it a little difficult to write a different, interesting, article with the ages and ailments that YOU fellows have. Of course this is also Christmas Card report time but I'll try to keep that a little shorter because I know a lot of you got the same cards we did.

So I think we'll start off with a strange, interesting, developing story from this Philadelphia area. Brace yourself, as this is another medical story but with a different twist. You remember three years ago Martha Appleby came down from Pottsville to be treated for breast cancer. Martha called us right after Thanksgiving to tell us she now had a tumor on her kidney, just like me, and had a scheduled operating date. After some discussion Martha decided to come back to the Fox Chase Cancer Center and she had a very successful removal of her kidney ten days ago. Ginny and I sat with daughter Sheri and son Bill Jr. in the family room until the surgeon came out with the good news. It was a different cancer, it came out "clean" and probably no need for radiation or chemo.

On returning home there was a message on my phone. VICTOR MUTINANI was requesting a return call. Now you must understand this is the first call I have received from "Mute" in 58 years! On calling our 783rd buddy back I was sorry to learn that Mute has a lung cancer problem. He was asking "Dr. Rags" for his opinion. Again there was discussion and phone calls and I was glad Mute agreed to come over the river and get a second opinion. So in two days Mute and I will again meet for the first time since Passau, in Sept. of 1945! It's a shame it's not under different circumstances. But isn't it wonderful, the bond that was created during those war years is still binding us together. It should be some reunion!

Now for the Christmas tidings. TROY BISHOP'S card came back and I always fear the worse. When I called I got a disconnected number. "Oh boy." Information gave me a referred number but when I dialed there was Troy. He said he had the same number and was still in the same house but he now lives in Ocean Springs, Miss., which is also the same town, Biloxi, but they changed the name. You think your confused. I sent Troy another card to the "New" town and you guessed it, back it came. Troy is doing "Ok", living by himself, and visiting MARIE every day in the nursing home.

ED PERKO was in the hospital "around Christmas, no major problems, just the cold and the snow."

HERM HACKSTOCK reported that NORMA went to China last August while he repaired the daughters house.

AL AND RUTH BENSIMON are doing great but you know all that rain and snow everyone is getting is coming

from the tears that AI has shed over his Tampa Bay foot-

MIMI is doing just great in her new "Golden Pond" while RAY is still adjusting his shoes and boxer shorts. Ray stated they were well prepared for Y2K as they had stocked lots of Frankincense and Myrrh." And, in large print, he has to remind us golfers that last year he walked the course 93 times carrying his clubs. What some guys will do to impress the girls at 85!!

IVAN AND PAT GILMAN have sort of mutually agreed to sell their neat, red outhouse in the High Sierra's. Not only are they busy hauling boxes and moving furniture but there goes our chance for an adventurous Company reunion.

SAM HOFFMAN was pleasantly surprised to hear from Bob Burns for the first time since 1945! It shocked him so much that he had to have his pacemaker replaced. Vi says not the worry, they will be at the next reunion.

BOB AND MARY BURNS sent an interesting, long letter. Bob is into everything. He does taxes for the elderly, like Al Bensimon, works at the hospital, surfs the internet and walks around picking up empty beer cans. Can you imagine the state pays 10 cents a can! Boy at that rate I could go around Philly and become the next millionaire!

And just now we received a phone call from HERSCH AND MIDGE WEAVER. They are leaving for a two week visit to the grandchildren in Arizona. Great to hear Hersch's laugh and to learn that they too expect to make the New York reunion.

Let me tell "you all" that CHARLIE ROHRER in his 88th year has won the 783rd penmanship award. You know how some of you chicken scratch but not Charlie. Tell me Charlie what's your favorite drink? Naturally he is doing well and he hopes he and PAT will make the reunion.

And VIN MUSSER still remains faithful at 86. Of course you remember Vin's mind was lost in 1946. He remembers "Rags" and that's his war remembrance except for "some kind of a boat ride." You may recall he was so sick we carried him off in Liverpool. "I'm still doing yard work and you keep up the good work."

From our faithful widows we received warm greetings from DOT FORSTER, MILLY DOGGETT, LEE WOLF AND LOU LABBE. Some reported a few aches but all are positive about life and enjoying the fruits of children and grandchildren to say nothing of great grandchild.

We all knew that BILL MANNING AND ELOISE were special and this is how special they really are. "If push ever comes to shove Rags, know that I have a couple of healthy kidneys, and if compatible, your most welcome to one of them." Bill has always known what love and friendship is all about. And Bill made this offer while Eloise was recuperating from losing 2/3 of her stomach and acute glaucoma.

I stopped writing right here and picked up the phone to call Bill just as he was biting into his noon sandwich. Bill said that Eloise is coming along with her digestive problem and she trying to get used to the change of depth from losing the sight in one eye. As usual Bill is in

great spirits, still offering his kidney and determined to make this years great reunion.

GENE DELPRETE is doing well learning the chores of keeping house. Gene also has a new friend by the name of Nancy and he's hoping to bring her to the Catskills.

Are you getting the impression the 783rd will be out in full force this Sept. reunion. I think your right. We've got our reservations and five other fellows have applied. Lets make this the big year in the Catskills.

CARL FREDERICK'S has fully recovered from his broken ankle and ALYCE has handed over the snow shovel. They recently returned from a bus trip to Branson Mo. and are also looking forward to the Sept. vacation with the 783rd.

The guiding light of BOB HAMMOND, JACK AND JOEANN KELLER also sent a nice note affirming their Sept. reunion date.

Two other supply guys checked in JIM FOSTER AND REESE PHILLIPS. Both have been struggling with health problems. Maybe they should contact their former boss, JOE BROWN. He has a nice, big, empty home in warm Fla. and I know any 783rd man is welcome. JOE says he's been playing a lot of golf. Don't you hate golf friends that rub it in. To Joe and Wiggins, I want you to know, I've been throwing a lot of snowballs at my grandsons. So there!

Talked to DOC right after Christmas and he and AGNES did manage a trip to Cal. to visit with the son over the holidays. Doc is now chief cook and bottle washer but you'll never hear a complaint from him or Agnes. These are two great servants of all people. Thank you Doc and Agnes for your special gift, a Novena of Masses for each day throughout the new year.

And can you believe FRANK SALONTAY? He sent this huge, special, Christmas card which cost \$4.50 plus tax and stamp. Then as per usual he called me Christmas morning. Frank hasn't had the greatest of years. He cut a toe and then lost it. Like so many of us he was running from doctor to doctor. Frank is now mending well and looking to this spring weather. Maybe by this time he and Fred Pearson, 453 AAA, who lives just up the highway, will have gotten together and exchanged stories. FRED, a true Army buddy, not only offered his home for my Cleveland surgery but now he has surprised me by sending a "one of a kind" 83rd Division, 8" by 10", framed emblem of the division patch with all the battles. All in all this was quite a holiday season.

And GEORGE HARRIS is now located in his new home. It's Rose View Court, Rm 321 1251 Rural Ave. Williamsport, Pa. 17701 Phone 570-327-1476. Please make the corrections and if you can REMEMBER give George a call or drop him a line. In talking to George he is not a happy camper. There's nothing for him to do except to sit around and talk to a bunch of really old women! He is driving to town about three days a week for a "beer or two." No scotch or pipe allowed in the apts. George, that is tough sledding.

Geez, did I say this would be short. See you in N.Y.

Rags Rangnow

Co "G" 331st.....

I have learned a good lesson, never retire, because you can never find time to do the things that have to be done.

My wife will laugh at that because she said that I have yet to retire. With the holidays I had a number of cards from the men. I heard from Glen Mathey, Casel Bush, Harold Dickinson, Glyde Flanary, Jeremiah Budd, Troy Mayse, Mike Mizerock, William Ripley, Kermit Ralston, Oscar Rutstein, Joe Ruberto, Edward Walsh, James Fall, Ivan Yoder, Edward Foy.

Had a letter from Dave Sefton, who is still farming in Saxonburg, Pa. also tending to his cattle. That is good for a man his age. I was reading an article in the WWII magazine, about the 90th Division where some men of that Division were captured, and because of the heavy fighting in Normandy. They had called a truce, so that they could remove the wounded from the battle field. The article went to say that it was the second time that the German Officer in that area had called a truce. The other time was on July 4, when his German outfit had captured some of the 83rd Medics, and he had gotten in touch with Gen. Macon and called a truce so that we could removed the dead and the wounded. As most of you remember that episode well.

Whenever WWII comes up in a discussion I remind people that Uncle Sam had paid for a twenty-two months vacation in Europe, the only thing there was never any room at the Inn and we had to sleep outdoors under ungodly conditions. Also the reason I don't go on a Cruise, because I had two 17 days cruises during the War at Uncle Sam's Expense. The first going to Europe, because we were on the George Washington, when I felt safe, because we had the Battleship Texas at our side. The second on the return trip to the States, when we came thru the Mediterrian Sea, saw the coast of Spain, then thru the Strait of Gibraltor where I saw the Rock and also the coast of Africa.

In New Orleans on the 6th of June they will open a National D-Day Museum dedicated to the men and women that served their country during World War II. This was the idea of Stephen Ambrose, who wrote many books on the War. From all indications it will be an outstanding affair with three days of activities.

Had a letter from Harry Gravelyn, he was telling me that he and Barney Wiselodge had joined the 1st BN 331st together and he was interested in what had happened to Barney. I filled him on Barney, two had stayed in the regular Army and had retired as a Colonel after a good career. Barney had also served in the 7th Division in Korea, the Division was commanded by Gen. Ferenbaugh a number of other 83rd men were in that Division.

Also had a card from Donald Kirk who was Colonel Fabers driver in the states and in Europe.

I am trying to get my plans together for the reunion in New York in September. It may create some problems for me and Mena, but if it possible we will be there. Time is getting short. I have reached one of my goals in living to see the year 2000, now I want one more year so I can reach the 21st Century, although many of our new people seem to think that we are now in the 21st Century.

Capt. Mac

Co "D" 331st.....

Since it is spring when you read this I sincerely hope everyone survived the perils of winter. Of course in sunny Florida we were safe and warm.

All members of the company were shocked by the sudden death (heart attack) of VERN MUELLER in Portland, Oregon on Christmas Eve. Vern had been a regular to Reunions, even an occasional Fl. Chapter meeting. Our sincerest sympathy to his wife, Ruthe, who also was a regular at Reunions and his family.

Merle Akam says he is looking forward to "FRIAR TUCKS". Hope the Bostons will be able to make the Friar Tucks. Once the reunion gets in your blood, it takes something very special for you not to go. Frank Cancasci is puttering around his house and yard and gets a lot of company in the winter, especially from Ohio. We all hope to see you at the Friar Tucks as the years are passing quickly. Paul Dallos is a faithful reunion attendee and like the rest of us, enjoys seeing old buddies (and we are not old.) We do hope to see Whit and Doris East at Friar Tucks. I have been told Harry Fetzer is in a hospital in Virginia near his daughter's. Honorary member Manny Goodridge is moseying along as usual and we hope to see him at F.T. Captain Harry Gravelyn is spending the winter at Pine Island, Fla. And we'll see him at the Fl. Chapter meeting the end of January. The Hamilton's have fully recovered from R.C.'s stint of the presidency and expect they will join us at all future reunions. Major Haught is ensconced in Naples, Fl. and we hope he'll also be at the Chapter meeting. George Kimlos just said "hi" so we assume he's well and expect to see him at F.T. Dave Harman is still perking and we sure hope he will see fit to attend the Reunion. We were happy to see Jimmy Lynch at Lexington and hope he's progressing from the stroke. Hang in Jimmy, we're all praying for you. John Miklos, with the willing help of his Co. D buddies, is now receiving benefits from the Veterans Administration. The Dan McDermott's are fine and have vacationed in California to see family. Doris is now on e-mail with Geri. Lt. Truman Miller is our active member from Arkansas and since he attended his first Reunion in Lexington we hope to see him at all the future Reunions. Dot Nagel is gallivanting all over to visit family and gives the Airlines a profit. The Odenwellers are staying close to Delphos, Ohio because of health and they certainly have our prayers for a speedy recovery.

We express our sympathy to Ernest Ryder because of the passing of his wife. "D" Company is with you and hope we can cheer you at the Reunion.

The Frank Sabines live fairly close to F.T. and we have high hopes that they will be in attendance.

And now to my buddy Norman Schuster, sorry I haven't written but Geri sends you e-mail through Troy. Stay positive Norm and remember we are with you and Lorraine. Expect to see Frank and Dana Sharp at the Chapter meeting in Sebring, FL. Al Shrawder and Charlotte are with me as I write this and we will all go to the Chapter meeting on Jan. 28th, Hank Trzeciak was sorry

to miss the Reunion but is hoping to be at Friar Tucks. We miss you Hank. The Bill McKees are in Florida for the winter, escaping the fury of winter in Mass. Expect to see them at the Florida Chapter meeting.

From the 5th to the 12th of February the Gravelyn's, McKee's, & Gunderson's will meet Ruthe Mueller in Cancun, Mexico for the Annual week of fun in the sun! Vern will be missed.

R.B. Gunderson

Co "G" 329th.....

Ralph Stat will surely be missed. He was a decorated medic serving with G Company 329. Our hearts go out to Sally and family for their loss, and our loss as well.

Grace and John Askey are keeping busy this winter - Grace is out in the snow hunting, and John is keeping warm inside at the window watching her.

John Cupina is fighting the bug. Warm wishes to you John, and get those legs moving.

Tony Hroncich and Lena will see us at the reunion - we are looking forward to it! Virginia and Frank Markuns hope to be there as well.

Ruth and Chet Morgan are grandparents again. Congratulations to all.

We spoke to Sylvia Gimpel, and she sends her regards to everyone.

Virginia and Vito Pallazzolo will be at the reunion with an assortment of shirts, hats and jackets. Be sure to look for whatever you need to complete your wardrobe.

Helen and Ames Miller are keeping busy with their volunteer work. Etha and Leonard Reynolds are hoping to make it to the reunion also.

Lois Brinkman is planning to attend with her son Tom and his wife Carol. We all have met them at past reunions, and will be happy to have them join us this year.

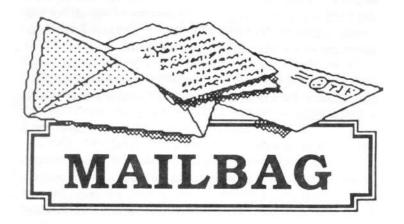
Bounce and I visited Luella and Sterling Rubright in October. Sterling is hanging in there, and keeping Luella hopping. Best to them both.

We are looking forward to a great time this year, and hope to see many of you there.

Babe Freitag



Luella & Sterling Rubright and Babe & Bounce Freitag.



11/16/99

Dear Mr. Derickson

I'm hoping that you or someone in your organization might have information on <u>Capt. Terry Bove</u>, 330th Inf. <u>Regt.</u> He was KIA on July 7, 1944. Capt Bove won the Silver Star.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.
Sincerely,
Draxton Bradford
4513 S. Oak Dr. #Q 72
Tampa, FL 33611

Would anyone with information about <u>Sqt. Raymond</u> <u>S. Dombough</u> 329th Regiment please contact:

Bill Jewell 466 Penn Ave. Sinking Spring, PA. 19608 (610) 670-9668

Holidays Alone

Holidays are very sad When you are all alone. You jump up hopefully When you hear the phone.

Some say you must come to them But they are just too far. And since I don't drive, I certainly don't have a car!

You console yourself with the thought That it's just another day, And after 24 hours It will pass away.

Still it's hard to be alone When others all are feasting. And the irony is that I donated So poor people could be eating.

By Sue Chuzi (Florida Chapter)

Subject: The Soldier!

He was getting old and paunchy, And his hair was falling fast, And he sat around the Legion, Telling stories of the past.

Of a war that he had fought in And the deeds that he had done. In his exploits with his buddies; They were heroes, everyone.

And 'tho sometimes, to his neighbors, His tales became a joke, All his buddies listened, For they knew whereof he spoke.

But we'll hear his tales no longer, For ol' Bob has passed away, And the world's a little poorer, For a soldier died today.

He won't be mourned by many, Just his children and his wife. For he lived an ordinary, Very quiet sort of life.

He held a job and raised a family, Quietly going on his way; And the world won't note his passing; 'Tho a Soldier died today.

When politicians leave this earth, Their bodies lie in state, While thousands note their passing, And proclaim they're great Papers tell of their life stories, From the time that they were young,

But the passing of a soldier, Goes unnoticed, and unsung.

Is the greatest contribution, To the welfare of our land, Some jerk who breaks his promise, And cons his fellow man? Or the ordinary fellow, Who in times of war and strife, Goes off to serve his Country And offers up his life? The politician's stipend And the style in which he lives, Are sometimes disproportionate, To the service he gives.

While the ordinary soldier, Who offered up his all, Is paid off with a medal And perhaps a pension, small.

It's so easy to forget them, For it is so long ago.

That our Bob's and Jim's and Johnny's, Went to battle, but we know.

It was not the politicians, With their compromise and ploys, Who won for us the freedom, That our Country now enjoys.

Should you find yourself in danger, With your enemies at hand, Would you really want some cop-out, With his ever waffling stand?

Or would you want a Soldier, Who has sworn to defend, His home, his kin, and Country, And would fight until the end?

He was just a common Soldier And his ranks are growing thin, But his presence should remind us, We may need his likes again.

For when countries are in conflict, Then we find the Soldier's part,

Is to clean up all the troubles, That the politicians start.

If we cannot do him honor, While he's here to hear the praise, Then at least let's give him homage, At the ending of his days. Perhaps just a simple headline, In the paper that might say: "OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING, For a Soldier died today"

Morris 331st Co. "K"

What is Love?

Love is a thing hard to define. It is something we want and need all the time. Without it no one can flourish, It is very important by love to be nourished.

Love has many different ways, Love for the children in your house, Love for your parents who showed you the way, And most important the love for your spouse.

Children grown up and find their own love, Hopefully one that is sent from above. There is so much love to be found, To find it, take your eyes off the ground.

Sometimes we don't even know we have it Until it is lost and we search for that treasure, To retrieve the most important thing in life, That wonderful, unexplainable love without measure.

We think it will always be there But for some it vanishes into thin air. Then they must seek it to help in their lives For without it nobody can survive.

By Sue Chuzi (Florida Chapter)

Dear Bob,

I just found a place where the 83rd Inf. Div. shoulder patch is available. You may want to put this in the Thunderbolt. It is:

Roberta Peters Battlezone LTD P.O. Box 266 Towaco, NJ 07082

They are \$5.00 Each and \$1.00 for shipping. 5 for \$25.00 + \$1.00 for shipping 10 for \$50.00 + \$2.00 for shipping

Louis Gomori 309 E. Locust St. Butler, PA 16001



FOR ALL THOSE BORN PRIOR TO 1944

We are survivors!!! Consider the changes we have witnessed!!!

We were before television, before penicillin, before polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, frisbees and the pill.

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

We got married and THEN lived together. How quaint can you get?

In our times closets were for clothes, not for "comin' out of". Bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagons. Designer jeans were scheming girls names Jean or Jeanne, and having a meaningful relationship meant getting along well with our cousins.

We thought fast food was what you ate during Lent, and outer space was the back of the local theater.

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

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

We hit the scene when there were 5 and 10 cent stores where you bought thing's for 5 and 10 cents. The corner drug store sold ice cream cones for a nickel. For a nickel you could ride the street car, make a phone call, buy a pepsi or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevy coupe for \$600, but who could afford one? A pity too, because gas was only 11 cents a gallon.

In our day GRASS was mowed, COKE was a great drink and POT was something you cooked in. Rock music as a Grandma's lullaby and AIDS were helpers in the principal's office.

We were certainly not before the differences between sexes were discovered, but certainly 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!!!

Jim Burton "D" Co. 329th Reg. My dad, Thomas D. Curry, was a member of Company F, 331st IR, and was K.I.A. on 10 Dec. 44 in Gey, Germany. I have been in touch with many Company F veterans over the past few months, and I recently joined the Boston Chapter. Pat DiGiammerino indicated that it may also be possible for sons to join the national association. If that is the case, I would be most interested in applying for membership.

The past few months have been very gratifying for me, and I have learned a great deal about the 83rd Division. It seems like I am making new contacts every day. All of this has resulted in my putting up a web page on the internet. Many of the veterans I have talked with have computers, and I'm sure there are many others in the Association that may have access to the internet. Would it be possible to put a brief notice in your next available newsletter listing the address of the web site?

The address is:

http://www.ncweb.com/~~davecurry/brothers/

Thanks for your consideration. I am anxious to hear from you about joining the national association.

Sincerely, David T. Curry

We should have a good number of 83rd veterans who have computers that would go to these web-sites.

One site is for Thomas D. Curry out of "F" company 331st. that was KIA in Gey, Germany on Dec. 10, 1944. His son Dave Curry and Dave's sons have put this site together and is worth the time to look it up. http://www.Atomic.pair.com/wwll/

Best regards Bob "F" 331st

Atterbury-Bakalar Air Museum

February 12, 2000

83rd Infantry Division Association ATTN: Mr Bob Derickson

Members 83rd Infantry Division Association:

Our Celebration 2000 Veterans Welcome Home Committee is asking for your help in passing the word to 83rd Infantry Division Association members and their families about our event that we are hosting in Columbus, Indiana on Saturday July 29, 2000. Our mission is to host a welcome home celebration for all Veterans with special recognition of the Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans who never received a welcome home or proper recognition for their service and sacrifices.

I've attached a poster explaining our event. We are also handing out business cards that briefly explain our event to Veterans and people we meet on a daily basis as part of our "Word of mouth" campaign. We are not limiting participation to just Columbus and Bartholomew County Veterans but are inviting any Veteran or Uniformed Service Member, Active, National Guard and Reserve, regardless of where they are from to participate. We want them to march in the parade to receive the honors they deserve.

We are also accepting entries for the parade to help honor these veterans. If you wish to receive parade entry forms, I can supply them upon request.

Our organization has hosted Celebration 95, which was the honoring of WWII Veterans upon their 50th Anniversary. We also hosted the VVVVII Glider Pilots Association and placed a monument in their honor, hosted the Tuskegee Airman and placed a monument in their honor and helped with the fund raising for the construction of the Bartholomew Memorial for Veterans. Our group has changed the Memorial Day and Veteran's Day ceremonies from a hand full of participants to major community events with over a thousand to fifteen hundred attending. We have been told by many that Columbus, Indiana is the most patriotic community in the United States.

Please help us spread the word in your newsletters.

Sincerely, Gordon Lake, 1SG AUS (Ret.) Event Chairman

See Next Page For Poster





4:00 pm: Parade Downtown Columbus 6:00 pm: Korean & Vietnam Era USO Show at Mill Race Park

7:30 pm: Concert by Gary Lewis & The Playboys with Mitch Ryder Red, White & Boom Fireworks Salute to All Veterans After the Shows

JOIN US.

in honoring all Veterans and Members of our Armed Forces with Special Recognition of the Korean & Vietnam Veterans who have been the "forgotten" Veterans who never received a "welcome home" or proper recognition for a job well done!

IF YOU HAVE SERVED OR NOW SERVE IN ANY UNIFORMED MILITARY SERVICE OF THE USA WE INVITE YOU TO MARCH IN THE PARADE AND BE HONORED.

Sponsored by the 95ers Celebration 2000 Veterans Welcome Home Committee, The City of Columbus, Bartholomew County, The Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, The Columbus Visitors Center with the generous support of area business, industry, Veterans organizations, Military, Veterans and Patriots.



Beauty Is Everywhere By Sue Chuzi

There is beauty everywhere If we take time to look. You can find it on a chair Or even in a book.

A smiling face is so lovely, Especially on a child. Their eyes so wide and wondering, Without deceit or guile.

The wrinkles of the aged Who once were young and bold, Their years of wondrous knowledge Peeking through their folds.

The sky, the sun, just everything Has beauty to be seen. Enjoy it every single day For it will make you clean.

Absorb soul stirring music
And paintings beautiful to see.
It's what makes life worth living
And what we want to be.

If you are down and out
And want to be made whole,
Just find the beauty everywhere
And it will nourish your soul.

A Deafening Silence By Sue Chuzi (Florida Chapter)

There is a deafening silence All around your house. It permeates every room When you have lost your spouse.

To combat this horrendous "noise" You turn the TV on, To drown out all your loneliness Of knowing your spouse is gone.

When you come back at night After an evening out, The silence is a clap of thunder With no lightening for a light.

His presence is all around With pictures here and there, You look at them and kiss them And your lonely heart you bare.

Trying To Choose A Pet By Sue Chuzi, Florida Chapter

I look put of my window and what do I see, A little bird singing to me. His music is so beautiful to hear, I marvel at how his song is so sweet and clear.

Sometimes I see a squirrel But He doesn't look at me. He hastily runs away And scampers up a tree.

I would like to have a dog,
But it just is not allowed,
A dog will love you as you are
Though you may scold him aloud.

I would not have a cat
Although I like to pet them,
But they don't jump with joy
To greet you when you see them.

My son once had a snake But I don't care for that. He gave it the name of "Slither" That really was most apt.

I announce most firmly
When "Slither" escaped one day,
Either you find that snake
Or we move out right away.

He took "Slither" to school one day
To have for "show and tell"
I don't think the teacher was thrilled
She was glad when they rang the bell.
Would it be nice to have a monkey?
They are so cute and smart;
But they can cause havoc in your house

An elephant is out of the question, They're much too big and huge. It would cost a fortune To keep up with their food.

And tear the house apart.

A lion or a tiger?
Too wild and should be free.
I could not walk them on a leash
Much too hard for me!

I think I will have to settle For a beautiful pet stone. I know it won't complain When left at home alone.

Camp Breckinridge

As usual with the army, records were missing and many of us arriving on a cold day at Camp Breckinridge in Kentucky got a complete repeat of our shots along with nine more hours of the movie, "Why We Fight." And we had to repeat the infiltration course where you crawl through mud under barbed wire with live machine gun bullets three feet over your head. This time the puddles had ice on them and the explosions set off at intervals sent shards of ice flying. The infiltration course was partly designed to prepare us for trench warfare a la World War One and to keep us busy.

Several of us went to Tennessee on pass and ate at a Sons of the Confederacy Club. Nearly everyone we met had a grandpap who rode with Ole Bedford. I finally figured out they meant Nathan Bedford Forrest of Civil War

Fame. They were very hospitable.

We had a problem at the barracks with a practical joker. He set folding beds to collapse when you sat down. A sound sleeper had his bed clamped to the ceiling. He put a stink bomb in the shower to get some men to run outside naked in the cold. We gave him a cold G.I. shower using floor brushes, put water filled balloons in his bed and nailed his boots to the floor to discourage him. Nothing worked until the night we had a foot of snow. As soon as he was asleep, he and his bunk were carried a hundred yards to the middle of the parade ground. There he was left until the increasing cold awakened him at three in the morning. He walked barefoot in a blanket back to the barrack where he set off firecrackers and used up all the hot water thawing out. WE got rid of him when his bad cold resulted in hospitalization.

I often wonder if he missed the war on account of us? Hal O'Neill 83rd Signa

Apple Blossoms

I was half asleep on the grass in an apple orchard in Normandy with the tree covered with apple blossoms both pink and white. The sun shone, the bees buzzed, I was full of K rations and I could hear the roar of artillery to the east. Occasionally, stragglers passed us heading for the rear. Most had no weapons or wounds, just a blank expression as they shuffled past. At the other end of the orchard the six of us in the wire team had left our truck loaded with wire and a switchboard. We were waiting while the Looey leading us had gone off in a jeep to find where we were supposed to be. Things were normal - all fouled up.

Everyone was asleep except me: I gazed lazily up at the sky and then noticed that the apple blossoms were beginning to fall. Guess it is time for the apples to appear, I thought as I watched. Funny, the petals were coming down at intervals in almost a straight line on this windless June afternoon. Then my brain began to function - that ain't normal! Bullets were cutting through the branches a yard over my head. We were under fire - enemy fire! Unseen snipers were firing at the stragglers and their firing was unheard because of the artillery. I wakened the others and we crawled to a thick hedgerow where we were safe, but cut off from the truck at the far end of the orchard. One of our group went to the top of the hedgerow and emptied his carbine. He couldn't see the snipers, but was scared and wanted to hit back. The Sergeant wanted someone to volunteer to get the truck. My question was, "And the what? You can't drive it up for the rest of us!" We agreed to wait until dark and then get the truck. As I said, it was a beautiful day, so we all went back to sleep.

> Hal O'Neill 83rd Signal

Almost Forgotten

Somewhere west of Carentan in Normandy, we drove cautiously down the road through a swamp with cattails over six feet high. A Regimental HQ had been cut off from the Div. HQ during the night by a German patrol setting up a roadblock. A 2 1/2 ton truck had hit a mine and a HQ Defense detail ran into machine gun fire. We passed the burnt out truck and saw where some six or seven Germans had set up their ambush. After splicing the cut telephone wires to give the Regiment a contact other than radio, we drove on.

Some one on the truck spotted a side road partly concealed by cut brush tied to the gate. We investigated and found a lonely, deserted farm hidden in the swamp. The house and barn had been used as a German Supply Depot and were full of both old and new uniforms, boots and blankets. The buildings had many bullet holes and bloodstains. We kept looking until we pieced together what had happened.

Evidently, seven American paratroopers had jumped much too far behind the enemy lines. Their arrival surprised the officers and clerks manning the Supply Depot. The battle must have been short and deadly with no quarter given. All seven paratroopers died after killing over twenty Germans. WE found a small hill in the back of the barn with the German graves. Each was topped by a black Teutonic Cross, name plate and helmet or cap. Some had withered flowers on the graves. Just below the German graves were the seven American, each with a plain white cross, nameplate, helmet and even flowers. I recall wishing I had my Scout bugle to play taps. We saluted and got on with the war.

> Hal O'Neill 83rd Signal

On The Trail Of Regimental Headquarters

Early in the morning of a drizzling, cold day, the 83rd Div. Message Center gave us a limp sack of messages for the ---Reg. HQ. The three of us piled into our battered Messenger jeep and I hopped out at the War Room to check the maps for the latest location of the Regiment. They were some thirty miles to the north as the crow flies and we should make the round trip in half a day. We carried emergency gear - a case of ten-in-one rations, sleeping bags (home made from blankets) tow rope, an axe, extra coffee, chocolate and cigarettes for any economic opportunity that might occur, and our personal weapons - Walther, Luger and Belgian Colt pistols. We took turns napping in the rear under a blanket lined tarp.

I did most of the map work and in two hours over potholed roads, we reached the small village where the Reg. was supposed to be. A local habitant said they had left a day ago heading north. Should we turn back or go on? Let's go on since we have nothing pressing on our social calendar. A few miles north we found a lone MP at a crossroads - he was from Corps and never heard of the ---Reg. We flagged down a passing MP jeep for a more pressing question. "Where was a good transient Mess? (a military traveler's food stop). "Follow us," said the driver. We ate with the MP's and discussed rear area prices for souvenir handguns. I asked some truck drivers about the --- Reg. They had seen their convoys heading north, but did not know their destination. We gassed up at a fuel point and headed north. I then realized that we were off the maps that we carried except for one with a large scale and few details. It started to rain hard and we needed supper plus a dry spot for sleeping. At a massive, stone farmhouse, we swapped our real coffee for all the omelets, roast chicken and rabbit we could eat. Our French was of little use since they spoke Flemish, but we got along fine. We slept in their hayloft in a cloud of DDT to discourage mechanized dandruff (lice) and had a huge hot breakfast before leaving. As Napoleon said. "An Army travels on it's stomach."

By ten AM we were hearing the mutter of shellfire as the rain continued. Then we got stuck turning around to try another road. A two and a half QM truck driven by two very large colored soldiers stopped to offer help. I had our tow rope in hand, but the two just pushed us back on the road. Their truck was painted bright yellow under all the fenders, the wheel lugs were scarlet and the rims were white. All their trucks were painted that way. They were lost, but I had a map of the area to the south that they were looking for. We made a sketch map and gave them a bottle of wine that we had acquired at the farm house.

As we carefully drove down a narrow road we met a group of engineers coming toward us sweeping for mines. They were happy to see us for we had saved them a lot of work. They told us there was a Reg. HQ in the next town. When we reached the town it was a BN

HQ from another division. We ate at their Mess and drove on. A truck with "Rummage Sale" on the door roared past. We knew the driver - a Mess Sgt. specializing in the buying and selling of radios, souvenirs, etc. on his trips to the rear for supplies. He directed us to the ---Reg. HQ and I decided to check if the messages we were carrying had gotten wet. Most of it was junk T.S. It does not mean what you think. T.S. was Top Secret - the nickname of a timid 83 Div. HQ officer who classified everything Secret so he could not be blamed later if the enemy found it. One item was a vital communication concerning a change in shower facilities at Div. Rear and other routine matters.

It took us two days to return to the 83rd Div. HQ since they had moved and we had some trouble finding that farmhouse again enroute.

And then we got on with the war.

Hal O'Neill 83rd Signal

Dear Mr. Robert E. Derickson:

Please help find my father's army records or contact anyone who served or fought with him in World War II. I read the e-mail from Jay Karamales <u>OLORIN@CAIS.NET</u> that said to try asking you. I already tried contacting the Army records in St. Louis MO., but they needed his Army serial number, which I don't have. My father passed away in 1972 when I was twelve years old and he didn't leave any information to his family where he served or what unit he was in. I did manage to figure out the unit of the left shoulder patch on his old army picture taken after D-DAY where he fought on the Normandy beaches.

An earlier picture shows him wearing a Division 2 Indian patch, but that was when he was first enlisted. His name was Jesse Cardona Loa and he enlisted in the Army in 1941 and was discharged in 1945. His cemetery stone shows a TEC4 chiseled next to his name and I know he was a Sergeant in the U.S. Army and my mom says he was a cook. I know a lot of the Army records were burned, but I would like to know if my dad's records were spared. His obituary states the different medals he acquired in WW II and would also like to be able to obtain a copy of these, because he told my mother they were stolen in San Antonio, Texas when he was discharged. I would appreciate any help in this matter. My e-mail address Loaboys2@aol. or my regular mailing address is:

12944 Fernmont Street Sylmar, CA 91342 Home Phone Number (818) 365-5641

Thank You very much, Jesse M. Loa Jr. Hello Rags;

I hope you and your wife are doing well. I meet you in Reading a few weeks ago. I was trying to find information about my father Albert B Soltis. I just want to thank you for talking to me. And I wanted to let you know I did make some headway. I never found any papers with my dad's ser#. However I called the National Personnel Records Center. I spoke to a Mary Smith in Military Personnel Records. Because my last name is so uncommon she was able to find only Albert B Soltis that enlisted in Pennsylvania before the war. So!! 33 020 006 seems to be the magic number. I must write a letter requesting my dad's records and they will send all they can BINGO!!

I also wanted to send you a list of the names on my dad's map of Europe. I will put the names on another paper. I had a hard time trying to read some of the handwriting so some of the names may be a bit off. I will try to get your book sent over to the college were I work. My son Jeremy told me that there is a copy at the Army War College in Carlisle. I do know that they to share books with Messiah college. So I will give it a try.

Thanks again for you help. I hope to see you next year.

Sincerely, Dan Solts

The Names and addresses found on the map. Some were hard to reach the hand writting. However I copied them as best as I could.

Edmond J Wilson, 757 Woodslawn Ave., Phila., Pa. Nolan H. Johnson, RFD, Mansura, Louisiana Virgil Godsey, 244 S. Gray St., Indianapolis, Ind. Edw. W. Perkowski, RD#1, Benton, Pa. Martin Lapatosky, Perryapolis, Pa. PO Box 620 Lhos C. Tanner, Stevensville, Md. Carl E. Mason John E. Kirk, 220 West Walnut St., Lancaster, Pa. Arthur Archuleta, 1831 W. 13th St., Chicago, Ill. William N. Chapman, 1957 N. Western Ave., Chicago, 47 Ill.

A Rose, Pleasent Gap, Pa.

Morgan E. McDonald (MICKEY)753 Algonquin Ave. Detroit 14, Mich.

Lestor O. Johnsen, 601 Hillside Ave., Elmhurst, III.
Jim Morris, 3449 Marshall Rd., Drexel Hill, Pa.
Felix Rose Jr., 112 Grinnell, St. New Bradford, Mass.
Giuseppoh Merenda, Box 855, Wurton, W.Va.
Thomas Delasco, Central City, Pa.
William O. Greene, Mt. Gilead, NC, PO Box 113
Walter Movensky, Barnesboro, Pa.
Chester B. Skitsky, 9906 Park Hghts Ave., Cleveland
5 Ohio

Frank G. Lafay, 852 N. Wash. St. WilkesBarre, Pa. Gil Rt Valentine, 13 Brennan ST, Bradford, Pa. Edward D. Parant, 20 Edgewate Rd., Nantasket Beach, Mass.

Alves, 166 Miteron Ave., Bristol, RI Francis C. Manner, Sykesville, Maryland George Stafford, Lalayette, Tenn. Oscar Hagberg, Swan River, Minnesota Edmund Kasmerski, 15 Newport St. Glen Lyon, Pa. DG Morrow, 408 W. Front St. Burlington, NY or NJ Sgt. Alie Shadid, The Powder Puff, Altus, Okla. Thomas W. Hardy, 54 Vinesood Wyandotte, Mich. Raymond L. Buddington Washington, DC.

Dear Mr. Derickson,

First: please excuse my bad English.

I search the fights in April 1945 in the area of the towns, Deggendorf/Danube and Plattling/Isar in East-Bavaria.

But also I'm interested at the time after the fights, the time of occupation in, Niederbayern" (Low-Bavaria).

And I know, that your Div. was in summer till Oct. 1945 in our area. E. G. the 329th Inf. Rgmt. was till the middle of Oct. 1945 in Deggendorf.

I'm interested at all about you Div. and there Rgmts. during this time.

Have you a Newspaper like e.g. the 407th Fraternizer?

Have you a map like the 102th Inf. Div.?

Are there still living soldiers who were in 1945 in, Deggendorf, in Natternberg there was a great camp with Nazi prisoners. Was this camp watched by your soldiers or another units?

I would be very glad, if you will help me. Many thanks beforehand.

Which Div. was after the 83rd in our area?

Sincerely Yours, Georg Haberl Hilzstr. 23 D-94469 Deggendorf Fax. 01149/991/2709825 **Playing House**

Four of us were assigned temporarily to a Field Artillery Battery of 105's to maintain Observation Post telephone lines until replacements for their own communications personnel could be found. When the replacement arrived, we were forgotten for ten days. We learned to keep our ears plugged, avoid muzzle flash and stay out of the way. The 105 shells came in wooden boxes about a yard long, ten inches deep and a foot wide. Hundreds of them littered the area to the rear of the guns. So the four of us began to build a shelter piling up boxes like a child does with blocks. Upon a floor of boxes we built three rooms with spaces for doors and windows. The openings were covered with shelter halfs. I added corbel arches or step arches for the roof and covered them with the canvas from a two and a half ton truck. We even added a two story square tower complete with a flag. A nearby generator provided light and the FA men were our quests for card games or dining.

I started on a French Foreign Legion fort, but a visiting staff officer became upset and we had to demolish our creations. He also ordered us to return to our unit Headquarters.

Who knows - one of us could have been another Frank Lloyd Wright.

H. J. O'Neill 83rd Signal

Best Behavior

(as told to me)

Four of us were to be Sunday dinner guests of an English family under a program arranged by a local Church. We were briefed on taboo subjects - the American Revolution, the King and Queen, unpaid World War I war debts, driving on the wrong side of the road, don't say "bum" it has another meaning in England (backside), and above all do not ask for seconds at dinner. The meal probably represents the family meat ration for a week. Dinner consisted of boiled mutton with boiled potatoes highly seasoned with a pinch of salt. We had brought gifts of coffee, sugar, marmalade and cigarettes. The thin cold soup in small silver bowls puzzled us and we were shocked to see our host put his fingers in his. They were fingerbowls.

Our host was the local vicar who confused us trying to explain High Church, Low Church, Kirk, etc. My buddy from Tennessee could quote pages of the Bible and made quite an impression. Tony, our mustashioed Mexican-American from California fascinated the ten year old twin boys of our host by throwing knives into a bullseye time after time. The grown-up daughter also fascinated us and she knew it. Her mother wanted the Bible-spouting Tennessean to come back next week. The rest of us were belatedly invited, also.

We were taken on a tour of the church, the graveyard and the vicars dovecote. And then an argument broke out over the merits of cold beer versus the British warm beer. Peace was re-established over some home made berry (elder?) wine.

Back at the barracks we were pretty sure Tennessee had a date with the vicar's daughter, but he wouldn't say. The next night we found out she had dated Tony.

You never know what a woman will do! Hal O'Neill 83rd Signal

Join The Army And Have Your Dreams Come True

Most of us while small boys dream of becoming a fireman, airplane pilot, truck driver or locomotive engineer. After a week in the Army they gave me a half-ton truck to drive. It was rather elderly and required double clutching to shift

Also, it sometimes needed cranking because of a tempermental starter. My dream was short lived because it had to be washed everyday before Retreat Formation. Another reason, was the tests designed by some sadistic Engineers for Vehicle Operators. We were sent to take tests on the Red. White and Blue torture tracks. The Red was fairly easy and most of us got through the White. But the Blue led us into a swamp. I was winched out of mud holes four times. Finally, only two and a halfs were left and I rode one as extra labor. The truck I was on led off and we bogged down in three feet of water. The Engineer Major, clean, booted and polished stood on a nice dry platform. He ordered us to stay in the truck to better watch the Engineers at work. Two powerful winches on solid ground multiplied their pull by pulleys anchored to a large tree. Engines roared, the winches wound up cable and our truck didn't budge. I was puzzled until I looked back and saw the anchor tree coming down right at the truck. We all jumped into the water as the tree missed the truck, but drenched the Major in mud. It made our day.

Much later, we took the Herman Goering Steel Works as part of our dash across Germany to meet the Russians. There were dozens of abandoned locomotives standing around. One G.I. built a roaring fire in the locomotive cab to build up steam. - it was a Diesel engine. Several of us got an elderly switch engine moving, but it had to be hastily abandoned by jumping when we could not figure out how to stop it before it rammed a box car.

Next, we over ran an airfield. By tinkering with a fighter, a Messerschmidt I believe, we got it to run. We used it to taxi across the field from our billet to chow or just for fun. WE rode a half dozen men straddling the fuselage or on the wings. At times we got the tail up before throttling back. It was inevitable, one man taxing by himself took off. When he ran out of gas, he came down. One thing about flying, you never get stuck up there. Three dreams cam true or almost.

Hal O'Neill 83rd Signal La Vern J. Rippley PH: (507) 645-8562 St. Olaf College/German Dept. Office (507) 646-3233 Northfield, MN. 55057-1098 Fax (507) 646-3732

Home: 909 Ivanhoe Drive email: rippley1@stolaf.edu

Northfield, MN 55057-1338

Hello: I am attempting to assist a young German scholar by forwarding for him, the following inquiry. (Rippley)

From:

Peter Nuchterlein, Museumdkirektor
Breite Strabe 95
38855 Wernigerolde Fax 01149-3943-601-772
Germany

Dear Sir,

In this letter are results of my research for which I ask your support in the way of cooperation between your magazine and my museum. Since 1994, I have been researching the events of 1944/45. With eye witnesses from that generation, and their memories it is still possible to enrich my museum. It may help present day folks to place historical events in their proper context. Let me give you some historical background: My research is based on source material from American and British archives and research is based on source material from American and British archives and research institutes.

There are two main topics:

- 1) The bombing raid on the town of Wernigerode in Germany's Harz Mountains by 379th USAF Bombing Group on 22nd. Feb. 1944, the reason for which has not yet become public knowledge. Some files and also some Wernigerode senior citizens assume a random dropping of the bombs simply because the scheduled target could not be reached due to weather conditions. I am quite sure, however, that the incident was a planned attack on an "Operation Todt" SS base. Unfortunately some of the relevant files were destroyed as early as the 1950s. In February 1997 I presented all the available information about the American bombing raid in an exhibition at my museum.
- The other point of interest is the brief Military occupation April to June 1945. There are very few eye witnesses of this time and even fewer files available in German archives.

The counties of Wernigerode, Halberstadt and Oschersleben had originally been scheduled to come under British military administration. The reason for this is thought to lie in the connections the historical family enjoyed between the Royal House of Windsor on the one hand and the Royal House of Hannover and the Dukes of Braunschweig-Luneburg on the other, which the latter still used as their castle residence. They also owned vast estates in this area which they did not want to fall into Russian hands. When Berlin was divided up into four military sectors, however, the Western Allied Forces had to compensate Stalin for their Berlin sectors, and the border was shifted from the River Elbe westward to the Harz Mountains. Thus the six-week period of British military

administration in Wernigerode ended on 2nd July 1945.

The period of American military rule, from the day of invasion on 11th April to 12th May 1945, was even shorter. In 1996 I was able to obtain a copy of the complete War Diaries of the 83rd Inf. Division U.S. Army and to translate the relevant parts. It is a fascinating chronicle. I managed to identify the following units with their Commanding Officers which were deployed between the Rhine and Elbe Rivers: 30th Inf. Division: 329th Inf./330th Inf./331 Inf./Div. Arty/308th Engr. Bn./308th Med. Bn./783. Ord. Co./83 Sig. Co./83. Ren. Tr./83. MP Plat./Div. Hq-Hq Com./736. Tk Bn./643. Td Bn./453. AAA Bn. and 280 FA Bn.

On 1st April 1945 they proceeded from the Rhine, crossing the Weser and Leine rivers, and on through the Harz Mountains to arrive at Apollensdorf on the River Elbe on 18th April 1945, where they met the Russian Forces. The advance of the American Forces during this period as well as their subsequent retreat from the Elbe back into Lower Saxony beginning with the 1st April 1945 and the handing over to the British military by 30th May 1945 will be the subject of a special exhibition in my museum in Wernigerode in the spring of 1999. The official files give scanty information about this episode, dealing mainly with measures concerning PWs, DPs and the administration of enemy territory.

Thus I have been trying for three years to track American and British veterans or their family members and descendants in order to interview them by correspondence about their experiences and ask them to donate or lend souvenirs or photos they brought back with them, documents or parts of uniforms which might be presented in this special exhibition in my museum. If any of those persons felt able to travel, I would be most delighted to welcome them as guests of honor to the opening of the exhibition. I think it would be benefit members of both sides to get together 50 years after the event to exchange views and experiences. A similar occasion was the reunion at Remagen in 1995 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the capturing the Rhine bridge there in 1945.

I am a young person of 27 and believe the study of history to be essential in order to understand the present. In my museum (which also deals with other aspects of history) I would like to share information so that people can form their own opinions. The displays will be unbiased and non-judgements, and will help to elucidate how the end-of-war has shaped the political development in Europe up to the present time.

Thus I am asking for your help in publishing an article in your paper as an appeal to former 83rd Inf. Div. members who served in the towns listed below in April, May, and June 1945. I am hoping for spontaneous responses from people of this older generation who are interested in bringing back history by donating or lending items for the exhibition: official or personal documents providing an insight into the manner of contact between the Americans and the Germans, photographs, films, souvenirs, or any other Memorabilia.

I have launched a similar appeal in the "British Legion News." which is yielding a good response from Royal Army veterans who were stationed in Wernigerode and the surrounding area. Thanking you for your attention. I am eagerly awaiting your reply.

Peter Nuchterlein, Museum Director Sincerely, La Vern J. Rippley

VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF THE BULGE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 1329 ALFRED DRIVE, ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32810

Did you, or someone you know participate in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II? If you wore the uniform of America's Armed Forces during the greatest battle ever fought by the United States Army....

Then I'd like to commemorate your service to your country by entering your name, or the name of someone you choose, perhaps a husband, father or a deceased comrade in the Registry of Remembrances honoring the gallant and victorious man and women who set the standard for courage under fire in this historic battle.

It is our plan to design and construct a memorial much like the monument in Clervaux, Luxembourg honoring the G.Is. who changed the course of human history in December and January of 1944. Site for the monument will be Lake Eola Park, in downtown Orlando. Dedication will be on Dec. 15, 1999 marking the 55th anniversary of the battle in the Ardennes Forest of Luxembourg and Belgium.

It will cost approximately \$90,000.00 to prepare the site, construct the base, fabricate the G.O. and the bronze plate. Construction of the memorial will be funded primarily by volunteer contributions from Veteran's groups, individual veterans, private citizens and area corporations.

This is how it should be. For those who fought in the battle, volunteering and sacrifice were the order of the day. We all pulled together to win in 1944. Now we must pull together in establishing this long overdue memorial.

First, you may enter your name in the Registry of Remembrances, along with the name of someone who was a member of the armed forces that you want to honor. With a BRONZE gift of \$25.00 you become a Charter Member of the Battle of the Bulge Society, and will receive a charter Membership Card to identify you as someone who helped build the memorial. If you take a SILVER (\$50.00) membership you will also receive a Memorial Lapel Pin. Wear the pin proudly to spread the word that the Bulge veterans finally received the memorial they deserved. For a GOLD contribution of \$100.00, or more, you will be listed in the Registry of Remembrances, become a Charter Member, re-

ceive a pin, plus a Certificate of Appreciation and a rendering of the monument suitable for framing.

To this day, the heroic achievements of the World War II generation, and especially those who fought in the Battle of the Bulge, never fail to inspire me. Over 18,000 made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, while another 80,000 were wounded or captured. We grieve for them to this day.

In sum, on behalf of all the veterans who contributed to this great military victory, please join with us by sending you gift of \$25, \$50, or \$100.

Sincerely,

Brig. Gen. William E. Carlson, USA (Ret.) Battle of the Bulge Memorial Committee

P.S. Use the enclosed Enrollment Form to enter your name, and that of someone you would like listed in the Registry of Remembrances. And please send your contribution to help build this beautiful Memorial to the G.Is. in Lake Eola Park.

Night Wakefulness By Sue Chuzi (Florida Chapter)

It's hard to fall asleep sometimes
Thinking of what I must do.
Tomorrow I do the laundry
And the ironing too.

I mull over what I must not forget, Did I make a list to remember? Should I get up to check, Or go back to my restless slumber?

I try to fall asleep again
And make up those lost hours.
It's hopeless to recapture that deep slumber
That deservedly should be hours.

I finally get up to start the day, And behold my list is there! I determine I will never stay up again Or worry if my list is prepared.

If only the above were true, But alas it is not. I go through the same routine Worrying if I forgot.

Vet gets his heartfelt wish

77-year-old Lawrence Rizzuto awarded Purple Heart half a century late

By JOHN BUGBEE York Dispatch/Sunday News

With his head bowed and hands folded in front of him, Lawrence Rizzuto of West York received a standing ovation yesterday as he stood on the altar before the crowd of worshipers at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church on West Market Street.

For the World War II Army veteran, the moment was not only a long way from those dark days of the war's final year, but also a long time coming.

Bureaucracy battle: More than a half century after Germany surrendered and Europe was liberated. Rizzuto finally received his Purple Heart medal after doing battle with bureaucracy.

Outside the church, wearing his medal on the lapel of his suit jacket, Rizzuto was embraced by friends and family.

Among them was Milly Wagner, 76, of Dover. She and Rizzuto almost married before the war. "We dated but it never materialized," she said wistfully.

"It's never too late to thank those who have served their own country," said Bunny Burson, a representative from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, at yesterday's ceremony.

Thinking of his wife: But for the 77-year-old Ruzzuto, a retired shoemaker who owned a shop on West Philadelphia Street, it was starting to feel like it might be too late.

The years dragged on while the Department of Defense seemed unable to verify his eligibility to receive the Purple Heart for the leg wound he received on July 4, 1944, while fighting German forces near Normandy, France.

"I told my wife, 'If I die before you, and they go to give you that medal, tell them to go stick it,;: Ruzzuto said. "It got disgusting after all those years."

His wife, Romaine, died last year knowing how much her husband longed for the recognition due him, but never knowing that the medal would be awarded.

"I was thinking about her, really," he said about vesterday's ceremony.

Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, are credited with intervening on Rizzuto's behalf to convince the Department of Defense to award him his Purple Heart.

The Gores; involvement was spurred by York Dispatch columnist Larry Hicks, who wrote a column chiding the government for its failure to award the medal, according to Burson.

A copy of the column was sent to the Gores, who in turn contacted the Department Veterans Affairs.

Prisoner of war: Captured after he was wounded



Lawrence Rizzuto of West York greets wellwishers outside St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church after receiving Purple Heart for his actions in World War II.

and held prisoner for a year, Rizzuto and seven other American prisoners of war found themselves trying to survive on the frontier between Poland and the Soviet Union after the Russians liberated them from a German prison camp.

Cut off near the Eastern Front, far from American forces, Rizzuto said they lived off the land and

whatever they could beg or scrounge.

While his time as a prisoner of war was never in doubt, the Defense Department's reluctance to approve the Purple Heart was apparently due to its inability to verify his being wounded in combat despite plenty of medical documentation, according to Barre Shepp, director of the York County Department of Veterans Affairs.

"Why in God's Name the Department of Defense was hesitant, I have no idea," Shepp said.

Sent in by Robert E. Gotwalt

Dear Mr. Derickson,

I served with the 643rd Tank Destroyer Bn., which was attached to the 83rd Div. in the last few months of the war.

I am interested in knowing whether there is a history available of the division or of any of its regiments, and if so how I could acquire them. Your help will be appreciated.

Sincerely, Francis M. McNulty

Dear Sir:

I am writing you to see if you or any of your members have any information of captured German soldiers near the end of the war.

I was reading about the 83rd on the computer and it has quite a history. I've always enjoyed history and try to find out about it as much as possible. I am collecting or trying to assemble patches from all units.

The individual that I'm currently reading about was Wilhelm Bittrich, he was a German general and I think he was captured or surrendered to U.S. forces in April/May period of 1945. I believe I read somewhere he was captured by the 83rd. Do you have anything on this? This would have been somewhere in the Harz Mountains area.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Ron Holt 5118 Hickory St. Panama City, FL. 32404

Dear Sir:

Our last reported position of the 83rd was at this address. Hopefully we have it correct.

My father was the 1st Sergeant of the 308th Eng. Bt. for the 83rd. From the little information we have, I have tried to retrace the story and where the 83rd and my father moved through Europe during WWII. There have been many books written about other divisions and army groups but little about the 83rd. The information I have read though has been fascinating.

Does the 83rd have more information available? I imagine that sons and daughters of the soldiers of the 83rd would be interested in knowing more about their dad and the history of the Division.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours Truly, Thomas Hildebrand 4214 Minnedahta Drive Rapid City, S.D. 57702 Dear Sir,

I am writing to you concerning some historical research, which I am currently working on with the hope that you will be able to help me in this respect. The 42nd ID Association has been most helpful in this regard. My research involves a number of divisions which were based in Upper Austria, right at the end of the war in 1945 and later in the occupation in 1946. I am looking at some of the humanitarian acts of American troops engaged in the movement and disposition of certain refuges then described as "Mercy Missions."

While doing this research, I came across a number of CIC units and Agents stationed in Austria, whose mission interests paralleled those of mine. From the recent book of James O Braly, (deceased) just published in 1995 "Marching with Heroes" I was able to contact several of these Agents, who were able to patch together some of the background I needed. Braly was an AB attorney assigned to the 430th CIC, but there were other numbered CIC units, located in and around Linz, Gmunden, Vocklabruch and Attnang-Puchheim., whose numerical designations are not shown nor are the assigned personnel fully identified. It is in this respect that I need your assistance.

Since the 83rd division was located in the above areas in 1945, along with your CIC Detachment, I would ask that you be kind enough to send me a list of those CIC personnel so that I may write them about my research. One of the individuals whom I am especially interested in contacting is William-Bill-Knox (phonetic) who worked in and around the area of Gmunden - Vocklabruck and lived in Attnang-Puchheim. Should you have a specific listing on this person, I would appreciate his full name, unit number, home of record of the state which he came from.

Always redeeming to find our division Associations active and well as we reach your 2000, we researchers would be lost without you. Keep up the good work.

A self addressed envelope with my APO address is enclosed and a card listing my private address, telefax and E-mail address.

Sincerely, Harold D. Simpson, US Army Retired.

Member of the 9th and 94th ID Associations, Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge Inc. and the VFW

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

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

> 83rd Reunion Will be held at The Friar Tuck Inn Resort in the Catskill Mountains, N.Y. Dates are Sept. 6-7-8-9, 2000

DUES ARE DUE NOW FOR 2000 & 2001

by July 1 of this year. (\$15.00 yr.)

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 Hamilton, OH 45013-8907

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